

NEWS OF PENNSYLVANIA

TWO GIRLS IN A SUICIDE PACT

Disappointed in Love and Drink Laudanum.

Philadelphia (Special).—Following out a compact into which they had entered, two comely young girls—Mary Moran, of 1443 Clymer Street, and Ruth Brindley, of 1516 South Twenty-sixth Street, attempted suicide by drinking laudanum. They are both dying in the Polyclinic Hospital. The mystery of the attempt is so great that nothing of a satisfactory nature can be learned by the police of the agreement into which the girls are said to have entered, or the reason for the compact. Unrequited love is given as the reason.

The attempt to end their lives was made by the girls in the branch establishment of the Southwark Mills Company, at Twenty-first Street and Washington Avenue. They are both employed at this place and are close friends. A state of melancholia has been noted in both for some time and among their mill girl companions the jesting remark has frequently been made that "Mary and Ruth were in love."

They were found unconscious in a dressing room of the mill. The discovery was made by a companion, who summoned help. The police removed the pair to the hospital.

The police, after investigating the circumstances, learned that both girls, within the past two weeks, had run away from their homes because their parents objected to their receiving the attentions of young men. When the latter learned they had been forbidden to visit the girls bitter quarrels ensued.

CATTLE DISEASE.

Inspectors Hear of Many New Cases. Danville (Special).—Fresh outbreaks of the foot and mouth disease in Clinton and Dauphin Counties were reported at headquarters here. The disease was discovered in the slaughter house of F. L. Hinner, at Lock Haven, where eighty hogs are affected, and the experts believe they have traced all the infection in Clinton County to this place.

The farms of H. G. Marr, of Clintonville, and Knecht Brothers, at Parvin, Clinton County, with sixty-five hogs and eleven cattle, have also become infected. The farm of Hays Dorry, Island Post Office, has been placed under quarantine.

At Elizabeth, Dauphin County, eighteen cattle on the farm of George E. Erdman were reported as being infected. The farms of Jacob Lesner, C. E. Shaffer and E. Boyer, Elizabethville, with a total of 136 cattle, are under quarantine, their cattle having been exposed to the disease.

RUMOR OF DEAL.

Butler Hears That Steel Trust May Buy Local Plants. Butler (Special).—A well defined rumor is afloat here that the United States Steel Corporation is negotiating for the purchase of the local plant of the Standard Steel Car Company and the subsidiary concerns, the Butler Wheel Works, the forged Steel Wheel Works and the Butler Bolt and Rivet Works located here.

Representatives of the corporation were in Butler and inspected the plants. In connection with the report it is said the \$5,000,000 car wheel plant, protected by the corporation to manufacture wheels by a new process, will be established with the forged steel plant already here if the deal goes through.

TAFT'S MAJORITY 296,994.

Official Returns Given Out By State Department. Harrisburg (Special).—William H. Taft had a majority of 296,994 over William J. Bryan, or just 4,006 short of 300,000, according to the official count of the votes which took place at the State Department.

The statements show the following: Taft (Republican) 745,779; Bryan (Democrat) 448,785; Chaslin (Prohibitionist) 26,694; Debs (Socialist), 33,913; Higen (Independent), 1,057; Socialist Labor, 1,222.

Taft's plurality over Bryan is 296,994; majority over all, 224,108.

The vote in Philadelphia County was as follows: Republican, 185,263; Democratic, 75,317; Prohibitionist, 1,926; Socialist, 5,192; Independence, 234; Socialist Labor, 216.

Trips On Stairs Over Cat.

Darby (Special).—Dr. William P. Painter, one of the directors of the Darby National Bank, is confined to his bed by injuries. Dr. Painter was hurrying downstairs in the dark when he stepped on the family cat. The cat squirmed from under his feet, causing the doctor to fall headlong down the stairs.

Victims Saw No Fun.

