

CURRENT NOTES ON AGRICULTURE

(State Department of Agriculture—R. F. Flint, Commissioner.)

Farmers' Bulletin No. 661, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, is a valuable addition to the farmer's library, and a copy should be secured by every progressive agriculturist. It is entitled "Methods of Analyzing the Farm Business," and outlines forms and methods by which strict and accurate accounts can be kept of all farm operations, in addition to gross and net income. The blanks suggested include crop, live stock records, landlord stock, receipts from stock products, live stock summary, miscellaneous receipts, current expenses, depreciation accounts, improvements, machinery, lists, feed and supplies, capital inventory and general summary. If all these are used the operator can tell at a glance just how he stands at the beginning, end or any part of any given annual period.

The Commercial West, of May 1, 1915, published at Minneapolis, Minn., contains a timely article on rural credits which should be read by every one interested in securing the use of money for farmers at a low rate of interest. The plan outlined is not an experiment or theory but is actually in operation—and has been for some years past—at Joliet, Ill. The method permits a loan to a farmer for 20 years at a rate of 6 per cent per annum, repayable in 40 semi-annual pay-

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ments of a certain fixed amount, which includes both principal and interest, so that the last payment extinguishes the debt. This amount for a loan of \$1,000 is \$43.26 every six months, and a borrower can pay part or the whole of the principal at any interest paying date. The plan follows closely along the lines of the Credit Foncier of France and is under the supervision of the state of Illinois. The bank maintains its loaning ability by floating debenture bonds at five per cent from the proceeds of the sale of which it continues its operation.

Between 200 and 300 towns and cities in the United States have been materially assisted in securing better milk by co-operation of the local officials with the dairy division of the federal bureau of animal industry. A system of score card inspection of dairy farms catering to the city trade has been instituted and found both practical and highly useful in maintaining the milk supply at a proper standard. The results are almost immediately apparent by diminution of the death rate from those diseases caused by impure milk, especially among infants under two years. In connection with this work investigations have been started in several states for the purpose of determining the cost of production and how to lower it.

A very satisfactory system of "check book accounting" is being practiced by many farmers who desire to have all their transactions in a readily accessible form. Two essential principles are necessary for success by this method: First, all money, from every source, must be deposited in the bank. In this manner the entire farm income is known and recorded, and the expenditure of money is impossible without a corresponding stub to show for same. Second, a brief but comprehensive record of the purpose for which each check is issued must be kept on the stub, thus itemizing the account of farm expenditures. Checks for personal use are drawn in the same way, and an account kept of such small items paid for on farm account out of moneys drawn for personal use. A memorandum of produce exchanged for groceries is also needed as no cash changes hands in such cases.

Without in any way suggesting that North Dakota has any hog cholera within its borders, nevertheless it is timely to call attention to that axiom of hog raisers that wherever hogs are there also will be cholera, sooner or later. Having this thought in mind therefore it is suggested that every precaution be taken by farmers to practice that prevention is better than cure. In three counties of certain Middle West states wherein systematic

efforts have been kept up for three years the death rate per thousand has been reduced from 280 to 40, while the number of hogs raised has increased during the same time from 221,682, to 359,466. 'Nuff said.

Specialists of the federal department of agriculture have decided that it is impossible to tell the difference between mushrooms and toadstools by any of the so-called "tests" and that the only safe way to determine their edibility of the fungus is by studying it from a botanical standpoint. Bulletin 175 of the department describes 159 varieties and the importance of exercising care in the use of any of these for the table is emphasized by the determined fact that 72 of these varieties are poisonous or strongly suspected of being so. This is the time of year when the mushroom hunger is especially strong and fungi of all kinds specially abundant. Any lover of the dainty will therefore do well to exercise the most careful discrimination in selecting food of this kind.

Because of the needs of the Florida grape fruit growers who otherwise would have large quantities of unsalable fruit on hand, a new method of bottling the juice has been evolved so that it can be preserved in that form for summer use. It is quite likely that the new beverage will be on sale in commercial quantities the coming season.

The Bureau of Animal Industry publishes in the weekly News Letter, a list of the bureau's bulletins dealing specially with animal husbandry. Among them, noted as being especially timely for this season of the year, are bulletins dealing with Pig Management (No. 205), Hog Houses (No. 438), Poultry House Construction (No. 574) and Poultry Management (No. 287).

The Farm Management association of Seward county, Nebraska, has sold for its patrons over \$15,000 worth of alfalfa seed. This should be sufficient hint to North Dakota farmers of the splendid returns to be secured by raising alfalfa seed for foreign markets. Prof. Bobb, the alfalfa expert of Adams county is one of those who has fully realized the exceptional hardness of North Dakota grown alfalfa seed and, as a consequence, he is reaping the reward due to intelligent foresight. He is authority for the statement that North Dakota seed tops the market, is eagerly sought by discriminating buyers and that there is no danger of glutting the market.

