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Agricultural Matters.

MANURING CHEAPLY.

The secret of good farming consists in securing plenty of manure. In these days of close competition and narrow profits in the sale of all farm products, it is also needful to good farming to fertilize as cheaply as possible. For many years prices of farm products have been lowered, because they were so largely grown on virgin soil, where fertility cost little or nothing. That day has practically ended. Hereafter the farmer who can make or buy fertilizers most cheaply must have the long end of the lever, and in the end win success. It is to get the manure most cheaply, or to make it most effective, that the efforts of the best farmers are now directed. It is found practically that as much depends on making fertilizers effective for crops as to get them into the soil. Improved implements for cultivating the soil are therefore as much needed for the best farming as is manure. It does no good to manure heavily, and give the benefit to weeds. Neither does it pay to fight weeds by expensive hand hoeing, when horse and cultivator with improved implements will do the work cheaper and better.

The low prices of meat and also of dairy products the last few years have led many to question whether stable and barnyard manures have not become too expensive for general use, and to ask how far such manures may not be profitably supplemented by commercial fertilizers mainly composed of phosphate and potash. These minerals are necessary constituents of all plants, and the phosphate is especially important in making crops of grain and cotton, the staples most generally sold from the farm. It is probably true for a large majority of farmers that their barnyard manure in proportion to its effectiveness costs more than the fertilizers that they buy. Probably two-thirds of the milk, butter and cheese that is sold does not pay for the labor and the feed that the animals consume in producing it. What the salable product thus fails to furnish must be charged against the manure pile. If this account were accurately made up, as it should be, on every farm, owners of this poor stock would see more accurately what it is costing them. It is better to have but a single cow that will something more than pay her way by her milk or butter product, than to own a large herd costing perhaps as much money, that after their dairy products are paid leave a mortgage on the manure pile they have made.

A large share of the expense of barnyard manure lies in getting it on the land and mixing it with the soil. Have farmers fully realized the necessity of making the manure pile as rich as they can, in order to lessen the cost of getting it to the fields? If the strength of the manure is doubled, only half as many loads will be needed, and the same or perhaps a better result is obtained than from the larger amount of poor manure. We have learned much by the use of commercial fertilizers as to the effectiveness of concentrated fertility. Bulk of manure does not count as it once did. But to have rich manure piles requires high feeding, and this to be profitable requires good stock. We are apparently entering on an era when grain of all kinds will not be as cheap as it has been the past few years. Yet it will be none the less necessary for making rich manure piles, and unless stock is kept good enough to warrant this high feeding the manure pile will cost more than it should.

The proper application of manure to produce the best results is as important as making it cheaply. Farmers too generally use it for crops easily grown

nurserymen and market gardeners find no difficulty in affording much higher prices for manure than can farmers who only use it to grow wheat, corn or oats. Such staples as these always have been and always will be sold at prices that give the least possible reward for labor. What farmers in every locality want to do is to learn how to grow something suited to their land, yet which demands so much labor that it cannot be grown by everybody. By putting more labor on land more manure can be afforded, and even though the manure be expensive, its cost will become less important than it is where the cost of the manure is the main thing to be considered.—*Country Gentleman.*

Rye for Pasture.

Rye is one of our most generous plants, adapting itself to all climates, soils and conditions, says Thomas D. Baird, in *National Stockman and Farmer*. It grows at a comparatively low temperature, so the growth continues late in the season and commences unusually early in the spring. Its greatest value lies in the large amount of pasture it affords at a season when other kinds of pasture are of no value. Rye pasture for fall, winter and spring use is much cheaper and easier to be had than almost any other kind of green food. When sown early and on good land I have known it to afford sufficient feed all winter to keep sheep in good condition. The rye crop perhaps is short, and seed will be high; but it is likely that feed of all kinds will be up in accordance, which makes it that much more needful to sow a field of rye to help out. Now that the future prospect for feed is unpromising the farmer will have to either sell his stock, perhaps at a considerable sacrifice, or hold over the winter on higher-priced feed, and in this case a good field of rye will be found an auxiliary.

The time of sowing rye depends somewhat upon the quality of the soil. Thin soils require earlier seeding than the rich ones. The crop may be sown on good land in September and on rich land any time during the month of October. I have known farmers to sow rye in their corn fields at the last plowing, claiming that to sow at this time has several advantages, as it gives the grain an early start and a moist, sheltered position at a time when drought and a hot sun would check and prevent vegetation. When sown in this way the corn should be, as soon as sufficiently matured, cut and placed in compact shocks, and as soon as cured removed from the field, and the rye pastured as early as possible to prevent its becoming jointed, so that the crop will not fall down and become sour at the joints. However, it is too late to sow in this way now. Although rye is not as exacting as other crops, and will do fairly well on poor land and under sorry conditions, yet it is not a point of good management to sow it in such a way. Sow on good, well-prepared land and it will respond as liberally as wheat or any other grain.

The practice of sowing rye for pasture has not reached the attention from the mass of farmers it deserves, and now that crops are being cut short and fall pastures are drying up in many sections, it seems that it deserves more attention than ever. Wherever farmers have tried rye for pasture they are highly pleased with it and cannot speak too much in its praise. Now the complaint is from many farmers that their cows are failing in milk. Rye makes a good pasture for milk cows, and when pastured upon it late in the season, both the quantity and the quality of the milk will be improved. It is also said that rye pasture is particularly valuable where stock is being fattened on corn. After pasturing rye until May 1, it should be allowed to head out and hogs

eaten all the grain. This followed by feeding a short time upon green corn on the stalk and then upon that which is matured puts them in prime condition for market.

I know that there are objections made to rye as a pasture—that it is injurious to stock, etc. I have pastured it and have seen no bad effects from it. One of my neighbors who sows more rye than any other in the vicinity says it is such a valuable pasture that he could not get along without it, and he has seen no bad effects on his stock from pasturing it. The difficulty is due more to improper management than to any injurious substance contained in the crop. When stock have been deprived of roots or any green food and confined to a dry diet they are liable to eat too much of the green rye when turned upon it. By allowing the stock but short periods upon the rye field in the beginning and gradually extending the time daily but little injury will be done; but if the stock receive no care and the rye field is given up to it the result will be diarrhea and debility.

Rye not only makes a good pasture, but it is the clover of poor, sandy soils. It thrives and flourishes where other grain crops would perish, but does best on good land or such as has been fertilized. If sown in the fall and plowed under in the spring and a slight application of lime given the soil it will furnish material for the formation of humus and will largely increase the yield of corn which may follow it; but if the soil is poor, it is best to follow it with buckwheat, which may in turn be plowed under. Rye may then be sowed again, and if it be plowed under in the spring the land will gradually increase in fertility.

About the Barn.

The barn and stable are probably as apt to be neglected as any other part of the farm. Many little things are let go even when noticed because they are generally observed either at night when it is inconvenient or impossible to attend to them, or in the morning when the time must be given to the regular work. A day (not necessarily a rainy one) might profitably be spent in making repairs and correcting little inconveniences and deficiencies of the average barn, and several days if the barnyard, manure heap and surroundings enter into the contract.

Damage by rains or snows is an unnecessary thing in every case, and steps should be taken in time to avoid it. A few nails and a little timber and work will stop any leak that might otherwise ruin a part of the grain or hay stored away. The doors and windows are rarely all in good shape, either a hinge being broken, a latch off or something needing attention. A little work now will prevent their aggravating flapping and "stubbornness" in winter gales, to say nothing of the increased comfort given the stock. The feeding troughs, mangers, etc., may also be looked after with profit. The "cutting room" or "feed room" may be cleaned and rearranged to suit the special requirements of the winter. It is hardly ever the case that the stock kept one winter is the same in number and kind as the winter before, and knowing what is to be kept this year we can make the necessary preparation or changes now. We can also stop any "cold" cracks in floor or wall, if we haven't already taken that standard piece of advice.

But it is of no use to multiply items of this kind. The thing most needed is for the proprietor to take a little time to study and arrange for his own convenience and his stock's comfort, and while the points mentioned may require his attention no doubt many of greater moment will suggest themselves. The object of this note is not to point out the things to be done so much as to call attention to the fact that in nine barns

Now let us not all think we have the exceptional barn until we investigate a little.—*Exchange.*

The World's Wheat Crops.

The London *Financial Times* says the estimate published at the Vienna international grain market of the condition of the grain crops in August is the basis upon which to estimate the wheat yield and requirements of the world. The crop of Europe is estimated to be 80,000,000 bushels over the crop of 1889. To this may be added 5,000,000 bushels, to cover any possible increased production in Canada, Australasia and the Plate, making a total of 85,000,000 bushels more wheat harvested in 1890 than in 1889 outside the United States and India. In these two countries the crop is at least 95,000,000 bushels less than last year, so that the wheat crop of the world is this year 10,000,000 bushels below the production of 1889. In 1889 the production was not equal to the demand, and reserves throughout the world were seriously reduced. In estimating the probable requirements for the coming year, the yield of other food crops must be considered. The most important change for the better has been in the European rye crop, which has been a good average one. On the other hand, potatoes are diseased wherever extensively grown, and in many places a total failure. The American corn crop, which is largely exported in grain, and indirectly in the shape of meat, is 500,000,000 to 600,000,000 bushels under last year, and the enormous difference between the exports of this cereal after a good crop and after a poor one may be seen by comparing the exports for the years ending June 30, 1888, and June 30, 1889. In the former year the exports were 24,500,000 bushels, while in the latter considerably over 100,000,000 bushels. In view of these estimates, it seems that the demand for wheat will exceed the supply, and that there will be a further diminution in the wheat reserves of the world.

Supplementing Pastures.

There are many difficulties to contend with when a farmer undertakes to soil stock, and the practice is impracticable for many, but a system of partial soiling can be satisfactorily managed, says B. Walker McKeen, in *New York Tribune*. For some years this has been my plan, in a dairy of seven to ten cows, and although I am situated at a disadvantage, having to draw the green food some distance, it has produced good results. Pastures carry more stock through the first few months of the growing season than can be kept on them later, except by supplying what they lack in late summer and early autumn. The principal crops grown by me for this purpose are oats and peas sown together (at the rate of five bushels of oats and one and one-half bushels of peas per acre), Hungarian, clover and corn. By sowing at intervals the crops mature at the right time to be fed in best condition, there is no waste, and the supply of green food is constant, making the milk product of uniform quality and keeping the quantity up to the highest point.

I consider the oats and peas, cut just when the pods are filling and the oats approaching the condition known as "in the milk," a very valuable fodder; the peas especially are sought by the cows and greedily eaten; as they are a rich food the grain ration may be decreased without loss of milk or shrinkage of flesh in cows. Clover and Hungarian are good, and corn stands at the head in value; the latter may not be a richer food than many others, but cows will eat it longer without becoming sick of it than any other green food I ever fed. Whatever waste there may be in the cows' cribs, if removed at once will be eaten readily by the pigs. My horses have done quite a heavy season's work, fed wholly on the green oats since they were fit to eat; have cut in good condition and at small expense. If farmers generally would look more closely into their home resources, sowing more of some crops to be fed green, many heavy grain bills might be saved.

The Stock Interest.

FEEDING SHEEP IN WINTER.

In western New York, Ohio and other sections there are those who make it a point to fatten sheep in winter for the early spring market. The animals most sought for this purpose are two or three-year-old wethers, and the stock yards are the usual places where they are purchased. They are procured about November, fed till April, and then are shorn and sold or shipped to a distant market. An old feeder in New York State has managed in this way for thirty years, and has made something out of it every year except two, and in these he thinks the manure of the animals nearly evened him up. Thus, as it may be seen, when well conducted, it is a safe business. Western feeders generally rely upon receiving a dollar a head net for their services in feeding in this manner, but are quite well satisfied if they make a less profit.

Now let us examine this system of feeding and see if it cannot be improved upon. Mature sheep of 90 to 100 pounds weight and fair condition, cannot be made to take on over fifteen pounds of gross weight on an average, feed as long as one chooses. Then this is all the gain in weight that can be relied upon, and this gain, if the animals are sold at 5 cents, is but 75 cents a head for feeding five months, a sum which would not pay for more than half the feed consumed. So far as we have got now, the sheep is in debt; but this could be counterbalanced by feeding half the time, for a mature sheep can be made to take on all the flesh it is capable of in seventy-five days; hence there is a great waste, because the animals have been grained twice as long as necessary. If wethers can be bought in the middle of January, at about the price they can be in November, (and they always can be for a little advance), it is manifestly wisdom to defer the purchase until that time. It is as unreasonable to feed sheep five months to fatten them as it is to feed chickens five weeks. Where sheep-feeders get their gain is in the growth of wool while feeding, and the price per pound more than they usually obtain for the animals than they paid, the spring market for mutton almost always being higher than that for either fall or winter.

