THE REVIEW'S SPECIAL FARM NEWS DEPARTMENT

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Editor

Live News About Crawford County Farms and Farmers

Not many days ago we chanced to meet a prominent farmer who was in Des Moines, where he made the purchase of a large electric fan. In our conversation with him he aroused our curiosity to a point that we had to inquire the use to which he was planning to put the fan. He confided in us that he was going to install it in his barn and that he was going to use it during milching time. The flies, he said, had become so bad and as the clocks had been advanced an hour he was forced to go milching at an hour long before dark. He had arranged shelves at an appropriate height behind each stall in his barn, where he placed the fan, he reasoned, would not only keep the flies away, but would help keep him cool at the same time. He had heard of the stunt and was planning to give it a thorough trial. Some scheme, that, of keeping the cow's tail from whipping around one's ear when milking, not to mention the expression in ugly words during milking hour.—Slater News.

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The Sac Bulletin reports that Niels Martin, of Sac county, got forty-five and one-half bushels of Marquis wheat per acre from an eight acre field, measured. It was quite a hardship to insist that Iowa farmers raise wheat this year. Let's see, at $2.20 per bushel that wheat would yield $100.10 per acre, wouldn't it? Who's doing any better?—Rolfe Arrow.

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Last week I traveled on the Northwestern railroad from town of Wall Lake to Sioux City. I noticed several fields of corn badly fired near the towns of Mapleton and Castana, but that was about all the damage by the recent hot dry spell I could see. It certainly looked good to see that vast tract of land in the vicinity of Onawa, which had been raising nothing but hay for years, now under cultivation and good crops of corn and small grain growing on nearly every acre of it. The big drainage ditches which have been put through that section of the state were good investments, no matter what they cost. I saw a fine herd of Angus cattle in a pasture near the railroad between the town of Arthur and Ida Grove. I don't know who they belonged to, but I would not be slow in giving the farm a name and have a large sign painted and erected near the track, telling the name of farm, owner's name and breeds of livestock raised on the farm, if I owned the farm. I have often wondered why more such signs are not placed on the farms along the Lincoln highway. Every time I drive out in the country I see dandy places for placing such signs on our Crawford county farms. One of those large silos is a good place to paint a sign.

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Here I am back on the job again. I am very short of news this week because I have not had time to gather it, but I expect to strike my stride again by next week. After a talk with the "dear doctors" have decided to put off that visit with Saint Peter another fifty years. When you lay awake nights trying to decide whether there are three or four handles on each side of the coffin, oh boy, ain't it a grand and glorious feeling to have the doctor fix you up as good as new?

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The Ida Grove Pioneer last week contained the following: The Ida county threshing committee, with Jas. Bleakly, Otto Schugg and Charles Shirk present, met Tuesday evening and reduced the 1918 threshing prices in Ida county as follows: Threshing oats was placed at 3½ cents a bushel, gas rigs half a cent higher; barley to remain the same at 6 cents a bushel; wheat was reduced to 6 cents a bushel for steam rigs and 7 cents for gas rigs. The committee recommended that threshers refund the difference to farmers for threshing already done this season, to conform with the new prices.

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Many progressive renters in Iowa follow the plan of making the farm leases for next year in August. Knowing the conditions under which they will hold their farm for another year, they can go ahead and plant their winter wheat, plan their crop rotations, buy supplies and otherwise plan a year or more ahead. This is an advisable plan, say the farm management extension men at Iowa State college. A written lease is always better than a verbal one. It is not necessary to have a printed, legal document form of lease. Just a simple agreement in writing, in which the terms and other matters agreed upon are set down in writing, is sufficient. The simpler the lease is, the better. Two copies should be made, one to be retained by each party. It is the experience of many Iowa tenants that the most profitable form of lease is one in which there is co-operative ownership of the livestock on the place. A lease for a term of years, where conditions are satisfactory, is preferable to a one year lease.

