

# The Northern Pacific Farmer.

DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC COUNTRY.

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## Northern Pacific Farmer

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## Agricultural.

### THE STATE FAIR.

We have received the premium list of the 22nd annual fair of the Minnesota State Agricultural Society, to be held at Rochester, Aug. 30th and 31st, Sept. 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, and we assure our readers that it will pay them to send their names and addresses to the Secretary, Mr. R. C. Judson, at the Cook House, Rochester, Minn., for a copy of the list. The farmers of Minnesota cannot take too deep an interest in the success of these annual State fairs. They are the great agency by which, year by year, the cream of our agricultural and industrial products are collected and systematically arranged for exhibition before the world; they hold up to the astonished gaze of the masses, the mirror of the past year's labor; that for themselves they may see what the great State of Minnesota is accomplishing. We especially urge upon our readers the necessity of doing all in their power to aid and encourage the fair at Rochester, because it is a State institution which has already extended the helping hand to many County Agricultural Societies throughout the State, which this fall, with the impetus of a golden harvest, are springing into new life, and many of them holding fairs which would have died long ago but for the State Board of Agriculture.

Therefore, we submit, that it is the duty of every County Agricultural Society, in the State, to take an active interest in the State Fair. Not an interest which dies upon the utterance of a few words of endorsement, but an interest which will send representatives to the fair, with a full compliment of samples; an interest which will do for as it has been done for by the State Agricultural Society. However attractive other fairs (whether gotten up by private individuals, cities or counties) may be rendered by the introduction of amusements, foreign to agricultural principles, to draw the "crowds," the agricultural man, for whom the State fair is yearly held, and which is this year to come off at Rochester, should not forget the claims of the State Society upon their attention first. It is for them and for their profit it is held, and it is for them to see that it is made successful in the highest degree. After this duty is done, if time and money is available, it would undoubtedly be a pleasant recreation to "take in" some of the other fairs.

We do not wish to be construed as disparaging any other fair of any description, but wish it distinctly understood that we do consider the labor the State Agricultural Society has done for the agricultural interest of the State at large, and the duty of those who have been benefited by it. Other fairs may claim attention upon its merits. This one has other claims and is not a whit behind any in point of merit, viewed from any agricultural stand-point, and we apprehend, it has no duties beyond this.

**FRIEND FARMER:**—Suppose you give us a few items in which we, as taxpayers, are supposed to take an interest. For instance, can you furnish us the contrasted appropriations for road and bridge purposes in Wadena county for the last year, taking the sections east and west as divided into census districts. I believe they were

nearly equal in population, and I think the west has its share of taxes and poor roads to fix. Don't forget the Shell River road survey, or the Cook damage award.

Wont some of our legal lights give us a few brief articles on financial matters? How affected by county, township and school district tax levys? How much property (estimated) is required to run a school district and pay bills? How much do our ordinary officials know, or care, for the *modus operandi* of the municipal machine? Spin us a yarn Luce or Couillard, in plain language, a digest in common language of the laws, that is, if you are not apprehensive that, like Othello, "your occupation, &c." Seriously, Mr. FARMER, it would be better for the masses if we knew more about this. We cannot raise too much for roads and schools, if expended to count, and we cannot be stingy enough with the fancy expenses. AGRICOLA.

Owing to a pressure of other business, we have not had time to answer the questions of Agricola, which, however, is contained in the proceedings of the board of commissioners which have been regularly published in the FARMER for the past year. We should be pleased to hear from some one who is posted, however.

Early plowing is better than a coat of manure. We notice that Mr. S. Gardner has already started the plow in his stubble.

## Dairy.

### Excess of Albuminoids in Milk.

Occasionally the dairyman finds that the milk of apparently healthy cows is in an unusual condition, presenting different appearances, beingropy among others, and is at a loss to know the cause. Such a case was presented to our notice last week by the President of the Cook County Farmers' Alliance. His cows were in apparent health, had proper care, good pasture, good water and everything else that appeared to an experienced dairyman to be necessary. Yet the milk was thick—ropy. Tried boiling it and that only made it worse.

The healthy milk from the cow is composed of the following elements in the proportions named: Albuminoids, 4.48; butter, 3.13; milk sugar, 4.77; saline matter, 0.66; water, 87.05. Casein (albuminoids) is, as every one will understand, the cheese element in the milk. Albumen, however, which makes about one-fifth of the flesh forming material in cow's milk, is not coagulable with rennet. If the milk holding albumen, however, is acid, it will coagulate upon heating. The maintenance of the due proportion of the casein and albumen depends upon the health of the animal and the food given. When the animal is diseased, however slightly, the albumen in the milk is increased and the casein diminished. In febrile diseases the albuminoids are increased and the sugar and fat decreased, and generally, but not always, it is the albumen and not the casein that increases under such circumstances. Indeed, it is not necessary in order that albumen may be increased beyond its proportion that absolute disease should exist. Any temporary disturbance of the system, such as transitory pain, worrying, fright, anxiety, etc., will cause it.