Sheep take on flesh rapidly and make a larger return for the food consumed than any other ruminating stock. Clad with warm fleeces of wool, very little of their food is used to keep them warm. Young animals of all kinds increase in flesh faster than older ones; that is, a certain amount of food given to a young animal will create more gain in it than the same amount fed to an older one. Experiments show that sheep of the age of seven to ten months for each 100 pounds of digestible material consumed, make a gain of 14 pounds in live weight; while those from ten to thirteen months gain 12½ pounds; those from thirteen to eighteen months of age gain 10½ pounds, and those from eighteen to twenty-two months, 5-10 pounds. It seems to be the rule, to a certain extent at least, that the older the sheep the less they will gain on the same amount of food; therefore, it must be far more profitable to feed young sheep than older ones, notwithstanding it is customary with feeders to select those of two or three years of age. The custom probably originated from the fact that cattle of those ages are usually selected for feeders, and without any definite knowledge as to the most profitable age to feed sheep. Were I to feed sheep, I would select spring lambs in the fall, feed them on clover hay and corn fodder liberally, add grain lightly at first and gradually increase it all they would bear, and by spring should expect to make a sixty-pound lamb weigh 100 or 120 pounds, provided

it was in the breed to do it. Here would be an enormous gain in weight of carcass, compared with the gain made by mature sheep. There is some sense in feeding lambs five months. Lambs are always the most salable, at from 1 to 2 cents a pound more than mature sheep. I regard it an easy matter to make 50 per cent. on the investment in feeding lambs in winter for the spring market. They should have no timothy hay, but straw to pick over is admissible.

I would not purchase lambs or any store sheep at stock yards. The danger of infection by scab is too great. The best way to secure a bunch of sheep, is to drive through one's own section, picking up a few here and a few there, where it is known no infectious disease prevails, endeavoring to get as even a lot as possible. Seeing a lot of 150 bought at the Cincinnati stock yards once, and all of them having to be dipped in mid-winter to cure the scab, effectually cured me of any inclination that way. — *Galen Wilson, in Practical Farmer.*

What is a Trotter?

For the past two years there have been many opinions advanced as to how to breed a trotter that will be able to go the 2:08½ or the two-minute lick, and the relative merits of the one developed and sires and dams. As to the latter question we have about a hundred and fifty years of test, from old Eclipse down to the present day, and all the evidence goes to show that the performing sires have been the best, and the progeny of the great ones have survived, while the same test for the mares does not hold good, and about as many good race horses have come from mares of inferior racing quality as from the very best. But unfortunately the foremost question among those interested in the breeding of the trotter—how to breed in order to obtain the greatest speed at the trot—has not been solved, and the question is still open for experiment.

From my way of looking at it, I think that the great mistake with some writers has been, they imagine that a horse can be bred so that without ever being broken, it will trot naturally in the field or on the road with a tin can tied to its tail, a mile in two minutes. It will never be done. No, not even in three minutes. The trot is a natural gait with all horses except those that pace, and none have ever been known to go a 2:10 gait without being trained. This fast speed at the trot is an educated gait. The horse is forced to do it and you can no more breed a race of horses that will trot naturally and without man's aid in 2:10 than you can breed a race of circus horses that will perform balancing and rope-walking in the field by themselves. There are certain things that you cannot breed into either man or beast. I doubt if there ever will be a race of people whose young will come into the world reading the morning papers and the announcement of its own birth.

Instincts are those functions that man, as well as the horse, are born with, and they can never be taught to them. But experience teaches everything, even to the smallest of insects, and if left alone, the horse would find out that the run was the easiest and fastest mode of locomotion. I do not believe that there are many, however, who are so hard set in their ways believe that if a horse at some future time can be so bred that if a tin can were tied to his tail, before he was ever handled by man, that he would try to get away from that can in a trot. No instinct will ever tell the horse to do that, but experience will tell him to go it on the jump. Therefore all horses will naturally run when pressed, and man, in order to get one to trot at a great speed has to control him by bit

In other words, it is an educated gait, just as the waltz is to man, and the idea that a horse has an instinct or even a desire to trot a mile in 2:30 or better is an idiotic one.

Some of the advocates of no more blood in the trotter have asked this question: Do men breed pointers by bull-dogs to get pointers? I say certainly not. But if I knew that the three greatest bird-dogs in the country were out of half-blood bull-bitches and the greatest field dog alive was a half-blood bull himself, as is the case with Maud S., Jay-Eye-See, Sunol and Palo Alto, I should certainly advise my readers, and especially my friends, to keep up the experiment, and as there are several distinct breeds of bird-dogs, why should there not be another breed of horses that can be taught to trot? So far the breeding of the trotter is in a chaotic state, and I would therefore prefer to follow that line of breeding that has produced the three greatest if we wish to produce a distinct breed of fast trotters.

But this I am satisfied can never be done, and the whole matter in my opinion lies in the adaptability to receive the training that is required before they can go a mile at the trot in 2:10, "an unnatural speed at a natural gait," and that adaptability has not been found in a single instance out of 10,000 trotters that have trotting pedigrees on both sides as far as two crosses, but this time has only been attained by horses in the second cross from the thoroughbred dam. Now if the slow horses are produced by breeding pointer to pointer and the fastest are produced by breeding pointer to bull-dog, I say let us keep up the bull-dog experiment until some long-pedigreed trotter beats the record, but until then I will advise my friends to always hold to their one cross of the thoroughbred if they wish great trotters. — *St. George, in Field and Farm.*

Fast-Walking Horses.

Select those that are naturally active. There are horses and horses, as well as quick and slow men. But horses can be trained to a more than ordinary fast walk. One good way is to be quick and wide-awake yourself, says an interesting correspondent to the *Ohio Farmer*. The horse (and hired man) soon becomes considerably like his master. Work horses I think can be trained to walk faster if they are never driven off from a walk during the working season. Many a time when coming back from market farmers have overtaken me and gone by, slap-bang, only to be overtaken themselves by my fast-walking team before they reached the top of the next hill. When they stopped trotting their horses slacked up to about half the rate of speed that mine kept steadily. I have always thought that I get around just as quickly, in the long run, and with a saving of horseflesh and wagons, by not trotting a step when doing heavy teaming, that is where the horses are trained to walk fast and know that is the only gait that will be required of them. It is called twelve miles from my house to Akron. The last three teams I have had would walk it in three hours and ten minutes, coming home. Going required thirty to sixty minutes more on account of steep hills. This when they went over the same road nearly every day in the month.

At home on the farm we never work the horses more than eight to ten hours a day, and for this length of time they will keep pretty well up towards the four-mile an hour gait when drawing many of our tools. I saw men just moving last summer behind a slow, moping horse, cultivating corn or potatoes. My man, behind a free-walking horse, easily cultivated seven acres of our narrow rows one way in a day of about nine hours. The other man will

you choose? The fast walking would throw dirt over the little plants, you say. No, we have on purpose teeth so narrow that they cannot throw dirt, so as to accomplish twice as much in a day. Another good plan after you get your horses trained to walk fast is to never hold them in, on cultivator or plow—or any other tool unless it be necessary—let them work at a natural gait. How it provokes me to see a man make a free-walking horse drag him along by the reins! I do not allow my horses discouraged. When plowing or cultivating, after we get started we always hang the reins loosely on the handles of plow or cultivator.

"O to be dead and done with the trouble That fills each day with a dreary pain." This is the moan of many a woman Who thinks she can never be well again, "It were better for me and better for others If I were dead," and their tears fall fast. Not so, not so, O wives and mothers, There's a bow of hope in the sky at last,

and to tell you that the storm of disease which has spread its shadow over you will give way to the sunshine of renewed health, if you are wise, and try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It can and will effectually cure all female weakness and derangements, and no woman who has not tried it need despair, for a trial will convince her that it is the very thing she needs to restore her to the health she fears forever lost.

To cleanse the stomach, liver, and system generally, use Dr. Pierce's Pellets. 25 cents.

This year you want to make every pound of corn fed stick to the ribs. Remember Crummer's Hog Sanitarium is warranted to save 20 per cent. of the feed. Any farmer can build it.

Farm Loans.

Loans on farms in eastern Kansas, at moderate rate of interest, and no commission. Where title is perfect and security satisfactory no person has ever had to wait a day for money. Special low rates on large loans. Purchase money mortgages bought. T. E. BOWMAN & CO., Jones Building, 116 West Sixth street, Topeka, Kas.

Hints on Dairying.

"Hints on Dairying," by T. D. Curtis, the veteran authority on dairy matters; regular price 50 cents. The book contains over 110 pages and is nicely bound. It treats fully of the history of dairying, necessary conditions, dairy stock, breeding dairy stock, feeding stock, handling milk, butter-making, cheese-making, acid in cheese-making, rennet, curing rooms, whey, etc. We have on hand a limited number of these valuable books which we will close out at half price—25 cents, or we will send the book free for one new yearly subscriber and \$1. Order early if you wish to secure this rare bargain. Address KANSAS FARMER CO., Topeka, Kas.

The Recent Rate War

Advertised the Burlington Route probably more than anything else could have done. Her old established line, such as her line to Chicago, hardly needed this advertising, as it established years ago, way back in the old era "before the war," and has acquired a reputation for speed, safety and comfort entirely unrivalled. But her comparatively new St. Louis line was advertised as it only could be advertised by the crowds who were induced to travel on account of the reduction in rates. This St. Louis line is a recent departure of the Burlington. About a year ago through train service was first inaugurated between Denver and St. Louis via St. Joseph and Kansas City. This magnificent train of Sleepers and Free Chair Cars, leaving Kansas City and St. Joseph after supper, places the passenger in St. Louis in time for breakfast the next morning.

The cut rates also increased the bulk of the St. Paul travel, but here, as with the Chicago line, the added advertisement was unnecessary, for in this business the Burlington is not much troubled by competitors. One or two lines systematically advertise St. Paul and Minneapolis business, and then go tacking across States like a ship against a head-wind, or sending a spur from a Chicago line, call it a through St. Paul Route.

The Burlington's through trains from Kansas City, Atchison and St. Joseph includes the following:

First in the list stands the "El," the famous Chicago flyer, leaving Kansas City, St. Joseph and Atchison in the early evening. It makes the run to Chicago in a little over twelve hours. This train has Dining Cars enroute.

St. Louis is reached by the evening train, of which we have already spoken. Omaha and Council Bluffs are put into rapid communication with the lower Missouri river points by two superb trains daily, one leaving Kansas City in the late morning and the other in the evening, make the run from Kansas City to Omaha in about eight hours; the morning train carries through cars to Minneapolis and St. Paul, placing passengers in these cities within twenty hours of the time they left Kansas City.

It should be borne in mind that all these trains carry Palace Sleepers and Free Reclining Chair Cars. Many of them are vestibuled and where it adds to the convenience of passengers, have splendid Dining Car service. For further information, call on or address H. C. ORR, G. S. W. P. A., 900 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. or A. C. DAWES, G. S. W. P. A.,

Affiance Department.

NATIONAL DIRECTORY.

FARMERS ALLIANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

President.....L. L. Polk, Washington, D. C.
Vice President.....B. H. Clover, Cambridge, Kas.
Secretary.....J. H. Turner, Washington, D. C.
Lecturer.....Ben Terrell, Washington, D. C.
FARMERS' MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION.
President.....H. H. Moore, Mt. Erie, Wayne Co., Ill.
Secretary, John P. Stelle, Mt. Vernon or Dahlgren, Ill.
NATIONAL GRANGE.
Master.....J. H. Brigham, Delta, Ohio.
Lecturer.....Mortimer Whitehead, Middlebush, N. J.
Secretary.....John Trimble, Washington, D. C.

KANSAS DIRECTORY.

FARMERS' AND LABORERS' ALLIANCE OF KANSAS.

