

THE LEON REPORTER
O. E. MULL, Editor.
LEON, IOWA

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SHIPPER'S BILL PASSED.

In the closing hours of Congress Judge Towner succeeded in getting through the house the bill to prevent the railways from limiting their liability for negligence by contract. This is a great victory for Iowa shippers, who have been suffering greatly from these contract limitations. In 1906 a law was passed which provided that the railroads could not limit their liability for their own negligence by any contract, receipt or other device. This was necessary for it was the practice of the railroads to have the shipper sign a contract by which he agreed to accept \$100 for a horse, \$50 for cattle, \$10 for hogs, and \$3 for sheep, no matter what their value, if they were destroyed by the railroad. This law stopped the practice for a while, but in February, 1913, the Supreme Court held that the law was not applicable when the rate was based on valuation. Since then the railroads have been resorting to the old practice. Great complaint was made by Iowa shippers and Senator Cummins introduced a bill in the senate and Judge Towner introduced a bill in the house to cure the difficulty. Senator Cummins' bill was finally passed by the senate in modified form, and Judge Towner succeeded in getting it through the house in the closing hours of the last session. It will be a great benefit to Iowa shippers.

Fanny Crosby—A Living Hymn.

It has not been the privilege of every person to have read the essay by Charles Lamb on "A Quaker Meeting," but to those who have experienced the pleasure of the fact that it has been detached for some high purpose recall that passage in which Lamb, the essayist, says: "Every Quakeress is a lily and when they come up in bands to their Whitsunday conferences, whitening the easterly streets of the metropolis from all parts of the United Kingdom, they show like troops of the Shining Ones." We cannot after reading that passage, but sometimes feel that sometimes not only regarding groups but regarding individuals, that they have been detached for some high purpose of ministry from a troop of the Shining Ones. We cannot but take the case of Fanny Crosby, who died last week, as a suggestion with regard to herself. There are some persons who on account of their qualities and the circumstances of their lives, seem to be creatures half of this world, and half of the higher world. She lived in an atmosphere into which only too seldom the most of us are caught up and which she has described in the hymns which have placed her among the prophetesses and saints of the Christian church. It is both her work and her life that have given her this exalted, this quasi-sacred character in the regard of the Christian world, next to Holy Writ in the reverence of piety are the songs that express religious faith and devotion. The Bible and the hymn-book go together. The latter, too, is sacred literature. One collection of hymns got into the Bible, and some of ours, composed in recent or comparatively modern times, might have been included in the New Testament if they had been written in the first century. It is easy and, as one might say, natural, for us to think that many of our hymns were inspired, just as were the utterances of the psalmists or the prophets of old. And occasionally hymn writers boldly announce their conviction that at certain times they were under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This avowal was made by Fanny Crosby, particularly in reference to the hymn, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus," which she composed in fifteen minutes, in great concentration and exaltation of mind, according to the accounts given in the press sketch of her life. Eight thousand hymns! This was the sum of her product. Enough to fill a dozen hymn-books. The most of them are already forgotten, but a large number are forever a part of Christian devotional literature. And then, Fanny Crosby, herself, was sweet and gentle, modest and contented, forgetful of self, eager to shed sunshine into the hearts of others and all her long life blind! She was a living hymn. She was not merely a remarkable successful interpreter in metrical phrases of our religious sentiment, but in her personal manner and temperament sang to us constantly from the radiance in which she dwelt beyond the cloud that lay betwixt her and this visible world.—St. Joe Observer.

We admit that one's salvation does not depend on correct grammar, but we insist a preacher's wife ought, at least, to use ordinarily good language.

IS \$500 LAND COMING IN IOWA?

Iowa's Farms Are Becoming Smaller in Size, Higher in Price, More Productive—In Heart of Most Fertile Region in Country.

