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DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC COUNTRY.

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Agricultural.

THE FAIR.

We are glad to see the members of the executive committee of the Wadena County Agricultural Association, taking hold with such determined manner the matter of a fair here this fall, and we hope that they will each individual member, both of the committee, the association, and the agricultural community which feels interested in extending the farm interests of this section, deem it their especial duty to do all in their power to make this, the first fair a success. Every man can do something if it is nothing more than to talk about it, and thus advertise and keep the matter fresh in the minds of the people.

Much depends upon the excellence of this fair. In the amount, excellence and variety of agricultural products, we propose to show the capabilities and unbounded resources of this section more completely than can be done in any other way. Invitations are being sent out to and accepted by prominent agricultural and political men of the State who are undoubtedly coming out of a spirit of curiosity to see this new country in all the crudeness of its newness; to see if our farmers look and act like farmers in older countries. They will scarcely come prepared to see what the farmers here are capable of showing them, and if we exert our selves we can astonish them. This is what we want to do. To bring our section up to a footing equally commanding of the respect of those "high in office" with older section, and in no way can it be done better than by showing them what we are made of and what we can do when we set out to perform some object. There is a deeper and more important interest to the farmers in this and adjoining counties in this regard than appears at a casual glance, and if they give the matter the fair consideration it is worthy of we have no doubt they will almost universally labor for its success. At least they should do so, and we hope to see every farmer in the territory mentioned, who possibly can, attend the meeting Saturday afternoon, join the Association, and by his aid and advice show that he is interested in the country in which he lives. See notice in another column.

Bees and Their Habits.

To bee keepers who desire to learn something of the many mysteries that govern the most faithful stock of the farm, let me say if you wish to become acquainted with their habits you must procure a first-class movable frame hive. One in which you can manage your bees without getting them as angry as hornets, which can only be prevented by using a hive that has no loose pieces to remove before you can see the brood, bees and queens, and then you can handle bees at the rapid rate of 20,000 in five minutes, and eight times that number in ten. You will find the queen in the operation, and can see her laying her eggs at the rate of three thousand to four thousand per day. I have often seen a good prolific queen lay twenty-one eggs in three minutes. This is truly astonishing though true, and if she could continue at the above rate, the result would be over 8,000 per day.

Also while examining your stock

you will often see the young bees cutting their own way out by gnawing off the cap. Often failing at first to make the opening large enough, they sometimes are compelled to draw back and cut out another ringlet of the capping in order to pass out freely. Now just at this point of time in the life of the bee I wish to say is very interesting, as they are truly workers only in the hive for fourteen days, and then they take the place of those that so rapidly pass away as outside workers. You will recollect that I told you in one of my articles last winter that the workers only live about forty-eight days, in the working season, and those young bees which are hatched out at the rapid rate of 3,000 per day are also workers, but not outside workers until after they are fourteen days old.

But I would also have you know that they are not idlers by any means during their minority, as they are very busy all this time cleaning cells, packing away pollen in cells, and often feeding the queen. They seem to detail themselves in numbers above and around the queens, feeding and spreading a sort of saliva on her abdomen, while in the act of laying eggs. The queen always examines each and every cell before depositing her egg in the same. This she does by passing slowly but with such firmness of purpose that it is truly a beautiful lesson in nature's grand school to see with what precision she thrusts her head into each cell, and if found vacant she turns herself with as much firmness, introducing her abdomen, and deposits but one egg in each cell.

I am well aware that it often happens that we are troubled with a virgin queen, though often a fertile worker, which you can always know by the uneven or irregular circles they make of their brood in depositing their eggs, while you may also know a fertile queen by the perfectly regular form. She will always deposit her eggs on both sides of the combs for brood. I apprehend the theory as taught by most queen breeders that the drones produced by a pure Italian queen which has mated with a black drone as being greatly at fault and should not be accepted as pure drones or stock. I will further say that the average of a good prolific queen is about two and a half years. I have had one Italian queen live over six years, but this is an exception and not the rule. I must close this article for the present, it being already too long, but hope to give your readers more interesting facts concerning the mysteries of our little pets. I have only been able to learn from a long experience and the aid of the hive in which I think more bees can be handled in a given time, and much easier than any of the other of the twenty-six hives I have used.—*Cor. Western Rural.*

Neighborhood News.

THOMASTOWN.

Thomastown crops are looking fine in this vicinity. Some of our farmers are expecting 25 bushels of wheat per acre.

Mr. Boyd has 520 acres of splendid wheat.