President.....B. H. Clover, Cambridge, Kas.
Vice President.....W. H. Biddle, Augusta, Kas.
Secretary.....J. B. French, Hutchinson, Kas.
Treasurer.....B. H. Baughman, Burrton, Kas.
Lecturer.....A. E. Dickinson, Meriden, Kas.
KANSAS ALLIANCE EXCHANGE COMPANY.
G. H. Benson, President.....Haven, Reno Co.
J. E. P. House, Vice Pres't.....Cloverdale, Oh'wa Co.
H. W. Sandusky, Secretary.....Topeka, Shawnee Co.
L. F. King, Treasurer.....Topeka, Shawnee Co.
Edwin Snyder.....Oskaloosa, Jefferson Co.
Executive Committee—L. P. King, Tannehill, Cowley Co., A. W. Hayes, Topeka, Shawnee Co., F. L. Bailey, Calista, Kingman Co.
Judiciary Committee—A. W. Hayes, Topeka, H. W. Sandusky, Topeka, L. P. King, Topeka.
Business Agent—C. A. Tyler, Topeka.
Live Stock Commission Agent—Edwin Snyder, Stock Yards, Kansas City, Kas.
Grain Commission Merchants—R. E. Higgs & Co., Kansas City, Mo.

STATE ASSEMBLY F. M. B. A.

President.....G. W. Moore, Carlyle, Kas.
Secretary.....J. O. Stewart, Ottawa, Kas.
State Business Agent.....M. B. Wayde, LeRoy, Kas.

STATE GRANGE

Master.....William Sims, Topeka.
Lecturer.....J. G. Oda, Topeka.
Secretary.....George Black, Olathe.

CITIZENS' ALLIANCE OF KANSAS.

President.....D. C. Z. roher, Olathe, Kas.
Vice President.....Ira D. Kellogg, Columbus, Kas.
Secretary.....W. F. Rightmire, Cottonwood Falls, Kas.
Treasurer.....W. E. Porter, Oswego, Kas.
Lecturer.....B. H. Snyder, Kingman, Kas.
Executive Committee—First district, John Stoddard; Second district, R. B. Fov; Third district, G. Hill; Fourth district, C. W. March, Chairman, Topeka; Fifth district, A. Henquonnet; Sixth district, W. M. Taylor; Seventh district, Mrs. M. E. Lease.

Officers or members will favor us and our readers by forwarding reports of proceedings early, before they get old.

SPECIAL.

We want some members of every farmers' organization—Grange, Alliance or F. M. B. A.—to regularly represent the KANSAS FARMER and help extend its fast-growing circulation and usefulness. Please send name and address at once.

ANNUAL F. M. B. A. MEETING.

The Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association met at Iola, Kansas, October 21, with a large attendance and G. W. Moore in the chair. After divine worship, the following Committee on Credentials was appointed: W. B. Cusick, of Franklin; M. Francis, of Osage; C. Phillips, of Woodson; D. O. Markley, of Linn; D. D. Judy, of Anderson.

During the absence of the committee the delegates entered into a general discussion of the condition of the order in the State and throughout the country.

The committee made a partial report, which was adopted, and committee retained to consider the credentials of other delegates expected on the afternoon trains.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment. After divine service State secretary, Bro. J. W. Stewart, submitted his report for last year, and the report of the treasurer was also read. On motion of Bro. J. W. Meneley, both reports were adopted.

The Committee on Credentials finished its report, which was adopted.

On information that the Alliance had sent a committee of three to confer with a like committee of the F. M. B. A., as to uniting the orders, the Assembly appointed D. O. Markley, C. N. Rice and J. E. Parsons as the F. M. B. A. part of the joint committee.

It being found that many counties had not sent full delegations on account of the expense, on motion it was voted that where a delegation was not full, those present be allowed to cast the full vote.

A committee of three was appointed on order of business.

A committee of three on finance. Motion to appoint a committee of three on insurance was lost.

A motion to appoint a committee of one from each county as a standing committee on insurance was amended to have their first report made to this Assembly now in session, and after some discussion a motion prevailed to table all matters relative to insurance.

The report of Committee on Order of Business read and adopted.

Bro. A. J. Survey gave a report for the Standing Committee of last year on Co-

5 cents per member to Mrs. M. B. Wayde, of LeRoy, Kan., in recognition of the earnest work of her deceased husband for the upbuilding of our noble order.

On motion, it was voted that the county secretaries be requested to forward their quota to Mrs. Wayde, as soon as collected.

On motion, Bro. J. W. Meneley's name was placed in the minutes of last year as member of the Committee on Co-operation and the committee was discharged.

EVENING SESSION.

After divine service, the president appointed the standing committees for the ensuing year.

Five were appointed on resolutions—Geo. Schenck, of Coffey county; H. D. Marsh, of Linn; W. B. Cusick, of Franklin; Richard Taylor, of Wyandotte; Marian Francis, of Osage.

Three were appointed on transportation—Thos. Kirkham, of Coffey county; H. T. Smith and J. O. Stewart of Franklin.

Three on appeals and grievances—J. W. Meneley, of Neosho county; J. W. Arnett, of Allen; D. O. Markley, of Linn.

A motion to have one from each county on insurance was tabled.

On motion the report of the conference committee was adopted.

On motion of Bro. J. O. Stewart, it was voted that each county form its own insurance company and insure in its own borders only.

A motion prevailed to elect delegates to the General Assembly to be held in Springfield, Ill., the third Tuesday in November, 1890.

As it was found that the Kansas F. M. B. F. was entitled to twenty-four delegates, many urged that to save expense we should not elect full delegations.

On motion it was voted to elect eight delegates, empowering them to cast the full vote at the General Assembly if so permitted by the rules of that body.

The following gentlemen were selected: J. W. Meneley, W. S. Nicholson, Richard Taylor, J. W. Arnett, F. C. Whitman, Thos. Kirkham, H. T. Smith, E. O. Arbogast.

The Assembly then proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year.

Bro. D. O. Markley, of Mound City was chosen president.

Bro. W. C. Barrett, of Quenemo, was chosen vice-president.

Bro. J. O. Stewart, of Ottawa, was re-elected secretary.

Bro. G. W. Moore, of Carlisle, Allen county, was chosen treasurer.

Committee on finance—J. W. Meneley, of Neosho; F. Roth, of Ness; A. E. Stanley, of Franklin.

Motion prevailed that each delegate to the General Assembly select his own alternate from his own county, provided he is unable to go when the Assembly meets.

MORNING SESSION.

After divine service, minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Moved and seconded that the next State meeting be held at Ottawa, Kas. Carried.

Report of the Committee on Resolutions was read, and after some amendment was adopted by sections, as follows:

We hereby affirm our devotion to the principles of the St. Louis platform, as enunciated last December. We favor a constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people. Regarding State legislation we recommend the following:

1. Taxation of all notes and mortgages owned by residents of the State, the holder of the obligations to pay the tax, whether he be a resident or not.

2. Residents to be taxed on the excess of their property above their debts and legal exemptions thereon.

3. Exemption from taxation of \$200 on real estate occupied by the owner, as a home.

4. Prohibition of the alien ownership of land.

5. Prohibition of the "innocent purchaser" plea in courts of justice.

6. All officials to be paid salaries, and all fees to be accounted for.

7. An adjustment of the fees of State and county officials to the value of the service rendered.

8. State uniformity of text books in the common schools; text books to be furnished to patrons at lowest wholesale prices.

9. Railroad Commissioners to be elected by the people.

10. County Commissioners not to be limited to banks at county seats in selecting county depositories.

11. Punishment by fine or imprisonment or both for asking or collecting usurious interest.

Regarding the work of our order, we make the following recommendations:

In localities where our association wishes to enter into mercantile business, we would discourage what is known as the

ductive to the best interests of our order. And we would urge a thorough consideration of the plan of establishing co-operative stores. We would propose the following suggestions in this line: Study the co-operative plan thoroughly. Send competent men to visit such co-operative associations as are reasonably convenient, and especially such as are making a success. Procure copies of by-laws and all possible information as to manner of conducting business. Elect none but conservative, level-headed men as a board of directors. Select none but experienced men as managers of the business. Educate the members of the association to stand by their own store. Make no fight on other stores. Fix reasonable prices and stick to them. Do not fail to incorporate under our State laws.

Regarding insurance, we recommend as follows: Study thoroughly the plan of local farmers' mutual insurance companies. Confer with the State Superintendent of Insurance. Examine the insurance laws of our State carefully. Procure copies of by-laws of mutual companies already doing business. Comply with our State laws and incorporate under them. Accept such by-laws, rules and regulations as careful consideration and good business principles will dictate.

Geo. SCHENCK,
Richard TAYLOR,
M. S. FRANCIS,
W. B. CUSICK,
H. D. MARSH,
Committee on Resolutions.

To the officers and members of State Assembly, F. M. B. A., of the State of Kansas:

Your Committee on Finance would report and recommend that an assessment of 5 cents per capita be levied on the membership to defray the expenses of the State Assembly for the ensuing year. And we recommend further that the State Secretary notify the County Secretaries of the assessment and notify them to collect the same at once and remit to State Secretary. And we further recommend that the State Secretary be authorized to draw orders on the Treasurer for the amount necessarily expended by the delegates in attending the G. A. at Springfield, Ill., in favor of each delegate, and that the same be paid on presentation of the expense bill. Respectfully submitted.

J. W. MENELEY,
A. E. STALEY,
FRED ROTH,
Committee on Finance.

Committee of three on State Exchange, composed of A. J. Survey, J. W. Meneley and Harry Gillette, was appointed.

On motion, and after much discussion, Bro. Fred Roth, of Nonchalanti, Ness county, was added to the number of delegates to the General Assembly.

The Assembly then took up considerable time with detail work pertaining to the good of the order.

After voting a compensation to the State Secretary, for his past year's labor, the Assembly received and discussed at length the report of the Committee on State Exchange; but a motion to adopt was lost.

Moved and seconded that the Secretary prepare such part of the minutes as will interest the public and have them published in all friendly papers.

Assembly adjourned to meet at Ottawa, Kas., the third Tuesday in October, 1891, at 2 p. m. D. O. MARKLEY, President.

J. O. STEWART, Secretary.

National F. A. & I. U.—Reduced Rates.

The National Farmers' Alliance, comprising all States in the Union, will hold its annual meeting at Ocala, Florida, on Tuesday, December 9, lasting several days. For this occasion I have secured reduced rates of one fare for the round trip, with a final limit of thirty days. Tickets must be used direct to destination without stop-over, but passengers will have fifteen days within which to return after ticket has been stamped to destination, providing it is within the final limit of thirty days. Such tickets will only be sold on November 10 and 24 and December 2. Parties from this section who expect to attend the meeting will kindly advise the undersigned the probable date that they will start, as well as their address and railroad station, so that we can determine what accommodations will be necessary for parties from the State of Kansas. We will try and concentrate all parties who wish to make the trip at the most convenient point, which will be determined after replies are received, and will then arrange for special cars for our exclusive use. J. V. RANDOLPH, Emporia, Kas.

Ohio Farmers.

Over one thousand delegates from the farmers' organizations in Ohio recently met at Columbus and organized a Farmers' Union. From the proceedings we learn that they favor: Equal taxation upon all forms of property; reduction of railroad

lines as to rates and charges; unlimited coinage of silver and making it legal tender for all debts, public and private; election of United States Senators by popular vote; forfeiture of all unearned land grants; taxes, direct and indirect, as low as consistent with economical administration of good government; protection of pure food products from the ruinous competition of adulterated products; passage of a law nullifying the effect of the "original package" decision; passage of the Conger pure lard bill; rigid enforcement of State and national pure food laws; graded income tax for corporations and individuals; passage of the Butterworth bill preventing gambling in farm products; Rawlings bill, taxing finished manufactured products; passage of a law adopting the Australian ballot system; school books at cost; reduction of fees and salaries of public officers; prevention of alien non-resident ownership of land, and a law to prevent the granting of passes to public officials.

ALLIANCE PLATFORM.

