

Drought was taking its toll; crop conditions poor

In 1932 the long drought was taking its toll on Northwest Kansas. The wheat crop prediction was not favorable for the local farmers according to a report of the latest field inspections that appeared in *The Goodland News-Republic*. In fact, it was to be a seven year low.



marcia smith

• from the vault

area. However, some might have found inspiration in the following prayer that was printed in the "Churches" column, 75 years ago.

A Farmer's Prayer

"O Lord; I am thankful I am not like other folks; and yet, I am no Pharisee. I am thankful that I own no stocks and bonds which were bought at peak prices. I am grateful for guidance that kept me out of speculative grain markets. I have not drilled an oil well, and I am thankful for that. It is a relief not to have to read the stock market quotations each morning before breakfast to learn how much poorer I am than I was the day before. I am pleased that I am not a retail merchant with a ledger of unpaid bills. I thank thee, O Lord, that I am not

lar bad April conditions have not always resulted in a short harvest. Favorable weather from now on might make a difference in the condition.

Sherman County was reported as having a condition only 40 percent of normal. Cheyenne and Wallace counties reported a condition on 33 percent of normal. Graham County claimed the best wheat in northwest Kansas with a condition of 85 percent.

Because of the persistent drought and blowing dirt, many farm families could not or chose not to stay in the

a laboring man without a job or in danger of losing it. I surely am fortunate that I am not a coal or oil operator nor steel manufacturer nor a railroad official hunting trade where there is no trade.

I am thankful that the bright lights of the city and the promise of high wages and short laboring hours have not deceived me into leaving my farm for temporary and superficial attractions.

I am only a poor farmer with 200 acres of farmland, all paid for except \$7,000 on my mortgage, which, however, is at a reasonable rate of interest. I also thank thee for the spirit that has caused the politicians to (vote) us a reduction in farm taxes.

Give me, O Lord, my dairy cows, hogs and chickens; my alfalfa, corn and soy beans; my health and my strength and my faith. I am not making money, but I am not losing so much that I face disaster and hun-

ger. I have three good meals a day and a comfortable country home.

These, thou hast provided me, whatsoever happens.

Once I looked with envy upon these my fellow citizens. I thought they lived in luxury and peace. Bless them and comfort them, O lord, and give them grace to face their plight. I am grateful to Thee for all the blessings that fall upon me and mine and our land. Forgive my sins and overlook my hypocrisy and my shortcomings, and believe, O Lord, I am content that I am a farmer."

News items from the various Sherman County communities always give a brief look at life on the High Plains three quarters of a century ago.

Under "Llanos News" by Mrs. Grace Leighton: "This community has been grieved by the sudden death of Edd Isernhagen who

passed away early Tuesday.

"Shell McAdams and Charles Fiechter sold hogs at Brewster Saturday.

"Miss Opal Wilson entertained her pupils at New Hope school at a taffy pulling party Friday afternoon. This party was greatly enjoyed by pupils and will be remembered in years to come."

C.L. Harper reported in "Ruleton Route 2": "Mrs. Milton Parish has about 1,000 young chickens, mostly of the White Minorca breed, and has her incubators set for the third batch.

"Saturday was an unusual day. First, a dirt storm, then a shower of rain, and wound up with a snow-storm."

From the "Brownsville" community, another example of life in the '30's: "D.L. Buhr and son were breaking sod for Mr. Huff last week. They reported the ground almost too dry for such work."

Wheat may have 'loose smut'

Have you been noticing some blackened heads in your wheat? Upon closer examination, you see there are actually no seeds in the head at all. This has been showing up in fields around the area.



jeanne falk

• agron notes

The infection that is taking place is creating host plants for next year. Finally, there are no rescue treatments for wheat infected with loose smut.

This is a disease called loose smut. This disease becomes evident soon after heading. The floral parts of the wheat head are replaced by loose masses of brownish-black, powdery fungal spores.

When the head is handled or crushed, the black powdery material comes off on your hand. These spores are easily blown off or washed off by rain. After a few days, only a bare stem remains, and the affected plants become less noticeable.

Heads of the infected plants usually emerge from the boot slightly earlier than the non-infected heads. When the infected heads emerge from the boot, the blackened head is already formed.

Plants are only infected during flowering, by wind-blown spores from neighboring infected plants. Rain and insects can also move spores to flowering heads.

Infection is favored by dewy

mornings and temperatures from 60 to 70 degrees. The smut spores enter the flowering part of the head and infect the forming seed. Therefore, the smut infects the internal portion or embryo of the seed.

After establishing in the embryo of the seed, the smut becomes dormant. In addition, the infected seed will appear normal and look no different than healthy seed.

The loose smut will not become active again until the kernel is planted and germinates. Since the disease is contained in the internal portion of the plant, when a plant germinates, it is already infected with the disease.

In addition, the plants that have the smut-filled heads now are going to be the only heads in the field exhibiting the smut.

Control needs to be a proactive approach. Since this is a seed-borne disease, plant clean, disease-free seed.

Seed treatment is an effective and fairly inexpensive way to control loose smut. The seed treatment must be systemic in order to get into the internal portions of the seed.

If you have smut in a field this year, it might just be the best idea to save that field to harvest last and then do not plan to keep that wheat for next year's seed. If you have any questions about loose smut, contact me at the extension office.