This is the time of the year farmers should know that infertile eggs keep better and command a better price than fertile ones. In some states a day is set aside in the late spring, known as "Rooster Day," on which buyers agree to pay as much for roosters as for hens. This has been found to result in an enormous sale of roosters with the result that eggs of good keeping quality are secured during the summer months.

The south is far ahead of the west and north in organization of poultry and pig clubs. In Georgia there are probably 2,000 members of pig clubs, and between 2,000 and 3,000 in Louisiana. The movement is growing faster than funds for organization purposes are available, so keen is the interest taken by the boys and girls of those states.

MAY USE CREAMERY FOR A MILL AT VANG.

Milton, N. D., May 20.—The Vang creamery in the northern part of Cavalier county may be converted into a flour mill. The creamery is owned by 45 farmers in that section of the county, and after two or three trials in operation of the creamery, it was found that this could not be done with profit. As the building is a good one, the stockholders figure that it should be made use of, hence the new plan. To convert the present building into a flour mill would require considerable capital and whether this can be secured remains to be settled when the matter is more fully understood by all interested. Those who have been looking up the new proposition have decided that if a change is to be made it would require the sale of about 150 shares of stock of \$25 each to secure sufficient funds to purchase the machinery, change the building and install the plant.

Rev. E. P. Getchell occupied the pulpit at the Epworth M. E. church Sunday morning during the absence of Rev. Vermilya at Jamestown. Rev. Getchell gave a splendid address to a very large and appreciative audience.

ATTENDED DEDICATION OF M. E. CHURCH AT JAMESTOWN

Rev. C. E. Vermilya, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Heidel, Mr. and Mrs. A. Eckel, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Taylor and Mrs. O. A. Martin returned home Sunday evening from Jamestown where they attended the dedication of the new Methodist church Sunday morning.

MEMBERS STAND BY THE EQUITY

Fargo, May 22.—North Dakota stockholders and patrons of the Equity Co-operative Exchange of St. Paul, feel so certain that the suit brought by the state to annul its charter will be dismissed that they already are planning an extensive campaign to obtain business during the next crop season, beginning Aug. 1.

They not only hope to triple the shipments made to St. Paul last fall but also to complete their proposed new terminal elevator there by Jan. 1, next. According to President J. M. Anderson, the farmers are buying liberally of the elevator stock, and the financial details are all but settled.

"We expect to push the 'buy in St. Paul' campaign to the limit among our friends and in every section of North Dakota," he said. "When we have our second annual convention there in the fall the attendance ought to reach the 10,000 mark. Our members are awaiting that time with great expectation, and will do most of their fall and winter buying while attending this convention. We know that the city is back of us and we intend to reciprocate to the best of our ability."

George S. Loftus, sales manager of the Equity Co-operative exchange has returned to St. Paul taking with him a list of subscriptions made by farmers and business men interested in the open market there, amounting to \$38,800. Subscriptions of nearly \$10,000 more are in the hands of the committee. This does not include the \$5,000 pledged by Congressman C. C. Van Dyke and John Marshall, who represent the St. Paul Commercial club at Fargo.

"This suit will result in our getting credit bonds of more than \$400,000," Mr. Loftus predicted, "giving us all the financial backing that we need to operate the grain business and also to build the terminal elevator. Our men will begin to sell stock in the elevator company on Monday, and we expect to have that institution in operation within a few months."

"The suit appears to have fallen flat," Mr. Loftus added, "and I cannot see how we can lose it. Judge Pollock has been very fair with us at the hearing."

Those who have followed the weary court session at which Edw. Engerud, of counsel for the state, presented some 75 affidavits in support of the many charges made in the complaint to Attorney Gen. H. J. Linde, are nearly united in the opinion that the case against the Equity is based on trivialities and is without merit. None of the sensational accusations of mismanagement, double commissions, insolvency, conversion of capital and selling under market seems to have been substantiated, and when the defense has its inning, it is confidently expected that any cloud on the character of the co-operative movement, centered in St. Paul, will have been dissipated.

When Mr. Engerud had presented his final affidavit, Mr. Manahan made a formal motion asking that the case be dismissed. He was about to argue the matter at length, when Judge C. A. Pollock interrupted.

"I shall deny the motion," he said, "and any argument would only be a waste of time. As I announced earlier I intend to hear both sides of the case."

Mr. Manahan said that he desired to obtain affidavits rebutting some of the accusations of those which the state has filed but recently. In particular he wanted to have the evidence of John McHugh, secretary of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, a commission for the taking of which recently was issued by Judge Pollock.

George S. Loftus, sales manager of the Exchange, expressed greatest satisfaction over what he termed the absolute failure of the state to prove any of its sensational and widely advertised charges against the farmers of North Dakota.

