

MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT.

FARMER BEN'S COLUMN

I see that big importations of butter, corn, beef and other farm truck are being brought in to this country from other countries under the new Wilson tariff that has knocked off all protection from farm products. Of course butter and corn are lower in price and all other farm stuff will have to be knocked out in price later. I wouldn't care about the farmer having to take less for his stuff he raises if the price of other things he has to buy was also affected in the same way but they ain't. And that ain't all. The stuff which a family eats ain't more than a quarter of the total cost of livin' and I can't see that clothes and shoes and rents and light and books and lumber and taxes and all the rest have been cut one bit. That's the big kick I've got aginst the Wilson tariff bill. It is all jug handled aginst the farmer and in favor of the rich manufacturers. But the farmers who helped to put Wilson in to dictate the outrageous tariff will be the sickest lot ever before this trip is over.

I'm glad the people are gettin' waked up to indignation over the attempt of Eberhart and Ed Smith and the rest of his machine bosses to sidetrack Henry Rines of Mora from winnin' out on state auditor. They've put up for machine candidate for the place a man named Preus who is now drawin' a salary in state office. They ain't satisfied with just gettin' Eberhart back but they are bound to control other offices to make their machine stronger. I reckon the people are gettin' madder and madder over the way the hogs are tryin' to get everything in sight. Rines was speaker of the last House and is a man for whom the special interests have no use for. He has experience as county auditor so he's got a good prep for the bigger job and he is incorruptible that there'll be no grabbin' of public lands or other rights and prerogatives of the state so far as he would be guardian of 'em. I like him for he's capable and honest and popular and widely known. It's either to let the gang beat him or else whip 'em out. Come on.

Gov. Eberhart is out with a circular urgin' that something be done to start something for a Minnesota buildin' at the San Francisco exposition. It looks like Ed Smith had something up his sleeve. If any one will tell me one iota of good such a buildin' and exhibit will do this state then I'll cave but till then I'll fight. The fact is that nobody from California will ever move to Minnesota. That is sure. The last Minnesota legislator very properly turned down the graft for this buildin'. Now comes Eberhart with a effort to start a \$75,000 or more project, first by private subscription but later to have the next legislator pay for it all out of the public funds. We never got any good from the expo at St. Louis or others near by and there's nothin' comin' from San F. I tell you just what I believe. Some lazy lout in the state ring is anxious to get a fat job of loafin' at a big salary and the state pay for it and this scheme is worked up to make such a graft but you just bet the tax payers are goin' to whack such an insane project and also anybody who favors it.

I'm bigly interested in this Farm Credit bank scheme that is before congress. I can't see why a farmer ain't entitled to as low interest charges on short loans as anybody else. It looks like what works well in Germany and Ireland and France ought to work all right here. Over there it is claimed that it has done wonders in promotin' farm prosperity. It's even stated that one reason why the Irish are stayin' at home nowadays and improvin' their farms and payin' for 'em instead of emigratin' is this very thing of gettin' credit at right interest charge. I'm knowin' to the fact that rite here in Mower county the farmers have in former days paid enormous interest. We ain't forgot Old Forty Per Cent yet and its burdens. If the farmers who ain't now forehanded could have legitimate credit to buy stock and put up silos and other improvements they could earn forty per cent in such improvement in bigger returns and savings. So I am watchin' the move with both eyes.

You'd think from the howls of the Eberhart lickspittles that the republicans opposed to him had committed the unpardonable sin in callin' a convention at Minneapolis March 19 to recommend a candidate for governor who could have the consistent support of the progressives. The fact is that Eberhart's

goose is cooked and Ed Smith knows it if the field against our present light weight governor is united on one man instead of being divided as it was two years ago in the primary. That is just where the primary is so weak. Any old chump can file for nomination and out up the vote and let the ring corrupt candidates in. It ain't no disgrace to admit that you supported the primary honestly in theory and after you have tried it out and find it weak then you admit your mistake. Wise men always are subject to change of mind but fools ain't. The agreement on the best one for governor in the next primary means a winner. All will push for the same man and his nomination is assured.