The following seven demands were adopted at the St. Louis convention, December, 1889, as the platform of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union:

1. We demand the abolition of national banks and the substitution of legal tender Treasury notes in lieu of national bank notes, issued in sufficient volume to do the business of the country on a cash system, regulating the amount needed on a *per capita* basis as the business interests of the country expand; and that all money issued by the government shall be legal tender in payment of all debts, both public and private.
2. We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver.
3. We demand that Congress shall pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the dealing in futures in all agricultural and mechanical productions, preserving such a stringent system of procedure in trials as shall secure prompt conviction and imposing such penalties as shall secure the most perfect compliance with the law.
4. We demand the passage of laws prohibiting alien ownership of land, and that Congress take early steps to devise some plan to obtain all lands now owned by aliens and foreign syndicates; and that all lands now held by railroads and other corporations in excess of such as are actually used and needed by them, be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.
5. Believing in the doctrine of "equal rights to all and special privileges to none," we demand that taxation, national or State, shall not be used to build up one interest or class at the expense of another. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all revenues, national, State or county, shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically and honestly administered.
6. We demand that Congress provide for the issue of a sufficient amount of fractional paper currency to facilitate exchange through the medium of the United States mail.
7. We demand that the means of communication and transportation shall be owned by and operated in the interest of the people, as is the United States postal system.
8. The Kansas F. A. and I. U. add to the above these:
8. We demand such legislation as shall effectually prevent the extortion of usurious interest by any form of evasion of statutory provisions.
9. We demand such legislation as will provide for a reasonable stay of execution in all cases of foreclosure of mortgages on real estate, and a reasonable extension of time before the confirmation of Sheriff's sales.
10. We demand such legislation as will effectually prevent the organization or maintenance of trusts and combines for purposes of speculation in any of the products of labor or necessities of life, or the transportation of the same.
11. We demand the adjustment of salaries of public officials to correspond with existing financial conditions, the wages paid to other forms of labor, and the prevailing prices of the products of labor.
12. We demand the adoption of the Australian system of voting and the Crawford system of primaries.

Notice.

A great deal of work accumulated in the office during the meeting of the State Alliance, in consequence of which there will be some delay in correspondence. Brethren, please be patient; all letters will be answered as soon as possible.

The proceedings of the State Alliance and revised constitution will be prepared for publication as rapidly as possible, and a supply sent to each County Secretary. Please do not add to my work by sending requests for them, as they will be distributed as soon as they come from the press.

J. B. FRENCH,
Secretary F. A. & I. U. of Kansas.

Organization Notes.

The people should control the party and not the party the people.

Shall the people own the railroads, or the railroads the people—which?

If the old party candidates so completely ignore the wants of the people during the campaign what can be expected of them after election?

Among the many good things shown in the Secretary's report was the increase of papers and membership; one year ago we

NO MONEY UNTIL AFTER EXAMINATION

KANSAS FARMER.

ESTABLISHED IN 1888.

Published Every Wednesday by the
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The KANSAS FARMER from this time to December 31, 1891, for one dollar.

The Philadelphia Press figures out a Republican majority of six in the Congress elected yesterday.

In Arkansas and Missouri Republicans and Alliance people worked together during the campaign just closed.

A strike of the St. Paul telegraph operators lasted only a day or two, the company being too much for the boys.

In the Iowa Farmers' Alliance convention last week, a strong feeling in favor of separate political action was manifest.

The twenty-first annual convention of the International Bee-Keepers' Association was held at Keokuk, Iowa, the 30th ult.

A laudable movement is on foot in Illinois to unite the Farmers' Alliance and the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association.

Even one dollar for the best farm paper in the West—the KANSAS FARMER from this time to the last day of December, 1891.

A State convention of the Iowa Farmers' Alliance with over 600 delegates present, was held at Des Moines last Thursday and Friday.

Archbishop Ireland, of Wisconsin, says he favors compulsory education, and that it is a matter with which the church has nothing to do.

The official count is not yet quite completed, but enough is known to place the population of the United States at less than 64,000,000.

There is a great deal of feeling among French statesmen because of the expected injury to French trade caused by the operation of our new tariff law.

Hessian fly is reported in several Missouri and Kansas counties. A considerable area of wheat is said to be damaged, mostly that of early September sowing.

Two Baltimore men were arrested a few days ago for swindling Western farmers. They advertised for wheat to sell on commission, got the wheat and made no returns.

The Dry Goods Reporter (N. Y.) says one hundred and fifty new textile factories, or enlargements of new ones, have been decided upon since the new tariff law took effect.

A new sugar trust is forming. The capital is to be \$60,000,000. The corporation is to be named the American Sugar Refining company, with H. O. Havemeyer at the head.

President Burrows, of the Iowa Farmers' Alliance, advised the brethren, at its state meeting last week, to vote solidly for

THE FUTURE OF THE ALLIANCE.

Among the multitudinous prophecies which have been published within the last few months is one to the effect that the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union will soon be dissolved, leaving but a faint trace of its existence, and that the dissolution will have been brought about by the political tendencies of the order. The prediction will fail, first, because the Alliance is one effect of causes which are deep-rooted, it is builded upon principles which are fundamental and permanent; second, the objects sought by the Alliance are imperatively demanded by the masses that are struggling against the classes, and those objects cannot be obtained in any way but through legislation. These are reasons sufficient not only to justify the existence of such a body, but to render it necessary. The Patrons of Husbandry, the Greenbackers and the Knights of Labor were pioneers in this great field of reform. Looking at the same things from different standpoints, naturally they selected different points of attack—transportation monopoly and gambling in farm products; contraction of the currency, the unnecessary assumption of debt and needless taxation of the people; and the growing arrogance, usurpations and oppression of employers in their treatment of employees. Later came the land reformers and the students of taxation. The Grange did a grand work and left a glorious record, though as a working force it early seemed to have disappeared; it left a heaven which quietly spread out among the people, even reaching the highest councils of the nation, establishing basic legal principles, bringing to view lines which mark the limitations of corporate power. The Greenbackers, in like manner, called public attention to some great blunders in financial legislation, and although apparently of accidental birth, coming without warning and living without excuse, they sowed seed which is now bearing fruit; they frightened politicians and statesmen into acknowledgment of the intrinsic value of government paper currency and obtained a judicial determination of the nation's right to make anything it chooses a legal tender in payment of debts. The Knights of Labor, blindfold, entered upon a crusade to recover lost rights of workingmen, to restore the individualism of the mechanic, artisan and common laborer, to bring about a just recognition of the toilers' rights and to establish a fair standard of relation between the employer and the employee. Within a few years great changes had been wrought among the working forces of the country, labor had been and was being massed, and employers had obtained an act of Congress authorizing the contracting for labor in foreign countries because of the high price of labor here. The power of the employer, and especially if the employer were a corporation or a partnership of wealthy individuals, had become tyrannical and menacing. The employee was fast losing his personal identity as a citizen, and he united with his fellows to restore that which was lost. Thus came the Knights of Labor. And like other great reformatory movements, this succeeded in planting good seed that others might gather the fruit and enjoy its blessings rather than in the establishment of new conditions. And yet a great work has been wrought by the Knights. Their influence is felt in every factory and shop, in every mine and along the line of every railroad.

Here we have three great agencies of reform, each working separately along its own lines, and each doing work which has already borne good fruit. This separate working was natural, it could not have been otherwise, for the reason that the workers set out from different points and sought the attainment of different objects. It so happens, however, that these three classes of reformers all belong to the working forces of the country, their general interests are identical, and the objects in view are not only not in conflict but are in harmony. It follows, then, that all of these three agencies can not only work together harmoniously, but that by uniting their efforts the combination can bring to bear all the energy, endurance and courage of the three in working for the attainment of objects sought by each. This is an unanswerable argument in favor of a union of all these and other kindred and sympathetic forces. The time is ripe for this union to be perma-

put forth. The Farmers' Alliance is, we believe, the proper medium through which the union should be accomplished.

The Alliance was not organized as a political party; it was organized in part, however, for political purposes. The same is true of the Knights of Labor; and it is equally true of all other bodies of organized farmers and workers. Up to a certain point, it is necessary that each body should serve its members as a school for the discussion of social and political questions. The time comes in all reformatory movements when the lines must be enlarged, because the workers are ready to enter a wider field. The time for this change comes whenever the membership of the particular body have agreed upon a line of policy to be pursued in working out the reformation sought and when the members can work together harmoniously for the attainment of that end. That time has come in all the farmers' organizations, in the Knights of Labor, and in many other bodies of organized workers, as well as among merchants, clerks and toilers in miscellaneous vocations.

The Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union is built upon the ideas which lie at the beginning of all these reforms—labor, land, transportation and money. Every person who is interested in any one of these is interested in all of them. The farmer, by reason of his calling, is directly interested in every one of them, and no worker can say that he has no interest in any of them. It is meet, therefore, that farmers should take the initiative in a movement toward a union of all the working forces. There is nothing that the wage-worker needs that does not concern the farmer, and there is nothing which the farmer needs that does not concern the man or woman who works for stated wages. Upon the prosperity of the farmer depends the prosperity of all other classes. When agriculture is depressed for any considerable length of time, all other industries are affected, business drags and labor lacks employment. Look at the situation now. Farming is unprofitable, farm values are depreciating, prices of farm products the last six years have been below the cost line. All other productive industries have suffered in sympathy, and manufacturers appealed successfully to Congress for aid in their line. The new tariff law will not only not help the farmer and laborer, it will actually injure both of them in the way of increased cost of many articles used in every home.

Now we find that the farmers have already begun the work of union. At St. Louis, last December, the first great step was taken, and at Ocala, Florida, next December, the second step will be taken, and that will have advanced us far enough to make the way clear to the battleground of 1892. The Alliance began this grand work of union and it will continue it until all the working forces of the country are united in one great national body for political purposes. We are now at the dawn of the new day which that union of labor will bring to us. The Alliance will grow larger, stronger, more courageous, better equipped every way for giving aid and comfort to any national movement begun for the emancipation of labor. There is no longer room for doubting the importance—aye, the necessity, of a combination of the masses if we will impress our views upon the legislation of the country and secure permanent relief from burdens which we cannot bear much longer. The part which the Alliance must take in the history which will be made in the coming years will be leading. It can neither avoid responsibility nor evade duty in the premises. What it has already done has fitted it for the still greater work yet to be done. It is the grandest organization on earth. Labor is the foundation of all wealth, and the Alliance will move the workers into line for the upbuilding of an imperishable union. Peace comes from harmony among communities, and the Alliance will obliterate sectional prejudice in this country and nationalize the people. Prosperity comes from the enjoyment of an unfettered citizenship, and the Alliance will be the instrument through which the emancipation of labor will be effected. Permanent freedom can be maintained only through the dethronement of the money power and the establishment of a rule of the people, and to accomplish that is the last great work of the Alliance. When that victory is won the Alliance will dissolve, but not

WHAT ABOUT THE KANSAS SUGAR INDUSTRY?

There were some sugar mills erected in southwestern Kansas last year in Clarke, Meade and Seward counties, and not one of them is operating this year. The reason is, that cane did not mature, and the cause of that failure is supposed to have been long-continued dry weather. Last year, in the same region, the cane crop was poor, the topped stalks not averaging more than four feet in length, and what was produced was deficient in saccharine matter. Several causes were believed to be operative in preventing a full crop of good cane in 1889, among them being poor seed, mixed seed, late planting, careless cultivation, irregular season, long periods of dry weather, etc. The cane raised in Shawnee county last year for the Topeka factory was good, and the cane grown in Ness, Barber and Butler counties, was all of fair to good quality. This year good cane was raised in Shawnee, and the Ness canefields show well to the traveler's eye. We have not learned the exact condition of the crop in Butler and Barber.

What is the real cause of two successive failures in the cane crop in the southwest? There is no room for doubt on the mixed-seed theory, for the writer made personal examination on that point last fall. But why was the growth of stalk stunted? Why was there not a fair growth even of poor material? Mixed corn seed grows as well as pure seed, and the stalks are equal in size to those grown from selected seed. Sorghum grows well, usually, if well cared for during the growing period and that is suggestive. Is there not something lacking in the methods of cultivation? Has any one made a special effort, by way of experiment, to ascertain whether any change of method would produce better results? It is discouraging to witness two crop failures in as many years, but that is not sufficient to justify an abandonment of the effort to raise good sugar-bearing cane in southwestern Kansas. The KANSAS FARMER begs leave to suggest that a new departure be made in the method of cane raising. Let the ground, which is to be planted with cane seed in the spring, be plowed and deeply subsoiled in the fall, say in November. Go down fifteen inches, if possible, but do not throw the subsoil to the surface; let it remain below, simply break it in pieces, keeping the surface soil on top where it belongs. In January, or early February, list the ground, and as soon as the season is far enough advanced to warm up the soil enough for the germination of cane seed, put in the seed, and then make a regular business of taking care of the plants when they appear, thinning wherever and whenever needed.

Before planting the seed, there ought to be a thorough dragging of the furrows so as to destroy all young weeds that may be starting, and thus give to the cane seed an even chance at the start. Soaking the cane seed twenty-four hours in water at a temperature of about fifty degrees will be found serviceable.