Chester (Special).—Charged with holding up John Delaney, Paul Crowther and Willard Delaney at point of a revolver and rifling their clothes of money and penknives, Frank Bowman, white, and Clarence Cottman, colored, were each held under \$100 bail to keep the peace by Magistrate Elliott. The accused lads declared that they were only playing wild West in fun, but the youthful victims said it was no fun for them.

TYPHOID EPIDEMIC MENACES READING

Nearly 150 Persons Contract Fever Within the Week.

Reading (Special).—That those sections of the city supplied with water from the Maiden Creek stream are on the threshold of a serious epidemic of typhoid fever was made apparent by the report of communicable diseases maintained by the Board of Health for the past week.

Since November 16, and just ending, there have been reported the alarming number of 146 cases of the disease and physicians state that there are indications that this number will be equalled, if not surpassed, by the end of this week.

The snow fall of November 14 is declared to be the direct cause of the trouble. This was the only precipitation of any consequence for some time. When the snow melted, the water resulting stirred up the very dregs in the creeks, and this, those who claim to know say, is what the people are drinking in the Maiden Creek supply which is not filtered.

In the wards north of Penn Square there are over 100 cases.

HIS FIANCEE ENDS LIFE.

Young Chester Girl Commits Suicide On Eve Of Wedding.

Chester (Special).—Mary C. Pugh, a pretty 17-year-old girl, committed suicide at the home of William Bayard, Jr., 19 West Fourth Street, where she was found lying upon the floor in convulsions. The girl, who lived on West Front Street, went to a local drug store and bought five cents' worth of strychnine, saying that she wanted the poison to kill a dog.

The girl was to have been married on December 19 to Charles Vail, a young employee of the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Co., and arrangements for the wedding had been made. Vail said he could not account for the girl's actions. When he left her at night she was laughing and joking, and there did not seem to be anything troubling her. She bid him good-by and did not intimate in any way that she intended to end her life.

STATE CAPITAL NOTES.

The Auditor General's department is taking steps to secure payment of delinquent taxes.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Shaffer, in remarking upon county institutes he has attended lately, says that the attendance is larger than usual.

The State Water Supply Commission has sent engineers to Lebanon to study water conditions. Applications have been made for a number of charters for water companies and protests have been made.

Chief Rockey, of the State Bureau of Industrial Statistics, says that he expects a bill to establish a labor bureau to be presented this winter.

The State Department of Agriculture is paying off owners of cattle killed by State live stock agents as rapidly as the bills come in. Secretary Critchfield says that he will see to it personally that they are paid so as to cause as little loss to cattle owners as possible.

Clay Kemble's Home Sold. Norristown (Special).—"Sunset," the residence of Clay Kemble, Church Road, at the top of Edge Hill Range, Cheltenham, was sold by Sheriff Buckley here. The purchaser was a Mr. Chase, of Philadelphia. The property is said to have cost \$75,000, and the sale followed an attachment issued at the instance of the H. F. Mitchell Company, of Philadelphia.

ITEMS IN BRIEF.

The Carlisle Chain Works were damaged by fire originating in a furnace to the extent of about three thousand dollars.

Six-year-old Gertrude Clarey, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Clarey, of Phoenixville, died as the result of burns received on Monday when she and a little playmate overturned a lighted lamp.

The eleventh annual reunion of the One Hundred and Fifty-first Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers' Association, was held at the Schuylkill Valley House, at Leesport.

The 205 women and 600 men, at the Asylum of the Chronic Insane, at South Mountain, enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast. Their bill-of-fare consisted of 1,200 pounds of roast chicken, eight bushels of sweet potatoes, 3,000 stalks of celery, 150 quarts of cranberries, 40 gallons of cold slaw, 40 gallons of gravy, 250 pounds of filling and 300 pumpkin pies.

The Board of Health of Upper Darby Township reorganized with the following officers: President, Dr. Leedom Broadbent; secretary, William Pendleburg; treasurer, J. Milton Lutz; solicitor, W. Cloud Alexander; health officer, Harold G. Vernon.

The handsome new three-story brick home of Shamokin Aerie No. 534, Fraternal Order of Eagles, was dedicated with imposing public ceremonies.

