

# MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT.

## FARMER BEN'S COLUMN

If the railroads are in the shape they claim to be they are in a hard row of stumps with enormous increased expenses and not income in sight to come out even and pay dividends. I've condemned railroad wreckin' and balloonin' as much as any one but there is such a thing as runnin' that business legitimately and on a business basis same as runnin' a shoe factory or a packin' plant. I know there is some basis on which to fixer railroad earnings and the companies are entitled to fair returns on that. Uncle Sam has been figgerin' on this for several years and it's high time they got it solved and if carryin' rates hav been hammered down below meetin' increased expenses they ought to be scientifically advanced. There's ben too much guess work and haphazard figgerin' on this whole rate business. If I'm runnin' a packin' plant I can tell what prices I've got to get for my products for a profit and I know that the same thing can be worked out for railroad rates and its high time it was done.

So far as I'm concerned I'm glad to see the rich folks spend their money in expensive improvements about their homes. If they can afford it and want to lavish that way it's in a way a help to the whole community. I tell 'em I can enjoy lookin' at their fine lawns and trees and flowers as I go by just as much in a way as if I owned 'em. The man who builds a fine house or business block is a benefit to the whole community. There's lots who can afford it who are too stingy to do this. Visitors judge of the thrift and prosperity of a town by its improvements. Where there are fine trees, and neat homes well kept up and flower beds and good streets and pavings and convenient parks folks conclude rightly that such places are beautiful and desirable and of course the other way is true too, if things ain't kept up so it's taken as a lack of enterprise and so undesirable.

I see the perffors and summer schools and conferences are still payin' a lot of attention to how to keep boys and girls on the farms and the theorists know just about as much about it as a rooster knows about layin' eggs. The Granges are doin' more to solve this prob than any other folks I know of. They are makin' farm life and surroundings enjoyable and are bringin' to the country communities recreation and social life. They are eddicatin' the farm boys and gals in the improved methods of farmin' so that they are interested and progressiv. I never tend grange meetin' but I enjoy it. I can show up as good elocutionary and musical and debatin' talent among 'em as the townies ever dreamed of. I can show up more practical ideas about good farmin' than lots of the theorists. Just the other day one of the grange boys told Farmer Ben that he saw nothin' so good as the farm to stick to, and was goin' to stay there. There's lots more wise ones concludin' the same.

My, but it sounded good when Farmer Ben was milkin' Friday mornin' to hear the railroad trains whistle in as usual. I was awfully afeered the big strikes was a sure thing and if it had come and tied up transportation it would have ben about the worst calamity that could have hit us and so a hundred million are happy because it's averted. Farmer Ben has always had it in his head that the public interests have the first consideration in all such disagreements. They grant charters and rights to the public service corporations and they are to be protected in any event. But I allow the strike sit for a while looked mity noyidein'. There's no scrap or disagreement but what the real rights and wrongs can be got at by arbitration and mediation boards and there's certainly some way to settle 'em so that a hundred million innocents shall not be made to suffer thru no fault of their own. So today there's no sweeter music than the locomotiv whistle.

Just as I said last spring when the crop boomers were tellin' of what a bumper crop was in sight this year even before the seed had got into the ground. They could tell nothin' about it only guess work. Now the harvest is tellin' the story. The reports from all over tell of locations where the drought has left almost nothing. And in other localities the blight and rust have done a lot of deadly work. Right here in this county folks are findin' out

that there's lots that ain't bumper crop. That July hot spell just roasted the grain that was just far enuf along to be caught right and I know that there's lots of the crop that's only fairly good. One farmer last week threshed 1600 bushels of grain off of eighty acres mostly oats which cert is not bumper. The thresher tells the story. I ain't sayin' lots of the yield is good but what I'm sayin' is that speculators are knockin' prices down on bumper crop estimates and the farmer ain't goin' to get prices he ought to.

FARMER BEN.

### WORK OF VANDALS.

One night this week several young boys of the Third Ward tore off the wire netting from one of the basement windows in the Ramsey school building. After gaining access to the lower rooms they opened up the kindergarten cupboards and destroyed the straws, pegs, beads, wood builders and other material for the younger classes. The ink was opened and thrown about the walls and floors. The wholesale destruction is still in the condition the boys left it and anyone who wishes can look the situation over. Superintendent Baker has learned the names of all the boys who took part in this vandalism. What is to be done in the way of punishment has not been decided upon. But, no doubt, it will be strong enough to afford a lesson for the boys which will last for some time to come.—Albert Lea Tribune.

### M. W. A. BACK TO OLD RATES.

Every camp of the Modern Woodmen of America is interested in the action of the head camp when it repeals rates that are known as the Chicago rates. The announcement is made that beginning Sept. 1st the old rates will be restored. Sections 3 and 4 of the announcement of repeal are as follows:

Any member who since May 1, 1912, has been paying a higher rate than that provided for according to his age and amount of insurance by the Indianapolis table of rates, reenacted by the Toledo head camp, shall be entitled to credit for the additional amount so paid, as shown by the head clerk's records, and the head clerk is directed to extend such credit and allow such rebate of said member under these rules.

