

A MISTAKE.

A tadpole sat on a cool, gray stone, And sadly thought of his life; "Alas, must I live all alone!" said he, "Or shall I espouse me a wife?"

REPORT OF CENTRE COUNTY CONFERENCE AT BOALSBURG.

The spring meeting of the Centre county conference of Women's clubs and affiliated societies was held at Boalsburg, Saturday, April 28th. The weather was perfect and the roads good, making possible a large attendance—125 being registered.

Emergency Aid, of Pennsylvania, with headquarters in Philadelphia. This society is a clearing house for Pennsylvania relief work abroad, doing the work through special committees.

With a rising vote of thanks to the Boalsburg club ladies in appreciation of their gracious hospitality, the conference adjourned.

Securing Work for Federal Prisoners.

Chaplain A. J. Soldan of the Federal prison at Leavenworth, Kansas, has recently established an employment bureau for prisoners who have ended their term, and has already had much success in securing work for them with firms in almost every part of the United States and is daily receiving more and more encouragement.

THE RED GODS AND THE BOY.

The Chautauqua Reading Hour

WILLIAM BYRON FORBUSH, PH. D. EDITOR.

Yesterday I took a boy of 14 to church with me. He looked a satisfactory kind of boy. He was combed and gloved, truly a little gentleman. Other boys of his age were present. One was an usher. Another was the Sunday school librarian.

THE BOY OF THE OLDEN DAYS.

This set me to thinking. If my lad had lived a thousand years ago he would be gone on a crusade by now. If he had been alive in the days of Elizabeth he would be exploring California or settling in Detroit. If he had lived in 1776 he would be a scout under Washington. If he had been born but half a century ago he would have met Pickett's charge at Gettysburg or be trying to dig his way out of Libby Prison.

HE STILL REBELS.

Is he a young gentleman, or does he, too, live in his own world of romance? Has he any desire to break loose, "to strive to seek, to find, and not to yield" before he becomes a "desk-infesting animal" like myself? Thank God, he has. His mind and his hair were both rebellious this morning, his gloves are a forced concession, and he confessed to me on the way to church that the minister is "a mummy." His mind is divided between the detective story that I found in his bed and the base ball game that he is going to play tomorrow night.

This lad is really in total rebellion against the world in which he is living. His indictment against it is that it is monotonous. His chief objection to his food, his clothes, good manners and church is that they are always alike. He dislikes school because it is a place where he is always being told things, instead of being allowed to do things. He scorns his text-books because instead of teaching him action they only give the histories of persons who once acted.

All this is encouraging. It proves that "bromides" are made, not born. This boy, if he hadn't always heard "Don't," would really do something. His legs are accustomed to the lock-step in school, society, church, even in "directed" play, but he would leave the beaten trail if there wasn't always somebody, teacher, policeman, pestor or parent, to shoo him back. Even yet he is pretty likely some day to act at least once on his own initiative.

THE NEED OF TODAY.

Seriously, does not the world still need men and women who dare? Can it move forward if everybody follows the same trail? Is there anyone who can prove that life is worth living but the trail of duty?

Our fault is that the creative child makes more trouble than the conventional one. It is easier to raise a child who will live in quotation marks than to listen to life with a libretto. We fail therefore to see, what Gerald Stanley Lee so plainly sees, that "the mischief in a boy is the entire basis of his education, the mainspring of his life."

THE CALL OF THE WILD.

Jan. Addams has told you what the city boy's girl do today in their pathetic quest for adventure. The daring youth of old sought the sea. Failing the sea, the modern boy seeks the railroad, robbing, riding, consorting beside the rails. The old-time lad journeyed to other lands. The youth of today finds his fairland in the movie picture show, the dance hall and the "dope" for the night.

HOW TO TREAT THE WANDER-LOST.

So the quiet old substitute fail. You can no longer calm a lad with a lust for wandering by inviting him to go and look over his stamp collection. Fret-sawing in the kitchen does not satisfy the youth who aches to be out with the gang. Baseball is ineffective as exercise if it lasts, because there is a bottle in the roster, and the game itself resembles real warfare.

A CLUB OF THEIR OWN.

In the Charlestown district of Boston in a ramshackle set of buildings is the Bunker Hill Boys' Club. Those boys used to throw the burlesque shows around Scollay Square, Saturday nights. After they started a Saturday evening "amateur evening" at the club the boys stopped leaving the district. They preferred to act in a show of their own.

crusader in their bosoms. Give them a chance to act it out whether in camp or on the stage, and they will rise above more passive pleasures. Thus you save the spirit of adventure for the real conquests of manhood.