My paper says that the state normal board has decided to throw out the high school course at Mankato and Winona. This is what Farmer Ben has been strikin' for the past twenty years. The fact is that normal schools are intended to teach teachin' and not run high school courses for the benefit of the cities where they are located. Hundreds of pupils at Mankato and Winona who ought to get educated at their own highs have attended normal schools to get high school course and the state has been payin' for it. I've always contended that the normals were for trainin' teachers and the closer they get down to preparin' these for rooral and graded schools the more public value they were. When I send my gal to normal I don't want her to be spendin' a lot of time in studies she could get rite in the home school. What I send her there for is exclusively to learn teachin' in theory and practice. Let the taxpayers of Mankato and Winona pay for their own high schools and not get the state to keep 'em for their benefit.

FARMER BEN.

Rich Smugglers Merely Fined.
Former Congressman Lucius Littauer and his brother, William Littauer, after they had confessed to the court at New York that they had failed to declare to the customs authorities certain valuable jewels which they brought here from abroad, were sentenced to pay fines of \$1000 each and a suspended prison sentence of six months, under which they were both free. Judge Thomas of the Federal Court, in passing sentence, himself declared that a fine in such cases is a travesty on justice, but was constrained to suspend the prison sentence in this case because of special circumstances and the ill health of Lucius. The judge asserted that the guilt was deeper on account of the wealth and education of the guilty men and the official position long held by one. Very true.

Big Removal Sale Continues.
Pianos, Organs, Violins, Guitars, Mandolins, all going at special prices which means a genuine saving on high grade pianos and small musical goods and sewing machines. Sheet Music only 5 and 10 cents. All must go by Feb 1st. Call and get prices from H. C. BURGAIN, 408 North Main St.

Alfalfa in Mower County.
At the meeting of the S. M. Horticultural society at LeRoy, the president of the society, Mr. F. W. Kimball of Waltham, related his experience with alfalfa. He had been very successful, having gotten a fair stand that gave him three cuttings of excellent hay. He used seed of the Grimm variety and inoculated his soil. Mr. Otto Mesenbring of the extension division of the State Agricultural college was at the meeting and gave some interesting advice to those who intended trying out this crop. He said that the seed bed must be as free from weeds as possible and thoroughly prepared. If the land had been in clover or any other legumes special inoculation was not necessary. The soil that sweet clover has growing in can be used to inoculate an alfalfa field, the bacteria being the same for both plants or sweet clover seed can be mixed with alfalfa in seeding. Sweet clover being a perennial will not bother the alfalfa if not allowed to go to seed. He said that seed of the Grimm alfalfa could be had in Mankato this year at from 20 to 25 cents per pound. He advised that no cover crop be used.

Austin Public Library Course.
February 20. Katherine Ridgeway and company. In America the name of Katherine Ridgeway is so linked with the best in the reader's art that one cannot think of the one without the other. For years she has stood at the very fore front of her chosen field of work. She is accompanied on her tours by Miss Grace Desmond, a delightful pianist and Ludwig G. Meyer, a baritone soloist of fine accomplishments. Together this trio of artists presents a program of unexcelled beauty and power.
March 18. Dr. Lincoln McConnell will deliver another of his splendid lectures. All who heard last year's inspirational lecture on Dead Lions will certainly interest themselves in seeing that Dr. McConnell has a fine audience.
April 13. The Maurer Sisters' Orchestra will close the course. The Redpath Bureau is very proud of this organization, and many of our patrons will remember the charming young women who at the Chautauqua of 1913 gave a program which was remarkable for its versatility without mediocrity.

BURLESON'S WRONG VIEW

Postmaster General Burleson does not approve of the postmasters holding conventions, for the alleged reason that "so much time is lost on the part of the postmasters and other employees," and because he is inclined "to believe that at this time the tendency of the postal service is towards over organization."

