

MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT

Vol XLVII—No. 1

Austin, Mower County, Minnesota, Wednesday, March 11, 1914.

Terms—\$1.50 Per Annum, in Advance

FARMER BEN'S COLUMN

I never thought college professors was much on practical statesmanship. They've got lots of theories in their heads and they propagate 'em as if they was the real thing but when it comes down to puttin' 'em into practical application they are no good.

My paper tells of a central Illinois farmer who came up near Crookston ten years ago and bought 480 acres of worn out wheat land and started in. He tried wheat and got eight bushels to the acre and in three years was nearly gone bump. Then he switched. He put on cattle and sheep, fertilized wholly with his own manure and no commercial, rotated crops, corn, potatoes, barley, wheat, oats, grasses and pasture with top dressin' for pasture, and makin' all the manure he could and turnin' under green mulchin' and now he's gettin' all kinds of large crops, his land is double in value, he's buyin' more land, he's put up new buildings, and has the cinch on the situation.

The study of the personal property tax lists is always attractive and instructive to the folks who know something of the actual financial condition of each citizen. It makes you mad enuf to fight to see so many hundreds of names of fairly well to do people not on the lists at all while the names of honest folks who are poorer are in for a few dollars tax. It looks to Farmer Ben like this whole tax state commission was a fraud so far as betterin' conditions. One of the boys says one of 'em had to come and explain the business to the assessors the other day so they could get some idee of it and then they didn't catch on to all. It looks like something radical was yet lackin' when the ones who ought to pay don't and the ones least able and responsible do the payin'.

Worse and worse. My fashion paper says that down in New York City the comin' spring and summer the ultra fashionable women are to wear the men's britches style of dress if you can call it dress. They call it bifurcate or some such name but sure as my name is Farmer Ben the effect is the britches style with bloomer effects and style. I thought when the women got the outlandish last year style of close fitters so everybody could see their forms and so they could not step but a foot each step and had to be lifted up steps and into wagons because they could not step up that the limit had been reached. But it ain't. I can't see why all sensible women can't see that these extremes of fashion show the most consummate folly and idiocy and lack of good sense. Why, I don't consider some of these outlandish fashions even decent to appear in public. I'm goin' up to Austin every day now to watch for these bifurcated styles so I can say I've seen 'em but I bet the boys will hoot 'em and they ought. What would our grandmothers hav' that of such? You'll never see our gal Sarah in 'em.

President Taft very wisely makes a strong plea for simplifyin' all court procedure. The present intricate mazes of technicalities that have served particularly to protect men of wealth from prosecution are rotten. The poor devils get short shrift while the rich devils get immunity baths without

limit. Our U. S. supreme court is years behind in cases and our state courts in allowin' appeals and new trials and all kinds of contraptions for delay encourage litigation by those who have lots of money but every time knock out prompt justice for the deservin'. English court business is prompt, efficient, sure and just and surely our courts in this country can follow the identical methods and get same results. As it is, our courts are the means of allowin' the rich to browbeat the poor and keep 'em from their rights and deserts and they put a premium on lawbreakin' because there is so much chance to escape penalties and just deserts.

Admiral Staunton says that we do not wish to use our battleships for fighting. We do not expect any war as long as we maintain a sufficient number of battleships. That's my idee exactly. The more warships we have the less likely to get into war. I know these things cost money but war costs a thousand times more. The war of the rebellion cost the North five billion dollars to say nothing of the South, and we are now payin' annual pensions of \$180,000,000. I tell you the enormous expense of war with a prepared enemy contributes greatly to keep the peace. Our war equipment is a sort of insurance agens' war. It's cheaper to keep a big navy than to pay the loss caused by needin' one when we require one on the minut. I'd rather burn powder in practice at target than in actual war. I'd rather pay more for equipments than for pensions. I'd rather avoid war than to sacrifice lives. I'd rather pay a stiff insurance than to lose a valuable property.

Jim Jam Jems Publishers To Be Retried.