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County Agent Quist says good winter wheat seed is of much importance when it comes to making the crop a success. All wheat or rye seed planted this fall should be fanned to save the plump berries. The cracked and shriveled grain is worth the extra labor for fanning. Treat the winter wheat for smut is a suggestion being offered by the elevator men and millers of the county, as much smutty wheat is being delivered to them this fall. Smutty wheat cannot be used for flour without first being washed and scoured. Smut reduces yield and brings less per bushel. The formaldehyde treatment is best for smut. After fanning to remove the smut balls, the wheat should be thoroughly sprinkled with a solution of 1 pint of 40 per cent formaldehyde to 30 gallons of water. After thoroughly moistening every kernel by shoveling the grain as is is being sprinkled, cover with a canvas or wet sacks for two or three hours. Spread wheat out in a thin layer over the floor to dry as quickly as possible. It requires a gallon of the solution to properly sprinkle one bushel of wheat. Drilling should be a trifle thicker, due to a little swelling of some kernels. There is much good winter wheat seed in the county. However, if our demand is greater than the supply, good clean Turkey Red or Iowa 404 wheat may be secured from Monona county at a reasonable price. Any farmer needing seed should write or phone County Agent Quist. Farmers and elevators will not hold their wheat long. The risk and expense involved in holding wheat will make it higher priced later in the season than now.

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To insure a good crop of alfalfa, soil should be inoculated, advises the soils department of Iowa State college. In order to get best results with alfalfa, it is necessary for a certain desirable bacteria to be growing in the soil that aid in extracting nitrogen from the air. This bacteria may be added by scattering soil from a field that is already inoculated, or it may be added through the treatment of the seed with commercial cultures. Both methods are satisfactory when carried out according to directions. With the soil transfer methods, about 300 to 500 pounds of the inoculated soil is scattered over each acre of the field to be seeded and then disked in thoroughly at once. Inoculated soil should not be allowed to remain exposed to heat and light, but should be mixed with the surface soil immediately. The desirable bacteria are rather readily killed by exposure to the sun. The soil should be from a field of alfalfa or sweet clover—but not any other legume field. It must be well inoculated. This can be told by the large number of nodules on the roots. It should be free from noxious weed seeds. If well inoculated soil cannot be found near at hand, it will probably be cheaper to use the commercial preparations, a number of which have been tested out at the Iowa agricultural experiment station and found satisfactory. Good cultures can be bought for 50 cents an acre. Full directions for using these will be found on the package.

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Gasoline is the best worm remedy for sheep that is known, says the sheep herdsman in charge of the flocks at the Iowa agricultural experiment station. He has been using gasoline for years and finds it better than any drug or patent remedy he has ever tried. It not only kills stomach worms, but it will kill tape worms as well, which are much harder to reach. For lambs two or three months old, the herdsman recommends a dose of 5 ounces of whole milk, 1 tablespoonful of gasoline and 1 tablespoonful of linseed oil. For aged animals, two tablespoonfuls of gasoline are used, with the other ingredients the same. Sometimes for strong, growing lambs, nearly two tablespoonfuls are given. The linseed oil acts as a laxative as well as taking away the bad taste. Before the dose is given, the sheep are starved for one night. The dose is repeated for three successive days. However, if the sheep or lamb is sickly and weak the doses are given every other day.

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A silo is cheaper this year than ever before and its saving value is greater. It may not be cheaper in dollars and cents, but it is actually cheaper in bushels of corn or pounds of beef, and that is the way business farmers figure values. In the past two years both beef and corn have actually doubled in the amount they bring, but the cost of most silos has not raised half that much. Then we must consider also the greater value which the silo has. At least twenty-five per cent of the feeding value of the corn crop is lost when the corn is cribbed and stalks left for pasturing. Now that corn has twice its former value the loss by not putting it into a silo is twice as great and what you once lost by leaving seventy-five per cent corn out, has just doubled with corn worth $1.50. More than this the corn saved by a silo will produce just as many pounds of beef now that beef is worth eighteen cents as it did when it was worth only nine cents so you get twice as much for your money there. Taking it all in all and looking at it in terms of actual dollars which will be returned on the investment, the erection of a silo this year is only a good common sense business proposition, much better in fact than ever before, and one which it will not pay to disregard.—Successful Farming.