After an illness of eleven days with typhoid fever, James R. Frank, lieutenant of police for the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Company, died at his home in Media.

J. H. Lehman, a cattle dealer, of Lancaster County, convicted in Chambersburg, September, of securing stocks on worthless checks, was sentenced to four months in jail and a \$100 fine.

SIGN OF RETURNING CONFIDENCE



—Season's clearest cartoon by Davenport, in the New York Mail.

PROSPERITY WAVE FELT IN COUNTRY'S INDUSTRIES.

Railroads Plan Gigantic Improvements Costing Millions of Dollars—National Prosperity Association, Having No More Work to Do, Disbands.

The certain return of prosperity is eloquently indicated in items in the news of the past week.

From all over the country have come reports of the reopening of factories after ten months of cessation. Whirling machinery tells of the employment of thousands of men and women who have had nothing to do.

While only a short while ago mills were running on half time, to-day they are rushed with work and are giving employment to all who apply.

Railroads are feeling the Aladdin-like touch of prosperity and are planning to expend millions of dollars upon improvements. There has been a loosening up of the money market so that funds to carry on the gigantic projects contemplated are to be had readily.

Correspondents send in glowing reports of conditions in all the manufacturing centres. In the Northwest, the South, the East—everywhere there are signs of better times.

One positive evidence of the improvement in conditions is given in the disbandment of the National Prosperity Association, of St. Louis. Its chairman, E. C. Simmons, explained that now that prosperity is swiftly returning, there is no more work for the organization to do.

News of a Week That Shows Evidence of Better Times

Washington, D. C.—Reports received by the International Brotherhood of Operative Potters during the week indicated a general opening up of work everywhere in that industry. The force at the Riverside Pottery at Wheeling, W. Va., has been greatly increased, and the firm is getting orders in a steady stream.

The Dresden Pottery is working at full force. The Klondike Pottery will have no slack time this winter, its employees having all they can do. The Sebring Pottery, at Sebring, O., has had the busiest November it has known in years. It is expected that the American China Company, of Toronto, will operate steadily to the year's end.

The Union Buffalo Cotton Mills, of Union, S. C., which is said to operate more looms than any other textile corporation in the South, received such a rush of orders that it will be obliged to run all of its three immense plants to their fullest capacity. This sets going 17,000 spindles and 800 looms, which were idle during the summer. The mills employ 2000 men and women.

The Fales & Jenks Machine Company, of Pawtucket, R. I., employing 400 hands, began working on a fifty-hour-a-week schedule. The factory had been running on half time.

The Easton & Burnham Machine Company, of Pawtucket, R. I., started its factory on full time, after starting on short time during the summer. It employs 100 men.

Lumbermen of Tifton, Ga., report that all the mills are booked with enough orders to keep them going full time for three months. Some are declining orders until March 1.

The American Tobacco Company agreed to take seventy-five per cent. of the 60,000,000 pounds of tobacco of the Burley Leaf Tobacco Society. The deal involves \$10,000,000.

After a shut-down of six months, the Illinois Steel Company reopened four of its plants at South Chicago, 700 men being put to work. Several additional furnaces, requiring 500 men, will be blown at once.

Prominent railroad men, including Donald G. Reid, of the Rock Island, and E. C. Converse, of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and the United States Steel Corporation started the organization of a \$2,000,000 corporation to manufacture steel. Most of the bonds have been subscribed. The works will be located near Gary, Ind.

Contracts were awarded by the Crescent Steel and Wire Company to construct a new plant at New Corntown, Ohio.

The United States Steel Corporation decided to erect a \$3,000,000 plant at Monessen, Pa., in the Monongahela Valley.

The Schoen Steel Company, of Pittsburg, announced that it would take on 300 more men and spend \$1,500,000 in improvements.

The National Tube Works, of Meigsport, Pa., placed its plant on full time.

The Westinghouse Electric Company put all its departments on full time.

The Republic Iron and Steel Company, of Pittsburg, ordered every one of its furnaces run to full capacity.