We wish to urge upon our western readers the importance of following this up until success is attained. We expect that the future of sugar-making on a large scale in Kansas, and in all other places, lies with men of large means and with corporations, but the average farmer will find it greatly to his advantage to grow cane for his own use. The money paid out for "sweetening" by an average family, in the course of a year, is quite large, and nearly all of that expense can be saved by a judicious handling of good sorghum cane grown on the farm.

One dollar will pay for the KANSAS FARMER from this time to the last day of December, 1891.

Ex-President Cleveland argued a case in the Supreme court of the United States one day last week. One of the Justices who heard him was his own appointee—Justice Lamar.

The Chicago & Alton railroad company is doing substantial service to the people in cutting rates on packing house products to correspond with rates on live hogs. The difference is wholly in the interest of packers.

Another case was decided last week in Iowa against a railway company that had granted rebates. The court held that a rebate is an acknowledgment that rates may reasonably be reduced to that extent

THE FUTURE OF FARMING IN WESTERN KANSAS.

The editor of the KANSAS FARMER has had good facilities, this year, for studying natural conditions in western Kansas and the needs of agriculture there. There is a marked difference between the climate and soil in the western and eastern portions of the State. Kansas is a great inclined plane, 400 miles long from east to west and 200 miles wide from south to north, the rise, going west, being about 3,000 feet. The angle of ascent continues 150 to 200 miles farther westward, where the Rocky mountain range is reached, and there we come upon a region where snow collects in immeasurable quantities, necessarily very much affecting climatic conditions long distances away. There are no trees in western Kansas worth mentioning, and while in places the surface is broken and cut, as if violent currents of water had washed out valleys, leaving unsightly bluffs on either side. Much the larger part of this region is a slightly undulating plain, presenting a beautiful outline. No place on earth could be made more attractive by the hand of man under favorable conditions. With groves and orchards and vineyards, with richly-laden fields, with school houses and churches, with towns and cities, with busy marts of manufacture and trade, and all these set off, as with gems in coronets, by the homes of farmers, would be unsurpassed in any of the attractions which render rural life enjoyable. The climate is peculiar—generally dry and monotonous, with almost constant movement of the air, and it is as free from disease-producing agencies as are the greater altitudes of the mountains. The atmosphere is rare, dry and balmy, long summers with cool nights—the conditions, generally speaking, delightfully conducing to health of man and beast. Soil is lighter than that farther east, generally less or more sandy, in some places, more especially in the southern part, rising into sand ridges. Water lies deep, the wells already opened ranging from seventy-five to two hundred feet, according to location. It is believed by men in northwestern Kansas that in the deepest valleys, "sheet water" can be reached at the depth of a few feet. The artesian wells in Meade county average about one hundred feet, and the dug and bored wells in the counties west of that, average something more—deeper as they are farther west. Enough has been discovered to satisfy everybody that water in exhaustless quantities lies under all of this vast region and near enough the surface to be available for use in agriculture and in the arts. And enough has been learned to convince all observers that the soil is rich in all the earth-elements required for the support of plant life. With abundance of moisture, nothing appears to be lacking in the constituent elements of this magnificent farming region.

Within a few years last past, much experimenting has been done by way of testing the adaptation of particular crops to the peculiar soil and climatic conditions here. It is generally conceded that Indian corn is not a "sure crop," though there are farmers who express the opinion that early and deep subsoiling, so as to prepare a reservoir for the reception and retention of moisture, will solve the corn problem even in western Kansas. One farmer in Stevens county, in November, 1889, subsoiled a piece of ground some fifteen inches deep. The subsoil was not brought to the surface; it was simply broken and left below in its natural place. The ground was listed in January following and seeded with corn in April, and a good crop of field corn was harvested this fall. That farmer believes that subsoiling early and deep is the first necessary step in successful agriculture in western Kansas, and he founds his belief on the results of this experiment along the line of a reasonable theory. Kaffir corn, rice corn, milo maize, sorghum, broomcorn, castor beans and melons have been successfully grown latterly in many western counties. The writer, during the past very dry summer, saw many fields of sorghum and the smaller corns above-mentioned growing beside corn fields; they were green and healthy looking, while the corn was whitening in death. That seems to prove that they endure drought better than corn does. On the other hand, some fields of sorghum were utterly destroyed by drought and heat. This latter fact, however, does not disprove the proposition that sorghum and

grown here even under existing natural conditions. In the vicinity of Liberal, Seward county, where a sugar mill was erected last year, and where extensive preparations were made this year for the manufacture of sugar, the cane is a total failure. A large acreage was planted last spring, but none of it matured. The mill remains idle. In Ness county, however, cane matured well, though the sugar works at Ness City, the largest and most complete sorghum sugar factory in the country, was destroyed by fire a few days before the cane was ripe enough for working. Whether this difference came from a difference in the amount of moisture in the two localities, whether it resulted from a difference in the nature of soil or different methods of cultivation, or what was the real cause of difference in results, cannot be stated; still, it may be put forth as a general proposition, that thus far the testimony tends to prove that these smaller corns—sorghum, rice corn, Kaffir corn, milo maize and broomcorn, are fairly well adapted to the soil and climatic conditions in western Kansas. And further, that castor beans and melons grow well there.

Another thing. It is a fact that wheat rarely fails on account of dry weather in any part of Kansas. Insects have several times cut our wheat short, but when wheat goes through winter all right, succeeding dry weather does not hurt it. Our crop-destroying droughts usually come after wheat has been matured or is out of danger. Success has almost invariably attended the growing of wheat in western Kansas. So marked has this success been that farmers there have greatly enlarged their wheat area this fall. The increased acreage is everywhere noticeable. Wheat seed was sown this year in many localities where no attempt to raise wheat was ever before made. And the young plants are in good condition, in some places supplying excellent pasturage now for calves and other young stock. This general success in wheat-growing has convinced most farmers in western Kansas that wheat-growing can be made profitable there.

The foregoing considerations have set farmers to investigation along two lines—first, can we establish a system of agriculture in western Kansas which will be profitable under existing natural conditions? and second, if the first question is determined negatively, can we invent and operate a system of irrigation which will not be too expensive for a section as far from great markets as ours? There is much to encourage effort in both directions. A large emigration has resulted from failures in farming experiments in our western counties. Two-thirds of the people in some parts have gone away within the last two or three years, and at least one-half of them are farmers who failed to raise crops sufficient to support their families and keep up necessary expenses. Those who remain, however, have faith in ultimate success, and many of them base their faith upon actual experiments. The KANSAS FARMER admires the faith of these men, it honors their courage and begs leave to share in their hopes. We have long believed that some time in the dim though near future western Kansas will be the most fruitful part of the State, the most attractive, the most healthful, and in all respects the most desirable as a field for farmers. What can be done, what ought to be done, what must be done, on our part, to bring about those desirable conditions is a great question for practical farmers to determine, and it is encouraging to see that they are even now far along with the work. Deep-breaking the subsoil in the fall, leaving the surface lie on top where nature put it, thus securing an earth-sponge to absorb and retain for future use rain and snow water that falls during winter and spring months, and planting seed of the grains above-mentioned will, we believe, go far to establish successful farming in western Kansas, more especially where the subsoil is not sandy.

The drifting of loose surface soil sometimes interferes with the work of farmers. This trouble may be overcome in a few years by a liberal growing of wind-breaks. Trees may be successfully grown in all parts of Kansas. Evidence in support of this proposition has already been abundantly supplied. And until the trees are large enough for service, straw or grass or cornstalks may be scattered over the ground whenever and wherever needed to prevent serious drifting.

means in serviceable quantities and at an outlay within the farmers' financial resources, that subject is now engaging the attention of practical farmers, scientists and speculators. Several theories are advanced, and plans and specifications are presented for public inspection. It is not unreasonable to expect that out of these will yet come a practical and economical system of irrigation which may be applied whenever needed or desired. With these two sources of progress—irrigation and suitable plants—to draw upon, there is good reason to expect early and profitable changes in methods and results of farming in western Kansas. Let the sturdy men and women of that section hold fast. Stay there and work. Stick. God did not make so magnificent a region as that to be wasted. Learn what is needed and adopt it. Don't be afraid of reforms in agricultural methods. The way will be opened. Only do you remain for the opening. You stand even now at the threshold.

A WORD OF THANKS.

The editor of the KANSAS FARMER appreciates most highly the many evidences of respect and consideration extended to him personally during the past eight months by the farmers of this State. By their special invitations he attended 106 different public meetings of the people in sixty-five different counties and delivered addresses at all of them. The average attendance was not less than 1,500 persons, probably reaching 2,000, and the average time occupied by the speeches was two and a half hours. This would give an aggregate attendance of from 159,000 to 212,000, and an aggregate length of speech equal to 265 hours or 33½ days of eight hours each. The reception at all the meetings was cordial, friendly and frank; the attention was uniformly respectful, the order perfect, with a manifest disposition to hear, learn and digest the truth concerning new issues presented. The people care not to hear the rustling of old party husks, but they listen eagerly to discussion of questions which do most concern us now. Being among the people and close to them he learned more of their condition and needs than he knew before, and he hopes to put this new knowledge to good use in furthering the farmers' interests.

THE ELECTION.

The KANSAS FARMER of this week was in press before the votes cast in the State yesterday were all counted, and for that reason it is impossible to publish the result. Let everybody be prepared for surprises when the figures do come in.

A great many doubts were entertained concerning the practical operation of the Australian system of voting in the States where it was to be tested this year. We shall know in a day or two whether the doubts were well founded.

The election returns in the South will show some curious results. For example, Straight Republican candidates ran in the Fourth and Eighth Alabama districts, and Alliance men, backed by the Republicans, were run in the Second and Seventh districts.

The Mankato, Minn., flouring mills have been informed by their Chicago correspondents that, owing to the new tariff bill, the flour merchants of Holland and Belgium will not buy any more of its second grade baker's flour made in this country.

Mr. Gladstone is of the opinion that our new tariff law will injure us more than it will our British brethren; for, while it will curtail their trade with us, it will restrict our markets in other parts of the world, and to that extent enlarge foreign markets for British manufactured products.

Volume IV of the Standard Poland-China Record contains registry and pedigree of boars from No. 3,335 to 5,098, and of sows from 7,039 to 11,374. For any information relating to the Standard Poland-China Record Association or its work, address Ira K. Alderman, Secretary, Maryville, Mo.

Under the heading, "The Cost of Living," the *Globe-Democrat* says the cost of living will be materially lessened by operation of the new tariff law. But the *Globe-Democrat* mentions sugar only as the medium through which its change is to be effected. What about clothing, ent-

Book Notices.

CAPONS AND CAPONIZING.—This is a useful little book, prepared by George Q. Dow, of North Epping, N. H., describing and illustrating the process of caponizing, or the castration of chickens. Published by John P. Alden, publisher, New York city.

LIFE WITH THE FORTY-NINTH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS.—This book is a recital of incidents occurring within the range of duties performed, during our great war, by the Forty-ninth regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. The work was prepared by Private Henry T. Johns of Co. C. It will be specially interesting to the members of that regiment, and generally so to all Massachusetts soldiers. Address Henry T. Johns, Boston, Mass.

BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—The holiday season approaches rapidly, and many of our readers will be interested in knowing that in Topeka they can obtain books suitable for presents in almost endless variety. We are in receipt of samples from the well-known house of T. J. Kellam & Co., the largest book concern in the city. One of these is a charming story for little folk, entitled "Little Baron Trump and His Wonderful Dog Bulger." Another is "The Woolings of Grandmother Grey"—a chaste collection of thought along the life of a natural woman, full of reminiscences which will warm up the soul of many a reader who has travelled the same road. Books in every department of literature, science, art, biography and history and fiction may be found in Kellam's collection. Write to T. J. Kellam & Co., Topeka, for catalogue and prices.

The Douglas County Farmers' Annual Institute will be held at Lawrence on Thursday and Friday, the 11th and 12th of December. Committees representing the Institute, Horticultural Association and the County Alliance have jointly formulated an interesting and instructive program. A large attendance is expected at this session.

The World's Fair commissioners have managed to supply materials for two scandals, and they have been at work but a short time. They provided extravagant salaries for themselves, and then appointed one hundred and fifteen women at eight dollars a day and expenses, and many of these women are the sisters or mothers-in-law of the commissioners.

The Civil Service Commission have decided that clerks and other employees of the government may voluntarily contribute money for campaign funds, but that they must not be coerced to do so, nor must they solicit any such contributions. By way of encouragement and explanation, Mr. Roosevelt, Republican, contributes to his party fund, and Mr. Thompson, Democrat, contributes to his party fund.