Any member who has paid a lower rate under the said Chicago rates or plans than he would have paid if carried on the basis of the old, or Indianapolis rates, shall not be required to pay the resulting deficiency on returning to or being re-rated under the said old, or Indianapolis rates, but will be assessed according to his original entry age, as set forth in Rule I hereof, with the reservation therein noted.

### 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 Gilt Boot Sign. 181f

### NEW STAMPS.

A new issue of postage stamps of the two-cent and five-cent denominations is being prepared by Postmaster General Burleson to commemorate the centenary of peace between the United States and Great Britain. The stamps will be ready by early fall. These particulars are given as to what is coming. The two-cent stamp shows a hemisphere in the center, at the left a female figure representing America holding an American flag and at the right Britannia holding a British flag, the two figures clasping hands across the hemisphere. The five-cent stamp shows a winged female figure typifying the spirit of peace with the dove of peace before her. Upon both stamps the words "Peace" and "1814-1914" appear.

### Rain Was Welcome.

The most welcome rain of the season visited this section of North Dakota Tuesday night. The coming of the rain was most opportune and will no doubt prove greatly beneficial, especially to the late grain. There has been much speculation as to the damage done to the crops in the past three weeks during which time very little moisture had fallen and the thermometer for the greater part registered between 90 and 100. Velvet chaff wheat is being harvested this week and next week will probably see the wheat harvest in full blast. Rye harvest is completed, and the crop will be threshed next week. In a few short weeks threshing will commence in earnest and local crop experts will then be able to tell for a certainty just what effect the hot weather, the Hessian fly and other reported crop damaging elements have had, and the extent of the damage, if any.—Deering, N. Dak., Enterprise.

### FATALLY INJURED.

Martin Ehlers is lying in the city hospital with probably fatal injuries as the result of deplorable automobile accident in Meriden township near the John Ebeling farm. In company with two boys, George Enzenauer, Jr., and a son of C. Nelson was going along the road toward Meriden at a very fast clip and near the Ebeling farm he drove the car in such a manner that the wheels on one side were running along in the grass while on the other they ran along the crown of the road. While trying to steer the machine back the car suddenly gave a lurch and tipped over with the above result.—Owatonna Tribune.

## HOW KANSAS FARMERS WILL DISPOSE OF A HUNDRED MILLIONS.

"Almost everyone who meets a Kansan in the East wants to know what the farmers are going to do with the \$100,000,000 or more that they will receive for their wheat crop this year," said H. A. Selden of Topeka at the Raleigh. "They will find plenty of ways to spend it. In the first place, the farmers will pay out more than \$25,000,000 in making up notes at the banks. Most farmers have had to borrow money for harvest expenses, and it is estimated that it will cost \$15,000,000 for this item alone. A conservative estimate will place the amount of other notes due by the farmers at \$10,000,000. The farmers have stretched their credit to the limit in most instances. Then they will have to pay out another \$25,000,000 to square accounts with their local merchants. This money will not remain in the hands of the merchants, but in turn will be paid out to wholesalers, who will transfer it to the manufacturers, to be paid later to the bankers. All this exchange will relieve the situation.

"Perhaps another \$25,000,000 will be used in lifting mortgages due and undue, for the farmers, when they get money, like to pay their obligations. Ten million dollars will be expended in the purchase of automobiles. There are probably 40,000 automobiles in Kansas. Last year there were not more than 30,000. If the farmers have purchased 10,000 machines in the off year, it is reasonable to expect that they will buy many when they are prosperous. Of the \$100,000,000, perhaps \$15,000,000 will go into the banks as a fund for the future." And Kansas is a prohibition state.

### IN REAL LIFE.

Whatever of success a man or woman achieves comes of hard work and steady application to the purpose of life. The stories of fortune acquired by luck are mostly moonshine. Positions of trust are not reached without effort. The business world has no time or desire to try out basswood sticks. The boy who spends his time loafing around the pool rooms of the nearby village is not going to be kidnapped and turned into a hero by the people or a captain of commerce. The chances are more than ever that later on in life he will be run in for sixty days and set to work on the rock pile. The girl who lolls in the hammock waiting for the fairy prince to ride by, while her mother cooks for the hired man, is not going to be a woman to whom men will turn for help and inspiration, but her chances are excellent of becoming the wife of the village loafer, to repent in unavailing tears the loss of youth's golden dreams.—Farm, Stock and Home.

### TWO HUNDRED DOLLAR LAND.

Frank Harris has sold his forty acre farm, adjoining Winnebago on the northwest, to Geo. F. Kinney, whose farm adjoins the Harris place. He received the sum of \$200 per acre for the farm. This we believe is the top-notch price ever paid for Minnesota farm land. It is well improved. Mr. Harris has, in turn, purchased Chas. Hynes eighty acre farm, east of town and known as the Vosburg place. Consideration, \$135 per acre. Possession will be given, we understand, on Sept. 1st.—Winnebago City Enterprise.

