

FARM NOTES.

A thousand chickens, representing the blue-bloods of the wyandotte breed in Pennsylvania will be shown in competition at the seventh annual State Farm Products show, in Harrisburg, the fourth week in January.

Each year a different breed of chickens will be selected for the poultry show. A spacious room has been secured in one of the two large show halls for the staging of the poultry show and prizes aggregating \$1,500 will be awarded the winners.

The Pennsylvania Poultry Breeders' Association is backing the show and will have active charge of the management of the show which, however, will be a part of the general show.

An unusual feature of the poultry show will be the fact that no admission will be charged. Since the State Farm Products shows were started, seven years ago, no admission charges have been made and the show in its entirety is open to the public, without cost.

Thirty thousand reduced fare certificates have been sent the county agents of the State for distribution to the farmers and members of their families who will attend the show, the reduced fare rates having been granted by every railroad in the State, east of Pittsburgh. The reduced rates are also effective in New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.

Recent changes in the regulations covering the quarantine and safety zone areas in the districts where the potato wart has been found, have tended to confuse the minds of some growers.

The following explanation covers all the regulations that have been issued:

I. Two Quarantines. There are two kinds of quarantines now in existence (a) a drastic measure applying to all localities where wart has been found. For ordinary purposes all these towns and areas are often called the "Quarantine Area" to distinguish them from (b) which is a limited quarantine applied to certain agricultural sections adjacent to the main infected areas in the Anthracite coal region, and which have aptly been called the "Safety Zone."

II. Quarantine limits. The "Quarantine Area" or area of close restriction includes the following: Luzerne county.—Hazle and Foster townships including the city of Hazleton and boroughs of Freeland, West Hazleton, Jeddo, and White Haven; the farm of Michael Becker in Butler township.

Carbon county.—Banks and Lausanne townships in Carbon county, including the boroughs of Beaver Meadow and Mauch Chunk.

Schuylkill county.—McAdoo, Honeybrook No. 1, Honeybrook No. 2, Sheppton, Oneida and Jackson.

Lackawanna county.—The Third and Fourth wards of Moosic borough. Cambria county.—Dunlo, Llanfair, Lilly, Wintondale, Nant-y-glo, Beaverdale, Lloydell and Onnalinda.

Centre county.—Snow Shoe, Clarence and Newtown.

Huntingdon county.—Woodvale, Robertsdale.

Clearfield county.—Smiths Mills, Osceola.

Armstrong county.—Yateboro and Rural Valley.

The "Safety Zone" is made up as follows:

The townships of Dennison, Butler, Sugar Loaf, and Black Creek, in Luzerne county; the townships of North Union, East Union, Mahanoy, Delano, Klein and Rush, in Schuylkill county, and the townships of Packer and Lehigh in Carbon county.

III. Quarantine Area Regulations. The essence and purpose of the restrictions lie in our hope of starving out the wart fungus in the soil by growing only immunes, and in the mean time preventing the disease from spreading to other places by potatoes and soil carrying materials taken out of the Area.

Stripped to essentials and leaving out the permit system which is the only way in which the quarantine can be carried out in a legal way, the regulations for the "Quarantine Area" require:

(a) That all potatoes grown must be immunes.

(b) Where seed is not saved from a previous immune crop a stock must be obtained from some source which the Department knows to be immune, and which contains no mixtures (which might not be immune).

(c) All potatoes which are not immunes may be condemned to be destroyed by the inspectors. This applies to single hills as well as to the whole planting.

(d) Except for potatoes merely passing through the area no potatoes may leave the area. This prohibition also applies to root crops, vegetables, plants with soil about the roots, or any material which is likely to carry soil and thus spread this soil-borne disease.

(e) Manure from sources not regarded as dangerous by the Department may be removed from the area to the Safety Zone under permit during January, February, October, November and December.

IV. Safety Zone Regulations.—These formerly required the growing of certain specified immune varieties only, the seed to be obtained from an authorized source so as to insure purity and immunity and to avoid mixtures. The main infected areas fortunately are well isolated from our large farming districts except for the adjacent agricultural valleys, and to avoid the real danger of spread by way of these valleys the Safety Zone was instituted.

THEORY ADVANCED BY MANY

What Might Be Called the Evolution of Evolution as Explained by John Burroughs.

It is interesting to note that the doctrine of evolution itself has undergone as complete an evolution as has any animal species with which it deals. We find the germ of it, so to speak, in the early Greek philosophers and not much more.

