



Spend \$20 on the 20th

Emily Letsche is assisted by Seth Phillips, sales representative at Dakota PC on Saturday, Feb. 20. The Vermillion business was one of many local retailers that participated in the "\$20 on the 20th" campaign introduced by The Broadcaster and Vermillion Plain Talk as a way for local citizens to have a positive impact on the city's economy. (Photo by David Lias)

American Legion plans annual spring convention

The American Legion Department of South Dakota and America Legion Auxiliary of South Dakota will be holding their Annual Spring District 7 Convention at Corsica, March 13. District 7 American Legion in made up of the counties of Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Clay, Douglas, Hutchinson, and Yankton. The American Legion meeting will be held at the Everson-Beukelman American Legion Post Home Corsica at 1 p.m. and the American Legion Auxiliary will hold their meeting in the Corsica Community Center.

Other things going on that day will be District 7 executive meeting at 10:30 a.m. in

the Legion Post Home, social hour and registration at 11 a.m. to 12 noon, banquet at 12 noon, and meeting to follow at 1 p.m.

South Dakota American Legion Commander Rod Martens, and other state and district officers will be in attendance. For banquet tickets contact your American Legion Post or Verline Vander Wal, at Box 225, Corsica, SD 57328, or phone 605-946-5222.

For more information contact District 7 Commander James Hornstra or District 7 Auxiliary President Kathy Hornstra at 40827 312th St., Springfield, SD 57062, phone 605-369-5555, e-mail ledjimdis7@yahoo.com.

Election of SD ag secretary is proposed

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Voters would elect a state secretary of agriculture every four years under legislation awaiting a committee hearing in the South Dakota House.

The agriculture secretary is now a cabinet position filled by the governor.

That gives residents no recourse if someone is doing a poor job, said state Sen. Jim Bradford, one of the bill's sponsors.

"If I don't do my job they (voters) get a shot at me every two years," Bradford, a Republican from Pine Ridge, said Monday. "For a job of that importance in the state of South Dakota I think it would be nice to have it go on the ballot."

The legislation would make the job nonpolitical. Candidates would run without party affiliation and not as a party nominee.

"My thought is that the secretary of agriculture should be able to stand on his own two feet," said Rep. Dean Schrempff, D-Lanry, a sponsor in the House. "I have nothing against our secretary of ag — I like him and he's a good person."

"But I feel like when decisions are made — there were two or three things that came up last year in the (House) Agriculture Committee that I sit on — that he couldn't

actually say anything because he hadn't talked to the top dog." The South Dakota Farmers Union has long supported the idea of making the office an elected one, said Doug Sombke, the organization's state president.

"I don't want that to be interpreted as being disheartened or at odds with the current secretary of agriculture, because Secretary (Bill) Even and I are good friends and have been for quite a while. So we have a very good working relationship with him and his department," Sombke said.

But making the office an elected one provides more accountability to agricultural producers, he said.

"An appointed individual only needs to be responsible to one person primarily, and that's the governor," Sombke said.

Nominating petitions would be filed with the secretary of state for candidates to run on a nonpolitical ballot in the June primary election beginning in 2012. The two candidates with the most votes in the primary would run in the November general election.



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Excerpts from the Plain Talk

By Cleo Erickson
1936

A check artist gave local business man, W. T. Scott the slip on Saturday night. Vermillion had its first man-hunt in several months when local officers and business men sought an unknown man who attempted to pass a forged check at the J. C. Penney's store about 10:00 o'clock Saturday night. The man picked out several articles of men's clothing and gave a check for \$8.29. Mr. Scott, manager of J. C. Penney's had been warned about several stolen checks and when he checked the numbers on the checks that had been reported stolen, the check proved to be among those listed. As soon as the check artist saw Mr. Scott coming back with check in hand, he walked hurriedly out the door without the purchases. Mr. Scott followed him and asked Mr. Carl Iverson to help him. Near Meisenholder's corner they picked up Bill Donohue and shortly later asked a group of men by Davis Drug to stop the man. However, the check artist proved to be too fleet of foot, and out ran the men and lost himself within a block or two. He was never found.