The verdicts of guilty found against Sam Clark and G. H. Crookard, publishers of Jim Jam Jems, were reversed by the United States circuit court of appeals Tuesday. The decision gives the two men new trials in the federal district court of North Dakota under the indictment charging violation of the postal laws. Clark and Crookard, under the verdicts of the federal district court jury, faced heavy fines and prison sentences. They made their fight for new trials on the plea that the district court erred in ruling out certain evidence, namely, their complete publication. The court admitted only portions of several articles in support of the indictments. We are glad of this reversal. It looks like a case of spitework when other magazines tenfold more objectionable are allowed to go undisturbed.

A Good Word for the Crow.

In the current issue of Farm and Fireside appears the following paragraph which is entitled "A Plea for the Crow": "The U. S. D. A. experts have been prying into the private habits of the crow, and find him possessed of some very good qualities. One agent of the Department watched a crow fooling about the growing corn and shadowed him to his nest. There he found the young crows full of cutworms instead of sprouting corn. The crow had been misjudged. Another victim of circumstantial evidence. These ornithological detectives have come to the conclusion that, while the crow does kill a great many young birds and steals other birds' eggs, he eats so many grasshoppers, cutworms, white grubs, and other injurious insects that on the whole he is a very valuable bird if his numbers are so kept down."

Electric Plant on Farm.

F. M. Pollard, who has a farm near Dexter, has had an electric lighting system in operation for several months and reports that it is one of the most convenient things that he has ever had. His system consists of a Universal (lead plate) storage battery and a dynamo which he runs with his five-horse power gasoline engine. His house is fully wired and he has twenty-six lights in it. He is going to build a barn very soon so has no lights in his barn as yet. They have an electric flatiron and will probably have other conveniences which may be operated by electricity. He reports that by running his five-horse power engine eight hours on the dynamo that enough power will be stored to run the lights for two weeks in the winter time when they are used the most. The engine during the five hours would use five gallons of gasoline. The liquid in the batteries has to be changed once in a while but beyond that there is very little expense in operation beyond the little care which must be given to the system.

Do You Know It?

C. J. Myhre does the best and cheapest shoe repair work in town. See him, 223 E. Mill St. All work guaranteed. Look at the Gold Boot Sign. 1817

Prevented an Unsafe "Bank." After secreting his gold and silver in sacks of corn in his barn, a wealthy landowner at Angure-Bous-Dan, Seine-et-Loire, France, forgetful of his savings, recently sent the corn to the village mill to be ground into flour. The result was that all his treasure was ground to a powder. The man had a profound mistrust of banks.

A Vile Thing in Our Midst.

We are living in a great age, and to notice how sentiment is spreading and how fast Minnesota is going "Dry," makes us feel we are living in a great day, in a great state. We can see great visions and are jubilant at prospects of victory, but we also know there is work ahead. In the nation, the state, the city, there is need for systematic, co-operative effort. An educational campaign full of sentiment, logic, and practical helpfulness. Are we doing all we can? The enemy never slumbers, we do. The enemy has unlimited means. We begrudge even a little time from our business, our work, our society. God never promised that great changes would come, great battles be won without breaking of pitchers and blowing of horns. Our enemies have ignored our rallies, our reasonings, our politics and our pleadings as long as they can. They are taking notice now. Their own papers are full of warnings and advice. In the "Wine and Spirit Gazette" we read: "The saloon, as conducted, is a nuisance, a leading place for the idle and vicious. It is generally on a prominent street and is run by a sport who cares only for the almighty dollar. From this resort the drunken man starts reeling home. At this resort the local fights are indulged in. It is a stench in the nostrils of society." We have seldom made a stronger characterization for the business our selves.

A domestic in the home, of a saloon-keeper in Montana just before I left heard his wife urging him to remain at home that evening as he had promised her he would "No," he said, "I must hurry back. A fellow had just come in with one hundred plunks, I must go back and relieve him of them." As the system of saloons today is responsible for the Simon Lagree type of men, so the saloon system today is responsible for the type of men generally found in the saloon business, as the type above mentioned. In any other business the majority of these "sports" as the Gazette calls them, would make honest, genial "desirable" citizens. We must stop the business or the system that produces that kind of men and in thus protecting the saloon men we shall stop the manufacture of 100,000 drunkards in the United States every year. Ida Ferris Waterman.