He said the farmers will complete their St. Paul terminal elevator within five months and always would finance their own marketing.

At the afternoon session Mr. Engerud presented a number of affidavits having to do with the financial solvency of the exchange. The affidavits were from E. C. Salvesen of Minneapolis and W. T. Thompson of Fargo, and the figures were of December 31, 1914. Both had prepared voluminous reports containing a perfect maze of figures, and both differed materially as to the financial status of the concern, although both agreed it was "broke."

It is not long since the counties along the Red river on the Minnesota side were petitioning for ditches to make the land dry. Now they are voting to make the people dry.

VALLEY CITY GIRLS WIN FREE DACOTAHS

The Dacotah, the North Dakota university annual, was published and ready for distribution last week. The distribution began at 10 a. m. Monday morning, all classes being excused for the period. Previous to this occurred the competition for free Dacotahs; these were given to the two who stood in the Dacotah circle at 10 a. m. After much healthy scuffling the decision was rendered in favor of Grace Ellis and Mildred Noltimer, both Valley City girls and local high school graduates.

WHISKEY IS RATHER EXPENSIVE IN MINOT

Minot, N. D., May 22.—Whiskey in Minot is selling as high as \$20 a bottle, according to testimony given in the case of the state vs. Percy Warren and William Heidel, who are up in Justice Willis' court on the charge of embezzlement.

John Wonke, the complainant, alleges that he gave one of the defendants a \$20 bill with which to get a bottle of whiskey. Wonke says that the men produced the bottle, but that they did not give him any change back. Wonke then promptly appeared before State's Attorney Nestos and secured a warrant for the embezzlement.

Wonke is a farmer who lives 17 miles from Minot. Several days ago he lost his team and he walked into Minot in the rain and stopped at a shack at which Heidel and Warren, it is alleged, were stopping. The next morning he asked for a lunch and a bottle of whiskey. He says that Warren and Heidel undertook to get it for him. They did this, but did not want to return the \$20, stating that they preferred to wait until he sobered up. In the meantime, it is alleged, they spent the money.

BISMARCK FOLKS CELEBRATE THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING.

Bismarck, May 22.—Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Ode, of this city, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary when a large number of relatives and friends came to the Ode home, 500 Tenth street, to make merry with them. Eight children, 13 grand children and a nephew gathered there and two grand children with two great grand children, who had planned to be there, were unable to come at the last minute.

Mr. Ode is 80 years of age and Mrs. Ode is 69. Both are hale and hearty. They have resided in this state about 32 years, most of that time in Burleigh county. The children of this couple are Fred, Herman, Charles, Will and Mrs. John Hubert, all of Bismarck; Mrs. Chase, of Morrilton and Henry Ode of the same place, and Adolph, of Dickinson. On account of the bad weather many who intended to visit the Odes on this anniversary day were kept away. The couple received many presents.

BIG PREPARATIONS FOR THE ANNUAL PLAY DAY

Next Saturday will be given the Barnes County Play Day program in Valley City, and this event promises to be one of the biggest events of the kind ever held here. About 3000 visitors are expected and great plans and preparations are being made for the occasion.

The state encampment of the Grand Army meets at Minot Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. J. E. Weiser and R. E. Kee are going up from here, also Mrs. John Tracy will go as a representative from the Relief Corps.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS IN SANBORN IN FIVE YEARS

Sanborn Enterprise. While the assessor's enumeration shows an increase of only six per cent in population during the last five years, a review of building operations and business done shows a substantial increase over the previous five years. The buildings erected during the past five years include some of the largest and most substantial in the village. Notably, the Young block, on East Front street, occupied by Winterer's department store, valued at about \$15,000. The high school building, costing between \$25,000 and \$35,000; the new city hall representing a valuation of about \$10,000; a new Masonic hall at a cost of \$6,000 or \$8,000; a number of very substantial and attractive residences, and many other permanent improvements.

We predict that the next five years will show not only a very large increase in the percentage of population, but in permanent property improvement as well.

CORNERSTONE OF CHURCH LAID FRIDAY AFTERNOON

SUPERINTENDENT HANNA REPORTS GOOD MEETING

Superintendent Hanna returned Saturday evening from Grand Forks, where he has been attending the city superintendents' association, of which he is president. The association is composed of superintendents of first class high schools of this state. They held their meeting at 10 o'clock Friday morning and completed a short business session, including arrangements for the state association meeting next fall.

In the evening the superintendents held a banquet at the Hotel Frederick. Over 30 were present. Superintendent Kelly, of Grand Forks, acted as toastmaster and several prominent educators were called on for short toasts.

Supt. Root, of Bismarck spoke in the morning session in "Uniform High School Records," and Supt. Rheinoel, of Larimore, was heard from on the subject of "Scientific Measurements of School work."

Supt. Hanna reports a most enjoyable as well as profitable time while at the university city.

