

# MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT.

## FARMER BEN'S COLUMN

Our old friend Gardiner of Osage that we've swapped talk with so many times at the horticultural meetings seems to have made one of the biggest bits of his life in his ever bearing strawberry. He's got 'em so they bear in the late summer and fall when the usual crop is over and they are productive and hardy. He's pickin' off of fifty five acres and the crop is just ripened good now and will keep increasin' and ships 400 boxes a day for a start. They are delicious flavor and good size and will bear to snow flies. The way Gardner developed his strawberry was this: He noticed occasional plants in his beds had the freak of bloomin' in the late summer. These he carefully cultivated until he began to get a ripe one here and there. They were small but he planted the seeds of the ripe ones and pulverized and fertilized and kept settin' out and huntin' new spots in his old beds for crossin' and stuck to it until he produced a standard thrifty prolific plant of delicious good sized berries and now he is pickin' from over fifty acres of 'em and he has a bonanza. The plants are easy raised in any garden. I'm glad of his success for he spent years before he won out.

If I had my way things in Europe would be just reversed. If there's got to be great battles I'd make up my lines so as to put all the emperors and kaisers and czars and kings and war lords and generals and all the big fellows right in the front ranks of the opposin' armies and let them blaze away at each other to their hearts content and let the common soldiers who ain't responsible for the war but have to bear the brunt of it bring up the rear ranks. Then let the great battle proceed until all the big fellows got their fill and then it would be quits for good. It does seem ridiculous in this age of the people that one man has the say to bring on a great war and send a million troops to be killed in battle. It ain't righteous and it ain't modern. The masses of the people ought to have their say about such things for they are the ones who suffer. I can hardly bear to think of the privation and starvation and suffering and killing and want and agony that the millions in Europe the women and children with the rest will have to suffer just thru the pig headedness of a few chesty emperors and war lords.

County fair will be here before we know it and I hope everybody is gettin' ready to show something. It's one of the most educational and helpful institutions that we have. Some folks who alwus expect to find at a local fair as big a show as at Hamline say it's no good but all those who try to raise a little better stuff and cattle and fancy work for show and competition alwus benefit. The very effort to have better grain than the ordinary or feed stock better and more scientifically is a wonderful help. It gets folks out of the old wooden methods and puts live progressive ideas in their heads and so they are improvin' in their methods and of course gets better profits. At the fairs we get a chance to see what others are doin' and excellin' in and we get ideas of how they do it. A good farmer is never too old to learn and he catches on to every chance. I like to see my neighbors have good crops and stock and raise lots of good things. It's help to the whole neighborhood. Another thing about our county fair I get to see lots of my old friends and swap talk with 'em. Farmers and townies have a fine chance to take the whole family for an outing. Our county fairs are a great educator and opportunity and if every one will bring some exhibit it will be a grand show.

Same old story in state politix that we've had for the past hundred years. The section of the repubs who were defeated in the primary are hangin' back indifferent and lettin' their nominees have all the trouble they can conjure up and the dems are figgerin' on repub defection and diversion for success aitho in the minority. It's the same game that has been played successfully so often to repub demoralization and defeat. I don't see why the Lawler and the Lynch factions in the dem party shouldn't scrap it out to election same as the Eberhart and Lee factions but they don't. They are wise enuf to get together when it comes to votes and winnin'. The repubs had a good square chance to express their views at the primary and spoke for a change in no unmistakable terms and the party should now respect that de-

cision and get together solid for victory. Not one of the disappointed ones is goin' to gain anything by havin' their regular nominees defeated unless to satisfy a grudge and that is mity poor comfort. Folks have been demandin' a new deal so as to open up the awful expense account of the state in all departments and the new deal is on the way and it ought to have the loyal support of every citizen. The innocent hav nothin' to fear from the comin' repub revolution.

I've often thought that it is so easy for folks to drift away from thinkin' of the masses insted of the classes so soon as they get into routine of official work. It looks like as if from president down to alderman they soon forget to figger for what the many need insted of what the few demand. Take a city council like Austin. They know that the big majority of the population are common every day folks, hundreds of 'em with neat homes of their own which they are trying to maintain and pay for. Now wouldn't it seem to be the right policy of a council to study what would be for the best interests of this big majority in the way of moderate taxes, needed improvements and public plans so as to encourage and help and do for their comfort insted of so often followin' the opposit policy. It seems lots of times as if officials didn't care about the wants and comforts of the masses, but alwus figger for what the few rich and high bloods push for. They don't seem to care if the common laborin' man is taxed right out of his home if only needless pavin' and boulevards and extravagances are crowded onto the sufferin' public. But the policy of grindin' the masses insted of figgerin' for them as the chief thing is a mity poor unwise one just the same.