Austin Public Library Course.

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 Chautauque of 1913 gave a program which was remarkable for its versatility without mediocrity.

Sexology Gone Mad.

If there is such a science as sexology, it has certainly gone mad in these later days. It is time for us to get back to a more modest, sensible, and restrained view of these matters. Every low theatre and proprietor who would not designate them appeal to the sex instinct. Almost every "best seller" is a problem story, and the problem is the problem of the sex. Women's dresses, the latest dances, and free discussions in our papers all call attention to this subject, and seek to emphasize it, often in a most disgusting way. Many advocate courses in schools, for both boys and girls, in this subject; but, thank Heaven, the signs of protest against this undue emphasis on the sex question are not wanting. The city fathers and town-councilors have united with Protestant pastors and Catholic bishops to condemn the animal dances. If some respectable papers and some respectable people did not give them countenance, they would soon be barred from all decent society. Certain magazines attain an enormous circulation and an immense advertising patronage simply thru the prominence given to stories which are always suggestive and often debasing. Worse than clear, frank, outspoken smut are many of these stories. I will not advertise the magazines by giving their names but my readers might as well take hot coals in their hands, and not expect to be burned, as habitually to read these stories, and not to expect to have their finer sensibilities seared. The great hope of the future is that things have gone so far that decent people are getting their eyes opened, and are protesting against this extreme swing of the pendulum. Even the teaching of children in regard to these questions is attended with peril and danger unless they are taught not prefunctionally by any and everyone, and as a task, but by pure-minded men and women who love the child, and know what they are talking about, and who teach and write in fear of God.—Christian Endeavor World.

Where It Pains Most.

Mamma—Remember, Willie, this hurts mamma more than it does you. Willie—Yes, maybe, but it doesn't leave blisters on you.—Philadelphia Ledger.

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. BURGAN. adv 46 408 North Main St.

An Interesting Automobile Offer.

Write to the American Motor League, 511 Palace Building, Minneapolis, Minn., and learn how to cut down the expense of running the auto to nearly half. All standard tires and accessories can be had at prices which the garage and dealer has to pay. Sixty cent oil costs you 20c. Discount on broken parts is from 25 to 60 per cent. The saving on a single tire is \$4 to \$15. Tops, side curtains, windshields, bumpers, horns, lamps, spark plugs, speedometers, carburetors, at 33% to 50 per cent below retail prices. No matter what car you have, we will supply you. We issue the most complete automobile supply catalogue ever published.—Only standard goods, at prices almost unbelievable. Write today, for full information and prices.

That Anti-Eberhart Conference

The Mankato Free Press, a loyal supporter of Gov. Eberhart, raises the question of the right to call a Republican state anti-Eberhart conference and charges those calling it with being a "crowd of dictators, bolters, trimmers, ex-bull moosers and political fly-by-nights." "Trying to dictate to men who have stood by the Republican party, when traitors were trying to wreck it, what they shall do in the present political situation." The Free Press also charges that by calling this convention the promoters have "publicly declared their loss of faith in the primary system."

There is no disputing the latter statement—and it must be admitted that the primary law fails in its practical working in giving the majority of any party the selection of candidates when there are four or five candidates on the primary ticket.

There is a lively campaign ahead, and the conference will at least put some light into it. However much criticism there may be in certain quarters over the calling of the convention, it is the right of American citizens who agree upon any proposition to get together and work for it.

That is the whole sum and substance of the matter. The Republicans who support or oppose any candidate for nomination are entirely within their rights, and the people at the general election who vote for or against any candidate are not proper subjects of vicious criticism or abuse.—St. Cloud Journal-Press.

The Canada Land Fake.