Crude, half-developed forms of it begin to appear in the Eighteenth century of our era and become more and more developed in the Nineteenth, till they approximate completion in Darwin. In Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1795, there are glimpses of the theory, but in Lamarck, near the beginning of the Nineteenth century, the theory is so fully developed that it anticipates Darwin on many points; often full of crudities and absurdities, yet Lamarck hits the mark surprisingly often.

In 1813 Dr. W. C. Wells, an Englishman, read a paper before the Royal Society in London that contains a passage that might have come from the pages of Darwin. In the anonymous and famous volume called "Vestiges of Creation," published in 1844, the doctrine of the mutability of species is forcibly put. Then in Herbert Spencer in 1852 the evolution theory of development receives a fresh impetus, till it matures in the minds of Darwin and Wallace in the late 50s. The inherent impulse toward development is also in Aristotle. It crops out again in Lamarck, but was repudiated by Darwin.—From "The Last Harvest," by John Burroughs.

AFTER A VISIT TO DENTIST

Writer Recalls Some Impressions That Some of Us Can Shudderingly Indorse.

The only person who seems to pay any attention to the "smile" sign in a dentist's office is the dentist himself.

Oddly enough, dental chairs are designed with a view to the patient's comfort.

You never realize what a big mouth you have till the dentist begins laying his scaffolding in it.

There is nothing so unnecessary as his preliminary announcement, "Now, this may hurt a little."

The first step in painless extraction is the injection of the anesthetic into the gums.

The phrase, to take someone's head off, undoubtedly originated with a dentist's efforts to get the better of a stubborn wisdom tooth.

The sweetest words that ever fell on your ear are: "That will be all for today."

You never had so much fun with a glass of water before.

Getting outside, you feel like a stranger in the world.

The worst pain of all comes when you get your bill.—Edmund J. Kiefer in the New York Sun.

Hailstones Formed During Heat.

It is during summer-time that hailstones occur most frequently. It is the heat of summer that gives rise to them, for they can be formed only in thundery weather.

When there is thunder about there are always very strong upward draughts of air. As raindrops begin to fall they are caught by these currents and carried to great heights, where they freeze solid. If they now fall to earth they arrive in the form of the small hailstones that are usually seen. Sometimes, however, after falling through the clouds and receiving a coating of moisture, they are carried up again by other currents. The moisture freezes upon them, increasing their size.

The process may go on for some time, in which case the hailstone receives a coating after coating of ice until it becomes as large as a marble or even an egg.

"Shished" the Tiger Away.

It was a frequent occurrence for a tiger to carry off a Chinese coolie in the Malay peninsula, according to a traveler who spent some time in that country. These persons, he said, could seldom be brought to believe in the reality of dangers from animals that they looked on as only cats of abnormal dimensions. I saw this valor of ignorance tragically illustrated one day when I took some police out to help me track a tiger responsible for the loss of many lives. From a too distant eminence we soon caught sight of a Chinaman slowly strolling along sucking a piece of sugarcane. Out sprang a tiger, but missed his mark, the back of the man's head. Without any acceleration of pace, the coolie, merely withdrawing the cane from his mouth, waved at the tiger and "shished" him away.

Not the Same Poincare.

There is growing up a distinct Einstein tradition concerning the great mathematician's habits and personality. The following is the latest addition to the collection: Einstein was walking bareheaded across Bavaria square in Berlin. One of his friends hailed him: "Well, what do you think of Poincare?" "I think he is a very talented man." "Yes, but what darling!" "The darling of genius." "But what a frenzied fury against his antagonist!" "Oh, no, not at all. You don't know him." "Well, but at least professor, you won't deny that his determined enmity of Germany, and that his megalomania—" "Oh," said Einstein, "you're talking about Raymond Poincare, the premier. I was thinking of Henri Poincare, the mathematician."

LANDED BEFORE COLUMBUS

Every Reason to Believe That Lief Ericsson Was Real "Discoverer" of America.

Who may have been the first discoverer of America no one knows, but Lief Ericsson visited it over 400 years ahead of Columbus. A recent writer on this matter has said: "The evidence that Lief Ericsson came to the North American coast in the year 1000 and that he returned to Europe, making his discovery known to the world, is clearly authentic." Ericsson is defended against the charge of being a "barbarous Norse adventurer," though he might have been all that, and also the discoverer of America. It is maintained that he represented the highest type of the Scandinavian civilization of that time which had risen above the decadent Roman culture of southern Europe. The Sagas say that Ericsson was a large, powerful man of most imposing bearing, "a man of sagacity and just in all things." Before his discovery of America he had been converted to the Christian faith, and had been commissioned by King Olaf to proclaim the faith to the people of Greenland, which the Scandinavians had settled a considerable period before that time. It is quite reasonable to believe that the Norsemen who had settled in Greenland had made voyages to America in advance of Ericsson.

