

Fighting the Prairie Dog

(Prepared by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.)



Pile of Prairie Dogs. Evidence of Work by Representatives of the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Prairie dogs occupy more than 100,000,000 acres of public and private lands, and wherever they occur in abundance they are exceedingly destructive to cultivated crops and to forage on the open range. In co-operation with the extension services of the agricultural colleges in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming the campaign against these animals has been pushed aggressively by the biological survey, which recently issued its annual report from which the following facts are taken:

In Arizona and New Mexico the state councils of defense joined actively in the work and contributed funds for the purpose. The participation of farmers and stockmen has been fuller than ever before, and the saving of crops and forage has been correspondingly great. During the year from 75 to 95 per cent of the prairie dogs were destroyed on nearly 2,000,000 acres of privately owned crop and forage lands and on more than 200,000 acres of public domain, the latter making more than 3,700,000 acres of public lands which have been largely freed from these pests. In many places private landowners were so interested that they volunteered their services to clear adjacent government lands, the bureau supplying the poison to be used in the work. With co-operation of this character it will be possible to clear large areas of the public domain at almost a nominal cost to the government.

The Bible, Agent of Civilization

As Powerful as Ever in Uplift of Humanity.

More and more it is realized that the Bible is the only book in the world which can be applied to all classes, all conditions and all times. Written and compiled thousands of years ago, when the world was in its infancy and when humanity was groping its way out of the darkness into the light, its wonderful images, its inspiring stories and its uplifting spirituality make it as valuable an agent of civilization and as powerful a factor in the uplift of humanity as ever it was. In fact, the Bible is found to be the best known guide for social progress, for political construction and for industrial peace. Its usefulness does not stop there. It is now employed to teach the lessons of patriotism and to inculcate the spirit of Americanism.—New York Herald.

RIGHT TO THE POINT

Love and wine get credit for making fools of some men who were born fools.

It's the easiest thing in the world for a man to forget the mean advantage he took of another.

Always listen carefully to the opinions of others; the chances are you will derive no benefit therefrom, but it will please them.

"Smile when you can," says a poet. That's all right, but why didn't he confer an everlasting favor on humanity by telling us how to smile when we can't.

Paraffin Good Cleanser Aid to Housekeeper

Paraffin is very useful, and does wonders for the housekeeper, though some people look upon it as a greasy liquid unfit for cleansing purposes. A soft cloth moistened with it and used on the furniture in regular dustings will brighten the wood. Many laundresses put a little into the water in which soiled clothes are soaked, and a little added to the starch will keep the irons from sticking. Paraffin is also good for cleaning enameled bedsteads, bathtubs, sinks, etc. Paint is greatly improved if cleaned with a soft cloth and paraffin, the dirt coming away without injuring the surface or spoiling the luster.

Today

Today is yours and mine; the only day we have; the day in which we play our part. What our part may signify in the great whole we may not understand; but we are here to play it, and now is our time. This we know: It is a part of action, not of whining. It is a part of love, not cynicism. It is for use to express love in terms of human helpfulness.—David Starr Jordan.

Sleighs Used in Land of No Snow—They Are Drawn By the Slow, Clumsy Ox

The island of Madeira, which lies off the west coast of Morocco, naturally never sees any snow. Nevertheless, sleighs are to be found there, and in place of the swift and graceful reindeer they are drawn by the slow, clumsy ox.

The streets of Madeira are paved with smooth round stones, and over these stones the runners of the sleighs travel quite freely. In fact, the motion of the sleigh is much smoother than would be that of a wheeled vehicle, because the runners readily pass over small depressions in the pavement without jar.

The passenger sleigh has upholstered seats and figured curtains to protect the occupants from the weather as well as from the gaze of the curious. The body is mounted on springs and it is said that riding in one of these primitive vehicles is very pleasant, although rather slow.

