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Bellefonte, Pa.

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# First National Bank

Bellefonte, Pa.



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# Faibles

## Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., February 6, 1925.

### Many Forms of Lime Used to Satisfy Alfalfa Needs:

"For the Land's sake" apply lime, and if you are growing alfalfa or intend to do so by all means treat the land with lime if it needs it.

Field tests of different forms of lime fail to show any material difference in the crops produced where equivalent amounts of actual lime are used, states J. B. R. Dickey, legume extension specialist of the Penna. State College. This is he explains a ton of high analysis, hydrated lime has approximately the same crop producing power as one and one-half tons of finely ground limestone, marl, ground oyster shells or "Plant Lime."

"On account of the core and ash commonly contained in much of the lump lime commonly sold to farmers, and on account of its lumpiness and consequent poor distribution, it has probably about the same practical value, ton for ton, as hydrated lime," he declares. "Ground burned lime, if well burned and not air slaked, will have somewhat higher efficiency."

Coarsely ground limestone containing some particles as large as bird-shot should be applied at about double the rate of hydrated lime. This coarser material, however, is cheaper and easier to handle and will keep the soil sweet for a longer period since the coarser particles dissolve slowly and neutralize acidity as it develops. Heavy applications of very fine lime or limestone probably involve loss and waste much from leaching, Dickey explains.

The reason alfalfa has grown so rapidly in the limestone valley and on adjoining shale soils is partly because these soils do not ordinarily tend to become extremely sour, but primarily because lime was cheap and was used liberally on these soils in the past.

"Where liberal applications are to be made," this specialist says, "economy should by all means be practiced in securing the cheaper forms of lime, such as forkings, home-burned lime, by-product limes, fine limestone screenings, home ground limestone or marl from local deposits."

### Asserts Need of More Economy in Dairying.

Weeding, breeding and feeding are essential to greater economy in dairy productions, says E. B. Fitts, dairy extension specialist of the Penna. State College.

Under present conditions, weeding out the poor cows in the herd becomes imperative. A good pure-bred sire at the head of the herd will breed milking ability into the future herd, he declares. A balanced ration based upon home grown legumes and corn silage, aids greatly in cutting production costs.

"The present situation in the dairy industry emphasizes the importance of the need for economy in production," Fitts points out. "The production side of the industry taken as a whole is not operated at a very high degree of efficiency. Handicaps of inferior cow, improper feeding and poor management exist on every hand. The situation therefore, is acute for the margin of profit has always been small.

Cost of production records based on cow testing association reports show that the cost of producing milk in herds where the average production is 10,000 pounds annually is but one-half of that in herds where the average per head is 4,000 pounds he says. "Dairy farming is a business," says Fitts. "There is real competition. Efficiency in cattle, economy in operation and quality in products must be watchwords for dairymen in the face of the present conditions. The future holds much of promise for the business dairyman."

### Giant Mail Plane to Cut Postal Cost.

An air mail plane with a capacity seven times that of those now in use has just completed successful night-flight tests under the auspices of the post-office department. Clarence D. Chamberlain, president of an aerial express service at Hasbrouck Heights, N. J., testified before the congressional subcommittee investigating the nation's military and commercial air resources.

The new craft, he said, used a standard Liberty motor and, with an improved body and wing structure, promises to cut the cost of air mail transport from \$2.63 per ton-mile, as compared with an estimated cost of about 25 cents for similar service by land truck.

He described the improved mail ship as a combination of features which enabled it to descend at low speeds and by steep angles to glide great distances in case of motor failure, and to maintain a speed of 135 miles an hour.

Monday's session of the subcommittee concluded its hearing and it will resume at Washington next Monday, and a report probably will be ready for congress by February 13.

Augustus M. Herring, of Freeport, L. I., who said he had flown a glider at Croton, N. Y., in 1884 declared it was a waste of money for the government to experiment with full-size craft. Models could be built for a few dollars which would demonstrate within 1 or 2 per cent the merits of newly designed machines he said.—Ex.

### Urges Beekeeping for Farm Boys.

"Bees can be made a factor of keeping farm boys on the farm," declared Professor Willis R. Skillman, State Department of Education, in an address before the State Beekeepers' Association at Harrisburg.

He stressed the value of beekeeping as a vocational farm project, saying: "Boys conducting bee projects have an opportunity to start a remunerative business which will extend and develop through a great period of years."

