

The Centre Reporter

Centre Hall, Pa.

OUT OF THE FARM.

The urban conception of the farm in winter is one of snug comfort and drowsy ease, its external appearance showing, as in the familiar pictorial ideal of a snow-bound farmhouse, with a gabled path leading through a gate to a radiant window, through which one peers in fancy and discerns a happy family clustered round a lamp, says the Philadelphia Press. The idea is that the farmer has little or nothing to do in the daytime but sit inside his home and feed the stock; the wife knits; the children go to school. It is a charming picture, not always true to life. There is no time in the year when there is cessation from toll on a farm. It is different in winter; that is all. The days are shorter; the work rougher. Of course, much depends upon the character of the farm; considerable leisure is possible where few cattle are kept and general trucking done. But always there are the "chores." A remarkably elastic expression that—"doing chores." It may mean much or little. Some dairy farmers, for instance, whose serious business in life is milking cows, may potter around the farm after the morning's milking and taking the morning's milk to the creamery or railroad station, eat their noon dinners, mend some fence, look over the harness or haul out manure, potter around some more, and then say: "Guess it's about time to do the chores," meaning to milk two dozen cows or so—the real hard work of the day.

Following Chicago's school for policemen comes New York's school for firemen. It will open, according to the announcement of the city's fire commissioner, immediately after the new year. All present employees of the department, as well as all new hands, will be required to attend, and only "graduates" of this "fire college" will be eligible for places on the force. Some fifteen subjects, embracing everything appertaining to the work, will be included in the curriculum, says the Chicago Record-Herald. As the automobile has become an important part of the up-to-date fire equipment, the management of the gasoline motor car will be taught. And as casualties tend to increase in number and in seriousness, there will be instruction in first aid to the injured. A comprehensive course for the benefit of the fire fighter seems as advantageous as one for that of the patrolman. An exchange of views and experiences between New York and Chicago might result in gains for both cities and both services.

Protection of birds which do beneficial service to men is coming to be more than a matter for state action. Representative Weeks of Massachusetts, a state which realizes the mischief involved in the destruction of the insect-eating birds, has introduced in congress a bill making it a misdemeanor, punishable by 60 days' imprisonment or \$200 fine, to kill or harm coveys or single specimens of birds on their migratory flight from south to north. The list of birds which it is designed to guard includes geese, ducks, pigeons, swans, snipe, doves, robins, bluebirds and various kinds of waterfowl. These are friends of man or valuable game-birds, and as the whole country is interested in their preservation it seems to be in order for congress to take action.

School girls in Atlantic City are rebelling against an edict of the domestic science authorities that they must learn to make hash. They are afraid proficiency in this art may lose them the hearts of admirers who know hash only through the boarding houses they have met. The girls openly aver they hate to lose the homes they may make happy by "feeding the brutes" if the said "brutes" learn beforehand that prospective wives have been encouraged to put hash on the daily menu.

A New Jerseyite boarder, not liking his dinner, attacked his landlady, choking her. Other boarders interested in this summary protest will be disappointed to learn that the accounts said nothing about his choking her into submission.

Will Revise The Hariff. Washington, D. C.—If an extra session of Congress is called following the adjournment of the present session March 4, next the Democrats of the House will set about at once to revise several schedules of the Payne-Aldrich tariff act.

Liberty To Have Companion. Washington, D. C.—The House passed the Golden bill granting permission for the erection on one of the islands in New York harbor of a heroic statue, in memory of the North American Indian.

To Stop Slaughter. Port Au Prince, Hayti.—Foreign powers have been asked to intercede in Hayti and stop the slaughter of suspected revolutionists by President Simon's government.

SENATE RATIFIES JAPANESE TREATY

Senate Acts After a Two-hour Executive Session.

PASSPORT KEEPS OUT UNDESIRABLES.

The Action of the Government in Promptly Confirming the New Trade Agreement is Expected to Show More Than Anything Else Our Feeling of Cordiality for Japan—The Effect Will Be to Permit That Country to Reorganize Its Fiscal System.