Thomas Scott has a promising crop. A Sunday school has been organized in Mr. Boyd's district in their new school house, with an attendance of 20 scholars.

Mr. Goodrich is digging a cellar, and getting ready to build a new house. Also Mr. Grant has a new house, and all he lacks now is a housekeeper. If you see any of them, send em along.

COMPTON.

Strawberries are plentiful.

George McNamar has returned from Fergus Falls.

Will Hennings has bought out John Leddick.

Daq Owens has returned with his

family and is living in a neat dwelling on section 5.

The Fourth was duly celebrated in Compton, at what is known as Robb's Settlement on Friday, and at George McQuillin's place on Saturday. A general good time was enjoyed at both places.

On Monday the 5th inst., a fire at George McQuillin's, originating in a cattle smudge in the cow-yard, came near destroying the stables before it was extinguished.

Stokely Robertson, and old resident of Douglas Co. is at present encamped near Wadena, and has an eye open for a location in this vicinity.

Roads are rapidly improving.

MCGINS.

ALDRICH.

I thought as there is no correspondents from Aldrich, that I would drop you a few lines in regard to crops etc. Crops in this vicinity never looked better. Corn is just bouncing up.

We have got a town site laid out at last. L. P. White was here and laid out a few streets on each side of the track.

John Gillespie is preparing to build a new store.

We want a hotel very bad. There is not accommodation for half the people that comes here.

We expect a saw and grist mill here this fall. There is no better place on the N. P. for a saw mill than Aldrich, as there is an abundance of timber of both pine and hard wood tributary to Aldrich, and a home market for all the lumber that can be sawed.

Mr. Thompson, our wagon maker has built himself a good house, and is moving his shop along side of it.

Mr. Cornely intends to build a substantial dwelling this fall. So you see that Aldrich has an eye to the county seat as well as other towns.

CITIZEN.

PARKERS PRAIRIE.

We send you the agricultural report just as we received it from the enumerator.

Homer Crocker and wife was down on the 5th.

H. Asseln's large store house is being rapidly enclosed.

Barley harvest will soon begin.

We understand that J. Rider has rented his hotel to F. Gordon.

On the night of the 3d inst., thieves were driven out of R. H. McMahn's barn. We hear that one or two houses were rumaged on the 5th inst. while the families were attending the celebration.

The Fourth was celebrated on Monday the 5th, and as it was a very pleasant day, there was about 300 persons assembled in our village, formed in line and drove to Mr. Beardly's grove, and there listened to a splendid oration by Capt. Inman, declaration by J. W. Matt, music by the Mason family and Miss McMahn. The match game of base ball between the Woodside and Parkers Prairie clubs, was won by the former, 87 to 85 in nine innings. A grand ball was given in the evening at the Rider Hall.

INMAN.

We are having beautiful weather now, showers falling just often enough to keep everything booming. Wheat and oats never looked better. Many of our farmers think that wheat will average from 25 to 30 bushels per acre, while oats promise to go anything you're a mind to ask. Corn is just beginning to grow; in fact everything looks just splendid.

There has been about 200 acres of land broke in our town this year, and the season not near over.

Our assessor has finished his work, and the valuation found to be double what it was last year. The personal property valuation is nearly \$6,000, while the real estate is over \$20,000. Two years ago, the total valuation of

both real and personal property was only \$7,500; this year it is nearly \$27,000. How is that for two years growth! yet it is claimed by a great many that a man can't make a living in this country.

Mr. Alexander shot and killed a large bear last Thursday. There has been quite a number seen in this vicinity this spring.

Everybody is getting ready to cut hay, and as grass is scarce this year, great care should be taken to save all that can be cut, for hay will bring a good price next spring. DENGRO.

FROM A NEW SETTLER.

To the Editors of the N. P. Farmer.

I am a new settler at Wadena, and was well pleased with the evident enjoyment of the mass of people who met on the 5th to celebrate our national birth day. The evidences of enterprise and prosperity shown in that assemblage, gave the best possible assurance of the rapid improvement of Wadena, as most of them sell their spare produce and buy their supplies at this depot.

I did not hear the Oritor of the Day, but admired the toasts and responses, and was almost tempted to volunteer another toast "To the Success of our many New Neighbors."

