

Ripley County Democrat.

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'ROUNDABOUT THE STATE.

Cleaned from Exchanges--Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot--Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.

Missouri with 797,000 milch cows and 1,414,000 other cattle is among the leading cattle states.

A receipt signed by Daniel Boone and dated November 22, 1811, is one of the treasured possessions of a Columbia dentist.

The Sheldon Enterprise violates all time honored customs for this time of the year by announcing that the peach crop has not been killed.

Charles and Frank O'Connor, farmers near Edgerton are holding over 20,000 bushels of wheat waiting for the price to reach the \$2 mark.

Following an affray in which E. F. Williams, of Hot Springs, was wounded, the latter was taken from the town prison Sunday night and hanged from the tower of the city hall in Pleasant Hill.

An enterprising merchant at Watson has put in a strong bid for fame by making a 4-mile trip to the country for the sole purpose of delivering a dime's worth of lemons ordered by a customer.

On the W. P. Stark nurseries at Neosho in the southwestern part of the state there is one block of peach trees containing one million of these. On the 700 acres of tree cultivation are 3 million fruit trees.

"God should bless the party man who votes his ticket straight and damn the man who doesn't." is a bit of Bouborn sentiment voiced by an attorney in a Ray county slander suit which grew out of an election.

The death recently of Frank James, aged seventy-three at the James-Samuels farm near Kearney, has brought out an autograph written by him in New Orleans in 1894, and which is now in the possession of a Weston lady.

"A bill to increase the number of liars in the state," is the title suggested by W. P. Ruffel of the Glasgow Missourian as an appropriate one for Colonel Phelps proposed statute to exempt from taxation all persons whose property valuation is less than \$100.

Sixty-nine years of wedded life is a record that very few people ever attain. But Friday was the 69 wedding anniversary of Judge J. E. McGuire and wife of Darlington. There was no gathering at the home on account of the feeble condition of the couple this year.

S. W. Frost sued the Frisco in Springfield, and when he took the stand in his own behalf he answered the first question, "What is your full name?" by replying, "Severe Winter Frost." And the janitor immediately turned on more heat in the court room.

Progressing toward a sixth trial, a \$10 lawsuit, begun in Barry county several years ago, has now become a quite important issue by reason of the accumulated costs. The suit was brought on an account claimed by a Manett firm. It originated in a Justice court and then was taken to the court of appeals at Springfield and the decision of the lower court was reversed and remanded. After five trials it has been taken to Jasper county on a change of venue.

There is at Polo a Baptist minister who has been engaged in the work for forty-three years. He and his wife were converted at a meeting held near Knoxville in 1848, conducted by Rev. Robert James, father of Frank and Jessie James.

A black cat which lived in the Merchant's hotel at Higginsville, several days after that building burned down, was seen to crawl from the ruins, pretty tough looking, its whiskers torn, its fur ruffled and dirty, and hungry as the dickens. It still had all its nine lives apparently.

In days of yore, says the Fulton Sun, a man was polite under all circumstances. Then he would say, "My dear sir, I desire that you understand thoroughly that I comprehend fully and in all detail the information you are endeavoring to impart to me." Now he says, "Gotta."

The bodies of five miners were found one morning last week in the Atlas mines near Rich Hill. Deaths are supposed to have resulted from an explosion of fire damp. The mine was practically destroyed by fire some months ago, but recently the state mine inspector permitted it to be reopened.

Of the late Thomas D. Hicks, of Osceola, it is related that in his younger days although an ardent sportsman, he would never take a gun. He would load up his pockets with rocks and would throw so straight and hard that he would bring down more squirrels than his companions who carried shot guns.

Gov. Major appeared in Colonial costume at the Washington's birthday ball at the Executive Mansion. The governor wore a white wig, knee breeches, a black satin coat and dancing pumps with buckles. He seemed a member of Washington's staff, come to life, when he danced the stately minuet as gracefully as any beau of years gone by.

