

Gleaned from the Pioneer Pages

By GRANT MacEWAN

Nor-West Farmer, Oct., 1883. — "Barbed wire as a prairie fence is rapidly coming into use in Manitoba. It is by far the most sensible fence which can be adopted by our farmers; and the wood (rails) can be used for much more necessary purposes."

Calgary Tribune, Sept. 30, 1885. — "At a meeting of the International Tanners', Hide and Leather Dealers' Association at Chicago last week, a resolution was introduced condemning barbed wire, the claim being made that barbed wire ruins more hides than grubs or any other cause . . ."

Macleod Gazette, June 23, 1885. — "If there is a man on the round-up who keeps up the spirit of the boys more than another and who provides more amusement to break the monotony, this man is John Wair (Ware). John is not only one of the best natured and most obliging fellows in the country, but he is one of the shrewdest cow men, and the man is considered pretty lucky who has him to look after his interests. The horse is not running on the prairie which John cannot ride, sitting with his face either to the head or tail, and even if the animal chooses to stand on its head or lie on its back, John always appears on top when the horse gets up, and smiles as if he enjoyed it, and he probably does."

Moosomin Courier, Oct. 9, 1884. — "Wednesday last was a busy day among the sporting men of Moosomin. Mr.

Arnold of Ellice and a Moosomin sport got up a race, the Moosomin man betting \$100 that Mr. Arnold's pony could not trot to Ellice in three hours and a quarter, a distance of 30 miles. The shagnappie took the money with 15 minutes to spare."

Edmonton Bulletin, Nov. 8, 1884. — "Ad McPherson's carts arrived from the south on Wednesday with wire and insulators for the telephone line between Edmonton and St. Albert."

Macleod Gazette, Feb. 16, 1886. — "His first chinook . . . I stepped outside to see (how cold it was). I hadn't been out more than two minutes when puff, puff, came the wind from the south-west, just like a fellow's best girl blowing kisses at him through a stovepipe, and in less than five minutes, jewhilla-ken, down she came, a regular howling, snorting, ringtailer from away back, blowing like sixty. Well, sir, I hadn't time to get off that platform before my feet were wet and in two hours . . . snow had entirely disappeared. The whole country was dry by noon and we had a prairie fire that same evening. The boys in the general office came down in linen dusters and straw hats and I had to sprinkle the floor to keep them cool."

Daily Free Press, Winnipeg, July 6, 1874. — "Today the public peruse the first edition of the first daily published in the Prairie Province, and we believe that they will share with us the pride we feel in now being possessed of a daily newspaper."

Nor-West Farmer, June, 1895. — "A successful shipment of chilled beef from New Zealand has caused considerable in-

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terest in England. Chambers are fitted up in which the beef is hung up and kept at a temperature of 28°. This takes more room than frozen beef, but the quality is superior."

Calgary Herald, Sept. 3, 1884. — "Hanged. A report from Montana that Dutch Al who worked around town last winter and Buckley the cowboy who played the bad western man, have both been treated to a hempen necktie for horse stealing in the neighborhood of Mussel Shell River."

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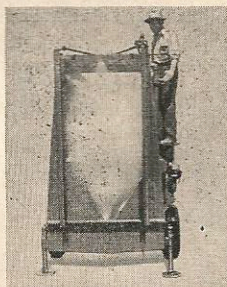
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