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The sugar shortage in America is very serious. Iowa gets but 7,500,000 pounds for August. The housholder is limited to two pounds per person per month, hotels and eating houses to two pounds for every ninety meals served and manufacturers of sugar products like soda, water and candy, to fifty per cent or less of their requirements.

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The farmer is permitted to exchange wheat for flour in the ratio of eight pounds per month per person in his family or establishment up to October first. In other words the farmer may exchange wheat for flour up to almost a 60 days' supply at this time. He is not required to take substitutes with the flour unless he so desires, but he is required to sign the pledge given on the certificate which he must sign.

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United States Food Administrator J. F. Deems estimates that almost if not quite 2,500,000 bushels of grain will have been saved in Iowa during the harvest season of 1918 by the organization of the threshers of the state into grain saving associations. In ninety counties of Iowa 7,469 threshers have met in convention during the season and formed organizations which have pushed along the food administration program of better threshing to save food. Practically all counties organized and the associations thus include about 9,000 threshers. Their work is not completed for the year but it is the opinion of Mr. Deems and his associates that fully 2,500,000 bushels of grain will have been saved when the threshing is over. That means close to $2,500,000 saving, as fully 600,000 bushels were saved from the wheat fields.

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We doubt if much damage has been done the corn crop in this vicinity by firing. Here and there may be found stalks along the outside rows or ends that have been hit. How about the barren stalks? Have you gone out in your fields and looked over the ears closely? If you have—that is a number of you—you will find many stalks without an ear on them. This will cause much more loss than the fired corn, I believe.

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In every section of the county some winter wheat was raised this year. The yield per acre is reported to be larger than the spring wheat. It is estimated that ten thousand or more acres of winter wheat will be planted in the county this fall. Winter wheat may be planted any time between now and October first.

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The value of the crops and animal products of the state of Iowa in 1917 were greater than those in any other state in the union, according to figures just published by the United States department of agriculture, being valued at $1,330,000,000. Iowa's closest rival is Illinois whose products are given as $1,255,000,000, or $80,000,000 less than those of Iowa. Next comes Texas with $1,045,000,000, and then Missouri with $947,000,000. The report is in the form of a map of the United States showing each state in outline and giving the value of the products of each. The map also shows the approximate center of agricultural production of the country in 1917, according to value of crop and animals, which center is given as being located in the east central part of Illinois near the Mississippi.

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The estimated condition of Iowa's corn crop on August 1st was 95 per cent of a full crop, compared with 87 per cent Aug. 1, 1917, and 82 per cent the average condition August 1st for the years 1912 to 1916. A condition of 95 per cent on August 1st indicates a production for Iowa of approximately 434,718,000 bushels, compared with 410,700,000 bushels harvested last year, and 365,013,000 bushels the average for 1912-1916. Dry weather accompanied with hot winds and extremely high temperatures of August 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th have seriously reduced the prospects of the corn crop in southwestern Iowa. Adair, Cass Montgomery and Mills counties are especially hard hit by the extreme temperatures of Sunday, August 4th, and Monday, August 5th. All other portions of the state give promise of exceptionally heavy yield. The high temperature which so adversely affected the corn crop in the southwestern portion of the state seemed to have had the effect of forcing the growth of the corn crop in other sections of the state. In localities most seriously affected many farmers are already cutting and putting their corn into shock to save what little feed value remains of the crop. Corn in many early planted fields is already denting.

GAMES AND PHYSICAL EFFICIENCY

Boys and girls have been urged to play certain games as a means of developing the physical efficiency necessary if they are to pass the national badge tests that are part of the program for patriotic play week, held under the auspices of the children's bureau of the United States department of labor and the child welfare department of the woman's committee. The organization of such games and of the badge tests is the simplest part of the play week program and will, it is expected, be particularly valuable for communities where there is now no organization for promoting the safety and sanity of the way children use their leisure time.