"enclosed find \$230 if I make a trade and swindle and send him back may get lilly Sunday pardon and try him anyway this is your money make good use of it, condescend." was the text of a letter received recently by a Nodaway stockman. The best part of the story is that the money was inclosed, though the recipient has no idea as to who sent it.

"Bull Moose nickels" was what H. J. Richter of Jefferson City called the new Indian head jittneys and when they first were issued he began saving them. Mr. Richter had gathered together about three hundred of them. He was much elaginated when the other night burglars ransacked his place of business and took the nickels and a half dollar dated 1854.

There is an air of mystery as to who put money in the coffin of a former resident of Brashear whose body was shipped there from Oregon last week for burial. The man was killed in an accident on an Oregon railroad about two weeks ago. No details were received at Brashear as to just how he lost his life, who paid the \$23 express charges on the body or who sent back in the coffin a sum sufficient to pay funeral expenses.

Red Clover.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEWS LETTER.

Red clover has been justly ranked as the principal foundation of a permanent system of agriculture in the northern and eastern parts of the United States, according to the department's Office of Forage Crop Investigations. This is due to its high feeding value, its effect upon the soil, and the ease with which it may be employed in rotations. Under ordinary conditions red clover is a biennial, although special strains are truly perennial. In pastures where it has been kept from seeding, certain plants have been known to live for three or four years.

USES OF RED CLOVER.

Red clover is an excellent crop for pasture, hay, soiling, and renovating the soil. It can precede or follow almost any other field crop.

Clover makes an excellent pasture for all kinds of live stock. Care, however, must be exercised not to turn sheep or cattle in a clover meadow when they are hungry or when it is wet with rain or dew, since bloat may occur. If but one crop of hay is cut, considerable pasture is furnished during the summer and autumn, but if two crops of hay or one crop of hay and one crop of seed are harvested little pasture will result. Clover will furnish some pasture the fall of the year it is sown, although it should be pastured lightly.

Red clover produces satisfactory yields of hay throughout the clover area. Either two crops of hay or one crop of hay and seed may be produced the same season. Since mammoth clover produces but one crop a season it may be pastured until the first part of June. As soon as the stock is removed the meadow should be clipped so that the plants will make a more even growth. Clover hay is a very nutritious feed, being rich in protein and for this reason makes an excellent forage for growing animals and milk cows.

Red clover makes excellent green feed for milk cows. The average yields of green matter of red clover vary from 6 to 12 tons per acre. The season for soiling may commence about 10 days before the plants come into bloom and continue as long as the plants remain green. Bloating does not occur when clover is fed in this manner, but it must not be wet with dew or rain when cut, nor should it be wilted.

As a soil-improving crop red clover can not be excelled. By proper utilization in rotations it is possible to maintain a supply of nitrogen and humus in the soil. Yields of grain crops have been increased as much as 10 bushels to the acre by turning under clover sod. Red clover is sometimes used as a green manure crop. This is to be recommended only where soils are very low in humus and artificial fertilizers are used exclusively.

SOIL REQUIREMENT OF RED CLOVER.

Red clover is best adapted to deep, well-drained clay loams and calcareous loams, which are fairly rich in humus. Sandy soils well supplied with humus also produce good crops of clover. Soils poor in lime will rarely produce good crops of clover unless they contain an abundant supply of humus. With the addition of lime, however, most soils considered to be "clover sick" or "acid" can be made to grow clover satisfactorily. As most soils in the clover belt are becoming

"acid" it is recommended that all soils be tested for acidity before being planted to clover. The litmus paper test is simple and fairly reliable. Results, however, should be based not on a single test but on a number of tests with soil collected in different parts of the field. Two to four tons of finely ground limestone or one to two tons of caustic lime should be applied to "acid" soils.

SEEDING RED CLOVER.

