

MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT.

FARMER BEN'S COLUMN

My paper says that the farmers along the route of the new St. Paul Southern electric line which is headed for Rochester have made arrangements so that they may take off electric light and power at each farm for all their purposes. This is what Farmer Ben has been urg'ing for years to improve conditions at the farms. Electric light and power would go a long way toward givin' the farmers the same advantage the city folks hav. Just think of turnin' on the lights in your house and barn and chicken coops and all over just when you want without havin' to clean and fill lamps and to strike matches. Just think of when you want to pump water or churn or grind or saw or thresh all you have to do is to switch on your motor and it whizzes and works in an instant and never fails so long as you want to use it. It beats wind and gasoline and kerosene and all else to a frazzle it's always so handy and clean and powerful and serviceable.

Farmer Ben always believed that there was a whole lot of women possessed of so much modesty and good taste that they did not approve of the extreme immodest styles of dress forced upon 'em. My wife and our gal Sarah cert never O. K. ed 'em. Now comes the General Federation of Women's clubs at their Chicago meetin' and by resolution disapproves of the present extreme tendency of American women to follow designs in dress regardless of beauty, comfort or modesty and heartily favor simpler and more modest styles suited to American needs. Social workers declare that proper dressin' would benefit morals and eliminate many of the evils of improper dancin'. Cert the present styles are ugly, uncomfortable and immoral. They hinder locomotion and conceal too little. It's queer that the sensible women haven't before now risen up in revolt and ordered their dress makers to build their gowns to suit their modest tastes and convenience rather than some crazy French' man.

I never liked this concentratin' of everything at St. Paul whether in educational matters or else. Take our school work. It's got so our county superintendents have little authority left. They can't have the say of the qualifications of their teachers and they can't even issue a permit to teach in an emergency without gettin' the state O. K. The Austin board can't hire except under certain restrictions. Now comes the state educational ring and proposes to abolish all rural deestrick school officers and place management of all schools in county boards under the direction of the state ring. It's gettin' worse all the time. A deestrick can't build a new school house or put in a new heatin' apparatus without gettin' permission from the St. Paul ring. I tell you this has gone too far all ready. This centralization never suited Farmer Ben. Better a million times keep all school authority close to the common people and patrons who know what local conditions need and demand.

I see down to Chicago the best editors like Ella Flagg Young have decided that the curves and flourishes in penmanship have no place in the modern business world any more than the unnatural methods of holdin' pens and the awkward ways of makin' pupils hold their fingers and arms in writin'. So the edict has gone forth that the first requirement in handwritin' shall be that it is easy, readable and rapid and that cert it was will be needed when the pupils get out to be clerks or take any other positions. There's always been too much old grannyism about all our teachin' methods and the way I know is the poor results we get. Parrot like readin' ain't expression and real givin' of the thoughts. Work in fingers that deals in a lot of things that are used practically in actual life is humber when there's so much to figger on that is practical and needful. Stilted methods in writin' are an imposition. What do I care whether it's slant or vertical so long as it's legible and natural and easy?

That crazy notion of Governor Eberhart to appoint a hog cholera day for Minnesota is the latest break just as if such a day was goin' to make a bit of differ whether your hogs got the cholera or not. Eberhart seems to be daft on this commission and day business. Somebody suggests that if he wanted to do a real good to the state he should appoint a "Dog Day" on which every worthless dog should be put out of the

way. That would be worth white. If this state could get rid of several million of the dogs that now bother and endanger life and destroy property and roam at will, it would be a regular bonanza. Farmer Ben and his wife was out ridin' just the other day with the old mare and out comes one of these worthless curs and jumps rite up into the mare's face and tries to bite and scare until I thought that we might really get harmed in a tipover. I tell you it's pretty tryin' to raise lambs and chickens and flower beds and garden plots and lawns just for other people's dogs to kill and scratch and destroy.

Farmer Ben remembers in early days when trees along the country roadsides was considered the real thing. Bounties were offered by the state for havin' 'em and the farmer who didn't have energy enuf to plant 'em was considered unprogressiv. Nowdays things are just reversed. Trees along highways are considered a nuisance as they are mud holders and root suckers. The advocates of good roads have certainly got it in for these trees and I guess they've got to go. It is a nuisance to have 'em hold the snow in drifts on the roads in winter and keep the roads shady so they can't dry off the mud all summer. My paper says that in Iowa the state law now authorizes the officials to cut trees in the highways. A farm really has no use for such along the edge of the fields. Trees near the house for windbreaks are invaluable and a chance of timber growin' in some compact body on the farm is good property but all trees and groves should be kept back from the highway.