Every spindle in the cotton mills of Midham and New London counties, Conn., has been started up, and the mills are rushed with orders.

The American Woolen Company's mills at Moosup, Conn., are preparing to run full time, after a bad period in which less than half time was worked.

The Michigan Lake Superior Power Company, of Chicago, which suspended because of the financial conditions, started to reorganize, and it is expected to resume within a few weeks.

Mills of the International Paper Company, at Berlin, N. H., idle for three months, reopened with a reduced force.

J. D. Farrell, of Seattle, Wash., representative of E. H. Harriman, in the Pacific Northwest, has been called to New York. Financiers and contractors say that railroad construction work on a scale heretofore unknown is about to be inaugurated in the Pacific Northwest. The North Coast, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul and Harriman systems are the three factors in the spending of millions for a dominant position in Puget Sound and Northwest Coast.

Officials of the Lackawanna Railroad announced that improvements costing \$25,000,000 will be begun soon. Plans have been drawn for the extension of the road to Chicago. The electrification of the suburban lines is contemplated.

Generally, the shipment of currency, gold and silver to financial institutions in rural districts begins to decline in November, in accord with the slackening of trade and the receipt of money from abroad on grain and cotton exportations. But confidential reports of the St. Louis reserve agents show that the shipments to all centers in the South and West are almost as large as last month. To the growing trade and invigorating industry is attributed the activity.

Conditions in the whole South show remarkable improvement.

Invention of Great Importance to Ironclads Exhibited in Germany. Charlottenburg, Germany.—At a meeting of the League of German Naval Architects, Dr. Anschuetzkaempfe, of Kiel, exhibited a compass without a magnetic needle, which has just been invented. It is in the form of a gyroscope, which, when suspended in a certain way, always adjusts itself parallel to the earth's axis.

The invention is regarded as of great importance to ironclads, where the compass needle is frequently deflected by the adjacent metal.

Dancing Masters Solve Problem of Clingsome Drapery. Paris.—Women are now wearing skirts so tight that old-fashioned dances are impossible, and it became imperative to devise means to meet the crisis. If the present styles resulted in stopping dancing they would deprive the dancing masters of a livelihood.

They met, resolved and forthwith decided that waltzes, polkas and all other dances be danced with shorter steps until fashion gives women freer use of their lower limbs.

RURAL TOPICS

CRIMSON CLOVER.

During the past few years I have had brought to my notice several examples of the wonderful renovating power and the feeding value of the crimson clover. In some sections of the country the plant does not succeed, because of the extreme cold. This variety of clover is more apt to winter-kill than the common red clover, but it is well worth the trial, where there is a possibility of its thriving. In this locality (Northern Ohio) I have seen some very fine fields of this plant and have been much interested in the results of feeding it to stock, as well as noting the great beneficial effect upon poor, worn-out soils.

The seed of the crimson clover is larger than the red clover and is oval in shape. New seed has a high polish and is of a bright, reddish yellow color; as it becomes older it changes to a reddish brown, then loses its polish and becomes a dull, dark brown. Let such seed alone.

The crimson clover should be seeded at the rate of 12 to 15 lbs. per acre, either broadcast or with the drill. We usually broadcast ours in the potato or corn after the last cultivation and do not cover. If it is to occupy the ground alone, slightly harrow or roll it in. We sow the seed between July 15th and September 15th, but in the South it should not be sown before August 15th. It will then mature the following spring from three to four weeks before the red clovers. As soon as it comes in to full bloom it should be cut, if wanted for hay, as the matured blooms are injurious to stock. Crimson clover thrives in a lighter, sandier soil than any other clover and it requires but little humus, and comparatively little moisture. It is of great value as a green manure upon poor soils and a rank growth quite insures a satisfactory succeeding crop. If the soil is not already fertile it will pay well to apply 600 pounds per acre of mineral fertilizers containing 9 per cent actual potash and 8 per cent available phosphoric acid, and on very poor soils the addition of one or two per cent nitrogen will make the catch more certain. The fertilizer can easily be broadcasted by lowering the hand through the growing crops, if it is desired to grow the clover there.