We remember of one instance that is spoken of where the cows had abundant food, and that which was the best, but because of being exposed to the hot sun in a pasture which was without shade, and to drink from a mudhole, the butter in the milk was decreased to about 2.50, and the sugar to less than 2.00, while the albuminoids were increased to between 6.00

and 7.00. Fever and debility existed in the herd of cows—the result of exposure and bad water—but the owner had never observed that anything was the matter with the animals.

Now it would be impossible to say what the difficulty is with the cows of the gentleman named. He is a careful dairyman, and his cows, he supposes, have everything they need. Yet nothing is plainer than that the systems of these cows are not in normal condition. They do not show it, but that argues nothing. A human being is often very much out of health and yet gives no indication of the fact. Really hardly able to be about, he attends to business, does not look badly, has a good, or fair appetite, and sleeps well. Yet he is "all out of fix." So it is with animals. From general appearances they often seem to be in perfect health, while in truth they are very much out of health. This herd of cows gives evidence, through the milk, of a disturbance of the functions of the system, and now the question is not so much what the nature of the disease is, as it is what is there that would be likely to cause disease, or conditions that would be likely to produce the results named. The entire herd being affected, there must be some common cause, and the only way to remedy the trouble is to remove the cause.

But how are we to find the cause? That the owner should thoroughly investigate all surrounding circumstances, examine the water which the animals drink, etc., is reasonable advice, and proper enough for him to do; and still, although the cause may be plain enough to many an eye, it may be utterly hidden from the eye of the owner. We usually become so accustomed to our surroundings that it is next to impossible to discern any defects. A cobweb will become so familiar that we could not see it if we were to look for it. The dingiest room will become the most pleasant sort of a room to us after we have occupied it a while. We think it a good plan in cases like this, and when the owner finds it impossible to detect the cause of the trouble, to call in a neighbor and invite him to look the situation over. This generally results in having a cause pointed out, for men are never so happy as when finding defects in other men's systems, and, perhaps, the right or real cause will be hit upon. At all events it will do no harm.—*Western Rural.*

## Neighborhood News.

### INMAN.

Well, our harvest is now nearly over and we have had as fine weather for harvesting as one could wish for, and oh! such a harvest! If farmers are not satisfied with the crop this year, and the beautiful weather that the Lord sent to gather it in, they must, indeed, be hard to please. Wheat is as fine as any I have ever seen, the berry being large and plump. Oats are somewhat injured by the rust, but will yield a fair crop. Corn is looking fine.

We have needed some rain for the potatoes, for sometime past, and yesterday (Sunday) it began to rain and has rained quite steadily since, which will do a great deal of good.

Our summer term of school closed last Friday.

Mrs. Elder Inman is quite sick, but we hope not seriously.

We have had two new arrivals in town lately, one, a boy, at Mr. H. C. Gould's, and the other, a girl, at Mr. J. M. Hugh's. Other immigration seems to have closed since harvest commenced.

Your correspondent has been quite sick for two weeks past, and has not been able to write, much less to hunt up items, but we are getting better now and shall try to be a little more on time hereafter. DENG0,

### COMPTON.

Harvesting is about done and stacking well under way. The rain has interfered somewhat with it, but it has done our gardens so much good that we wont complain.

Our farmers, taking warning from last years experience, secured considerable hay before harvest. The marshes are in excellent condition, and the grass heavy.

A broad ax in the hands of Geo. McNamar flew from the handle and struck Dan Owens in the breast, inflicting a wound two inches in length. A narrow escape.

Niss Ida Blair has finished a successful term of school in Deer Creek, and has commenced a term at Aldrich. Miss Blair is highly spoken of as a teacher.

As Mr. Blair and daughter were returning from Bluffton one evening last week, on horse back, they were startled by a deep growl close to the road, and a large bear rose up with the intention of interviewing the travelers, perhaps, but they declined to be interviewed and they rode on unmolested.

Fred Purget is, presumably the happiest man in Compton, for besides owning the best field of corn in the township, he has a beautiful young daughter, who arrived on the 10 inst.

The Sunday schools are prospering finely. The one on section 8, Oak Valley is being greatly benefited musically by the training they receive every Sunday, from F. C. Darling, an old teacher of the art. A delegation from different schools will meet next Saturday to prepare the grounds for the celebration. MUGGINS.

### LEAF RIVER.

Our farmers are making good use of the fine weather in the hay meadows. Never has there been as much good hay made in the town, as this year.

The dry weather is cutting the potato crop short. Corn and vegetables will not be as good as expected, although there will be a fair crop.