FARMER BEN.

### 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. 1814

### LAND IS CHEAP.

Land is cheap. For easy figuring let us say it is worth \$150 an acre. A square rod, is then worth only \$1.10 and ten cents' worth will be a little more than twenty-seven square feet, or a little farm slightly more than five feet on a side. How often a boy will waste a dime and think nothing of it. For a dime he can buy land enough to hold a flower bed, four hills of clover or a peach tree! The boy who can save a dime can become rich. The boy who learns to save a dime and to know values will some day come into his own.

### HOUSE HIT FOUR TIMES.

In last Friday evening's storm lightning struck the residence of C. M. Lerach four times, shattered the chimney, tore the roof to some degree and inflicted quite an amount of damage to the building besides giving the occupants a severe fright. The house is so badly damaged that Mr. and Mrs. Lerach were forced to move out pending extensive repairs necessitated by the damage done by the storm.—Owatonna Tribune.

### AUCTION SALE.

Joe Cafourek of London has recently sold his farm 2 1/2 miles northeast of London and is going back to Bohemia. He will therefore have an auction sale of his stock, machinery, hay and corn on Tuesday August 25 beginning at 10 o'clock sharp. A free lunch will be served at noon. The sale includes 11 head of horses, 18 head of cattle, 26 goats, Seeder, Cultivator, Plow, Mower, Binder, Drags, Wagon and Harnesses, 24 acres of corn in field, and 15 tons of hay. J. S. Atteley will be the auctioneer and Geo. Funda will clerk the sale.

### MANY WERE KILLED.

Iowa railroads killed 271 and injured 3,759 last year, according to the report of the state railway commission, now in the hands of the printers. The number of fatalities is 60 per cent greater than a year ago, although there was not a serious wreck all year. The toll of injured also increased considerably over the 3,232 hurt in 1912. All over the country there were 10,000 persons killed by railroads last year and 190,000 injured. Iowa's death rate then was 1,057 per cent. It was trespassers on railroad property that were greatest sufferers.—Lime Springs Herald.

### TWO YEARS ROAD WORK COSTS \$3,524,814.

State roads aggregating 2,524.87 miles, were constructed in 1912-13 under the direction of the state highway commission whose biennial report was sent to the printer today. The work cost \$3,524,814, the amount being almost equally divided between 1912 and 1913. The cost of engineering was \$269,324 or 5.4 per cent of the work constructed during the period and that planned for this year. The new roads obtained by the state through this work includes 1,663 miles of ordinary earth roads, 490 miles of gravel road, 358 miles of sand-clay road and 12.76 miles of macadam.

## MT. RANIER

### Visit To That Noted Mountain By An Austin Lady.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 9, 1914.

Dear Friend:

I am very well and happy here as my kodak picture I enclose will testify. I could not be otherwise in this delightful western climate. How I wish all my Austin friends might come out here and live. Nature is so beautiful. During my vacation the last two weeks in July, I went with Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Woodsum (you will remember them) with who I am living, and such good, kind people they are, to that grand old Mt. Ranier. We started at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, July 29th and after a delightful trip by auto of 110 miles arrived at Lomire Springs at about 1 o'clock. The next morning at 8 we took the stage for the Camp of the Clouds, a distance of 14 miles round and round and up and up, until we were at 5557 feet above sea level. We passed the Nisqually glacier, a field of ice, which is the source of the Nisqually River, passed Navada Falls and Paradise Valley, blossoming with all kinds of beautiful flowers, with here and there a patch of snow. We climbed about a mile beyond the Camp of the Clouds to the snow line, and we seemed so near the Mt. In our party, were also Mrs. Woodsum's cousin, Mrs. Wilsey and her daughter, Miss Myrta Wilsey, formerly of Rochester. Friday morning we went in our auto to the Nisqually Glacier, which is as far as autos are allowed to go. We climbed over rocks and rills for about half a mile until we could touch the glacier. It was all so grand and wonderful. We returned home Saturday wishing we might remain longer, and take the tramps through the different trails. Wish I might have written the full story of my trip, but since my return the work at the bank has been unusually heavy and has prevented. It has been delightfully cool and pleasant this summer and while we have had some very warm days, yet the nights are always cool. I miss my Austin friends, but on the whole am glad I came west for the change. Sincerely yours, Georgia J. Drost.