Iowa's farms are gradually becoming smaller in size, higher in price per acre and more productive, according to an analysis of the reports of more than 200 transfers in every section of the state, during the past three months. Reports from 205 farm sales show the price ranging from \$110 to \$500 an acre and the size of the farms from thirteen acres to half a section. In a number of cases large farms have been divided, thus forever reducing the size of the large farms in Iowa, bringing about the smaller tract. A division of these 205 farm sales, according to the size of the farm shows:
85 farms of less than 100 acres.
65 farms of less than 160 acres.
55 farms of less than 360 acres.
Iowa lies in the heart of the most fertile section of the Mississippi Valley, and the Mississippi Valley is naturally the most fertile region in the world that has a climate suitable to all people. The most fertile lands of neighboring states are those that border Iowa. At least three prehistoric ice sheets crept over the state, each bringing with them rich soils from the north, and these glaciers melting away, left many feet of fertile earth covering the solid rock foundation. In this foundation nature has stored on inexhaustible supply of water, which is ever at hand to be used during occasional dry spells in the summer season. Iowa soil is a subject for a volume, though it may be said briefly to range from pure clay and heavy black loam through all varieties, to the purest and cleanest sand. The remarkable uniformity and fertility of the soil and the readiness with which it absorbs and stores the moisture, together with the congenial climate, gives Iowa a foremost place among the states of the Union.
The price of Iowa land is often said to be too high, and the question is asked, why is the advanced going to end? Only during very recent years have the people of Iowa begun to realize the natural advantages and resources of the state. Particularly is this true of the land. Farmers have sold their farms and sought more land for the same money, but when they have sold their land it has usually been to other Iowa farmers who often divide the one farm, making two. By this method, and it is the most important one, the large Iowa farms have been broken up, until today what would be a small ranch in the cheaper land country of other states, are few and far between here.
With the establishing of the smaller farms, the average ranging from 80 to 200 acres, the productivity of the soil has been increased, through more careful management, and the employment of more scientific methods of cultivation. A farm near Story City was rented in 1914, and the owner was to receive half the crop and \$8 a month for house rent. At the end of the year the owner's share totaled as follows:
Oats and straw\$ 300.00
Corn 752.60
Hay 41.00
Pasture 15.00
House rent 96.00
Total \$1204.60
This makes a total of \$12.04 an acre. The farm of 100 acres was of such a size in this case, that the farmer was able to realize full returns for efforts expended. This particular farm is worth on the market about \$130 an acre. The owner, thereby, realized nearly 10 per cent on his money invested, while the tenant probably cleared more than \$1,000 during the year of 1914.

People in Iowa and outside of Iowa have laughed when they have heard it said that farm land in this state will be worth \$500 an acre. Yet this price has already been reached in a few instances and now it is predicted that \$1,000 an acre will be reached. This latter price is probably some years distant, yet with the steady advance of land which is said to be \$7.30 in ten years, these apparently enormous prices are hardly fancy. It is predicted that within a few years the owner of a ten acre or more farm in Iowa will "be King o' men for a' that."—Iowa Statewide Publicity Committee.

139 BUSHELS FROM ONE ACRE.
Earl Zeller is 1914 Champion Boy Corn Grower in Iowa.

Three years' work as a member of the Iowa Acre Corn club taught Earl Zeller of Cooper, Green county, how to grow championship yields of corn, with the result that this year he goes with all expenses paid, to Washington, D. C., to meet President Wilson. This year he grew 139 bushels on his acre, as against 123 bushels last year.
Twenty-one other Iowa boys will get free trips to visit the South Omaha stock yards and packing houses for making the best record as a club corn grower in their counties. Not only the number of bushels per acre, but the profit on the investment, the quality of the corn as shown in a ten ear exhibit, and the record kept of the work. The prizes were all furnished by the Union Stock Yards Co., South Omaha.
Besides Earl Zeller, state champion, other county winners were Earl Nelson, Audubon county; Fred McLaughlin, Buena Vista county; Christy H. Hildreath, Calhoun county; Floyd McLarnan, Chickasaw county; Oscar Watson, Clay county; Harold Walrod, Clinton county; Charles L. Bolon, Decatur county; Virgil Tuel, Dickinson county; Forest Innman, Floyd county; Clifford Hanson, Franklin county; George G. Jackson, Greene county; Orson B. Wells, Howard county; Clement Miller, Jefferson county; and Dewey M. Cable, Black Hawk county.
When a man gets to making pretty good money, some of his employees are apt to start up in opposition.
A big load of cinders delivered any place in Iowa for 75 cents. Phone Leon Electric Co.

Restoring Our Iowa Soils.

(The following excellent article was written by Ralph H. Lamoree, of Van Wert, who is taking a two year course in agriculture at the Iowa State College at Ames, and he is doing highly creditable work. The article is most highly commended by the faculty and we are pleased to publish it for the benefit of our readers.)

Aside from drouth, the cause for our reduced crop yields in recent years undoubtedly comes from the lack of nitrogen in the soil. Nitrogen is absolutely essential to plant growth, and this element is known to have been disappearing in the last few years.
There are three ways of restoring this nitrogen to the soil. They are, by returning the manure from the crops to the soil, by growing leguminous crops, and by using commercial fertilizers. The average farmer rarely restores more than sixty per cent of the nitrogen taken from the soil by the crops, by returning the manure to the soil. He must then turn to clover, nature's greatest nitrifying agent.