### SOLD BAD EGGS.

Fourteen farmers living near Fertile were arrested Friday and fined a total of \$228.05 on complaint of the state food and dairy commission for the sale of rotten eggs. The department issued an order that farmers selling eggs must candie them to eliminate the "rots." In some parts of the state the producers have paid no attention to the order. Fourteen were caught in one day by the inspectors at Fertile. The fines ranged from \$15 to \$40 per man. One farmer had 131 rotten eggs in one case.

### Oregon Farming Land.

Large tract of good valley farming land just thrown open for free settlement in Oregon. Over 200,000 acres in all. Good climate, rich soil, and does not require irrigation to raise finest crops of grain, fruit, and garden truck. For large map, full instructions and information, and a plat of several sections of exceptionally good claims, send \$3.40 to John Kesse, Eugene, Oregon; three years a U. S. surveyor and timberman. An opportunity to get a good fertile homestead near town and market. adv 15-9

### SHOT SELF IN THE HEAD.

The first of the week while Alfred Noer of Wells, was putting a cartridge in his revolver he accidentally shot himself. In relating the accident, Mr. Noer states that he started out to the woodshed to shoot a dog that was a nuisance around the house. On examining the revolver he found that it only contained one cartridge, he decided to insert another and in doing so the revolver was accidentally discharged, the bullet striking him in the head a little above the temple. Up to Wednesday when the doctor located the bullet with x-ray. Mr. Noer was able to be about. On Wednesday afternoon the doctor probed for the bullet and found it lodged in the brain. Up to Thursday forenoon he was resting easy, but the doctor had very little hope of his recovery as the bullet was found in the medulla of the brain. It also fractured the bones of the skull.

## FRANK B. KELLOGG HELD IN EUROPE.

Among those Rochesterians and former Rochesterians that at present are penned up in Europe, due to the great war, are Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Kellogg, who are well known here. Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg are unable to leave France on account of scarcity of money in that land. They telegraphed St. Paul parties of their predicament and said that they are making all efforts to get transportation back to America. It is thought that the large shipment of gold that the United States is sending over to Europe to aid American travelers will relieve the situation of the former Rochesterians.—Olmsted County Democrat.

### ANNUAL COST FOR KEEPING SOLDIERS.

Austria	.....	\$186
France	.....	322
Germany	.....	326
England	.....	530
Italy	.....	279
Russia	.....	212

### MINNESOTA EXHIBITS IN OTHER STATES.

Arrangements are now being made by Fred D. Sherman, Commissioner of Immigration, to put on large and complete Minnesota agricultural exhibits at various Fairs of the States of Iowa, Illinois and Indiana. Beginning in August at Galesburg, Illinois, where a District Fair is held, the work of showing of Minnesota's farm products will start. Among other Fairs to be visited are Indianapolis, Indiana, Springfield, Illinois; Waterloo, Iowa; and possibly other large District and Tri-county Fairs will be included in the itinerary. In some places it is impossible to secure space in buildings, and in these cases a large tent, 30x30, has been secured and the exhibit will be shown under canvas.

### IMPROVING QUALITY OF EGGS.

Rooster Is Being Eliminated From Eggs Intended For Consumption. The "rooster" has been "swatted." Over 250,000 male birds were marketed in Missouri on "rooster day" and during the few days which preceded it. Practically all of the 1,500 buyers and wholesale dealers in eggs in Missouri co-operated with us in this movement, and from reports received from them thus far it is safe to say that a quarter million males were marketed by Missouri farmers during "rooster week." says a Missouri experiment station writer.

The production of infertile eggs will mean the prevention of a loss of from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000 this season in Missouri alone. This movement also will result in the improvement of the quality of the poultry, as most of these farmers will replace their scrub males with pure bred males. It will also result in the improvement of the cleanliness of the egg, the method of handling and the improvement of the quality in general. The fact that farmers show enough interest in the quality of the eggs they market to dispose of their surplus males and market infertile eggs shows that they are making progress and taking some interest, and there will be a general improvement in the poultry business along all lines in this state as a result. The object in "swatting the rooster" is not to keep bacteria out of the egg, as some seem to imagine, but to prevent chick development in fertile eggs. Before the eggs pass through the hands of the farmer, the country store, the local dealer, the wholesale jobber and the retailer and by the time they reach the consumer there has been considerable delay.

An egg does not have to be in an incubator for the embryo to grow and develop, but chick development takes place in a hot country store or a living room or on a hot country road, on the road to market or in any place or under any circumstances where the temperature is as high as it is in most hot summer days. By eliminating the fertility we prevent chick development, which causes our greatest loss in summer months. I have some eggs on my desk which are over a year old. They have never decayed. The contents simply dried up. "Swat the rooster" by all means if you have not already done so. Confine him if you wish to carry him over for breeding purposes.

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Does not taint milk and gives cows the peace and comfort that insure a full milk pail.

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