The rapid enlargement of the business of the village, requires a corresponding improvement of the vacant lands in its vicinity, and this can only be had by attracting settlers from other places. To get those we must encourage them to come, and bid them welcome when here. In answering letters of enquiry, I would like to say that new settlers were toasted like the pioneers, and that farmers were as welcome as editors and lawyers. The omission of any allusion to politics or religion in addressing such a mixed multitude was wise, because no speaker can utter his own convictions on these subjects, without clashing the opinions of many in the crowd. The reason is, that those ideas are mostly bread in the person like the color of the hair or the tint of the skin, which may only be altered by stains and dyes, and each individual exceeds his rights when he attempts to rectify the peculiarities of others. When a Republican or Democrat, a Catholic or Protestant is satisfied that he is right, he may congratulate himself, but he should not try to set every other man right, for this is where the trouble comes in. And so a man may extol the merits of his own nation, as the Scotchman did that day, but to be cheered as the Scotchman was, he must let the faults of other nations alone. When I told down east, that my parents were Scotch, and I was born in Edinburg, that was all right. But when I said, I only staid in Scotland long enough to save me from being a yankee and that was all I cared for, the insinuation was resented, as it deserved to be.

Waden can boast that its celebration was conducted soberly and orderly, so far as I saw it. This was a great contrast to certain no-license towns I could name, and shows that men will behave when left free, although they balk under restraints.

Yours, D.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

Chaplain McCabe, who is gaining a national reputation by his successful work in behalf of church extension in the M. E. church, is to spend two weeks in looking over our north-western country, and an effort is being made to have him pass a day or two in Wadena in the interest of the new church, and to deliver his famous lecture on "The Bright Side of Life in Libby Prison," he having had several months experience as a prisoner there. As a singer the Chaplain is second to none in the land, and if he consents to stop with us it will be worth while to hear him.

It looks now as though the new church was to be a *phact*. The ladies have secured money enough to purchase two lots, and are determined to purchase two more for church purposes. Mr. Dixon on last Sunday evening made a proposition to the other two churches, that if each of them would by Sept. 1st, raise \$250 to aid in building and completing the edifice, each should have the free use of the building one entire Sabbath each month for three years, which proposition is certainly just, honorable and fair to all parties, and we trust will be accepted at once. None of our business men can afford to have it said of them that they refused to aid this enterprise.

We are thankful to Mrs. Langley and Mrs. Stillman for beautiful bouquets of flowers which adorn our sanctuary. Speaking of flowers recalls to memory the fact that every time it has been our pleasure to roam into the country we were greeted on all sides by the aroma of flowers which laden the atmosphere in the vicinity of nearly every farm house. What more emphatic testimony of the high and intellectual character of our farmers can be asked than the existence of these beautiful and fragrant plants which nod their many-colored buds and blossoms to the summer breeze? This is a new country, but it is peopled with the bone and brains of older ones and it is surprising to see how rapidly a wild unbroken section is made to bloom as the rose and waive with fields of golden grain.

That Horse Race.

Last week the *Verndale Journal* contained an item which we give Mr. McMillan credit for having inserted either carelessly at the request of some sore-head, who did not know what he was talking about, or that it was inserted without his knowledge. He certainly could not have publicly stated such a piece of ridiculous nonsense of his own free will and accord, if in his right mind. However, an explanation is necessary. The item referred to charges that the judges in the horse race at Wadena, on the 5th of July, willfully and intentionally so ruled the race that the Verndale horse was ruled off the track, in order to enable a Wadena horse to win the prize, a mere matter of \$5 or \$10, and with both hands raised in holy honor and an awful face, exclaimed that it was a clear case of theft! Now, the judges in that race were Messrs. James French and Richard Peardon, of Otter Tail county, and a gentleman from Verndale, whose name we cannot at this time learn, (we do not think, however, that he is a thief). The verdict of these judges was that Mr. Rawson's horse had fairly won the race, and we are reliably informed, that the Verndale member of the judges gave it as his opinion that Mr. Rawson's horse was entitled to the money. The idea that these gentlemen, two of whom were disinterested, as regards locality, and the third from Verndale, should render an unfair decision in favor of the Wadena horse, is simply absurd, and to charge them with dishonor in a matter of a horse race for a prize of \$10, is so supremely ridiculous as to seem childish. We cannot devote space to review the merits and demerits of this case, and do not pretend to know the respective running qualities of the horses. One may be as fast as lightning and the other as slow as the moving of a county seat, for all we know about them, but business is business, and we are authorized, to state that the owner of the Wadena horse is ready and willing to put up \$50 or more, against an equal sum to be put up by the friends of the Verndale horse, (the one which participated in the race here on the fifth), the two horses to run for the money, and the winner take the purse. The time and place of the race to be selected by the Verndale men. Now, ye who "kicked" about the fairness of the race here, put up, or else stop snarling about so small a matter as \$10.