Statistics tell us that sixty per cent of the clover seeding in Iowa, in the last six years has been lost. The cause for this has been laid to various things, such as drouth, freezes, condition of soil, etc. The solution however, in seventy-five per cent of the cases may be stated in a few words, the soil is sour.

Clover may grow on an acid soil, but the fact has been proved that it will not thrive on such a soil. The seed starts well enough and the plant attains a height of an inch or two when it stops commonly growing and mysteriously disappears.

A large per centage of Iowa soils are acid and the farmers are beginning to realize this. Some are testing their soil, which is certainly the right thing to do. The litmus paper test is used for this purpose.

A forty-acre field may be tested in a few hours if the soil is wet enough to cause a reaction in the paper. A good time for the test is just after a good shower when the ground is of a stiff putty-like consistency.

The instruments needed are a book of blue litmus paper, a jack knife and some stakes for markers. Starting at one end of the field, a slit is made in the soil with the knife, a slip of paper is dropped into the incision and the ground packed firmly against the paper. The place is then marked and the whole field is worked in the same manner, placing the slips from five to ten rods apart.

After an hour or so the test may be read. The first slip is dug up, rinsed off in a pail of water and examined. If it is even slightly pink the soil is acid. After all the slips have been examined, an accurate knowledge of the acidity of the soil is obtained.

This acidity may be corrected by an application of from three to five tons per acre of ground lime stone, over half of which should be powder. This should be harrowed or disced in; not plowed under, as the lime is needed in close proximity to the roots. A good way to spread it is by means of a manure spreader. A certain amount of it may be thrown on the top of every load of manure, and scattered in this manner.

The limestone neutralizes the acid and once more the soil is in condition to raise clover. The clover is able to restore nitrogen to the soil and once more returns it to its former fertility.

Ralph H. Lamoree,
Two year course, Iowa State College.

Kansas Letter.

Moran, Kansas, Feb. 22, 1915.
Editor Reporter:—Enclosed find check for \$5 to pay subscription to The Reporter.

We have had fine winter weather, but it is quite wet at present. Crops were good here last year, also prices good. Feed is plentiful and stock looks good. Farmers are generally feeling good if it was not for the great war that is now in progress. Some land is now changing hands at fair prices but not high compared to Iowa land. We are located about 100 miles south of Kansas City on the main line of the M. K. & T. from Kansas City to Texas, and if any of the Reporter readers think that we are living in the jungles or in the sand hills if they will just give us a call some time as they pass by we will be pleased to show them different. We have good roads, good schools, good churches, but the best of all, good law-abiding prohibition people.

We raise corn, wheat, oats, timothy, clover, alfalfa and in fact everything that it takes to make a good farming country. Horses, cattle, hogs and sheep do well here.
Well if I don't cut this out you will think I am a booster. Well, I never did believe in kicking very much.
Yours with best wishes,
O. Barnes.

Letter from Mrs. Milo Moore.
Gregory, S. D., Feb. 22, 1915.
Editor Reporter:—Enclosed find check for \$1.50 as payment for The Reporter for another year. Everything is on the boom here, even the blizzards. Have had two this month and the last one didn't wait till the first one got out of the way, but covered it all up and piled the snow mountains high, or any way it looked that way to us for we had no trains for several days. The last storm came with a hard rain, then froze so that the snow that drifted was almost like ice to cut through. On account of exceedingly high temperature no stock was lost, and every one is looking forward to another fine crop this year. Milo even thinks it will boost his already large sales for the Ford. Zena is in Fremont, Neb., taking a year's course in music at the college in connection with her High School work, of which she is a senior.
Yours truly,
Mrs. Milo Moore.

Pease & Pease, the "Old Reliable" insurance agents, handle the best in fire, lightning and tornado insurance.

French Remedy Aids Stomach Sufferers

France has been called the nation without stomach troubles. The French have for generations used a simple mixture of vegetable oils that relieve stomach and intestinal ailments and keep the bowels free from foul, poisonous matter. The stomach is left to perform its functions normally. Indigestion and gastritis vanish.

Mr. Goo. H. Mayr, a leading druggist of Chicago, cured himself with this remedy in a short time. The demand is so great that he imports these oils from France and compounds them under the name of Mayr's Wonderful Remedy. People everywhere write and testify to the marvelous relief they have received using this remedy—one dose will rid the body of poisonous accretions that have accumulated for years and convince the most chronic sufferer from stomach, liver or intestinal troubles. Mayr's Wonderful Remedy is sold by leading druggists everywhere with the positive understanding that your money will be refunded without question or quibble if ONE bottle fails to give you absolute satisfaction.