### Robt. Louis Stevenson's Samoan Home

In Vaillima there was always a sense of spaciousness; of a big and lordly house set in a park; of wide vistas open to the sea and the breeze. About it all was a rich, glowing, and indescribable beauty, which never failed to cause a stranger to exclaim aloud; and being six hundred feet above the sea it had a delightfully fresh climate for so hot a country. The nights were usually cold, especially in the early hours of the morning, and a blanket was essential. Our simple thermometer—a bottle of coconut-oil—seldom failed to solidify nightly, which implied fifty-six degrees Fahrenheit.

Within the house the visitor's astonishment grew. Not only was the main hall extremely large, where a hundred people could dance with ease, but, as Robert Louis Stevenson had imported all his Bournemouth furniture, and much from his father's house in Edinburgh, one might have thought one's self in civilization, and not a thousands of miles away on a remote island of the South Pacific. Pictures, napery, silver—all were in keeping, and except for the rack of rifles and the half-naked servants the illusion was complete; and to realize it to the full it must be remembered that all the other white people, even the highest officials, lived in a rather makeshift way, with the odds and ends they had picked up at an auction, and very comfortlessly. Every official term ended in an auction; often I would mark some attractive glasses or coffee-cups, or whatever it was, and say to myself, "I must buy those in when they are sold."

In contrast, the dignity, solidity, and air of permanence of Vaillima was impressive. It dominated the country like a castle. Chiefs came from the farthest parts of Samoa just to gaze at it, and to be led in a hushed and awe-stricken tour of its wonders. When a Samoan said, "Like the house of Tuisitola," he had reached the superlatives; and in this setting, and soon familiar with the language, Stevenson gradually grew into a great feudal chieftain whose word carried weight in a great part of Samoa.

### Plan New "Largest Building."

A group of bankers, manufacturers and agriculturists in the Middle West have launched a project to erect at Chicago a temple to agriculture that will be the largest building in the world. The plans call for a mammoth structure containing a convention hall that will seat 20,000 persons and a hotel of 3500 rooms. Fronting on the Chicago river, the building will also have docks and warehouse facilities. In addition, there is to be a tower designed primarily for radio broadcasting that will rival the famous Eifel tower in Paris, now the highest structure in the world. The great project would mean an outlay of at least \$30,000,000.

According to the plans as announced by former Gov. Lowden, of Ill., the contemplated American Agricultural Society building will serve as national center for farm activities. The idea was developed at the recent convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Also interested in the enterprise are William Wrigley, Jr., Stewart, Lawrence Whiting and others. Efforts will be made to have the building completed May 1, 1927.

### Electric Service Needed on Farm.

Electric service for at least half the farms in Pennsylvania within ten years is a goal relatively easy of attainment, Morris L. Cook, director of the Pennsylvania Giant Power Survey declared in an address at the opening meeting of the ninth annual state farm products show at Harrisburg. Mr. Cooks, L. J. Taber, master of the National Grange and Governor Pinchot were the speakers on the program, with Frank P. Willits, state secretary of agriculture presiding.

Asserting 100,000 farms can utilize the service on a self-supporting basis, Mr. Cooks said the annual capital outlay required of the companies to reach these farms will be less than three per cent. of the capital expended last year in Pennsylvania for electrical development.

"The Pennsylvania farmer" he said, "is without electrical service now, first, because the electric service companies have been absorbed in providing the large volume of current demanded by industry."—Ex.

### Forests are Being Damaged by Insects and Diseases.

The white pine blister rust in the Northeast and Northwest, the chestnut blight in the East and South, and the bark beetle infestations in the Southwest and Pacific Coast regions were the principal tree diseases and pests fought by the Forest Service during the past year, according to the annual report made by Chief Forester Greeley to the Secretary of Agriculture.

The white pine blister rust threatens to take a heavy toll in the valuable white pine forests of Idaho and eventually throughout the white pine region of other States, the report states. Added damage has come to the white pine stands in the West, largely because of the rapid spread of the blister rust disease.

### Chestnut Blight Spreading.

The scientists of the Department of Agriculture are deeply concerned over the blight that has spread among chestnut trees of the East and South. No practical means of controlling the chestnut blight has yet been devised and the Forest Service is attempting to salvage the chestnut timber in the Southern National Forests before it is ruined for commercial purposes.

Bark beetles continue to be a menace to timber stands within the National Forests, says Chief Forester Greeley. Under the technical direction of the Bureau of Entomology the fight against the bark beetles and other tree insects is being waged in several regions, especially in the yellow pine belts of Arizona, California and Oregon.

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