BEST LITTER FOR POULTRY HOUSE

Litter for the poultry house floor is not only necessary in plentiful quantities, but it should also be of satisfactory quality. The two main points are to have a material that will not break up into chaff or powder too quickly, and which will not be inclined to absorb moisture. Litter that breaks up quickly makes the house overly dusty and often causes disease of the nose or throat or sore eyes by fine particles being thrown into the hen's eyes when scratching. Litter that absorbs moisture quickly is especially bad in the winter months, when sunshine is scarce and has little drying power. Damp or filthy litter often makes a good breeding place for disease germs. Litter should always be a material that is digestible if eaten by the hens, for a certain amount is invariably consumed.

Wheat or rye straw is one of the best materials for the litter, as it is tough and lasts well, although at the same time light enough in weight that the hens can easily kick it around. These straws also have the desirable quality of being slow to absorb moisture. Oat straw does not make quite such good litter, as it becomes damp too quickly. Alfalfa or clover hay does not make good litter, as it is heavy, powders quickly and in damp weather absorbs moisture readily, becoming soggy even from the damp air in the house. Of course, this is somewhat offset by the fact that the chickens will eat off the leaves of the hay, which is good for them.

For the floor of brooders or colony coops, short-cut hay is one of the best materials that can be used when cut in two or three-inch lengths and spread on the floor to the depth of about an inch. Leaves of various kinds (such as fall from the trees in the autumn) can be stored and used for litter.

Mark for Married Women

Married women are marked in India—a spot in the middle of their foreheads just between the eyes tells the tale.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Portland.—Joseph Lettiff, Yamhill-street grocer, pleaded guilty to a charge of profiteering in sugar and was fined \$50 by Federal Judge Wolverton. Lettiff is the first man in Oregon to be indicted as a profiteer and was one of the first of three Portland grocers to be indicted for that offense.

Roseburg.—Reports from Drew, a point on Elk creek several miles above Tiller, indicate that a rich gold strike has just been made there by R. W. Thompson and H. Banfield, who have been operating in that section for several years. The ledge uncovered is said to assay more than \$500 to the ton.

Salem.—D. P. Fisher, plant pathologist of the plant department of agriculture, has been assigned to the task of ascertaining the damage to fruit by the recent low temperatures in this vicinity, according to a letter received here from United States Senator McNary. Mr. Fisher is expected to reach Salem early in February.

Salem.—Frank F. Lischke of Milwaukie has filed application with the state engineer to appropriate 3709 second feet of water from the Deschutes river for power development in a series of power plants at the Metolius, Frieda, Coleman, Mecca, White Horse Rapids and Pelton power sites in Sherman, Wasco and Jefferson counties.

Salem.—Members of the Oregon and Idaho Public Service commissions will hold a joint conference at Boise on February 10 to hear the applications of the Idaho Power company for an increase in rates. The corporation operates in both Oregon and Idaho and applications for increases in rates have been filed with the public service commissions of the two states.

Wonder.—J. T. Roberson, postmaster here, has butchered his fourth big hog. It was a Poland China-Duroc and weighed, when dressed, 601 pounds. A second hog was a thoroughbred Poland, which dressed 545 pounds. The third hog was a Poland-Berkshire and dressed 685 pounds. The fourth was a Poland-Ohio Improved Chester, and when dressed tipped the beam at 600 pounds.

Hood River.—Captain George M. Sunday, manager of the Odell country place owned by himself and his father, Rev. Billy Sunday, is giving the poultry business a material stimulus here. Captain Sunday has 300 White Leghorn pullets. He says that he will clear \$720 from his chickens in the three months ending January 31. The net earnings from the pullets for last month reached nearly \$200.

Salem.—Securities approximating a valuation of more than \$7,000,000 are being kept by the state in a vault which would have been discarded by a country bank years ago, according to a report filed by R. E. Pinney, expert accountant, who has just completed an audit and investigation of the state treasurer's department in behalf of insurance companies interested in the condition of the department.

Salem.—Too liberal use of the emergency clause in connection with the activities of the legislators in special session here last week, coupled with effective bills and the passage of measures for which it is deemed there was no demand under the call for emergency legislation, Thursday caused Governor Olcott to veto 21 more bills, making a total of 37 proposed laws to receive his disapproval since adjournment of the lawmakers early Sunday.