COLDS

An up-to-date remedy for colds. That is what Peruna is. In successful use over 50 years.

Colds are caught in many ways: Illy ventilated rooms; rooms that have direct draughts; crowded rooms; damp houses; stuffy school rooms; offices illy heated.

A dose of Peruna at the right time, at the first symptom of cold, before the bones begin to ache, before the sore throat manifests itself, or the cough, or the discharge from the nose, just a dose or two of Peruna before these symptoms begin is generally sufficient. But after the cold is once established with the above symptoms prominent, a bottle of Peruna, or maybe two, will be necessary.

"For several years I have been troubled with colds at each change of season. I took Peruna and have not been troubled with the slightest cold this entire season." Mr. Harry Fisher, 1229 Mosher St., Baltimore, Md.

"I give the children Peruna if they have a cold, and it always relieves them." Mrs. T. D. Hayes, 1937 Druid Hill Ave., Baltimore, Md.

"When I feel a cold coming on I take a little Peruna, and it does me good." Mr. Charles S. Many, 12 Water St., Ovestring, N. Y.

"No family should ever be without Peruna, for it is an unfailing cure for colds." Mrs. M. F. Jones, Burning Springs, Ky.

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A Food and Nerve Tonic is frequently required by old age. We always recommend Rexall Olive Oil Emulsion containing Hypophosphites as an ideal combination for this purpose. Bell & Painter.

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From Girlhood
THE change may be critical and cause untold suffering in after-life. The modern young woman is often a "bundle of nerves"—"high strung"—fainting spells—emotional—frequently blue and dissatisfied with life. Such girls should be helped over this distressing stage in life—by a woman's tonic and nerve—that has proven successful for over 40 years.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription

is a keen enemy to the physical weaknesses of woman. A medicine prepared by regular graduated physician of unusual experience in treating woman's diseases—carefully adapted to work in harmony with the most delicate feminine constitution. It is now obtainable in liquid or sugar-coated tablet form at the drug store—or send 50 one-cent stamps for a trial box, to Buffalo.

to Womanhood
Every woman may write fully and confidentially to Dr. Pierce and his staff of physicians and Specialists at the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y., and may be sure that her case will receive careful, conscientious, confidential consideration, and that experienced medical advice will be given to her free.

THE beauty of Ivory Soap is that it is just as satisfactory for a thousand and one things as for the bath and toilet.

When you buy it you not only have a mild, pure, delightful cleanser for personal use in bathroom and nursery but you have a safe, harmless, effective soap for fine laundry work, for delicate articles about the house, for table ware, for silver, for everything that you do not care to trust to ordinary cleansing methods.

In short, you can use Ivory Soap on anything that water itself will not harm.

IVORY SOAP
99 44/100% PURE

If It's LUMBER

We've got you, "Bill" for we just think and dream Lumber every minute of our life.

Always striving and planning to give our customers the biggest dollar's worth they ever bought and you bet we won't propose any new-fangled stuff to you until we know that it'll do and how it'll wear. If you've any building ideas you need help on, come in. We carry a full line of White Pine, the kind to make Barns and Gates out of.

RICHARDSONS & CRAWFORD, Successors to Ballew Lumber Co.

In All The World No Trip Like This

It's almost a man's duty as an educational process, to take his family while the railroad fares to California have been cut in two and visit the great Expositions at San Francisco and San Diego; seeing on the way out the marvelous mountain scenery of Colorado—Denver, Colorado Springs, Pikes Peak, Pueblo, the stupendous and world-famous Royal Gorge and Salt Lake City. Then you should return by way of the North Pacific coast and either Glacier or Yellowstone National Park. You will never have the same opportunity and if you use the through Pullman service of the Burlington route (C. B. & Q. R. R.) or join one of these comfortable, economical and care free personally conducted excursions, you can see the wonders of Colorado without extra cost, for you will pass all those most interesting points by daylight. Don't forget that here's the idea! Sit right down and write or come in and tell me how many expect to make the trip, just when you want to go, the points you want to visit, how long you expect to stay, and I will plan a trip especially fitted to your time and needs—then you will know all about it. If you decide to go, I will make arrangements for your complete trip, when the time comes for you to start. Do it today—before you forget it.

C. M. KETCHAM, Agent, C. B. & Q. R. R.

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