Jeanne Falk is an area crop production and economics specialist for Sherman, Cheyenne and Wallace counties with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

matters of record

Sherman County Sheriff

The following accidents have been reported to Sherman County Sheriff:

April 6 — Robert T. Campbell, 64, of Vienna, Va., was traveling eastbound at 8:15 a.m. in a 2007 Ford F350 on I-70 at milepost 12 in the outside lane at 45 mph. He hit a slick spot, lost control and hit a bridge. Campbell was wearing a seat belt and was uninjured. Alex's Radiator towed the vehicle.

April 12 — Dallas Price, 16, going east on 10th Street in 1992 Ford Ranger pickup about 12:15 p.m., glanced down to retrieve a bagel in the seat and did not see Fire Chief Scott Gilmer, 47, in 1997 red Chevrolet Blazer owned by the City of Goodland approaching the intersection on Grand from the south. The two collided. Both were wearing seat belts and both were uninjured. Neither vehicle was towed.

District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:

Dec. 20, 2001 — Jason T. Duncan, \$207 reinstated for speeding.
Feb. 27, 2004 — Michael D. Kelley, \$140 reinstated for speeding and \$10 reinstated for no seat belt.
Jan. 15, 2006 — Eraina R. Small, \$150 reinstated for speeding.
March 3 — Damon F. Watson, \$120 reinstated for speeding and \$10 reinstated for no seat belt.



The Goodland Star-News

and The Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors welcome

Newman Vision Care

Ryan Newman, Owner

919 Main, Goodland - (785) 890-3937

New to town but not new to the area, Dr. Ryan Newman has set up shop on Main Street in Goodland. He is an Optometrist or for plain talk, "Eye Doctor". His Optician, Anne Haver and Professional Assistant, Darla Lee help him in the office.

Though he's not from Goodland, he started out in Hoxie which isn't all that far away. His wife is a Western Kansas gal as well as she is from the Ellis area. And they landed in Goodland because simply put, it is a small, rural community that could use a good eye doctor.

Dr. Newman specializes in primary care of the eye, eye emergencies, glaucoma management and cataract evaluations. Dr. Newman also offers general check-ups as well as check-ups for glasses, contact lenses and

bi-focal contacts. His office has a full-service optical department as well; for everyone who wants new frames or sunglasses.

Dr. Newman offers a children's eye care program that can be compared to a popular program entitled "See to Learn" that several doctors offer, usually for a fee. Dr. Newman's program is similar with one major difference... Dr. Newman charges NOTHING! You read correctly, there isn't a charge at all for Dr. Newman's Children's Eye Care Program! The kids must be between Newborn-4 years old.

The very best part of Dr. Ryan Newman is that he accepts VSP and several other Vision Plans helping us all to see more clearly!

Welcome to our city, Dr. Ryan Newman, O.D.!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Dance Card

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67											68			
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ACROSS

- 1. Kid-lit elephant
- 6. Gave a prompt to
- 10. Beats it
- 14. Trixie's TV pal
- 15. Celestial bear
- 16. Magnet material
- 17. Exciting event
- 19. Words of denial
- 20. Incas, e.g.
- 21. Was abundant
- 23. Gets even with
- 25. Let up
- 26. Cool dessert
- 30. Tummy trouble
- 33. Tinker-Chance link
- 34. Caiman's cousin, for short
- 35. Littleneck, e.g.
- 39. Greedy one's cry
- 40. Waste away
- 41. Classic Welles role
- 42. Creative flash
- 43. Line to Ben-Gurion
- 44. Hexa- minus one
- 45. Boats' backbones
- 47. Expressed
- 48. Uncle Tom's creator
- 51. Batter badly
- 53. University of Illinois site
- 55. Kitchen gizmo
- 60. Watery barrier
- 61. Guffaw
- 64. Apple or pear
- 65. HOMES part
- 66. Inedible orange
- 67. Train for a bout
- 68. Wolfish look
- 69. Chips go-with

DOWN

- 1. Rummy cake
- 2. Actor Bates
- 3. Emu or moa
- 4. Oxy 5 target
- 5. Auto dealers' incentives
- 6. Say "@#%#!"
- 7. Java server
- 8. Language suffix
- 9. Move rapidly
- 10. Dick Butkus or Ray Nitschke
- 11. Kitchen enticement
- 12. Song of the Renaissance
- 13. Exuding 24-Down
- 18. Mil or mile
- 22. "Mangia!"
- 24. Caustic wit
- 26. Road rig
- 27. "Metamorphoses" poet

- 28. Actor Auberjonois
- 29. Shore protector
- 31. Hockey highlight
- 32. Like an unfriendly stare
- 34. Cramped quarters
- 36. Reel in
- 37. Prelude to a deal
- 38. Drink for Beowulf
- 40. Poor grade
- 44. Fruits similar to grapefruits
- 46. Bard's dusk
- 47. Sly like a fox
- 48. Drainage areas
- 49. Jamboree group

- 50. Keynoter at the 2004 Democratic Convention
- 52. Better suited
- 54. Ill-fated biblical brother
- 56. Johnson Space Center org.
- 57. Like some citizenships
- 58. Fridge door items
- 59. Carla player on "Cheers"
- 62. Poet's before
- 63. Tell a big one

The crossword puzzle brought to you by:

The Goodland Star-News

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