Washington, D. C.—The new Japanese treaty of trade and navigation was ratified Friday night after a two-hour executive session of the Senate held at the conclusion of a day crowded with many other important matters. While the apprehension of Western senators that the treaty might let down the bars to coolie labor was not entirely removed, these senators contented themselves with expressing solicitude. They interposed no objection to ratification. The action of this government in promptly confirming the new agreement is expected to do more to prove the feeling of cordiality that this country has for Japan than anything that has been done for many years. It is regarded as a manifestation of highest confidence in the advanced civilization of that nation. The effect will be to permit Japan to enter at once upon a reorganization of its fiscal system and the making of new tariffs with all nations.

Expiration Advanced. Japan's treaties with other powers are to expire July 17 next. That with the United States, by reason of its later ratification, would have continued until the same date a year later had not this government consented to its expiration at the same time as the others.

Failure to have ratified the new treaty would have delayed the operation of the Japanese program for a year beyond the time when it was planned to put it into effect. It would have meant a great deal to the revenues of Japan and the continuance of the existing treaty with the United States for another year would not have benefited this government in the slightest degree, according to the representations of the State Department on the subject.

When the new treaty was received from the President on Tuesday it immediately became the subject of wrangles. Pacific Coast senators feared it might have an effect upon the labor situation on the Western slope by reason of the omission of the clause in the treaty of 1894 which it supersedes, recognizing the right of this government to pass an exclusion law. Friends of the treaty explained that the diplomatic notes accompanying it definitely pledged the Japanese government to prevent an influx of undesirable coolies through the rigid scrutiny of all passports.

Must Have Passports. An alien without a passport would, of course, be liable to deportation. The California senators, it is said, became satisfied early that the change would not menace the labor situation in their state. Several other Western senators became alarmed, however, at what seemed to them unseemly haste in pressing the Senate to act. They desired sentiment to crystallize in their state and therefore prevented action for three days.

JAPAN SAVES ITS FACE.

But President Taft Arouses Western Congressmen.

Washington, D. C.—The text of a new treaty with Japan, designed to replace that of 1894 and drawn with the special design of eliminating the restrictions upon immigration contained in that treaty, was laid before the Senate by President Taft.

The essential difference between the proposed treaty and the existing convention is said to be in the fact that it omits all reference to such restrictions and leaves to the national honor of Japan the enforcement at her own ports the limitations upon immigration from Japan now expressly placed upon immigration into the United States.

The document is said to provide that either country may renounce the treaty at the end of six months if it fails to operate as expected.

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BRAVE GIRL SAVES CHILDREN

Conquers Man With Pistol in Chicago.

Chicago.—In a struggle with Robert Braun, in which a girl braved a magazine pistol and was beaten about the face until she was all but unconscious, the victim worsted her opponent and by a remarkable display of courage probably saved the lives of four children.

The unequal fight occurred in the parlor of the home of George Eichner, on East Illinois street, and Miss Emma Eichner, 18 years old, was the heroine. It began the instant that Braun, who was nursing fancied wrongs against Eichner, knocked at the door early in the evening and asked to be admitted.

"No," you'd better come around tomorrow," said the girl.

"I'm here now and I'm here to stay," exclaimed Braun, pulling the magazine pistol from his pocket and forcing his way into the hall.

Miss Eichner seized his arms and with all her strength tried to push the intruder back. Together they struggled until reaching the parlor door. Braun noticed the four children. Then he leveled his pistol at the children, who huddled under a davenport in a corner and was about to fire. But the girl released her grip on his other arm and, with both hands, forced the muzzle of the weapon toward the ceiling as Braun fired. Unable to bring the pistol into play, Braun beat the girl until blood flowed from half a dozen wounds in her face, but she stubbornly clung to him.

Again and again he fired, but to no purpose. Finally the gun clogged and while he was examining it Miss Eichner pushed him out of the front door and closed and locked it. Braun then rushed to the tailor shop of an acquaintance, Joseph Stumpf, shot him in the shoulder and in the hand and was about to fire a third time, when once more the gun clogged. He drew another weapon from his pocket but missed fire. While examining it he shot one of his own fingers off.

He then abandoned his attack, visited a doctor's office and was arrested while his injury was being treated. Braun will be held in jail pending an examination into his mental condition.

DISAGREE WITH HOBSON.