Many mothers and also members of committees organizing the work in the states have written to the children's bureau and to the child welfare department for information as to what games are especially useful for developing particular muscular agilities. In response to these inquiries it was announced today that descriptions of twelve games are available prepared by the Playground and Research Association of America, 1 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y., from which copies can be secured. These games include old familiar ones like Tag, Tug of War, Prisoners' Base, Up, Jenkins, Run Sheep Run and Volley Ball. They have been selected because of their usefulness in developing alertness, team play and physical erectness. The descriptions have been prepared with special reference to the usefulness of the games in the patriotic play week, and the old games have been enlivened by new "stunts." Recreation committees which have been unable to find play organizations ready to hand can easily get the boys and girls in any community interested in starting games and thus competing all summer in fitting themselves for taking the badge tests at the end of the vacation time. Their summer of healthy play will, it is hoped, leave them better able to get the most out of the winter of study that is before them.

JACKSON ITEMS

Mrs. Edward Rickers and sister, Miss Anna Sohl, were business callers in West Side Tuesday.

J. F. Dreessen and children, Laura and George, left for Millard, Neb., on Thursday to visit with relatives for a few days. George will stay and help Mr. Sohl with his farm work.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Segebarth and son, Earl, called on friends at Vail Wednesday.

Christ Brotherson received a fine bunch of cattle from Sioux City Tuesday.

Mrs. Wm. Hiffler and children, of Omaha, are visiting at the Julius Jans home.

Jesse Dieter bought several hundred bushels of corn from John Kock Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Dreessen spent Thursday evening at the Wm. Rickers home.

Mr. and Mrs. Julius Jans and son, Vernon, accompanied by Mrs. William Hiffler, left Friday morning for Minnesota where they will stay several days.

Wm. Kock sold a load of hogs to the West Side buyer at $18.25 per cwt.

Mrs. Frank Dozark and daughters, Gladys and Irene, autoed to Boyer Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lawler called at the John O'Donnell home Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rickers and family, Mrs. Ed Rickers and Miss Anna Sohl were pleasantly entertained at the Wm. Segebart home Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kock and son, Clarence, and Mrs. Ben Myers and Wm. Kock left Saturday for Minnesota to visit friends and relatives.

Fred Rickers and John Auen went to Omaha on business Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Gertz and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Rickers.

Miss Lena Lamp is visiting at the J. H. Jans home at present.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rickers and family visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Herman Buck.

O'Donnell Brothers shipped a load of cattle Saturday evening.

Henry Peters spent Sunday with his parents at Lake View.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Brotherson and children and Mrs. J. F. Dreessen motored to Denison Friday afternoon.

Many of the people who join the "Back to the Farm" movement still build their garage before their cow barn.

Now that it is considered respectable to work in the garden on Sunday, many men have lost all interest in doing it.

Here is the Money-Making Opportunity of a Lifetime

320 Acre Farm at Auction

Located 9 Miles East of Denison, Iowa

Five miles South of Vail and six miles North of Aspinwall. Legally described as the East One-Half of Section 17, Township 83, Range 37, Crawford County, Iowa; and known as the Elizabeth Ayers' Estate Farm. This fine farm will be sold at auction, on the premises, commencing at 2:00 p. m., on

Tuesday, August 27

The improvements consist of large, well preserved dwelling house; large stock barn, with large hay mow; hog house, corn crib, granary, yards, etc. Fine water works system, with water piped into the buildings; plenty of shade. Farm is all fenced. Rural route from Vail, Iowa, passes in front of the house. 200 acres under cultivation, 120 acres in pasture and meadow.

TERMS OF SALE: $5,000 to be paid day of sale. Balance on March 1, 1919, when deed and abstract showing merchantable title will be delivered and possession given. Purchaser can have the benefit of highest time loan at lowest rate of interest which can be procured in making settlement.

This Farm to be Sold to Settle an Estate

THIS land is offered for sale for the purpose of closing up an estate, requiring the payment of the purchase price by March 1, 1919. This is an exceptional opportunity--Don't miss it!

The Garden Spot of Iowa

The location of this farm is the most fertile part of Crawford County, the "Garden Spot of Iowa."

ELIZABETH BAUMAN, Executrix

MALONE BROS., Auctioneers. DENISON, IOWA