This is a peculiar position for the head of the postal department to take. The meeting together of any class of people is of necessity helpful, and it is time well spent. These conventions have undoubtedly improved the service, and were of real value to the people.
They have been a power in taking the postal service out of partisan politics, and putting it on a more business like basis. It may be this fact that is the real reason why it meets the objection of Burleson, who is yielding to the pressure of the hungry Democrats and would demoralize the service for the benefit of the spoil hunters. Government employees should be free American citizens, and the position of Burleson is obnoxious in its dictatorial attitude.

It was only a few years ago that postmasters were appointed for political reasons and were expected to do little more than draw their salaries, and let the other employees do the work. Now the postmaster is required to give the government an honest day's work, and most of them are doing it.

The country will not tolerate a return to the spoils system, even how displeasing this may be to the postmaster general and the horde of hungry office seekers hounding his office.—St. Cloud Journal-Press

MR. FORD AND HIS MUSS

With due regard for the Ford car, which is a wonderful product in its way, the maker of the cars has made quite a muss of things in Detroit remarks the Cedar Rapids Republican. His actions, however generous they may have been, have been praised by neither labor nor by capital, unless the immediate laborers in the Ford factory are included among those who are well pleased. The socialists are especially loud in their denunciations of Henry Ford. They accuse of bribing labor and posing as the dispenser of money that do not belong to him, but belong either to the actual producers of his cars or to the consumers of them. The socialists insist that he has wrenched the \$10,000,000 he is giving away "from the sweat of labor," which strikes one as an extreme view for Mr. Ford paid his laborers good wages in the past. It is a more justifiable view that he has wrenched the \$10,000,000 from his patrons, the men who bought his cars. That is, he ought to have made prices that would give him merely a reasonable, instead of an unreasonable profit.

On labor directly Mr. Ford has exerted a benumbing effect. The men who have to work in other factories for lower wages than Ford can pay, are dissatisfied in their work and they may not be able to produce as good work for their employers. They say that some of the factories would like to get away from Detroit, so unsatisfactory have been the conditions made by the Ford splurge. In that way Ford may be hurting the city. The effect upon labor itself is told in the dispatches. They state that 75,000 men have rushed into Detroit looking for 85 a day jobs, and the jobs are not to be had. We are told that:

"These men are at the point of starvation in the streets. They are offering themselves to employers at starvation wages, and are throwing out of employment the thousands of skilled workmen who have been receiving a fair wage for their labor. The monetary value of skilled and unskilled labor is reduced to a minimum."

But these effects may be merely temporary. The men who have rushed to Detroit, like the men who rushed to San Francisco, to help build the exposition buildings, will drop out of Detroit again. They will return to the place from which they came. That such prospects should excite many is not to be wondered at, neither is it to be wondered at that many rushed to that labor Mecca, as they imagined without stopping to think of the consequences of a glut in the labor market.

The sensible thing for Mr. Ford to have done was to pay his laborers well, but not excessively over the market value of such labor, and then to have sold his cars at such prices that the accumulation of vast piles of money would not result, money with which he has been acting like a prodigal son.—Mason City Globe-Gazette.

Assistant Postmasters in Danger.
Despite the fact that the rider will be left out of the post office bill removing assistant postmasters from the civil service, republican assistant postmasters in Iowa need not think they are out of danger. Representative Moon has introduced a separate bill providing for a civil service examination for assistant postmasters following the same plan as in the case of fourth class postmasters. It is declared this will pass the house and may pass the senate. If it passes, republican assistant postmasters will be forced to take an examination, a list of three eligibles will be certified and the chance of the incumbent retaining his place will be slim.—Des Moines

THAT \$1,000 EAR OF CORN

A thousand dollar ear of corn, fourteen inches in length, is one of the striking features of the National Corn Show which opened in Dallas February 10. That is it cost James J. Hill of the Great Northern railway, that much because he bet such a monster specimen could not be raised in the state of Minnesota. The ear has 1009 grains on it so "Jim" Hill paid nearly a dollar a grain for it. A farmer in Mower county raised it and Fred Sherman, state immigration commissioner of Minnesota, brought the prize ear with him to Dallas. It was exhibited temporarily in the lobby of the Oriental hotel and was installed in the Minnesota booth at the Fair Grounds the opening day of the corn show. Immigration Commissioner Sherman arrived in Dallas with nearly a carload of agricultural specimens, corn, other grains in the sheath and threshed and a variety of grasses that are grown in Minnesota.