Salem.—Receipts of the state treasurer's office for the year 1919 totaled \$17,811,119.72 as against \$10,503,177.61 for the year 1918, according to a report prepared by the department Friday. Disbursements for the year 1919 were \$17,668,116.62 as against \$10,037,882.65 for the year 1918. The receipts for the year 1919 showed a gain of \$7,307,942.11 over the year 1918, while the disbursements for the same period showed a gain of \$7,630,228.97. On December 31, 1919, there was a cash balance in the treasury of \$3,271,798.06, as against \$3,128,789.96 on December 31, 1918, showing a gain for the 12 months of \$143,008.10.

Madras and Prineville have taken the lead in raising their apportionment of the World's Service Fund for the Y. W. C. A. Miss Gertrude P. Bader, one of the State Directors in the campaign, has visited these places the past week and was accompanied by Dr. Estelle Ford Warner, who spoke of her overseas experience as a Y. W. C. A. worker in France, England and Russia. Addresses have also been given at The Dalles, Bend, Redmond, Wasco, and Condon, the women responding most heartily in making plans for raising of the apportionment in their countries. February 29 is to mark the close of the campaign.

GOOD PROFIT IS FOUND IN KELP

Besides the Commercial Potash Many Valuable By-Products Are Turned Out.

EXPERIMENTS ARE SUCCESS

Plant Established by Government in California Demonstrates Profit Can Be Made With Production on Commercial Basis.

Washington.—Kelp, apparently, is going to be a profitable source of potash, an important fertilizer ingredient that the United States formerly obtained almost wholly from Germany. During the war an experimental kelp-potash plant was established by the United States department of agriculture at Summerland, Cal. Before the second year of operation was completed it had been determined not only that the plant could be made self-sustaining on the basis of potash alone, at \$2.50 a unit, but that a number of valuable by-products could be profitably obtained. The chief of the bureau of soils, which bureau operates the enterprise, estimates that if the plant turns out \$300 worth of potassium chloride a day, it may at the same time turn out \$269 worth a day of the four principal by-products.

Many By-Products.

Among the by-products whose commercial obtainability has been established are iodine, common salt, ammonia, and bleaching carbon. This bleaching carbon, formerly imported from Europe and sold for 20 cents a pound, has been prepared and sold from the Summerland plant at 15 cents a pound and appears at present about able to pay the production cost of itself and the potash, with good reason to believe that it may ultimately be made to pay the operating cost of the entire enterprise. It has been definitely established by large-scale operations that very little of the nitrogen of kelp is lost in the various processes and that it can be commercially recovered as ammonia, thus yielding another important fertilizer element. In this process enough combustible gas is released greatly to reduce if not to eliminate fuel consumption in the plant. A tar is likewise recovered, and its subproducts, kelp oils and creosote, have been shown to be of value, respectively, as flotation agents and disinfectants. Still other valuable by-products are likely to be recovered. "The field broadens tremendously as progress is made," reports the chief of the bureau of soils.

Submarine "Valley" Found Off Mendocino

San Francisco.—The approximate location and shape of an uncharted submarine valley, which caused the wreck of the steamer Bear with the loss of five lives in 1916, has been reported by Captain Lukins of the surveying vessel Wenonah of the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

The axis of the valley is given as about ten miles to the north and west of Cape Mendocino, Cal., and its head about five miles off shore.

The unknown presence of this formation is blamed for the wreck of the steamer Bear, whose captain was deceived by soundings taken in its vicinity during a storm.

KERENSKY NOW IN 'BEANERY'

Former Russian Leader Said to Be Working in London Restaurant.

New York.—Alexander F. Kerensky, successor to the czar as ruler of Russia, is now working in a "beef and beanery" in London, according to Gregory Zilboorg, who says he was Kerensky's secretary of labor and who spoke here last night at the intercollegiate socialist convention. "The poor fellow is down at the heel," he added. "He is in the same boat as I am."

Bonds for Shelf Paper.