ONE OF EARLIEST OF ARTS

Embroidery With the Needle Has Been Practiced as Far Back as History Records.

Embroidery is the art of ornamenting cloth and other materials with the needle. Most of the embroideries made today are usually copies of the ancient ones.

Embroidery is believed to have been applied to skins almost as soon as needle and thread were first employed to join pieces of skins together into garments. In Lapland the natives embroider their reindeer-skin clothing with a needle of reindeer bone, using reindeer sinew and applique of strips of hide.

Travelers say that in Central Africa, among the primitive tribes there, the girls embroider skins with figures of flowers and animals, supplementing the effect with shells and feathers.

Among the ancient Greek textiles exhumed from Crimean graves are both tapestries and embroideries now preserved in the Hermitage at Petrograd. One of the embroideries is attributed to the Fourth century. B. C., and is in colored wools on wool.

Colonists Suffered Cold.

The houses of the early colonists in America were not proof against the bitter cold of winter. One volume tells of icy blasts that blew down Cotton Mather's great chimney so fiercely that this noted divine recorded the fact in his diary. He speaks of a "great fire that the Juices forced out at the end of short billets of wood by the heat of the flame on which they were laid, yet froze into ice on their coming out." Judge Sewell wrote 20 years later: "An extraordinary Cold Storm of Wind and Snow. Bread was frozen at the Lord's Table. Even though it was so cold yet John Tuckerman was baptized. At 6 o'clock my ink freezes so that I can hardly write by a good fire in my wives Chamber." Cotton Mather tells in his pompous fashion of a cold winter's day four years later: "This dreadful cold, my ink glass in my standish is froze and splitt in my very stove. My ink in my pen suffers a congelation."

Old Flour Makes Best Bread.

Flour (according to scientists) improves with age, the older flour producing a larger and finer loaf. Freshly milled flours do not produce the best of which they are capable. A great advance was made in the milling art by the introduction of a method for treating flour in the mill whereby such freshly milled flour at once took on the properties of a properly aged flour, so that the flour could then go to the consumer in condition to render at once its highest baking value. This state of affairs is brought about in flour by treating it with chlorine, and the general result is known as "maturing"—i. e., the general effect of "maturing" flour—a whitening effect, together with greatly improved baking qualities. The yellow coloring matter of flour is carotin, which is also what gives carots their color. Chlorine oxidizes the carotin, which then loses its color.

A Word in Extenuation.

A man who had several times sought the help of his minister to secure employment was lounging near a railway station as the pastor was hurrying to catch a train.

"Excuse me, sir," said the unemployed in a trembling voice.

"So you are out of work again," said the minister severely. "It seems to me you get tired of a new employer very quickly."

"Don't misunderstand me, sir," pleaded the man. "It can never be truthfully said that I get tired first."

Sad Memories.

"Ah," sighed the serious-faced passenger, "how little we know of the future and what it has in store for us." "That's true," another passenger said. "Little did I think when some 30 years ago I carved my initials on the desk in the old country school that I would some day grow up and fail to become famous."

FIRST COUNTY FAIR AT JUNEAU SHOWS POSSIBILITIES OF ALASKA.

"The First County Fair of Southeastern Alaska," held in Juneau during the last week in September, was successful in demonstrating that that section of the territory has important possibilities in the way of agricultural development. Although Haines strawberries and Skagway celery have enjoyed, for several years, at least local fame for their excellent qualities, many still think that successful farming is not possible in southeastern Alaska.

The "country fair" has done much to remove this erroneous belief and to arouse new interests. While heretofore it has been the accepted opinion that this section of the territory must depend entirely on its mining, fishing and timber for future development and growth of population, it now has been demonstrated that an abundance of nearly all agricultural crops can be produced for home use, with some to spare for export.

It has been estimated that Alaska imports from the United States annually more than \$1,000,000 worth of farm products, which can be grown at home and be of better quality. Juneau is elated over the success of the fair and is forming an association to make it an annual event.