### GARDNER WARNS OF APPLE TREE BLIGHT.

Now is the time for amateur gardeners and fruit growers to get busy with their saws and pruning knives, for blight is prevalent on the apple trees according to a warning issued by Prof. Earl Finney, director of school gardens. The blight is extensive through the country, the expert said. It is dangerous to wait for the bacteria growth spreads rapidly, and if neglected will kill the trees. "Examine the leaves carefully for if they are attacked by the blight they will turn brown," Prof. Finney said. "The stems will be killed and eventually the tree, spoiling the fruit. The only sure remedy is to cut off the parts affected. This should be done at least six inches beyond the last trace of brown. "The blight spreads rapidly, even when the branches are detached, and these should be burned immediately. The saws or knives should be made antiseptic also, to prevent the blight spreading. "Corrosive sublimate or carbolic acid may be used for this. The former is the better and the less expensive, therefore being preferable if much cutting is to be done."

### ST. PAUL GETS SHARE OF EMERGENCY MONEY.

St. Paul received \$3,600,000 of emergency currency today. The shipment came in a well-guarded express car, and consists of packages of \$5, \$10 and \$20 national bank notes, consigned to the Merchants National, Capital National and First National banks.

### PLANT YOUR PEONIES IN THE FALL.

In the September Woman's Home Companion a contributor writes an interesting practical article entitled "The Good Old-Fashioned Peony." The suggestions which the author has to make are prefaced by the statement that when any garden flower becomes so important as to justify a national society for its propagation, there must be something in it. It is a significant fact that the American Peony Society is one of the largest and strongest of such associations in our country. The peony is an exceedingly popular plant and one of the hardiest in all the garden—almost entirely free from every attack of insect or plant disease. It will grow in any good garden soil and requires no special care. Following is an extract from the article: "Fall planting is generally recommended for peonies, and is much to be preferred above spring planting since the buds start so early in spring that it is practically impossible to get them set in time unless one buys plants from a reliable cold storage. Many of the best gardeners, however, always transplant their peony crowns in late summer, the last week in August, or the first week in September. At this time the plants are perfectly dormant, having completed their year's growth, and the transplanting is less of a shock than at any other time."

## ADVANCE IN FOOD PRICES

The price of sugar has been climbing more rapidly in the last two or three weeks than at any time in the past forty-four years. In 1871 sugar sold for 12 1/2 cents a pound as an effect of the Franco-Prussian war. It was nearly three years later that prices began to drop substantially. Cane sugar which could be bought a month ago at \$5 a 100 lb. sack is now \$8 and it is anticipated may soon go to \$10, the consumer is warned that the Cuban crop practically is consumed, and importations from Europe are entirely out of the question. The opinion is that the rise in the price of sugar is due to two causes, Austria, Germany and France produce 40 per cent of the world's supply of sugar. England, which does not produce a pound of sugar, is a larger consumer of sugar than Germany and France together, and at the time the war opened there was only a five-week supply of sugar in England.

Germany, it is said, produces 1,750,000 tons of sugar in excess of its annual consumption and Austria 1,250,000 tons. Thus 3,000,000 tons of sugar were taken off the market when the war began.

On the question of the price of meat, the excuse is given that the packers are tinning huge quantities of meat with the hope of selling it in Europe for the consumption of the big armies. The price of flour is affected, by the rise in the price of wheat, which is largely governed in turn by the New York prices. The best grade of wheat used by the millers has been as high as \$1.16 a bushel, where as the highest price before the war talk was about 96 cents.

The price of coffee is staged, has risen because most of it has been brought into the country from Brazil in German and British ships. This means of transportation is not available at present and the supply is short in consequence.

### PAVING ORDERED.

Another forward movement. The old town may move slow, but she's never tripped on any proposition undertaken having for its ultimate end the betterment of its conditions and advancement.

After many weeks of discussion upon the matter of paving in which the taxpayer was heard both for and against paving Main street, the city council passed a resolution at the session last evening ordering paving. That portion to be paved as will be seen by the resolution following, is from Ninth street north to Fourth street, making five blocks in all.

Blue Earth has the best sewer system, water system, electric lighting system of any town below the 5000 population point in southern Minnesota and now we propose to lead the way in the matter of paving, and we are optimistic to the extent that when this undertaking is completed property owners on many other streets will be asking for like improvements.—Blue Earth Post.

### A FINE RAIN FELL WEDNESDAY MORNING.

When a farming community can be blessed with such a splendid rain as we had Wednesday morning and at a time when it was needed so badly, we had everything that we could ask for. It has been splendid weather for hay and harvesting and many have finished stacking without getting a drop of rain on their grain while in the shock.

### BEMIDJI WOMAN SUES FOUR SALOONKEEPERS FOR \$20,000.

On account of her husband having been run over and killed with an auto while in an intoxicated condition, a Bemidji woman has brought suit against four Bemidji saloonkeepers, demanding \$20,000 damages.—Caledonia Journal.

## A Serpent's Wisdom

Intelligence, it was, superior to that of man—this attribute which, with many other fantastic things, finds its way into the pages of

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