An advance sheet informs that the Northeastern Kansas Poultry and Pet Stock Show will be held at Hiawatha in January next, 6 to 9 inclusive. Very liberal cash premiums are offered, besides a list of valuable specials. One of the ablest judges in the country has been secured. The premium list will be ready for mailing about the 15th of this month, and interested parties should not fail to send for one in time. Address G. C. Watkins, Hiawatha, Kas.

So useful a purpose has been served by the Album of Agricultural Statistics of the United States recently distributed by the Department of Agriculture, that, upon the basis of the same material, the Statistician has prepared a series of cartographic maps illustrating the distribution of area in corn, wheat, and oats, the values of cattle in the several States, and the State distribution of rural population. These values are averaged for ten years, eliminating annual fluctuations, and give a much fairer result than the record of a single year. The maps illustrate the differentiation by States in five groups, each distinctively marked by mechanical drawing and separate tints. Being somewhat expensive, the edition is small, and its distribution will be restricted to Farmers' Institutes, Agricultural Colleges, Manual Training Schools, and such other educational institutions as desire to teach rural economy. By the classes indicated the charts may be obtained upon application to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Horticulture.

MISSOURI VALLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EDITOR KANSAS FARMER:—The Missouri Valley Horticultural Society met at the home of Edwin Taylor, of Edwardsville, Kas. The society assembled in Mr. Taylor's mammoth potato barn, and as this was the last picnic meeting of the season, the ladies fairly outdid themselves in hospitality.

After dinner, the society was called to order by the President, J. C. Evans.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

ESSAYS.

Col. Evans asked further time in which to present his essay on "Our Nut Trees." Maj. Holsinger gave a short talk on "Our Insect Enemies." The gypsy moth, an enemy new to the United States, has made its appearance in the East. It strips the foliage from tree and plant alike, and threatens to become the greatest insect scourge that ever swept over the country. Active steps are being taken in the East to destroy this pest.

I. D. Heath, of Kansas City, Kas., presented an interesting and instructive paper on "Coffee Culture in Central America," which will later appear in the KANSAS FARMER.

Mr. Smith, the greatest strawberry-grower of Lawrence, Kas., presented a detailed report of small fruit in that section for the past season, which brought out an animated discussion by the members present.

J. C. Evans explained the apparent overproduction of strawberries the past year by stating that this season berries for a long distance north and south all ripened at the same time.

The subject of extensive organization of small fruit-growers was earnestly discussed, and no doubt steps will early be taken to effect such a union.

ORCHARDS.

J. A. Thompson, of Edwardsville, spoke of the prosperous condition of his young orchard, the largest in this section of the State. He was followed by D. B. Hiatt, also the grower of a young orchard.

Maj. Pratt, of Piper, Kas., the oldest member present, gave a humorous recital of his failure as an orchardist in this section for the past thirty years.

VINEYARDS.

Grapes this year have been a grand success, with the Concord still in the van.

VEGETABLES.

Mr. Edwin Taylor reported the potato crop this year not above the average. Late-planted Early Ohio potatoes have suffered severely from potato blight. The turnip yield around Edwardsville was reported very fine.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following report was presented and referred to the Committee on Nomenclature also.

SHAWNEE, MO., October 6, 1890.

DEAR S: We, the undersigned, do hereby testify that the following description is true of the plums presented to your society, September 20, 1890:

In the year 1838, I brought the original seed from near Nashville, Tenn., to Lincoln county, Ky., and in 1846, from Lincoln county, Ky., to Clay county, Mo., and they have been bearing here since 1849, and have not missed a crop since 1849.

J. H. TINSLEY.

Description.—Tree very hardy, upright and spreading; fruit good size, about the size of Wild Goose; skin very thin; in making preserves it all cooks up; commences ripening August 20 and continues in fruit until often frozen on tree; deep cardinal red when fully ripe; can easily be kept ten days to two weeks after becoming ripe before they mellow up, being very desirable for shipping; bears extremely heavy crops and is free from the ravages of curculionids, locusts, etc.

We think its hardiness, early production, prolific crops, good shipping qualities, delicate peach flavor and curculion-proof, unite to recommend it to fruit-growers. In fact, we can truly say it surpasses anything we have ever seen grown on seed and due to the consideration of our horticulturists.

J. H. TINSLEY,
JOSHUA KINDRED,
GEO. YADEN.

Chicago, the society awarded the following premiums, and adjourned to meet the third Saturday of November, at the office of Blair & Kauffman, Room 209 Rialto Building, Kansas City, Mo.:
PREMIUMS.

Best collection apples, J. A. Thompson, \$2; second, B. F. Greene, \$1; third, M. T. Magee, 50 cents. Best plate market apples (Ben Davis), J. A. Thompson, 50 cents. Best plate table apples (Huntsman's Favorite), J. A. Thompson, 50 cents. Best table bouquet, Mrs. Taylor, 50 cents. Best collection roses, Dr. Murphy, 50 cents.

L. A. GOODMAN,
F. HOLSINGER,
I. D. HEATH,
Committee.

The following names were added to the membership roll: B. F. Green, Piper, Kas.; I. D. Heath, Kansas City, Kas.; J. A. Thompson, W. D. Cellar, M. T. Magee, D. S. Haines, D. C. Murphy, M. L. Thompson, J. G. Koehring, Edwardsville, Kas. Geo. E. Rose, Secretary.

Cedar Galls and Rust on Apple Leaves.

Some time ago an account was given of a trip to Titusville, Mercer county, to look up the nature of a rust that had been complained of in the orchards of that locality. It was then said that the rust was due to a fungus which attacks the leaves, causing them to turn a bright yellow. At the time of the first visit the orchard, which is a large one of several hundred trees, and mostly upon a hill-side, presented a peculiar appearance. For a mile or more, and in fact as far as it could be distinguished as an orchard, it might be seen to be yellow in patches and green in others. One of the leading varieties of apples in this orchard is the Nero, and this was suffering most. The Nero trees at that time were of a golden yellow, every leaf being almost entirely affected. The apples on them were small but abundant. Other surrounding trees, while the foliage was green in contrast with that of the Neros, were somewhat affected. As the day was very rainy no attempts were possible for exploring the woodland that lies above and beyond the orchard. It was observed that the rust was most abundant on the side of the orchard nearest to the forest.

September 7 a second visit was made, and the surrounding wood-lot explored. The Nero trees were now almost leafless and no fruit had been produced upon them. There were a few stunted and gnarly specimens, some of which exhibited the rust as orange patches breaking through the skin. The other sorts were somewhat rusted, but the leaves were still on, and upon some varieties fully up to the average.

An exploration of the adjoining woods revealed the fact that was expected—namely, the presence of large numbers of red cedar trees. These trees were literally covered with the brown excrescences that are known in spring, when fully grown, as "cedar apples." At this season they are in size from that of a grain of corn to that of a horse-chestnut, and not far different in color from the latter. It would not be proper from the circumstances above stated—namely, the abundance of the apple rust and cedar galls in close proximity—to conclude that there was any causal relation between these two parasitic growths. But back of these observations there have been many and repeated experiments made by which it is proved, beyond question, that the galls upon the cedar are the source of the rust upon the apple. By smearing the buds and young apple leaves with the orange-colored jelly that swells out upon the galls during rain in spring, it is an easy matter to propagate the rust. It is as easy to sow apple rust upon apple leaves as oats in a field, provided one gets the right seed, and that is from the cedar galls.

One of the most interesting things connected with this dual life of the rust fungus, is the selection of such widely different plants as the apple and the cedar. There is nothing in the appearance of the two forms that to the person unacquainted with the microscopic structure of fungi, would suggest their connection. Another equally interesting point of observation is that the variety of apple is so much more susceptible than another. That the Nero should be so much more affected than any other variety in the orchard is but a natural result of its peculiar structure. There seems to be some correlation in the varieties of apple and cedar in the various localities affected.

the time when the winds brought them from the cedars, while the other sorts were not.

Another question naturally arises, namely, why was the rust so very bad this year and not before? There is an immense crop of cedar galls this autumn, and this would indicate that there will be a great deal of rust next spring. It may, however, be much less than the present year. There are certain favoring conditions of the weather that enter into the question, and these are not well understood.

The feature of the whole matter that most interests Mr. Blackwell, as well as all other fruit-growers, is the remedy for the trouble. The first radical method of checking the rust would be to destroy the neighboring cedars along with their galls. In this case, as in most others, the cedars belong to a neighbor, who does not care to spare the trees—he does not grow apples, and the cedars produce good posts. If the cedars cannot be removed, the next step is to apply something to the apple tree. Just what will prove to be the best remains to be determined. It is contemplated to spray certain trees in the early spring with one or more of the fungicides, and possibly a cheap and effective remedy is close at hand.

Another point may be determined concerning this rust. Some authorities have claimed that the rust sends its fine threads into the twigs of the apple tree, and remaining there through the winter are ready to attack the young leaves the next spring. It is intended to take a number of grafts from a badly affected tree or two and set them in healthy trees in some distant orchard. Should the rust appear in leaves upon these grafts and nowhere else it might be inferred that the rust was in the twigs.

During the same day I had my first ripe peach fresh from the tree. The owner had but a single tree that yielded him any fruit, and it was situated close by his kitchen door. Why it should come through the trying ordeal of a warm winter no one knows. Buds from that tree will be at a premium. Some were taken the day I was there.

A run through the large apple orchard (over forty acres) of Mr. I. J. Blackwell would satisfy any one that this is an off year for apples, and yet there were a good many hundreds of baskets. The quality will not be the best, but the grower cannot find any fault with the price. Spraying had been done in this orchard, and there were signs of good results. Perhaps the results were more marked in the pear orchard. The indications upon all sides are that it pays to spray.—Byron D. Halsted, in Country Gentleman.

Personal Liberty vs. Physical Slavery.

We are all free American citizens, enjoying our personal liberty; but most of us are in physical slavery, suffering from scrofula, salt rheum or some other form of impure blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the great blood purifier which dissolves the bonds of disease, gives health and perfect physical liberty.

The average life of a rabbit is put at about nine years. The doe may have young eight times a year, averaging eight each time. The first litter is produced when but four months old. The progressions based on these figures lead to astonishing results. For three years the possible progeny of two rabbits has been calculated at over 13,000,000, and for seven years at 1,500,000,000.

Nothing Lost.

In a village in Normandy a peasant called at the chemist's, purchased a certain drug and went away. The assistant took up the coin which the customer had left on the counter and found that, instead of two francs, the price of the bottle, he had left only a piece of two sous. He quickly reported this act of robbery to his employer, who after a moment's reflection, answered: "Bah! We don't make a profit on the transaction; still we don't lose by it."—San Francisco Argonaut.

In the Dairy.

"COULD WE ONLY HAVE KNOWN."

Often it is as we look back upon the labors, plans and results of the long ago, and compare them with our methods now, we say, "Had I known of this way twenty-five years ago!" Especially is this true of dairying; and as we look back over the struggles of the past, and the difficulties then contended with, and the "guess work" that was about our only guide (?), the wonder is that any practical results were ever arrived at. True, many dairy-men then were successful, and all made a live of it, but could they all have known something of the principles of dairying, how those long years of struggle would have been shortened up, and competence come long before it did.

As I recall those days of forty years ago, and the methods employed, and contrast them with the way that is now practiced on the same farm, one can see that the world—part of it—does move, and happy is the man who is moving along with it. In those days of 1850 the cows were purely native, thoroughbred in unknown breeding, strangers 365 days in the year to barn or stable; and in the winter made their winter bed in the dense beech woods a half mile from the house. They were fed in the summer on an unvarying diet of grass, and in the winter they subsisted upon an uninterrupted ration of hay fed at the stack, rain or shine, snow or blow. The thought of a cow giving milk after Thanksgiving was about absurd, at least for the whole dairy, and a farmer that had fresh milk for the family all winter was a rare provider. I distinctly remember as a boy, with a dairy of forty-five cows, that milk in January and February was often exceedingly rare at our house, and we were not the only family so circumstanced in the neighborhood. Mother would often freeze a few gallons of milk early in the winter, set them in the old cheese house, and by melting a little at a time, have milk for the coffee. If there was ever a hardy, tough lot of cows, that dairy was one. It, as well as many others, was made so, a matter of the survival of the fittest, the tender ones had all died off in the hardening process. It is a fact that the first money the farmers received in the spring was from the sale of cow hides; not very profitable, it is true, but it started the market for dairy products, and when later on the butter and cheese began to come forward, it made a change; and variety of products kept up quite a healthy inquiry.