The Greenbush Tribune which comes from near the Canadian line says that two hundred thousand Canadian immigrants will return to the states again. A tramp printer from Saskatchewan that struck our office a month or so ago reported that hard times had struck western Canada. Many Americans had planted all they had and left it. Others could not find enough on which to leave. Grain prices were much lower than in the eastern markets and goods purchased were much higher. Canada has spent a large amount of money on newspaper space and other advertising. They have induced a very large number of Americans to settle on claims in the west. The truth is being brought home to us now and we are hearing very little about emigration to Canada. Chances here are too good and chances there are exceedingly poor and uncertain.—Albert Lea Tribune.

ANTI-MACHINE REPUBLICANS TO MEET IN AUSTIN SATURDAY, MARCH 14.

A county Mass County Conference, of all Republican voters who are opposed to the present state administration, and the machine controlling the party in the state is hereby called for the county of Mower to assemble at the Court House in the City of Austin at 2 o'clock p. m., on Saturday, March 14, 1914, for the purpose of electing fourteen delegates to a state conference to be held at the Armory in the City of Minneapolis, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of Thursday, March 19, 1914. The said State Conference is called for the purpose of recommending a candidate for Governor and to transact such other business as in the judgment of the conference may be desirable. Dated at Austin, Minnesota, this 28th day of February, 1914. F. C. CHRISTIE, County Chairman.



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Advertisement for Austin Gas Co. featuring an illustration of a man with a gas stove and the headline "A Cautious Man". Text: "A Cautious Man avoids possibilities of fire from spilt coals from a hot fire. Best way to do that is to use gas. Turn a valve, go to bed and all's safe. So manifold are the uses of gas for lighting, heating and cooking that we'd like to talk the matter over with you. AUSTIN GAS CO."

Advertisement for The Austin National Bank. Text: "Which Kind Are You? The kind that 'can't' save money because you need every cent for daily living and pleasures, the kind that 'intends' to save sometime in the dim future, or the kind that Is going to begin RIGHT NOW at the Austin National Bank? The Austin National Bank AUSTIN, MINNESOTA. Capital 50,000.00 Surplus \$10,000.00 Resources \$635,000.00 C. H. DAVIDSON, JR., Pres. J. L. MITCHELL, Vice-Pres. C. F. ROSS, Vice-Pres. P. D. BEAULIEU, Cash. F. C. WILBOUR, Asst. Cash."

Advertisement for First National Bank of Austin, Minnesota. Text: "FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTIN, MINNESOTA. UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY Capital and Surplus \$250,000.00 Resources \$1,500,000.00 O. W. SHAW, President N. F. BANFIELD, Vice-Pres. & Cashier Ass't Cashiers: H. L. BANFIELD, — H. J. DROST, — N. F. BANFIELD, Jr. 4 per cent Interest paid on Time Deposits. YOUR BUSINESS SOLICITED"

Advertisement for The Clark Smith Co. Text: "FOR SALE City and Farm Property. Anything you want in Building Lots Come and see us if you want to buy or sell a House, Lot or Farm. THE CLARK SMITH CO. 409 North Main St. Phone 764 N. W."

Advertisement for F. I. Crane Lumber Company. Text: "Lumber, Lath, Sash and Doors. Hard and Soft Coal. We Carry a Full and Well assorted stock of all grades of Lumber, and, as heretofore, our prices will always be found to be the lowest. Parties who contemplate building will save money by figuring with us before purchasing elsewhere. OUR MOTTO IS: Small Profits and Large Sales."

Advertisement for J. F. Fairbanks. Text: "F. I. Crane Lumber company THE OLD RELIABLE DEALERS J. F. FAIRBANKS, DEALER IN HARD AND SOFT COAL A MAN Wood, Lime, Sewer, Combinations, Fence, Brick, etc. across the street lugging a water melon always attracts attention. So does a man showing up superior qualities of the PAGE Fence. Why? Because men like a good thing. Manufactured by the PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich. We keep it. The only fence fully guaranteed by the manufacturers Office Corner Bridge and Franklin Sts. AUSTIN, MINN."