Seattle, Wash.—How \$4,000 of Seattle improvement bonds, bought by a son for an income for his mother, were used by her to paper pantry shelves, was disclosed when some of the mutilated bonds were brought to the office of City Treasurer E. L. Terry to see if they had any value. According to the story told Accountant A. B. Lund, the bonds are the property of an elderly woman who has been living alone in Seattle several years. During a long illness five or six years ago she is said to have suffered a temporary lapse of memory, and when she recovered apparently had forgotten everything about the bonds and their value.

"Brownies" Quit British Service.

London.—The last group of "brownies" has just left the government service, causing general lamentation. These were young messenger girls who were taken on during the war and were called brownies because of their special brown dresses, which were supplied by authorities. It is said that they proved themselves much smarter and quicker than boys.

TO BRING BACK OUR DEAD FROM FRANCE



Six officers and sixty civilian employees have gone to Europe in connection with the bringing back to the United States of the bodies of our soldiers killed in France. This photograph shows from left to right: Lieut. G. S. Wright of California; Capt. W. H. Robertson of South Dakota, in charge of the party, and Lieut. F. McIntosh of California.

TAX YOU MUST PAY ON 1919 INCOME

This Schedule of Rates Is for an Individual Entitled to the \$2,000 Exemption—Heavy Penalties for Those Who Fail to File Returns.

Net Income	Normal Tax	Normal Tax	Surtax	Total Tax	Pct. of Income	Decrease From 1918
2,000	4	4	0	4	.0019	2
2,100	4	4	0	8	.0036	4
2,200	4	8	0	12	.0052	6
2,300	4	12	0	16	.0068	8
2,400	4	16	0	20	.0084	10
2,500	4	20	0	24	.0099	12
2,600	4	24	0	28	.0115	14
2,700	4	28	0	32	.0131	16
2,800	4	32	0	36	.0147	18
2,900	4	36	0	40	.0163	20
3,000	4	40	0	44	.0179	22
3,100	4	44	0	48	.0195	24
3,200	4	48	0	52	.0211	26
3,300	4	52	0	56	.0227	28
3,400	4	56	0	60	.0243	30
3,500	4	60	0	64	.0259	32
3,600	4	64	0	68	.0275	34
3,700	4	68	0	72	.0291	36
3,800	4	72	0	76	.0307	38
3,900	4	76	0	80	.0323	40
4,000	4	80	0	84	.0339	42
4,100	4	84	0	88	.0355	44
4,200	4	88	0	92	.0371	46
4,300	4	92	0	96	.0387	48
4,400	4	96	0	100	.0403	50
4,500	4	100	0	104	.0419	52
4,600	4	104	0	108	.0435	54
4,700	4	108	0	112	.0451	56
4,800	4	112	0	116	.0467	58
4,900	4	116	0	120	.0483	60
5,000	4	120	10	130	.0500	60
6,000	8	232	50	282	.0470	240
8,000	8	456	110	566	.0708	320
10,000	8	680	190	870	.0870	400
12,000	8	904	290	1,194	.0995	480
14,000	8	1,128	410	1,538	.1099	560
16,000	8	1,352	550	1,902	.1188	640
18,000	8	1,576	710	2,286	.1264	720
20,000	8	1,800	890	2,690	.1330	800
22,000	8	2,024	1,090	3,114	.1387	880
24,000	8	2,248	1,310	3,558	.1437	960
26,000	8	2,472	1,550	4,022	.1481	1,040
28,000	8	2,696	1,810	4,506	.1521	1,120
30,000	8	2,920	2,090	5,010	.1558	1,200
32,000	8	3,144	2,390	5,534	.1593	1,280
34,000	8	3,368	2,710	6,078	.1625	1,360
36,000	8	3,592	3,050	6,642	.1655	1,440
38,000	8	3,816	3,410	7,226	.1683	1,520
40,000	8	4,040	3,790	7,830	.1709	1,600
42,000	8	4,264	4,190	8,454	.1733	1,680
44,000	8	4,488	4,610	9,098	.1756	1,760
46,000	8	4,712	5,050	9,762	.1777	1,840
48,000	8	4,936	5,510	10,446	.1796	1,920
50,000	8	5,160	5,990	11,150	.1813	2,000
52,000	8	5,384	6,490	11,874	.1828	2,080
54,000	8	5,608	7,010	12,618	.1841	2,160
56,000	8	5,832	7,550	13,382	.1852	2,240
58,000	8	6,056	8,110	14,166	.1862	2,320
60,000	8	6,280	8,690	14,970	.1871	2,400
62,000	8	6,504	9,290	15,794	.1878	2,480
64,000	8	6,728	9,910	16,638	.1884	2,560
66,000	8	6,952	10,550	17,502	.1889	2,640
68,000	8	7,176	11,210	18,386	.1893	2,720
70,000	8	7,400	11,890	19,290	.1896	2,800
72,000	8	7,624	12,590	20,214	.1899	2,880
74,000	8	7,848	13,310	21,158	.1901	2,960
76,000	8	8,072	14,050	22,122	.1903	3,040
78,000	8	8,296	14,810	23,106	.1904	3,120
80,000	8	8,520	15,590	24,110	.1905	3,200
82,000	8	8,744	16,390	25,134	.1906	3,280
84,000	8	8,968	17,210	26,178	.1906	3,360
86,000	8	9,192	18,050	27,242	.1906	3,440
88,000	8	9,416	18,910	28,326	.1906	3,520
90,000	8	9,640	19,790	29,430	.1906	3,600
92,000	8	9,864	20,690	30,554	.1906	3,680
94,000	8	10,088	21,610	31,698	.1906	3,760
96,000	8	10,312	22,550	32,862	.1906	3,840
98,000	8	10,536	23,510	34,036	.1906	3,920
100,000	8	10,760	24,490	35,230	.1906	4,000
150,000	8	15,680	77,510	93,190	.1906	7,840
200,000	8	20,600	137,510	158,110	.1906	15,680
300,000	8	30,520	263,510	294,030	.1906	31,360
500,000	8	40,440	583,510	623,950	.1906	62,720
1,000,000	8	50,360	1,163,510	1,213,870	.1906	125,440