Messrs McPraud and Evens, landed among us from Indiana last week, and are going to settle on section 30, town 136, range 35. They are both thorough young men, and are of some means and just the kind of settlers that any neighborhood can be proud of.

On last Saturday evening, the neighbors, some thirty in number, called at the house of Mr. Williams, then all repaired to the residence of Mr. McPraud for a surprise party. Mr. Mc took in the situation at once, and after making a short speech of welcome, the ladies brought in their baskets which was well filled with pies, cakes, roast chicken and other good things, which your correspondent could have described better when at the table than at this writing, and loaded down the tables till they fairly groaned with their load. After supper something less than twelve basketsful was gathered up. After the tables were cleared away, all joined in songs, toasts and speeches, until some one suggested the idea of adjournment, which, after a long time was agreed to. Mr. Evans says, if this is the kind of folks we have in Minnesota, he will freeze and starve in Wadena county one winter, or die in the attempt.

The chat is, that Leaf River is to have a postoffice, M. S. Morical, P. M. "Just let it come."

In 1878, Leaf River township had \$9,000 worth of personal and real property. In 1879 it had \$21,000. Now the present assessment shows \$32,000. O. K.

### WRIGHTSTOWN.

Owing to the busy season incident to harvesting, and the lack of time to gather locals, which, by the way, are very scarce, is the reason why I have remained "Invisible," but that now harvest is over, and we have just harvested the best crop of wheat this

country has ever been blessed with, we will try to do better in the future.

For the past few weeks the weather has been all that could be desired by the farmers, and it has been improved by them, as the large and well secured hay and wheat stacks that everywhere greets the eye, will show.

Corn and potatoes have been suffering somewhat for the want of rain, but the refreshing rain of Sunday and Monday makes them look up again.

Steve Gilmore has his feed mill in running order and is doing a good business. He will start up the saw mill in a few days, not having a sufficient supply of water to run both mills yet.

Rollin Dutcher has sold his farm to Mr. Newton, of Redwood county, and has moved to Verndale.

Mrs. Cornell has returned from Redwood county, where she has been visiting friends for the past few months.

Marvin Dockstoder has threshed his fine piece of barley, yielding 60 bushels per acre, instead of 50 as heretofore stated. Doc is a boss farmer as well as a thresher.

Dell Wright says that Cash Emerson is the best fellow he ever worked for. He furnishes a carpet for his harvest hands to walk on in the field.

Mr. Abbott estimates his wheat to yield 30 bushels to the acre, and Wesley Wright has a piece that is considered, by all that have seen it, will go 40 bushels to the acre.

Our school closed last Friday with appropriate exercises, such as select readings, declarations and a general review. A large number of visitors were in attendance. The teacher, Miss Delia Heywood, leaves here this week for Parkers Prairie, having taught us an excellent school, and won for herself a host of warm friends, all of whom will unite in saying she is a No. 1, teacher. May success attend her wherever she goes. By favor of Miss Heywood I send the following report of school district No. 68, viz:

Number of scholars enrolled.....57  
Average attendance.....35  
Number days attendance.....2462  
Number of visitors during term.....23

The following is a list of pupils whose scholarship, tested by final examination, exceeded 60 per cent.:

CLASS A.  
Nora Miller.....93 John Barber.....87  
CLASS B.  
Nancy Perkins.....97 Edith Wolcott.....85  
Perry Newell.....75 Eva Miller.....73  
Edith Wright.....70 Ethel Moore.....70  
Edna Lowe.....70 Willie Morehouse.....68

A list of 25 different words, selected at random, were given at the close of the examination, of which Nora Miller and Nancy Perkins spelled 100 per cent., and Edith Wolcott, Edna Lowe, John Barber, and Edith Wright, 96 per cent. Department of all members of both classes exceeded 90 per cent.

Mr. Perkin's gobler has finished his three weeks fast, *a la FARMER*, and brought forth four nice chickens. Beat that if you can.

W. M. Barber and brother have gone to Clay county to work in harvest, after which Will will teach a fall term of school there, commencing the first of September.

Many of the farmers here are preparing their samples of grain, etc., to exhibit at the coming County Fair. A move in the right direction, for it is that class of people that makes a County fair a success.

Thomas Goodale will start up his threshing machine this week, and then you may look for good crop reports.

E. M. Britts, Esq., proprietor of the Verndale grist mill, was in town one day last week, visiting old time friends. Ed. is a thoroughgoing business man, and Verndale may be proud of such an acquisition to her little burg. INVISIBLE.

Wheat in the southern part of the State will yield from 12 to 15 bushels per acre.

The *Pioneer Press* estimates the wheat crop of Minnesota, for 1880, at 45,000,000 bushels.

The newspapers in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa, are urging upon the farmers, to raise less wheat, and go more into stock raising.