FARMER BEN.

Photo-Drama of Creation.

A photo-drama of Creation will be given at St. Paul auditorium, April 26th and continuing four weeks and then at Minneapolis commencing May 31 and continue four weeks. There will be no admission charges or collections. All free. This drama includes everything appertaining to the creation of earth—animals, man, the experiences of mankind for the past six thousand years and the work of the thousand years of Messiah's Kingdom. It divides these into four Parts—four Entertainments with appropriate music, etc. Part I. carries us from star nebula to the creation of the world and down to the Deluge—down to Abraham's time. Part II. reaches from Israel's deliverance from Egypt, wilderness experiences, etc., down through the period of the Kings to the time of Elisha, the Prophet. Part III. continues the story from Daniel's time down to the time when the Logos was made flesh at the birth of Jesus, His boyhood, manhood, baptism, ministry, miracles, crucifixion, death, resurrection. Part IV. begins at Pentecost and traces the experiences of the Church, during the past nineteen centuries to our day and beyond for a thousand years to the glorious consummation.

Dairymen At Albert Lea.

A gathering of some importance to be held in Albert Lea is the annual meeting of the Minnesota Holstein Breeders' association, the dates being May 21 and 22. The organization is made up of the breeders of Holstein cattle and has quite an extensive membership throughout the state and the object is not only to promote the interests of this particular breed but to develop the dairy interests in general, the program for the meeting to be held there being arranged to be of general interest to progressive dairymen, no matter what breed of cattle they handle, but will not be much of endorsement of scrubs—cattle or dairymen either.

The Southern Minnesota Butter Makers' association will hold its next meeting in Albert Lea May 21st and a very interesting program is being prepared for the occasion. The attendance at these meetings increases with each time one is held and it is an organization that is doing a vast amount of good for the dairy interests.

What Liquor Does.

A man named Gilmore was arrested at Clear Lake, Iowa, the other day and was nearly mobbed for an assault on a woman. During the time that he was in jail at Clear Lake and after he had been brought to Mason City he would talk but little and no information could be obtained from him, but finally he confessed to Sheriff Edward Fitzgerald that he had made the attack and said that he had committed three other assaults during the winter. "I am completely crazed and out of my head when under the influence of liquor," said Gilmore, "and am unable to tell what I am doing, or to tell what I do after I am from under the influence of the stuff." Gilmore said he had been drinking all day, that is, from the early morning and that the same fiendish desire came over him as it did in the other three instances.

A. S. Campbell Files for Senator.

There is promise of a stiff fight for the two senatorial nominations in the Fifth district, composed of Dodge and Mower counties. Alexander S. Campbell of Austin Wednesday filed with the secretary of state, making three who have entered the race. The others are Ralph E. Crane of Grand Meadow and George Glibertson of Austin. All are from Mower county. Mr. Campbell was senator from Mower county from 1902 to 1910.

Southern Californian's Ode to the Flea.

Tickle, tickle, little flea,
What a pest you are to me.
As you jump and crawl and bite
And torment me all the night.
When I lay me down to sleep,
Then you through my blankets
Crawl and bite me all the night,
When you are no welcome guest,
And deprive me of my rest.
Tickle, tickle, little flea,
How I wish you'd let me be;
I could get some sleep I know
If you did not tickle so.
When the sun has gone to rest
O'er the mountains of the west,
Then you show your little spite—
Tickle, tickle, all the night.
Ah, I chase you thru my bed,
As you hop from foot to head;
If I catch you, little flea,
It will be the last of thee.