A Public Playground on the Hills.

Public playgrounds are common—every enterprising city of any importance has them—but the playground camp, located far away in the hills where the clang of the street car and the nerve-racking hustle of business are not known, is new, at least so far as its general use is concerned.

The outing at the camp is remarkable in its own right. It has passed the experimental stage and is now a regular department of the city's "work." The outing at the camp is remarkable in its own right. It has passed the experimental stage and is now a regular department of the city's "work."

At the camp the campers get "three squares" every day, served in cafeteria style in the immense dining room overlooking the beautiful stream thing covered by immense pines. One thing is required of the camper every day and that is one hour's work, this being spent in helping to keep the camp clean, or in the kitchen. A trip of this kind to the average camp—and everything at this camp is up to the standard—would cost between \$30 and \$35 for the two-weeks' outing.

Women to Take Place of Men Called to Arms.

New York, N. Y.—Several big eastern railroads have started making arrangements to employ women in place of men called to arms by the draft. Among the roads taking these precautions are the New Haven, Lehigh Valley, Erie, New York Central, the Pennsylvania and the Long Island.

The New Haven offices declared there was no doubt steps would be taken to have women replace drafted men. The Long Island is preparing to employ a large number of women in clerical departments. This road has already given work to scores of women.

Gov. Brumbaugh Issues a Call.

To all members of the Public Safety committee of Pennsylvania: That we are facing a food crisis in this Commonwealth and in the world cannot be disputed. That the amount of food produced in this country during the present season will have much to do with the success or failure of our war measures is manifest to all thoughtful citizens.

Let Pennsylvania answer the call of our government not only with its quota of troops, but with a full quota of food. This is our patriotic duty and these our days of opportunity. Let us not lose one of them.

Very Truly Yours, M. G. BRUMBAUGH.

Expert Blames Food Waste on Consumers' Carelessness.

According to Secretary Houston, America wastes seven hundred millions of dollars' worth of foodstuffs every year. This is a large fraction of our annual food bill. At any time waste of so great proportion is economic folly, but when the rest of the world is subsisting on very scant rations and must look to us for food help—help which we cannot give by not doing our own part.

Some wastes are due to a failure to guard against insect and disease attack; others to failure to utilize low grade or local excess products. Home canning and evaporating, and community systems of storage and manufacture, if planned in time, will save much of this loss.

Losses in transit can be reduced. Through the aid of market news-columns and marketing advisers, losses due to shipments to markets already well supplied, may be minimized.

(1) Do not buy the kinds of foods which the family will not eat readily. Much will be wasted. (2) Do not buy perishable foods in quantities greater than the family will consume unless you have a means for their proper preservation. (3) Unless the members of the family eat leftovers (and if the cook is not unusually skillful in her preparation of leftovers, they will not be eaten) cook and place upon the table only as much as will be eaten.

(4) Let the carver or server assist the housewife by avoiding the fault of serving excessive portions. If too little is given, a second helping corrects either waste by overeating or by accumulating plate remnants no longer acceptable for human use. (5) There are parts of some foods, especially meats, some members of the family never eat. Keep such parts on the platter so that they may be used in other preparations.

(6) Save the kitchen and table fats. They may be used repeatedly for sauteing and frying. They are better in shortening and gravies than in the sink. Good gravy takes the place of much butter and lard. (7) Save exposed portions of canned foods, jellies, preserves and fruit butters by re-sterilizing by heat, before fermentation makes them unfit.

Sugar Panic Unnecessary, Says Refiner.

Earl D. Babst, president of the American Sugar Refining Company, made the following statement: There has been special illustration in the sugar industry of what Baron Levoyn says "that the competitive bidding between the Allies and between different departments of the Allied Government has been to a considerable degree responsible for the high prices of food to American consumers."

The United States refiners have been bidding not only against each other, but against the Allied Governmental commissions, aided by their Government-controlled shipping.

The co-operative proposal (inter-Allied purchasing and control) should be considered of as much if not more value to America than to our Allies. It would help to take the fever out of the situation. It would be a bulwark against sensational reports leading to consumer panics, such as the sugar industry is struggling with today in many parts of the country.