NORMAL LOST SATURDAY TO THE MOORHEAD NORMAL

Coach Call and his baseball team returned from Moorhead Saturday night after going down before the Moorhead Normal team in defeat that afternoon. The score was 7 to 2. A number of pitchers were put in the box in an effort to save their arms somewhat for the big game with Jamestown college Monday afternoon. Pieh, on first base, suffered a split finger and the infield had to be shifted about considerably as a result. The boys were unfortunate, but have high hopes of defeating Jamestown, their ancient rival.

INDEPENDENTS DEFEAT THE SANBORN TEAM

In a fast game played at Sanborn Saturday the Independent baseball team representing the Valley City High school defeating Sanborn by the decisive score of 10 to 5. The features of the game were the pitching of Kram and the batting and fielding of Beal and Fullwiler. The umpires were O'Mera and Heyerdahl, both of whom did excellent work.

FARMERS OF WILLISTON HAVE A HUSTLING CLUB

The farmers of Williston township, Williams county, have an unique organization which is attracting considerable attention throughout the state, and which will undoubtedly accomplish much good for the community which it represents.

This organization is known as the Williston Township Farmers' club, and is organized for the social and financial betterment of its members. The club has its officers and executive committee and holds regular meetings. The members are evidently a wide-awake combination, but this is assured by the fact that they have organized and are out after results.

The latest move by this club is to secure good, bonafide farmers for their community. The club has issued a circular letter which is being sent to eastern farmers with a view to getting them to come to Williston township, when they will be met at the train and shown the country. The club offers to give them the inside facts about the country, prices of land, and to do much which will cause the newcomer to feel at home and to assist him in getting located without running the gauntlet of getting settled alone.

The circular is splendidly written, gets down to the interesting facts, without mincing matters, and should be a winner. Mrs. G. M. Holland is the secretary and seems to be a live wire.

Times-Record Want Ads get results at slight cost.

In spite of lowering clouds there was a large attendance when on Friday afternoon the ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the new \$35,000 Congregational church took place. The event marked the fruition of well-laid plans outlining the hopes of years, hence the interest for citizens of Valley City.

The following was the order of exercises:

Opening Sentences by the Minister. Responsive Reading from Church Hymnal.

Prayer by the Minister. Hymn—"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord." Reading of Confession of Faith.

Reading of Contents of the Book. Laying of the Corner-stone by Ex-Gov. Frank White, Chairman of the Building Committee.

Prayer by the Minister. Repeating of the Lord's Prayer. Address—"The Church in the Twentieth Century," by Willard Crosby Lyon, Minister.

Hymn—"Blest be the Tie that Binds our Hearts in Christian Love." Benediction.

The following officers and committees of the church took part in the ceremony:

Minister—Rev. Willard Crosby Lyon.

Deacons—George A. McFarland, O. P. Emerson, B. A. Wallace, Henry Nelson.

Deaconess—Mrs. Wylie Nielson. Clerk—Mrs. George A. Fridd.

Trustees—I ynn B. McMillen, chairman; Frank White, D. W. Clark, George A. Fridd, S. P. Ellis, W. N. Palmer, E. C. Hilborn, George M. Young.

Treasurer—Henry Nelson. Sunday School—E. C. Hilborn, superintendent.

Ladies' Guild—Mrs. S. P. Ellis, president.

Auxiliary Guild—Miss Emma von Domarus, president.

Brotherhood—E. P. Getchell, president.

Building Committee—Frank White, chairman; George A. McFarland, D. W. Clark, Mrs. Wylie Nielson; W. N. Palmer, E. C. Hilborn; S. P. Ellis.

Architect—Eugene H. McFarland, Valley City.

Contractors—W. J. Curren, Valley City, Valley City Plumbing and Heating Company.

Care Taker—Roy Larson. The following are the contents of the metal box placed in the corner stone:

Copy of Times-Record. Copy of the Valley City Weekly Courier.

Copy of North Dakota Patriot. Coins.

Photograph of the old church. Copy of sketch of new church used in the financial campaign of the fall of 1914.

Copy of exercises of laying of the corner stone.

Photograph of the minister of the church.

Photographs of the officers of the church.

Photographs of the building committee.

Photographs of the men who are working on the building.

Photograph of charter members of the Century class.

Copy of the Congregationalist and Christian World.

Copy of the Advance. Date of organization of the first church, with names of charter members and officers.

Postcard views of Valley City. Confession of faith.

BONHUS BREAKS HIS ARM

While practicing for Play Day at home Monday morning, Jorgen Bonhus met with a rather serious accident. He was doing the high jump, it seems, and in some way slipped and fell, breaking his arm just above the wrist. The boy is feeling pretty well now, and although he will have to have his arm in a sling for three or four weeks, he will not have to miss any school on account of the mishap.

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