LIST OF LOCAL COMMITTEES FOR STATE ART EXHIBIT WHICH OPENS IN AUSTIN, MAY 23 COMPLETE

The Minnesota State Art Exhibit opens in Austin, May 23, to June 1. The following committees have been appointed:

General Committee on Arrangements.
Mrs. H. A. Avery, Mrs. C. C. Leck, Mrs. J. L. Mitchell, Mrs. C. A. Hegge, Mrs. J. H. Skinner, Mrs. A. M. Smith, Mrs. L. W. Decker, Mrs. P. H. Friend, Mrs. C. L. West, Mrs. O. L. Dornberg, Miss J. Crandall, Mrs. Henry Webster Jr., Mrs. Jno. T. Boylan, Mrs. J. H. Frazier, E. M. Doane, W. D. Bassler, A. Thon.

Committee on Publicity.
Mrs. J. H. Skinner, Mrs. W. C. Holmes, Mrs. J. H. Frazier, Miss Janette Crandall.

Committee on Housing and Installation.
A committee from the Commercial Club and Mrs. C. L. West, Mrs. C. F. Cook, Mrs. E. H. Smith.

Committee on Entertainment on Out of Town Club Day.
Mrs. E. H. Sterling, Mrs. F. E. Daigneau, Mrs. A. W. Wright, Mrs. K. O. Wold, Mrs. F. O. Hall, Mrs. Geo. Hornel, Mrs. E. B. Smith, Mrs. Lyman Baird, Mrs. R. R. Murphy, Mrs. Mattie Hollister, Mrs. G. F. Baird, Mrs. E. M. Doane, Mrs. Ben Bassler.

Reception Committee.
Mrs. George Baird, Mrs. C. H. Davidson, Mrs. R. V. Ellis, Mrs. Belle Sherwood, Mrs. A. Cole, Mrs. Warren Holmes, Mrs. J. F. Stout, Mrs. F. Ticknor, Mrs. F. E. Knopf, Mrs. John Robinson, Mrs. Geo. Hitz, Mrs. Wm. McKenna, and the Presidents of the clubs.

Committee on Floral Decorations.
Mrs. W. R. Earl, Mrs. S. D. Catherwood, Mrs. John Detwiler, Mrs. Geo. Anderson.

Finance Committee.
Mrs. C. L. West, Mrs. F. I. Crane, Mrs. O. L. Dornberg, Mrs. A. M. Smith.

Committee on Exhibits.
Mrs. J. L. Mitchell, Mrs. C. A. Pooler, Mrs. C. C. Leck, Mrs. G. M. F. Rogers, Mrs. M. Hardy, Mrs. Smith Davidson, Mrs. C. H. Decker.

Exhibition Committee.
Miss Weedell, Mrs. Jno. T. Boylan, Mr. Maurice I. Flagg.

Committee on Picture for Austin Library.
Mrs. P. H. Friend, Mrs. W. H. Albertson, Mrs. H. W. Huribut, Mrs. F. G. Sasse, Miss Crandall, Mrs. A. Cole.

Committee on Lectures.
Mrs. L. W. Decker, Mrs. Joe Ober, Mrs. Carleton Fairbanks, Mrs. J. Malloy, Mrs. Z. T. F. Runner, Miss Eva Lewis, Mrs. S. V. R. Hendryx.

Committee on Music.
Mrs. Ray Pooler, Mrs. J. Anderson, Mrs. O. H. Hegge, Mrs. Wm. Crane, Mrs. L. Giovannetti, Mrs. C. A. Hegge, Mrs. Alice Avery, Mrs. A. M. Lewis, Mrs. R. O. Hall.

The exhibit opens Saturday, May 23, at 8 o'clock p. m., in the Armory. Music. Address by Maurice I. Flagg.

Sunday, May 24.—Open from 2 o'clock to 8 o'clock p. m. Sacred music at 5 o'clock p. m.

Monday, May 25.—Floral Club Day. Program at 8 o'clock p. m.

Tuesday, May 26.—Art and Travel Club Day. Program at 8 o'clock p. m.

Wednesday, May 27.—Out of Town Club Day. Program in the afternoon.

Thursday, May 28.—St. Augustine's Reading Club Day. Program at 8 o'clock p. m.

Friday, May 29.—Stoddard Club and Era Club Day. Program at 8 o'clock p. m.

Saturday, May 30.—Children's Day. Children's program at 8 o'clock p. m.

Sunday, May 31.—Open from 2 o'clock to 8 o'clock p. m. Sacred music at 5 o'clock p. m.

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. 181f

Alfalfa Wintered Well.