The first \$4,000 of net income in excess of the exemption of \$2,000 is subject to a normal tax of only 4 per cent, but all net income in excess of \$6,000 is subject to a normal tax of 8 per cent. After the net income passes the \$2,000 exemption, the graduated or surtaxes set in, and in the case of an individual with a net income of \$6,000 he is entitled to an exemption of \$2,000, leaving \$4,000 which is taxable. He pays a normal income tax of 4 per cent on \$4,000, or \$160, and as \$6,000 exceeds \$5,000 by \$1,000 he is also obliged to pay the graduated or surtax of 1 per cent on this amount, or \$10, making a total tax due the government of \$170, as shown by the schedule.

Getting up into the range of higher salaries, take for example, an individual with a net income of \$26,532.80. The tax on an income of this amount comes in between the tax on a net income of \$26,000 and \$28,000. Now, the schedule gives the tax on a net income of \$26,000 as being \$9,070. The amount in question exceeds \$26,000 by \$532.80, and this amount is subject to a total tax of 20 per cent (normal tax of 8 per cent and surtax of 12 per cent), or \$106.56. This \$106.56 added to the \$9,070 tax on \$26,000 makes the individual in question subject to a total tax of \$9,176.56.

For a single man (whose exemption is only \$1,000), whose salary ranges between \$2,000 and \$5,000, an addition of \$40 must be made to the total tax shown in the above table.

For each child under eighteen years a deduction of \$8 must be made from the total tax shown above for incomes ranging above \$2,200 and up to \$6,000. From \$6,000 upward \$16 must be deducted for each child under eighteen years.

Heavy penalties are imposed for those who fail to file their returns between January 1 and March 15. The full tax may be paid in full at the time of filing the return, or if it is desired to make the payments in four installments the first must be paid by March 15, the second by June 15, the third by September 15, and the fourth by December