Throughout the greater part of the clover belt clover is seeded in the spring on winter wheat or with spring grain. In the southern part of the clover belt seeding in corn at the last cultivation has been successful. When red clover is seeded on winter grain it is sown broadcast early in the spring when the ground is honey combed by freezing and thawing. If sown later when the ground can be worked it is broadcasted and harrowed in or seeded as shallow as possible with a disk drill. In the spring grain sections red clover is sown at the same time the grain is drilled. It is the practice in some locations to attach a grass seeding attachment to the grain drill and drop the clover seed either in front of or behind the grain hose. If dropped in front of the grain hose the drill will cover it, but if dropped behind it should be harrowed in. Care should be taken to see that the seed is covered about 1 inch in loam soils and one-half inch in clay soils. It is important that the seed be well covered so that the young plants will have sufficient moisture to become established. It is recommended on soils which are poor in humus to apply a dressing of straw or manure to the winter wheat. This will help to control washing and packing as well as the loss of moisture. It may be the means of establishing a stand which would otherwise fail. Eight to ten pounds of seed are usually sown to the acre.

HARVESTING RED CLOVER.

Red clover should be cut for hay when just past full bloom. At this stage the maximum protein and dry matter is present, the leaves are still intact, and the stems green. The hay should be so handled that it will reach the barn or stack with the least possible exposure to weather and loss of leaves. It should not be allowed to become too dry in the windrow and should be cured in the shock. The second crop of clover may be cut for hay, pastured, or allowed to mature for seed. If a seed crop is to be harvested it should be cut when nearly all of the heads have turned brown or black. The mower, self-rake reaper, or binder may be used to cut the crop. When the mower is used the hay should be raked and bunched while damp to prevent shattering. It should not be tied in bundles when the binder is used.

CLOVER FAILURES.

Observations indicate that failure to obtain a successful stand of clover is due to a number of different causes, any one or any combination of which may react very unfavorably to its growth. The primary causes of clover failure appear to be due to depletion of the humus content of the soil and soil "acidity." Clover will not succeed on poorly drained soil. Lack of fertility reduces the yield in some sections. In the spring grain sections the nurse crop should be seeded from one-half to two-thirds the usual rate.

When a full seeding of the nurse crop is made, and this is especially true of oats, the great-

er portion of the soil moisture is used by the grain. The clover plants thus become weakened and when the grain is cut they are killed by the hot sun before they have time to recover. Alsike clover does well on soil which will no longer grow red clover, and where moisture is sufficient it is recommended that alsike be planted. Sweet clover or soy beans are very good soil renovators, and they may replace red clover in the rotations until the soil is in such condition that red clover will succeed.

Spring Wheat Not Recommended For Missouri.

BY C. B. HUTCHISON.

The Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station is receiving many inquiries this spring in regard to the advisability of sowing spring wheat. Rains last fall at wheat sowing time kept some farmers from seeding the acreage they had intended for wheat this year. With the prospects of wheat commanding next year the highest price in decades, there is a temptation to try spring wheat.

Spring wheat is not a safe crop this far south, as the yields are very uncertain. Wheat makes its growth in cool climates and during the coolest part of the growing season. It cannot stand hot weather. When seeded in the fall, it matures before the hot weather of summer begins. In the north, where the winters are too severe for seeding wheat in the fall, spring wheat is grown. In these regions the spring and summers are cool enough to permit its maturing. In these regions where both spring and winter wheat are grown, spring sown wheat nearly always yields less than wheat sown in the fall, and winter wheat is gradually replacing spring wheat wherever the winters are mild enough for it to stand. The winter wheat belt has been gradually pushed northward during the last fifty or sixty years from northern Missouri to northern Iowa. Even northern Iowa is not considered a first-class spring wheat region and it is not likely that the crop would be profitable this far south.

Spring wheat in Missouri matures so late that it is not only subjected to the hot weather, but to rust, chinch bugs and other enemies. Under such conditions the yields become very uncertain, hence the crop is not to be generally recommended for this State. Other crops will be found more profitable.

That it might be all ready when the first train came in, citizens of Houston, Texas county, two years ago built a depot. Hope ran high and faith was firm that the long delayed railroad was about to be built. All in vain were the earnest efforts and substantial contributions. The railroad did not come and now a local contractor has been ordered to tear down the building.