In just three days Mrs. Julia Bervin planned to celebrate her 98th birthday but she passed away at her home north of the Bluff Center School. She was the second oldest woman in Clay County and one of the longest residents. She came to Dakota Territory in the fall of 1870. She often talked about the terribly cold winters and blizzards; preparing the soil for farming using oxen drawn; plows; grasshoppers and drought, no roads, no fences. She was born in Norway, July 15, 1838 and came to America in 1879. She was one of the early homesteaders in Clay County.

Flies are being electrocuted at Jacobson's Bakery. It is no longer "Swat that fly", it is now "Electrocute the fly." That novel device does just that at the bakery. The electric fly exterminator is devised so that a morsel of food is placed in the device and the flies are drawn to it. When the fly comes in contact one of the many bars of electrodes (which it almost has to do), a charge of electricity immediately kills it.

A fire was started from the exhaust of a tractor on the John Steele ranch and caused all but about three acres of the field to be completely burned. Because of the extreme dryness of all small grain fields at this time of year many farmers are taking out 30 day fire insurance policies on their fields.

South Dakota farmers are WPA Employees and getting road work underway in several counties.

A slight shower fell at Burbank on Sunday but the intense heat dried it up immediately.

A history of Clay County is rounding into shape and nearing completion by the state planning board at the university. The history is being written by Joseph Geiger, of Belle Fourche and Miss Bernice Martin of Parkston, members of the board.

Air conditioning in restaurants is said to increase efficiency of employees and to result in less breakage of dishes.

The Vermillion Fire Department is given credit for saving the Wakonda business block. Two buildings were

burned before they arrived. The two buildings destroyed housed the Devine Pool Hall, Parker's Barbershop, Keene's Café and the Hanson Shoe Shop. Exactly 30 minutes after receiving the alarm the truck from Vermillion was near the scene of the fire.

The mercury dropped 34 degrees in an hour when one-tenth of an inch of rain fell. It was the first rain in 24 days. The worst heat wave in the history of Vermillion and Clay County was abruptly brought to an end about 4:30 PM Sunday. The temperature went from 104 to 70 degrees in about an hour. Along with the rain came a heavy dust storm which for a time lowered the visibility to less than 300 feet and forced motorists to turn on their lights. On Thursday and Saturday this week temperatures reached 107. On Friday it was 114 degrees for the high and 75 for the low.

Dr. I. D. Weeks conferred diplomas on 48 summer school students this week.

Charlie Miner caught a 65 pound catfish in the Missouri River on Saturday. It supplied several dozen Vermillion residents with steaks.

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SESQUICENTENNIAL HIGHLIGHTS

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Peas, Hub Brand, sweet and tender \$1.10 per box

Peaches for canning, California Elbertas \$1.19 per box

Clay Countians are invited to use the municipal pool free of charge all day Sunday. Residents of all the rural districts and the town of Wakonda, Meckling and Burbank are invited to be special guests of the city to take a dip in the Prentis Park pool. Elk Point will be the next community to be sent an invitation.

For the first time since June 21 the filtering plant stored up an oversupply of water after the small amount of rainfall and a cool breeze has taken the edge off the demand for water. However, the demand again shot up to heat wave proportions again Wednesday and Thursday morning when more than half million gallons had been used by Vermillion residents.

The county's provisional budget is lowered more than \$2000.00 for 1937. That is more than \$2,000.00 under last year's budget that totaled \$163,704.00.

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SALES TAX DEDUCTION FOR VEHICLE PURCHASE
Effective for purchases from February 17, 2009 through December 31, 2009, taxpayers are allowed to deduct the sales tax paid on a new vehicle purchase. This deduction is allowed whether the taxpayers itemized their personal deductions on Schedule A or if they take the allowed IRS standard deduction. For all of your tax related questions, please call Dave or Ali at Williams & Company for a no obligation consultation.

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