It was not until about 1875 that there was anything like a general milking in the stable practiced in Ohio. The cows were always milked in the open yard, let it rain, snow or shine, as the case might be, and often a sorry, muddy job it was, especially for the women folk, who up to that time milked each their six to twelve cows, the same as the men; and to-day now and then a farmer clings to the old yard habit of milking, where he can have a "free circulation of air," and often a "performing trying to get some cow to 'so!' and 'hist!'"

In 1858 father made a great innovation in dairying, and tied up the cows nights, out of the storm and snow; but many a wise farmer called it non-paying and a bother, and a compromise was made in the matter, by turning the cows out before sunrise and feeding them at the stack and again in the afternoon, and returning them to the stables after dark. I remember once asking father—"Why tie them for so little while? If they run out all day, it would not do much harm to remain out all night?" and he said cows wanted fresh air and exercise, a matter that still is discussed, though then I did not quite see that the fresh air was lacking, as there was not a batten on a board that covered shed or barn.

Another thing I now distinctly remember is that of the mother cows in March and April—the months of chill winds and alternating rain, sleet and snow—with thin young calves, exposed all through the spring, and each day many of them growing thinner and weaker, and often "got down," as it was called, and had to be "boated" in upon the big barn floor and matted with corn, hay or straw, and "backbone." To think of it now seems a cruelty, but it was the custom then, and as it was the common experience of all, no wonder it was so.

A Home-Made Silo.

Many farmers would build a silo were it not that they believed it would take too much brain work and expense for the return they would get. My silo cost me but a very little money. I took a corner in my barn twelve feet square, boarded it up and down with straight-edged stuff, two thicknesses, with tar paper between, and put a light coat of cement on the bottom, a coat that costs but little. This work I did myself. I expected an awful job in cutting and filling, but was disappointed, as I found that I could put in twenty tons per day with the help of four men. I have a sweep power and got No. 13 Ross cutter, and cut the fodder into inch pieces. This I believe is just as well as to cut it shorter. The stock eat it readily and much time is saved over the fine-cutting process. I put in the corn at three different times, so it had time to settle.

The variety of corn most desirable was a question with me, but I soon decided that a variety not prolific in grain was not good for ensilage. So I planted a good productive corn that grows seven or eight feet high. This fall it produced about 40 bushels of shelled corn to the acre, and when cut on glazing was quite green. Its yield of forage is large and the stalks are not too bulky. My silo holds 1,080 cubic feet, and I grew enough corn to fill it on 165 rods of land. I believe we should get a large percentage of grain on the corn, for it will not pay to feed ensilage if large bills of feed from outside have to accompany it. But if the entire plant can be preserved in one speedy process it is a great advantage to the farmer and a saving of money. It costs nine cents to husk and grind one bushel of corn, besides the time spent taking it to the mill. Then the fodder is badly hurt in the weather oftentimes.—*Cor. Farm and Home.*

The agricultural experiment stations of the country, over fifty in number, issue annually some three hundred bulletins and reports of from four to two hundred and fifty pages each. Very few people have access to all of these publications, and fewer still can afford the time required to note the character and results of the experiments they describe. Those who find it desirable to keep pace with the progress of agricultural experimentation will find a condensed record of all station work in the Experiment Station Record, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. The October number is being distributed, and the November number also is practically ready.

The Sheep Breeder and Wool-Grower says that clear, firm muscle; solid bone and plenty of rich, red blood are the elements of overshadowing importance in a sheep intended for a breeder. Let us say to the novice, seek first of all a sheep with keen, prominent eyes; round barrel; no droop in the scrog or neck; wide open nostrils; legs wide apart, straight up and down, with good shafts of bone. Choose an animal that has some force about him, that is wide-awake and notices what is going on, not lying asleep in the corner all the while. After that look for wool, but not for fat at all. When we are making ready to butcher the animal we want fat, but not before. In a breeder we want muscle, we want power.

The McKinley Bill,

Lately passed by Congress, is creating a vast amount of discussion as to its effect upon the welfare of the American people. Leading politicians advance strong arguments from their various standpoints, each endeavoring to convince the public of the correctness of his position. It is a most important measure, and one in which every citizen of this republic is interested. To a person occupying an elevated position amid the branches of a tree, however, the fact is patent that, while the dispute waxes hotter over the bill, all classes—Republicans, Democrats, Free Traders, Protectionists, Prohibitionists, Farmers—are agreed on one point, viz., that the Chicago, St. Paul & Kansas City Railway is the best line between Chicago and points Northwest, West or Southwest. If you don't believe it is, try it. W. R. BUSENBARK, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Chicago, Ill.

Union Pacific for Salt Lake.

MARKET REPORTS.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Chicago.

November 3, 1890.
The Drovers' Journal furnishes the following quotations:
CATTLE—The receipts were 21,000 head, including 4,000 Texans. The best were steady, others dull. Best, \$5.00a5.15; good, \$4.20a4.90; medium, \$3.00a4.10; common, \$2.75a3.50; stockers, \$2.00a2.35; feeders, \$2.25a3.10; bulls, \$1.20a2.85; cows, \$1.00a2.50; Texans, \$2.15a3.00.
HOGS—Receipts were 35,000 head. Heavy grades steady, others weaker. Mixed, \$3.65a4.25; heavy, \$3.75a4.30; light weights, \$3.50a4.10.
SHEEP—Receipts 10,000 head. Sheep steady, lambs lower. Natives, \$2.75a3.30; Western corned, \$3.00a4.50; lambs, per cwt., \$5.00a6.00; Texans, \$3.75a4.00.

St. Louis.

November 3, 1890.
The National Live Stock Reporter furnishes the following quotations:
CATTLE—Receipts 2,800 head, with no natives. Texans were slow. Native steers, common to best, \$3.00a4.75; Texas and Indian, \$2.10a3.20; calves, \$3.00a5.50.
HOGS—Receipts were 2,800 head. Market steady. Bulk of sales at \$3.80a4.02½.
SHEEP—Receipts 800 head. Market steady. Natives, \$3.75a5.00; lambs, \$4.00a5.75.

Kansas City.

November 3, 1890.
Receipts for the year to date are 1,256,861 cattle, 68,122 calves, 2,328,872 hogs, 477,616 sheep, and 31,758 horses and mules; showing a gain of 326,883 cattle, 642,858 hogs, 166,932 sheep, and 3,337 horses and mules, compared with 1889.
CATTLE—Beef steers—The supply was very light and contained no choice cattle and only a few good ones. Salesmen priced the cattle strong, but prices were unchanged as a rule. There were not enough cattle offered to make a market. Sales at \$3.75a4.00.
Cows and mixed—The supply was the smallest for some time, but contained some very good cows. Sellers asked higher prices as a rule and some of the buyers stood so to rise on good grades. Other buyers only bought when they could be had at Saturday's prices. Representative sales at \$1.75a2.55.
Range cattle—There were 2,700 to 3,000 rangers in the Texas division, besides 1,200 to 1,500 in the native division. In the Texas division, sellers asked more money than last week, but finally sold at steady figures on most kinds. Occasional sales were strong, particularly of good cows. Sales at \$1.25 for poorest to \$3.45 for best Texas steers.
HORSES AND MULES—There was very little trading in this class of stock yesterday. There were several buyers in, both from the South and East, but they spent most of the day in looking around. What few sales made, however, were at steady prices.

Horses.	Age.	Price.
Drift, extra.....	5 to 7	\$150@175
Drift, good.....	5 to 7	120@145
Saddlers.....	5 to 7	135@165
Mares, extra.....	5 to 7	135@165
Mares, good.....	5 to 7	85@110
Drivers, extra.....	5 to 7	150@205
Drivers, good.....	5 to 7	75@120
Streeters, extra.....	5 to 7	115@130
Streeters, good.....	5 to 7	80@115
Mules.		
14 hands.....	4 to 7	70@ 75
14½ hands.....	4 to 7	75@ 80
15 hands.....	4 to 7	100@110
15½ hands, medium.....	4 to 7	115@130
15½ hands, extra.....	4 to 7	135@150

GRAIN AND PRODUCE MARKETS.

Chicago.

November 3, 1890.
WHEAT—No. 2 spring wheat, quoted \$1.00½;
No. 2 red, quoted at \$1.02½.
CORN—No. 2 corn, quoted at 53½c.
OATS—No. 2, quoted at 43c; No. 2 white oats, at 46½a47c.
RYE—No. 2 rye, quoted at 67c.
BARLEY—No. 2, quoted at 78a80c.

St. Louis.

November 3, 1890.
WHEAT—No. 2 red, cash, quoted at 97½a97¾c.
CORN—No. 2 mixed, cash, quoted at 52½c.
OATS—No. 2 mixed, cash, quoted at 44c.
RYE—The market was quoted firm. The quotations ranged as follows: No. 2 hard, cash, was quoted at 70c bid.
BARLEY—The market was quoted firm. Iowa, 72a80c; Minnesota, 75c; Nebraska, 70a75c.
HAY—The market was steady. Sales ranged as follows: Choice to fancy new prairie, quoted at \$3.00a5.00; old prairie, not quoted; choice to fancy timothy, quoted at \$10.25a12.75.

Kansas City.

November 3, 1890.
WHEAT—A dull and bearish market was had yesterday. An increase of 1,520,000 bushels in the visible supply last week was the signal for free selling by the "longs," and December deliveries had sold down up to noon in Chicago 1½c per bushel, but towards the close recovered ¼c of this loss. The result was a slow and lower market here. English cables were steady early but weaker towards the close. The clearances at the four Atlantic ports were 23,597 bushels and 8,977 packages of flour. Prices below are based upon freights above. On call: No. 2 hard, spot, 85½c bid, 87½c asked; November, 2 cars at 87½c; December, 5 cars at 89c; May, no bids, 97c asked. No. 3 hard, spot, 83c bid, no offerings. No. 2 red, spot, 82c bid, 83½c asked; November, 82c bid, no offerings; December, no bids, 86c asked, and May, no bids, \$1.02½c asked.
CORN—Receipts light and market stronger with a good demand, the East and South both buying and the offerings soon disposed of. The visible supply last week made a decrease of 180,000 bushels, which, with the light receipts, helped to encourage holders. Chicago was a trifle weaker, but this had no influence upon the market here. Prices below are based upon freights above. On call: No. 2 mixed, spot, 49½c bid, 50½c asked; November, 7 cars at 50c; December, 5 cars at 48½c; January, 5 cars at 49c; May, 52½c bid, 53½c asked. No. 2 white mixed, spot, 50½c bid, 51c asked; November, first half, 50½c bid, 51c asked; the month, 50½c bid, 51c asked; December, 51½c bid, 51½c asked; January, 5 cars at 51½c; May, 56½c bid, 57c asked.
OATS—An excited market and sharp advance was had yesterday. Chicago showed no improvement, but local buyers and order men were hungry for supplies and values were bid up sharply, both spot and futures. The visible supply last week made a decrease of 38,000 bushels, which, with the current light receipts, made everybody bullish. Prices below are based upon freights above. On call: No. 2 mixed, spot, 1 car at 43c, 1 car at 43½c, 4 cars at 44c, 1 car at 44½c, 2 cars at 44½c, 1 car at 44½c, 6 cars at 45c; November, 1 car at 44½c, 6 cars at 44½c; December, 4c bid, 45½c asked; May, 10

No. 2, spot, 61c bid, 63c asked; November, 61c bid, no offerings.
CORN CHOP—We quote at \$1 per 100-pound sack.
BRAN—Steady and demand good. We quote car lots, bulk, 63c per cwt., and sacked at 73c per cwt.
FLAXSEED—Receipts 500 bushels, and shipments 500 bushels. Demand good and values a shade lower. We quote crushing at \$1.31 a1.32 per bushel, upon the basis of pure.
CASTOR BEANS—Receipts 1,300 bushels, shipments 700 bushels. Demand good and values a shade lower. We quote crushing in car lots at \$1.60a1.62 per bushel, upon the basis of pure, and small lots 10c per bushel less.

HAY—Receipts 130 tons, and shipments 30 tons. Market steady and a good healthy demand had for both prairie and timothy. We quote new prairie, fancy \$9.75a10.00 per ton; good to choice, \$8.50a8.75 per ton; prime, \$8.00a8.50; common, \$4.00a5.00. Timothy, good to choice, \$9.75a10.00 per ton.

St. Louis—Miscellaneous.