The original record of the "County Board of Lexington, Mo.," has been filed with the State Historical Society at Columbia. The initial entry, dated August 16, 1862, shows that such a board was appointed by the war department. The record shows that on October 16, 1862, an order was made assessing nineteen Lafayette county citizens 7 per cent of their personal property as a penalty because a murder had taken place in their neighborhood.

If you want to borrow money on long time and easy payments see Geo. D. Sess, Doniphan, Mo.

U. S. TO INVESTIGATE HIGH WHEAT PRICES

CHICAGO DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO EXAMINE BOOKS OF GRAIN COMPANIES.

COST OF BREAD ADVANCING

Government Seeks to Trace Connection Between Speculators and Elevator Lines in the West and Northwest.

(WNU News Service.) Chicago. —As a result of the unprecedented activity of the wheat market and the advance in prices of bread and other bakery products, the government's investigation of wheat and flour prices became more pressing. Subpenas were ordered issued by Charles F. Clyn, United States district attorney, to bring in the books and records of several big grain companies, among them the Armour Grain Co., J. Rosenbaum Grain Co., and Bartlett, Frazier & Co. The district attorney, it was announced, desires to investigate their connection with elevator lines in the west and northwest. The amount of grain handled by the companies since the outbreak of the European war, and how much grain is stored in Chicago elevators at present was said to be the object of the new inquiry.

The price of bread was advanced from 5 to 6 cents a loaf as a result of an announcement by the Master Bakers' association, which represents about 400 small dealers. Some of the larger manufacturers, who still are selling a 5-cent loaf, are expected to announce an advance before the end of the week, as their supply of flour, bought months ago, is nearly exhausted. Prices of doughnuts, cakes, buns and other products of the bakeries will be raised, it is said.

Price Advances Sharply. After purchase of 1,000,000 bushels for the Italian government and 200,000 bushels for other exports, May wheat advanced 3 1/2 cents a bushel to \$1.65 and July mounted 5 1/2 cents to \$1.43, both closing at the top. Cash wheat sold at 1 cent above May, actually changing hands at \$1.66. The government has received complaint that the speculators have shipped large lots of wheat to the seaboard under the guise of "export business," but that in reality, according to charges, the grain is stored in elevators in the east for speculative purposes.

Speculative trading in the pit exceeded 15,000,000 bushels. Export estimates report that only 255,000 bushels of contract wheat are in Chicago, plus 1,500,000 not deliverable on contract. The situation as disclosed by the market indicates that of the enormous trading more than 14,500,000 bushels were based mainly on wind.

"Who is making all the money?" is the question heard everywhere. Paten, Partridge and Alfred Cutten are credited with winnings of \$500,000 each, gathered in at that price or under. A. J. Lichten also is supposed to have increased his fortune about \$500,000. But these men did not relish being called as witnesses in an investigation with millions of speculative bushels on the books, and they are believed to have unloosed.

DIVORCE CHARGES NOT TRUE

Former Illinois Governor Denies Allegations That He Hugged Another Man's Wife.

(WNU News Service.) Springfield, Ill. —Richard Yates, former governor of Illinois, is named in a divorce complaint filed by Edward R. Freeman, a photographer of Eureka, Cal., against Emma R. Freeman, according to dispatches. The complaint alleges that Mrs. Freeman and Yates traveled together from Eureka to San Francisco in July, 1913.

In July, 1913, Mrs. Freeman, according to her own admissions, went to San Francisco from Eureka in company of Yates. She denied, however, having come as his guest, claiming she made the trip to visit her friends and at her own expense.

Freeman, however, became indignant over the reported trip, and engaged counsel in Eureka to advise him as to how he should proceed. When informed of her husband's actions, Mrs. Freeman returned home.

Gas Blast Kills Two, Hurts One. Waukegan, Ill. —Gas from a leak in a main 25 feet from his home struck Joseph Zelma. He struck a match, and the resulting explosion killed his wife and his mother and injured him so he may die.