The amount of fertilizer may seem excessive, but not when we recollect that not all of the material possesses fertilizing value. All clover soils must contain a considerable amount of potash, as well as phosphoric acid and lime. If the soil is made rich so that the clover roots are able to penetrate to a good depth before freezing weather, we are pretty sure of a good crop the following spring and do not look for winter-killing. Stock for fattening and milch cows make great returns when fed crimson clover hay.—E. A. Season in the Indiana Farmer.

THE MAINTENANCE OF SOIL FERTILITY.

There has just been published the summary of a paper by Prof. W. H. Jordan, director of the Geneva (N. Y.) station, giving his views with reference to methods of soil management necessary to maintain fertility as follows:

Thorough tillage, with efficient machinery, to be given if possible when the moisture conditions of the soil admit of satisfactory pulverization.

Frequent surface tillage at times of scanty rainfall, in order to conserve the supply of soil moisture.

A sufficiently rapid rotation of crops to insure good soil texture, to allow the necessary frequency of applying fertilizing material, and as a main result to secure a paying stand of crops.

The introduction into the soil, at frequent intervals, of an amount of organic matter necessary to proper soil texture and water-holding power, either by application of farm manure, by plowing under soiling crops, or by the rotting of the turf.

The scrupulous saving of all the excrement of farm animals, both solid and liquid.

The purchase of plant food with due reference to the needs of the farm management prevailing.

The maintenance in the soil of those conditions of drainage and aeration which promote the growth of desirable soil organisms, and the introduction into the soil, when necessary, of such organisms as are essential to the growth of particular plants.

CORN AND MEAT MAKING.

It won't be long till we have before us object lessons like the following:

1. Beef cattle of 1,400 pounds weight at 2 years old, grown and fattened on 25 per cent. less corn, with alfalfa as a chief ration, costing much less to make it than now.
2. Hogs weighing 200 pounds at 8 months old made on alfalfa and 32 per cent. less corn than is now used to make them.
3. Alfalfa meal for sheep in winter feeding and half the grain now used, with more wool and mutton and healthier sheep. Good alfalfa hay cut up, mixed with a little corn meal and moistened, will do about the same in sheep feeding.

The point in these object lessons, which are common facts where alfalfa in plenty is grown, is that such feeding is going to save nearly half the high priced corn, and enable farmers to grow more cattle, sheep and hogs and to return more fertility to the farm.

Any good corn and clover land properly prepared will grow alfalfa, and when these things are understood more alfalfa will be grown for feeding, so as to reduce the cost of making meat and wool.—Indiana Farmer.

CLEAN UP OFTEN.

Numberless cases of unthrifty and unprofitable or even diseased flocks are caused by the chickens roosting over their own excrement. A good many people think that cleaning out the droppings once a month is strict poultry cleanliness, but this is so only when compared with that cleanliness which demands a clean up once or twice a year. It is hard to clean up a poultry house too often; remember that.

For instance, just imagine yourself in old Biddy's place and do a little tall thinking. In her wild state she would roost in a tree sufficiently high that the fumes arising from her excrement would not reach her at all; and it stands to reason that if she is forced to sleep just a short distance above the gathered filth of many nights, as she so frequently is, her breathing apparatus is going to get out of order and her constitution is bound to be undermined and her vitality sapped. This makes her susceptible to croup, cholera and other more or less serious diseases, and often is the direct cause of her death a little later on.—Epitomist.

DAIRY HERDS.

The tendency toward building up the dairy business, like that of every other business, is toward the best possible conditions for the most profit. Every one recognizes the fact that high grade conditions in any business only approximate the best and most profitable. The highest and most profitable dairy herd is that of pure bred cows as well as sires, and to this end here in the central States as in the more eastern, every year more pure bred herds are taking the place of high grades. The tendency in this is like that in every other industry, to get to the top in a profitable dairy herd, and the road to this has been, as in every other business,