

**FARM NOTES.**

—Seven per cent. of the farmers of Pennsylvania employed female household help last year.

—The condition of wheat in the ground on March 1st was 92 per cent., compared with normal, and is approximately the same as one year ago.

—Experiments in feeding alfalfa to calves and pigs have failed to give results sufficient to justify the additional expense of preparing it.

—Sixteen per cent. of the farmers in this State stored ice during the past winter and it is about double the number that stored ice the winter of 1920-1921.

—It appears that the number of flocks of sheep in Pennsylvania declined about three per cent., during the past year. This condition will change as the industry improves and takes on new life.

—Estimates show that on March 1 the Pennsylvania farmers were holding 21 per cent., or 4,820,000 bushels of the 1921 wheat crop; and 27 per cent., or 5,051,000 bushels of the potato crop.

—Approximately 57 per cent. of the farmers in the Keystone State have telephone connections. Conditions have not been favorable and there has been practically no extension of the lines during the past two years.

—There will be no reduction of corn acreage in the dairy districts, according to reports, as there is a tendency to depend more largely upon home-grown feeds. Silos are on the increase, and more farmers are becoming interested in alfalfa to take the place of some of the grain products.

—Extended studies of the milking machine situation at the Geneva, N. Y., Experiment Station have convinced the experts that the makers of milking machines have failed to appreciate the matter of sanitation. The modern milking machine eliminates dirt from the milk, but it furnishes an ideal breeding place for bacteria.

—The farmer who has not a well-thought-out plan for the season's work; who has not set some mark toward which he will strive; who is not ambitious to improve the conditions surrounding himself and family, merely exists. He has nothing to live for, and as a matter of fact, is of but little value to his community. Men of this character who live in town are generally the ones to appeal to the Federated Charities for help. In the country they fare better, but they seldom prosper.

—There is probably more detail work in a vegetable garden than there is in the growing of general farm crops. The strictest attention is required, and according to the care given depends the success or failure. It is necessary that the land be thoroughly tilled before the seed is put in the ground, and the heavier or more compact the soil the more attention must be paid to this work. It is important that the manure be well incorporated into the soil and the ground well worked to a depth of six inches or more. Crops must never be rushed into a soil that has not been previously prepared. After the crop is planted tillage should be shallow in order that all weed growth may be destroyed, and a fine covering of earth is left on the surface of the soil to prevent evaporation. Cultivation to the depth of about two inches is sufficient.

—Partially rotted stable manure is best applied to the land in the fall. It should be plowed in to a depth of six inches. The manure should be well rotted if used in the spring, especially in the case of early vegetables.

In well-rotted manure we have a plant food that is at once available to the crop. For late crops, however, rough and partially decayed manure may be employed provided it is applied to the soil in the spring. But it is always the best for all vegetable crops to apply the manure in the fall and plow it under.

There is an advantage in using commercial fertilizers, and probably the most satisfactory for vegetable growing is one containing 4 per cent. nitrogen, 8 per cent. phosphoric acid and 10 per cent. potash. This should be sown broadcast, just prior to seeding, scattering evenly and mixing with the soil by harrowing. An ounce of fertilizer to the square yard would require 300 pounds to the acre.

—Peas, carrots, beets, parsnips, turnips, radish, spinach, lettuce, parsley, cabbage, cauliflower, celery and onions are the principal cool season crops, and may be started in April or early in May—just as soon as the ground can be properly worked.

Tomatoes, cucumbers, melons, corn, beans, peppers and egg plant are warm season vegetables, and in order to properly develop must have a temperature not lower than 60 degrees. Seeds of these should not be sown until after the middle of May, when danger of frost is past.

Warm season vegetables require a warm soil and a southern exposure, while cool season vegetables may be put in cooler and later soils in more northern situations. For very early vegetables a southern exposure is always desired.

For a continuous supply of certain vegetables—peas, radish and lettuce, and later with beans, successive sowings of the same kind of seed may be made every 10 days until the middle of June. This will make available a supply confined to a week or ten days spread over several weeks.

Where hand work in the garden is necessary, one of the most useful implements is a double-wheel hoe. With such a hoe it is possible to work the surface soil close up to the plant, leaving it in fine condition, and saving costly weeding and hoeing by hand. In small gardens and especially in growing onions, where considerable hand work is necessary, a wheel hoe is indispensable, but it cannot be used to advantage in hard soils, nor where weeds have grown large.