Southeastern Alaska is that portion of the coast section extending from Portland Canal on the south to the international boundary line on the north and to the one hundred and forty-first meridian where it joins the main territory. This "panhandle of Alaska," as it often is called, is almost entirely within the Tongass national forest reserve, and for this reason, many have been deterred from investigating the possibilities of farming. Nevertheless, homes have been established throughout the entire region and the soil has responded in a satisfactory way.

The exhibits at the fair consisted largely of vegetables grown in the temperate zone, of a quality that would bear comparison with those of any section of the United States. From Ketchikan to Skagway and Haines, from Sitka to Glacier Bay, every settlement and hamlet made a creditable showing, the standard of which was so nearly uniform that the judges had much difficulty in awarding prizes.

One of the most interesting exhibits was the apples grown near Haines in the Chilkat River Valley. Farmers from Strawberry Point, in the Glacier Bay section, displayed fine oats and barley; also timothy and red clover—all of good growth and excellent quality. A small group of farmers, established in this section, also is engaged

in dairying and stock-raising. Other attractions at the fair were exhibits of native handicraft and photographs of Alaskan scenery, the most notable of these being the small collection of Merrill water colors.

Field Agents on Sheep Claims.

There are eleven field agents in Pennsylvania, and the remarkable information gathered from their reports is that a large portion of their time is spent upon the settlement of sheep claims, for sheep killed, maimed and injured by dogs. It is almost inconceivable that any citizen of Pennsylvania would neglect or fail to cooperate with the department in its endeavor to augment the number of sheep raised in the State.

Once a dog gets into a flock of sheep, even though they may be only chased and frightened, that flock of sheep is done for—it had better be gotten rid of. Therefore it behooves every good citizen to see to it, so far as possible, that the root of the evil is gotten out, namely, by looking after the dogs which get the sheep.

Some farmers declare that they have gone entirely out of the sheep-raising end of farming for the reason that the number of sheep-killing dogs is increasing so rapidly that it is no longer a profitable business. We should, therefore, see to it that we protect our sheep industry to the utmost.

The Ruling Passion.

Six men, sole survivors of a wreck, were cast upon a desert island where they abode for some months, till a man-of-war took them off. In his log the captain of the warship noted the racial characteristics of the six thus:

The two Irishmen had fought every day for the whole time of their sojourn.

The two Englishmen had not spoken

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to each other because they had not been properly introduced. The two Scots had started a Caladonian society.

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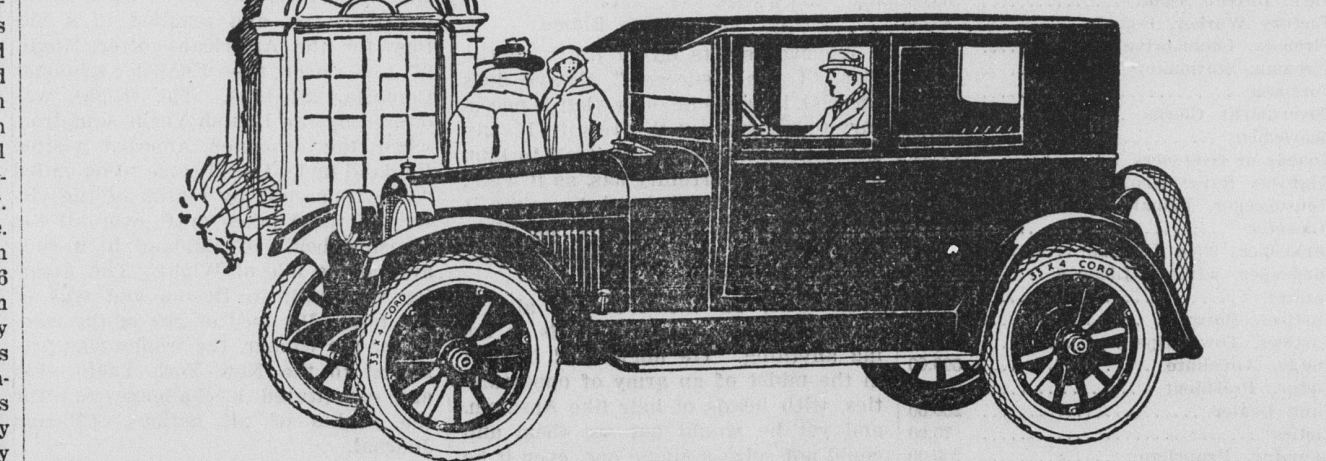
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