

WISCONSIN FARMS

According to the latest census of agriculture, there are 189,789 farms in the state of Wisconsin; 59.1 percent of them have telephones and 49.6 percent have automobiles. The number of telephones on farms in Wisconsin, according to this census, amounts to 111,789, which is one and three-quarters times as many telephones as there were in use in the entire state in 1902.

LONG DISTANCE SERMON

Although across the continent, the Rev. Dr. Royal D. Bisbee recently preached a sermon to his former congregation at St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church in Spokane, Wash., delivering the sermon from Boston by long distance telephone wires. Among those in the audience was his father and mother. Say you saw it in the News.

PASSING THE BUCK

Nearly every body is familiar with the above heading. Shirking responsibility,—cowardice,—treachery to constituents—and even the hint of official incompetency are included in its meaning.

It is a term commonly used among the criminal element. It is a fact among public officials from the highest to the lowest. News items relating to the administration of scandal were replete with it. Press dispatches relating to ex-Attorney-General Daugherty indicated it. Replies from the lips and pens of Portland's mayor and Chief of Police, in answer to charges of inefficiency hurled against them by an eminent Congregational Divine, charged the courts with the dereliction of those duties which the mayor and chief of police accepted and swore to perform. (Of course the words, "To the best of my ability," are included in their oaths of office.) By way of digression—the mayor joined the Presbyterian church very recently.

In the cowardly attempt to shirk official responsibility for the non-enforcement of the law—in Passing the Buck to the courts—it is worthy of passing mention that the judges of the Municipal court of Portland are appointees of the mayor, and it is within his power to remove them from office for dereliction of duty. This same power is in the mayor to appoint and remove the Chief of Police. The judge of the Municipal court in turn blames the district or circuit courts for his imposing of light fines or short jail sentences and in some instances, appeals from his decrees have resulted in diminishing the fines, or in wiping out the jail sentences. In a recent case in which the Municipal court imposed a fine of \$500 and sentence of six months in jail—the district court, to which the criminal appealed, and before whom he pleaded guilty, imposed a fine of \$250 with no jail sentence. Why? Is it to encourage appeals and clutter up the courts—or to encourage criminals to employ some of the numerous members of the legal profession waiting for the crumbs that fall from the rich man's table? The reason is immaterial. Neither should the probable action of an appellate court deter the Municipal judge from levying such fines, and imposing such jail sentences as the law provides; and which will have a tendency to make crime unprofitable and protect society from the criminal. The law abiding citizen should not be assessed because of the criminal classes. The law enforcing agencies should receive their remuneration from the funds collected as fines and costs from the criminal. This would do away with the one-dollar fine. It would reduce the quota of officers—it would tend to the impartial administration of the law, in that the rich criminal would not be overlooked, but would be given an opportunity to contribute to the support of the poorer brother-in-crime—as well as his own coat of keep while in durance ville. It would bring disgrace and odium upon the criminal as deep as that suffered by two generations back—and eventually it would eliminate the slang term "Passing the Buck" being applied to the enforcing agencies.

Our colleges and universities turn out some wonderful athletes and football players but very few noted for anything else than to seek a white collar job. When we get a really useful man, a statesman or a captain of industry like Ford, for instance, we find they boast nothing more than ample brain and intelligence gained by the hard school of experience and a common school education.

A strange story comes up from Kentucky of the trial by jury of a vicious collie dog which was found guilty and "legally executed." The poor animal, only following out its brute instinct, with no one to plead insanity for him, failed to have the same effect on a jury that a human endowed with reason and intellect would have, and so went to his doom without crocodile tears or flowers.

Not so long ago the president of a fidelity and guaranty company in Baltimore returned from a trip to this coast, and an insurance publication quotes him as saying the Volstead law and prohibition were the underlying causes of crime here. The company of which he is the head paid last year in burglary insurance losses of one million dollars, and nearly half as much again for losses under fidelity bonds. As he argues that liquor laws should be repealed he might with greater consistency urge that laws against burglary and embezzlement be done away with also. But he might hesitate when he saw where all this would ultimately lead.

DISCREDITS MOON FARMING

To question confidence in the almanac when it comes to planting is still regarded as almost sacrilege by many an old-fashioned farmer. Unless the "sign" is right, he is sure that it will be useless for him to attempt a crop.

The federal department of agriculture has issued an almanac for farmers and this almanac contains a somewhat serious attack on the ideas of persons who adhere to the moon lore for farming and gardening. This almanac will have the approval of the modern farmer who has adopted businesslike methods in his farming operations.

"Don't plant by the moon," the almanac says, "but get the best seed and prepare the seed bed, then plant when soil and moisture conditions are right." Good sense, certainly, but how are you going to convince the man who has a moon almanac hanging in the kitchen?

The farmer who plants by the moon sometimes makes out a good case for himself, in spite of the scoffing of experts. He will tell of fine crop grown when the moon was right, and how his neighbor failed to get a return of the seed when they disregarded the moon.

The department of agriculture insists that the preparation of the seed bed and planting at a time when conditions of heat and moisture are the most favorable, with proper cultivation, will insure good crops, regardless of what the moon almanac may say. Students in agricultural schools and some farmers may believe that, but it is too much to expect that many farmers will not continue skeptical in spite of the assurance of the experts.

PORT OF PORTLAND REPORT

Portland, Ore., Jan. 25.—According to the figures compiled by the Traffic Department of the Port of Portland Commission, exports of wheat for the first three weeks of January, 1926 amounted to 1,361,363 bushels valued at \$2,033,139. This is more wheat than was exported from Portland during the first eight months of 1925. The year 1925 was rather peculiar in the export of wheat, for during the fall of 1924 most of the crop of that year was shipped, there being little for shipment during the spring as is shown for the first eight months of 1925. During the fall of 1925 considerable wheat was shipped, but not nearly as much as the previous year, due to the fact that a considerable portion was and still is held in the interior. Total wheat exports from Portland, therefore, during the year 1925, amounted to 1,252,402 bushels as compared with 1,000,000 bushels the year previous. However, with the excellent showing made the first part of January and the movement of the 1925 crop during the early spring of 1925 the year 1926 should show an excellent record in wheat.

The attitude of the millionaire Mackay toward his daughter who recently married a man below what she considers her station and refusing to recognize her, is characteristic of many after they have acquired great wealth. America is a great melting pot wherein all classes are tried out, and many emerge from it refined by the process whether they have money or not. How many remember when, only a few years ago, the Mackays were conducting a cheap boarding house in the mines of Virginia City, Nevada?

With the moving along of time the modern newspaper is passing through marked changes. The old-time freedom of individual editorial expression indulged in by such men as Horace Greeley and Chas. M. Dana is unknown to readers of these later days. Many present day newspapers announce no editor at all, perhaps caring to antagonize political or other organized leaders, and fill their columns with syndicated stuff and matters chiefly to make them attractive as advertising mediums only.

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Portland	2:00	6:20	Lv.	Estacada	8:00	4:30	8:30	
Clackamas	2:30	6:50		Eagle Creek	8:15	4:45	8:45	
Carver	2:40	7:00		Barton	8:25	4:55	8:55	
Barton	3:05	7:25		Carver	8:45	5:15	9:15	
Eagle Creek	3:15	7:35		Clackamas	8:55	5:25	9:25	
Ar. Estacada	3:30	7:50	Ar.	Portland	9:30	6:00	10:00	

* Daily except Sunday (A) Saturday only.
SUNDAY—Leave Portland 10 A. M. Leave Estacada 4:30 P. M.

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