"Minnesota led the United States in 1913 in per acre yield of corn, according to the government agricultural reports," said Commissioner Sherman, and we expect to have the next National Corn Show held in Minneapolis. I think it will be the inclination to pay this tribute to Minnesota."

A delegation of agricultural and business men of Minnesota are at Dallas, among them John J. Furlong, president of the Minnesota State Fair association, Eli Warner, of the St. Paul Association of Commerce, Wm. H. Kilten and Prof. E. C. Willard, agricultural experts, E. C. Hillweg, assistant secretary of the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce association, L. B. Arnold of Duluth, and D. C. Armstrong, former president of the Minnesota State Bankers' association.

Prof. C. P. Ball, secretary of the National Corn Show, is a Minnesota man, being on a year's leave of absence from the Minnesota State Agricultural school. He was loaned by that institution to get behind the National Corn Show and make it a success. Immigration Commissioner Sherman installed the Minnesota exhibit at the Fair Grounds. He was assisted by Prof. Arnie and James Kern and George Glotfelter, students of the Minnesota State Agricultural school.—Dallas, Texas, Herald.

A Good Combination.

We can give you the Daily News of Minneapolis, The Woman's World, a monthly Magazine, six late songs with music published to be sold at \$1.00 and the Mower County Transcript all for \$3.00. If you wish you can have the Northwestern Agriculturist instead of the Woman's World.

Where can you get a better combination than this at this price? Send all orders to the Transcript and you will get a bargain.

No License May Carry.

The Austin Transcript says "the question of liquor license or no license will come up in the coming Austin spring election at that place and many predict that no license will carry." It will only be after a genuine fight, if at all, as the county seat is strongly entrenched by the brewery forces that have annually invested money in buildings and other property to hold the fort in this county. It was recently stated by the chief of police at that place "that 1/2 of the arrests for drunkenness came from Mason City." This shows what class of people the county seat is especially attracting and knocks out a big prop from the argument "that there is as much liquor sold in a dry town as in a licensed place." If these undesirables were permitted to get what they wanted in Mason City why spend money for carfare to get to the licensed town. No other business is allowed to thrive upon the weakness of humanity like this traffic. The more of the goods he buys, the worse he is off.—Lyle Tribune.

AUCTION SALES.

Herman Julson having sold his farm in Brownsdale, will sell at auction Monday, Feb. 23, commencing at ten o'clock, six horses, eight cattle and a large lot of farm machinery and other articles. Free lunch at noon. Col. C. L. Hofe & Son, auctioneers. See large bills.

Henry E. Woodward has rented his farm a half mile north of Brownsdale and will sell on Tuesday Feb. 24, commencing at 10:30 five horses, 13 cattle, machinery, harnesses, household goods, etc. Free lunch at noon. In the sale is included a full blood Shetland pony, five years old, absolutely safe for children. Also harness and buggy to go with it.

Geo. W. Foster, one mile north of Brownsdale has sold his farm and will sell at auction Thursday, Feb. 19 commencing at 10:30 o'clock, three horses, 18 head of cattle including six fresh milk cows, chickens, machinery, household goods, etc. Free lunch at noon. See large bills for particulars. Geo. M. Shortt auctioneer.

E. J. White, three miles east of Brownsdale, having sold his farm will sell at auction on Friday, Feb. 20, commencing at one o'clock sharp, five horses, eight head of cattle including five milk cows, 26 hogs, machinery, hay in barn, corn in crib, seed corn, etc. See large bills. Geo. M. Shortt auctioneer.

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