This company has delivered to its domestic trade as much sugar as in the same period of last year, and that, too, in spite of strikes and car shortage. This company's confidence in its ability to meet the needs of its trade is such that for more than two months it has been selling its output at prices far below the prevailing market. In this effort to allay the needless alarm of consumers, it has had the full co-operation of the wholesale and retail trade.

Last year the United States exported over 700,000 tons of refined sugar. This country has refining capacity to refine a million tons of sugar for our Allies without skimping normal domestic requirements. Housewives tion to sensational stories and by buying sugar in usual quantities and not in advance of household needs.

What Our Visitors May Learn.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. America may have a lot to learn but she has also a lot to teach. Our distinguished visitors from lands long at war, the French and British commissioners, are said to express frequently their surprise that our country is so comparatively undisturbed by its entrance upon the great war which, for them, began with so much storm and fury and so many keen anxieties.

That teaches the independence of the new world; the fact that it has ample resources within itself, quite regardless of the old world. All the old world people, and the British in particular, have long been accustomed to consider the enlightened States or Nations outside of Europe provincial and dependent. British "toploftiness" towards "provincials" has been henceforth incurable but pressing on it. The French, though far less informed, knowing and caring little about anything outside of France, are more ready with their sentiments of "equality and fraternity," but equally convinced that their country is the centre and hub of all enlightened life and that America, though she has made some mistakes, should be more than disturbed than they find it. They don't know about our election nights. So they comment on American serenity and calm common sense.

But the greatest thing we have to teach and they to learn is the development of generations of thorough-going democracy which so strongly inclines us to mind our own national business. That national characteristic is now exhibited in the declaration that our country alone, of all the greater powers at war wants nothing out of the war but assurance that our rights will be respected—assurance against murder and highway robbery. However disinterested British motives in going into the war, it is evident that they will want to keep the conquered German colonies. Exalted though the patriotism of France, she will want Alsace-Lorraine; Russia, though democratic, will want what remains of European Turkey; Italy, Trentino; Japan will keep Kiao-Chow, though China, as well as Germany, wants it back. We want only respect for our rights and our flag.

Spring Care of Bees.

In view of the probable shortage of the domestic sugar supply this year, it is highly desirable that beekeepers to the greatest possible extent. To this end immediate steps should be taken to insure the proper building up of the colonies before the honey flow begins.

Bees need just three things during the spring, and all of these can be readily supplied by the beekeeper. These are plenty of stores, plenty of room for brood rearing, and plenty of protection. The stores should have been provided last fall, but in case colonies are found which are not abundantly supplied a syrup of granulated sugar should be fed. Small quantities from day to day are usually less valuable than a considerable quantity all at one time. This may be given on any warm day, and should, if convenient, be fed in a feeder entirely inside the hive.

Room for breeding usually can best be given by providing each strong colony with two hive bodies as soon as freezing weather has passed. The usually 10-frame Langstroth hive is usually not large enough for a good queen during the spring, and, of course, smaller hives trap the colony still more. Extra room will be valueless unless abundant stores are provided and unless the queen is prolific.

In any locality where the temperature drops to freezing in winter bees need winter protection, but many beekeepers fail to realize this. If proper protection has been given during winter, this should be left on the hives as long as possible. Even if colonies have been neglected during the winter, spring protection may help wonderfully in permitting the bees to build up in time for the honey flow. Protection from wind is quite desirable.

If bees have been adequately cared for, spring manipulations usually are not necessary, but every beekeeper should be sure that his bees are well supplied with three essentials for intensive brood rearing. It is not advisable to spread frames of brood in attempting to stimulate brood rearing. Every beekeeper should bend every energy this year to increasing the production of honey. He will not only find it profitable, since prices will doubtless be good, but he will be aiding the country by providing a product of high food value when other sugars are scarce.

Plant Onions Early.

The first vegetable we think about planting in the garden is the onion. This crop should be started just as soon as the ground is dry enough to work. Onions are grown in quite a number of different ways. In the spring we all enjoy the crisp and tender green onions. The best and most common method of planting the sets or small bulbs in rows about four inches apart. It is always well to plant more sets than are needed for spring use, so that the surplus can be allowed to form mature onions for winter use.

Where the soil is very fertile, mature onions can be raised very successfully from seed, but in most sections of Pennsylvania the sets give the best results. At this time some onion seed should also be sown in drills. This will furnish you with bunch onions for later in the season as well as bulbs for pickling and sets for next season's crop.

For high class Job Work come