November 3, 1890.
WOOL—Receipts for week 797,893 pounds, last week 454,090 pounds; since January 1 18,533,685 pounds, same time last year 18,770,817 pounds; shipments for week 1,036,793 pounds, last week's 837,968 pounds. Movement from first hands lighter, but market well sustained; the supply becoming scarcer, while current receipts were small. The fact that the fall clip in the Southwest was light and that most of it has passed from first hands, may account for the limited arrivals here. Prices comparatively high and firm, but show no quotable advance. To-day, Received, 54,106 pounds. Market manifesting less activity and buoyancy, but showing no quotable change. Kansas and Nebraska—Medium, light, bright, 22a23c; coarse, 17a19c; light fine, 18a19c; heavy fine, 15a16c; low and earthy, 12a13c.
BROOMCORN—Market steady; demand good; choice grades meeting with ready sale; stock light, but movement increasing. Prices range from 2½a3c for fair to 3½a4c for choice—fancy green brush worth more, while damaged and crooked sells at half price.
BUTTER—We quote: Choice to fancy separator creamery, 22a25c; choice gathered cream do., 20a21c—inferior less. Dairy—choice, 21a22c; medium, 12½a14c; low, 8a9c.
CHEESE—Steady. We quote: Wisconsin—full cream twins, 9½c; singles, 9½c. Young America, 10c.
EGGS—Very firm, at 19c for good run; poorer offerings dull and nominal.



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Remember the place—106 East Third street, in rear of Kaczynski's old Grocery Store, corner Third and Kansas avenue, Topeka, Kas. Telephone 433.

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Breeder fancy **POLAND-CHINA** Swine. Tony lot of March, April and May pigs, sired by first-class boars. Can furnish pigs in pairs not akin. Write for particulars. Call and see my stock.

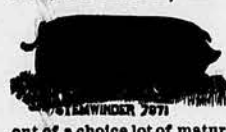
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Breeders and shippers of

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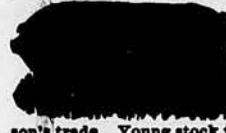
Two hundred and forty pigs from nine first-class boars and forty choice sows, representing the best strains of blood. Prices reasonable and all stock guaranteed as represented. Mention KANSAS FARMER.

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Has now on hand an extra lot of March, April and May pigs that will be offered at greatly reduced prices through Sept. and Oct. to reduce herd.

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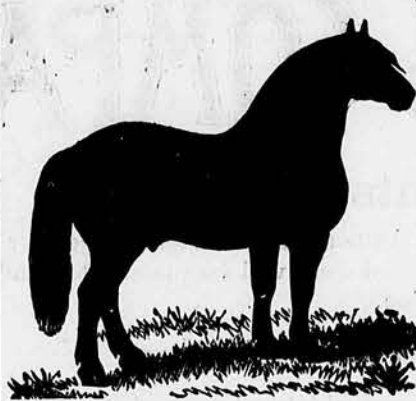
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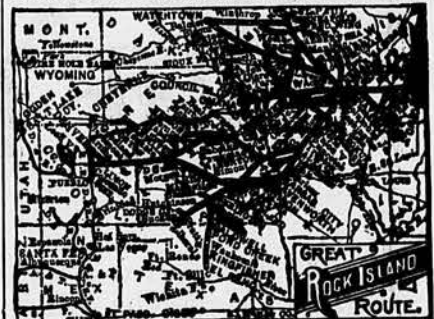
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Savannah.... 2:27 p. m. 6:50 a. m. 8:57 p. m.
Rea.... 2:47 p. m. 7:30 a. m. 9:46 p. m.
Cawood.... 2:55 p. m. 7:47 a. m. 9:58 p. m.
Guilford.... 3:02 p. m. 7:55 a. m. 10:11 p. m.
Des Moines.... 8:00 p. m. 5:45 a. m. 5:30 a. m.

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Guilford.... 12:05 p. m. 4:40 p. m. 4:05 a. m.
Cawood.... 12:23 p. m. 5:00 p. m. 4:17 a. m.
Rea.... 12:38 p. m. 5:20 p. m. 4:30 a. m.
Savannah.... 12:58 p. m. 6:30 p. m. 5:02 a. m.
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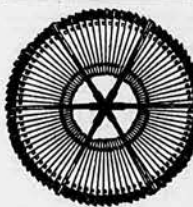
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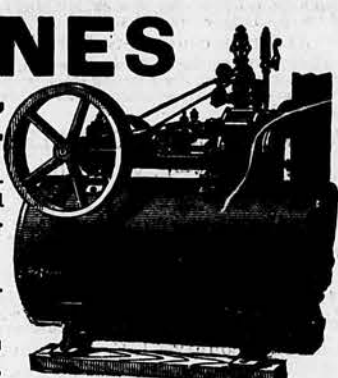
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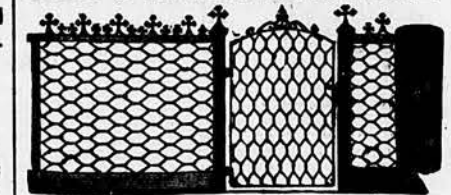
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75 BARRED AND WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCK cockerels, also a few Langshan and Black Minorca cockerels. John C. Snyder, Constant, Kas.

FOR SALE—Yearling Poland-China boar, Boomer B. #431 B. B., sire Bruce 2028, he by Black Cloud B. 128 out of Cora B. #2838; sire dam Eureka Maud (7244) by Eureka 1712, second dam Lady Maud 34 (2108) by Young Perfection 181. Length 57 inches, flank 55, heart 59. Address E. T. Warner, Princeton, Kas.

FINE THOROUGH-BRED BEREKSHIRE PIGS—And the splendid Jersey bull, Miller Boy 4928, for sale cheap at the Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kas. Address the Professor of Agriculture.

PURE CHICKS FOR SALE—Room needed. Fine P. Leghorns, Pekin ducks and Plymouth Rocks, 41 each. E. B. Heay, Chaplin, Elk Co., Kas.

FARM—And twenty-five cow milk route for sale or rent. Address Box 56, Florence, Kas.

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BEREKSHIRE PIGS—Two more good litters of Clover Blossoms to go before cold weather. Write H. P. Cowles, Topeka, Kas.

FOR SALE—Or trade for feed, a pure-bred Holstein bull calf. Chas. McCarter, 109 west Seventh street, Topeka.

FOR SALE—An elegant farmer's two-seated spring wagon, leather-trimmed, plated seat-handles and dash-rail. It was shipped to us from Detroit to exhibit at the fair, but got here too late. It is a bargain. Price \$50. Kinley & Lannan, 424-426 Jackson street, Topeka.

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FOR SALE—Farm of 230 acres in Elk county, Kas., on Elk river, one mile from depot on S. K. R. R.; a splendid location, good grain and stock farm, plenty timber and water. Terms easy. For particulars address S. D. Lewis, Elk Falls, Kas., or W. M. Lewis, Mendon, Mo.

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RANCH AND STOCK IN EASTERN KANSAS—For an agricultural implement plant in running order in Illinois. W. J. Price, Room 20, Knox Building, Topeka.

STAMP BRINGS PARTICULARS—Twenty cents for the electric insolo. Good for this week. No more cold feet. Sure cure for rheumatism. Money refunded if not worth one dollar. Wingren Co., Burlington, Kas.

FOR SALE—Farm of 286 acres, thirty-three miles west of Kansas City, two and a half miles from Eudora. Partly fenced and cross-fenced, timber, five-room house, frame barn holding nine horses and eight cows, good well and cistern, clover, timothy and blue grass. Address F. M. Cory, Eudora, Kas.

BLACK LOUST SEEDLINGS—And general nursery stock. B. F. Hannan, Arlington, Reno Co., Kas.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—Cory's Tip-Top 6871, a grand Poland-China sire, 5 years old, fine condition, sure sire. Will sell reasonable or exchange for different blood. Address F. L. Watkins, Harper, Kas.

DOUGLAS COUNTY NURSERIES—1890-'91—Will have on hand a full line of nursery stock for fall and spring trade. Also in their season fruits—all kinds of berries by the crate, grapes by the basket, apples by the barrel or carload. Catalogue free. Address Wm. Plasket & Son, Lawrence, Kas.

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THE STRAY LIST.

FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 22, 1890.

Wyandotte county—County Clerk.

PONY—Taken up by John Jarvis, in Shawnee tp., September 22, 1890, one bay gelding pony, about 10 years old, three white feet, star in face; valued at \$25.

MARE—Taken up by Henry C. Miller, in Prairie tp., August 19, 1890, one strawberry-roan mare, 6 years old, about 14½ hands high, white hind legs, also right fore leg white, with white on left fore foot, white on belly and white face; valued at \$35.

Franklin county—O. M. Wilber, clerk.

MULE—Taken up by James Decker, in Williamsburg tp., P. O. Williamsburg, October 15, 1890, one brown mare mule, about 13 or 14 years old, collar marks, blind in right eye, four feet eight inches high.

Pratt county—J. J. Waggoner, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by Geo. W. Yoho, in Richland tp., October 15, 1890, one sorrel male pony, 14 hands 1 inch high, saddle marks on back, left hind foot white, white spot in face; valued at \$25.

Anderson county—S. Durall, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by Xena Petersen, in Reader tp., October 1, 1890, one yearling steer, with both ears red, crop off left ear, no other marks or brands; valued at \$15.

FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 29, 1890.

Geary county—P. V. Trovinger, clerk.

COW—Taken up by Ed. Kelly, in Jefferson tp., October 11, 1890, one brindling cow, supposed to be 5 years old, both horns broken off and stubs grown out and turned down to the head, no other marks or brands; valued at \$12.

Cloud county—Chas. Proctor, clerk.

3 CALVES—Taken up by A. W. Fuller, in Summit tp., September 24, 1890, three red and white male calves, one having a white face; valued at \$15.

Cherokee county—J. C. Atkinson, clerk.

MARE—Taken up by Fremont Burgess, in Crawford tp., September 30, 1890, one bay mare, 7 years old, 15½ hands high, white spot in forehead, shod in front.

HORSE—By same, one sorrel horse, 12 or 14 years old, 15½ hands high, blaze face, blind in right eye, slightly sway-backed.

Miami county—Thos. T. Kelly, clerk.

STEER—Taken up by S. A. White, in Middle Creek tp., one spotted steer, 3 years old, white belly and legs, a three-cornered white spot on forehead, small white stripe across shoulder, tail mostly white; valued at \$20.

Sumner county—Wm. H. Carnes, clerk.

SOW AND PIGS—Taken up by Isaac Herbig, in Oxford tp., October 4, 1890, one black and white sow, left ear split, weight 100 pounds, and seven 5-week-old pigs, black and white, four male and three female.

Douglas county—M. D. Greenlee, clerk.

MARE—Taken up by J. W. Preston, in Marion tp., September 18, 1890, one roan mare, 15½ hands high, no marks; valued at \$30.

FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 5, 1890.

Cherokee county—J. C. Atkinson, clerk.

PONY—Taken up by W. J. Darnell, P. O. Galena, October 19, 1890, one bay horse pony, 12 years old, harness and collar marks; valued at \$25.

Brown county—N. E. Chapman, clerk.

MULE—Taken up by Irving tp., October 27, 1890, one dark brown mare mule, about 15 years old, saddle and collar marks.

Lyon county—C. W. Wilhite, clerk.

MULE—Taken up by M. Stubbs, in Americus tp., P. O. Americus, one light brown mare mule, 5 years old, harness marks, no other marks or brands; valued at \$45.

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Are by far the most commodious and best appointed in the Missouri Valley, with ample capacity for feeding, weighing and shipping Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, Horses and Mules. They are planned throughout, no yards are better watered, and in none is there a better system of drainage. The fact that higher prices are realized here than in the East is due to the location at these yards of eight packing houses, with an aggregate daily capacity of 8,600 cattle and 57,200 hogs, and the regular attendance of sharp, competitive buyers for the packing houses of Omaha, Chicago, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, New York and Boston. All the sixteen roads running into Kansas City have direct connection with the yards, affording the best accommodation for stock coming from the great grazing grounds of all the Western States and Territories, and also for stock destined for Eastern markets. The business of the yards is done systematically and with the utmost promptness, so there is no delay and no clashing, and stockmen have found here, and will continue to find, that they get all their stock in worth with the least possible delay. Receipts for 1889 were 1,230,948 cattle, 2,073,910 hogs, 370,772 sheep and 34,563 horses and mules. Total number of cars, 83,972.

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