**NEW FORM OF "HOOCH."**

**Moonshine Causes Strange Supor and Makes Drinker Wild.**

Bootleggers' booze is getting mention in the medical journals nowadays, and for the scientific reason that it starts things weirder and wilder than any amount of the old time sure enough bonded whiskey. Physicians read with interest a short time ago of the experience of Chicago physicians in treating imbibers of alcoholic tincture, particularly a report made by Dr. B. Lemchen in the current issue of the Medical Record.

"So far as the Bowery is concerned, give me the pre-prohibition days every time."

Father William J. Rafter, head of the Holy Name Mission and a veteran in good woks among the derelicts of the Bowery, made that statement with emphasis in New York recently. He was talking about the desperately bad effects of the denatured alcohol which, mixed with water, is being imbibed along the Bowery under the name of "Bowery Smoke."

"It's hellish stuff," said Father Rafter. "When it doesn't kill these poor fellows it drives them blind and crazy. They know not what they do."

"In old days, the days when men could get a decent drink, I never saw such sights as I am confronted with every day now. The Bowery men drank beer or mixed ale, and even when they took the hard stuff it didn't hurt them much. This new liquor is different. It is rank poison to brain and body. So far as the Bowery is concerned, prohibition is a wicked failure."

We have easily more than twice as many violent alcoholic cases now as we had two or three years ago. It was really rare then to see a man blind, staggering, crazy drunk. Lots of times we saw poor fellows who had slipped down the ladder some a bit under the influence, and God knows that was bad enough, for I do not defend liquor in any way, but they were amenable to advice and suggestion.

"When they got over their bat they were in fair physical and mental condition. They could get a job or do what they had to do. Now they are hopeless. They are inspired to crime and every mentionable wickedness. Drunkenness has increased and is increasing fast—in this section of the town—and I know what I am talking about after a quarter of a century of work among these people."

Whenever possible Father Rafter advises the magistrates to commit men to the workhouse for intoxication after drinking "Bowery Smoke."

"It's the only way to save their lives," said Father Rafter. "Turned loose, they would buy a little more of the stuff and that would mean death."

They pay 20 cents for a half pint of this 'medicated alcohol,' doctor it with water and swing it down. It's got so we have to keep a husky guard on the door of the Holy Name Mission to keep these crazy men from thrusting themselves in and starting a fight."

New York police give testimony similar to Father Rafter's, saying in the districts touching the Bowery that their work among the intoxicated is harder and more dangerous than it ever was in the days before prohibition became legally effective.

—When you see it in the "Watchman" you know its true.

**NEW CORN PEST INVADERS THIS COUNTRY FROM MEXICO.**

A comparatively new corn insect that promises to become a serious pest has made its appearance in southern Texas and New Mexico, according to reports to the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is a boring caterpillar closely related to the larger corn-stalk borer of the South Atlantic States, and has been identified by the bureau as *Diatraea lineolata* Walker.

At least two generations occur annually in the Big Bend region of Texas and the full-grown caterpillars of the second generation hibernates in the corn stubble under ground. During February many fields were found in that region in which 25 per cent. of the corn stubble contained hibernating caterpillars. According to representatives of the bureau who have investigated the situation the distribution is very imperfectly known, but the pest is believed to inhabit most of southern New Mexico, particularly the Pecos River Valley, and is numerous in southwestern Texas.

Apparently, it is said, this pest is moving northward from Mexico, where it was abundant and very in-

jurious last season. This species has been known to be present in southern New Mexico since 1913, and was studied in a preliminary way there by a representative of the bureau in the early spring of 1914.

Arthur C. Tonley, president of the Non-partisan League, is said to be organizing a new political party to be made up of farmers. However, it is not at all probable that he will get very far with it. He still has doubt about him that flavor of the jail where he did time for his treasonable conduct during the world war. And as if that were not enough the plight of North Dakota stands as an eloquent testimonial against committing public affairs to his conduct and keeping. Entrusted with control in that State in order to correct rank abuses and avoid direct evils, Tonley proceeded to employ the affairs of the people for his own enrichment and his entrenchment in power. He imposed upon the people far greater abuses than those against which they had revolted, and in the name of liberty he subjected them to the most outrageous tyranny.—Fort Wayne News.

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