All reports regarding alfalfa sown or cropped last year are to the effect that it came through the winter all right and is in excellent condition for a big crop this year—four or five tons of the best forage that can be raised for each acre. A much larger acreage will be sown this year in the county than ever before and in a year or two it is likely to be great forage crop of Minnesota, as it already is in several other states.—Albert Lea Tribune.

THE COUNTY AGENT

The Post and Record most heartily believes in the benefit a county agent would be to a farming community, and has wondered why the enterprising farmers of this county do not employ one. The following from the Mankato Free Press is a succinct statement of the work of the county agent:

"County agricultural agents are sometimes referred to as 'county advisers.' This implies a misunderstanding of the real work of the agent. Advisory work is a part of the agent's duties, but is a minor part. The county agricultural agent has about half a dozen principal functions:

"He studies the agriculture of the county to learn what is being done and what is worth while agriculturally in each part of it. This study includes farm, financial and organization surveys.

"He gives the results of his studies to farmers, not in the way of advice, but as facts observed and conclusions drawn. This is done through the local press, lectures, institutes, circulars, short courses and personal interviews.

"Based on these local studies and the ascertainable needs of the county, clubs, associations, and the like are organized and the individuals solicited to undertake definite lines of agricultural improvement on their own farms. Organizations are also formed for cooperative buying and marketing and the standardization of farm products.

"He endeavors to co-ordinate all existing agricultural agencies within the county, so that all may work unitedly and efficiently.

"He develops local leadership. The task of improving the agriculture of an entire county is so stupendous that the agent must be primarily an administrator. He must inspire and accept the help of voluntary assistants in work.

"He acts as the connecting link between the scientists of the research institutions of the state and nation and the farmer, presenting the results of investigations in such a way that the farmer can use them, and calling attention of scientists to the local agricultural problems of the county and soliciting their assistance.

"He gives advice. This may relate to spraying, seed treatment, mixing fertilizers, combating insect pests, cultural practices, or other miscellaneous matters which are the stock in trade of every well-formed agent.—Rochester Post and Record.

Biedermans to Austin.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Biederman and Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Kelly left Tuesday evening to make their future home in Austin. Mr. Biederman, who is in the employ of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad runs out of Austin and it will be better to have his family located there. We are sorry to see them go away as they leave a host of friends who wish them all kinds of success in their new home. Mr. Kelly as yet has not decided what he will do, but has a number of good propositions in view.—Wells Advocate.

Senator Ole O. Sageng Helps the Good Work.
Senator Ole O. Sageng, "the man behind the plow," who has been urged by "bull moose" leaders to accept the progressive party nomination for governor, in a signed statement announces that he will not accept, but will file again for the state senate. His statement indicates his full sympathy for the candidacy of William E. Lee. He says:

"In his opening speech at Owatonna Mr. Lee made a clear and unequivocal declaration in favor of county option. The democratic candidate for governor, whether it be Hammond or Lawler, backed by a stronger party sentiment on this question is certain to be acceptable to the liquor interests as Governor Eberhart and in that situation, assuming Mr. Lee's nomination, I would not consent to continue in the field and be responsible for a division of the county option forces which would make the triumph of the breweries easy and certain.

"In addition to this consideration, my filig for governor on the progressive ticket would have a tendency to lessen the interest in Mr. Lee's candidacy and to that extent help the breweries in their efforts to renominate Governor Eberhart.

"For these reasons I shall not be a candidate for governor but shall ask the people of Ottertall county for reelection to the state senate.

"The domination of the saloon and brewery influence in our legislative and political affairs has for years been so notorious and disastrous to the best interests of the state that when an opportunity presents itself to strike an effective blow against such influence, the fortunes of men and parties should not be considered.

"Ole O. Sageng."

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 Agriculturalist 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.

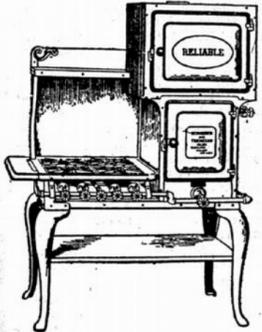
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AUSTIN, MINN.

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R. F. DOROW, Vice-Pres. G. H. L. BRANDT, Ass't Cash.
ALEX. S. CAMPBELL, Vice-Pres.

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