Resident Americans in Japan Refute the Report.

Tokio.—A meeting of Americans resident in Japan was held in Yokohama recently in the interests of the international peace movement. Among the business done was the adoption of a resolution designed to refute the reports that public sentiment in this country is hostile to the United States as follows:

"That, in our opinion, the people of Japan have at all times entertained the most friendly and cordial sentiments toward the government and people of the United States, and that there never has been and is not now any feeling other than one of confidence and gratitude. We believe, upon evidence which cannot be doubted, that there is not to be found in the Japanese empire any wish or thought other than to maintain the most friendly and cordial relations with the republic of the United States, and that any representations to the contrary, wherever emanating and from whatever cause proceeding, are baseless calumnies, which, if uncontradicted, can only result in vast material losses to the people of both governments and in creating an unhappy prejudice between them."

Honolulu.—Five thousand Japanese joined in a lantern parade here in celebration of Washington's birthday. Speeches of friendship were made.

The demonstration followed a carnival held under the auspices of the Mystic Order of Shriners and the Order of Elks. The Japanese ended their procession in front of the grounds where the Elks were holding a fete.

The Japanese consul reviewed the Elks gathering and made a speech assuring the Americans of the friendship of the Japanese. Gov. Frear, in responding, said he accepted the demonstration as evidence of the cordial relations of the two nations. Nowhere on earth, he added, was the spirit of international brotherhood better shown than in Hawaii.

Think Lost Girl Dead.

New York.—Dorothy Arnold is now classed by the police simply as a missing person. Second Deputy Police Commissioner Flynn, when asked what he thought about the mystery of the girl's disappearance, replied that, in view of all the circumstances, it seems only reasonable to believe that the girl is dead.

Died of Broken Heart.

New York.—A Hungarian baker named Kavaro, first name unknown, died suddenly at his home. His body was sent to the morgue, and Dr. O'Hanlon found that the man's heart had split in two. Dr. O'Hanlon says that this proves that those who say a person cannot die of a broken heart are wrong. He found loss of tone in the muscular tissues due to insufficient blood supply.

MUST MAKE OLD RATES PERMANENT

Inter-State Commerce Commission Decision.

RAILROADS FORBIDDEN TO RAISE RATES.

The Commission Decides That the Companies Have Not Shown the Necessity of the Advances—Cannot Lay Burden of Poor Financing on the Public—Revenues Have Increased More Than Expenses—Credit of the Companies is Good.

Washington, D. C.—The Interstate Commerce Commission decided against the railroads in both the "Eastern" and the "Western" cases. The decision, eagerly awaited by railroads and shippers alike, was handed down Thursday afternoon.

Proposed advances in class freight rates in official classification territory, aggregating among all the railroads in the territory approximately \$27,000,000 a year, were disapproved by the commission.

In the case involving the increases by the railroads in Western Trunk line territory the commission also declined to approve the proposed advances in commodity rates.

The carriers in both cases are required to cancel on or before March 10 their advanced tariffs and restore their former rates, which are the rates now in effect. If this requirement is not complied with, the commission will issue a formal order suspending the proposed advances and putting into effect the existing rates for at least two years.

In the case of the Railroad Commission of Texas against the Atchafalaya, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway and other carriers, known popularly as the Southwestern rate case, the Commission declined to disturb the commodity rates or the first-class rates ordered, however, to reduce the second-class rates, which were increased from \$1.21 to \$1.25. On the remaining classes the defendants are required to restore the rates in effect before the increased rates were published.

In brief, this is the disposition made by the Interstate Commerce Commission of the most important cases ever brought to its attention. In a sense the decisions were in the nature of a surprise to railroad officials and other experts who had followed closely the proceedings, a majority of whom believed the commission would grant some increase to the Western lines if not to the Eastern.

FIVE KILLED IN MINE.

Night Shift Being on Duty Averts Worse Disaster.

Indianapolis, Ind.—An explosion of dust, caused by solid firing, resulted in the fatal burning of five miners in the Hamilton coal mine, at Hymers, owned by the Rock Island Railroad company.

The explosion was in the mine entry, and nothing but the fact that the night shift was working kept the disaster from being more serious. The mine was badly damaged.

250 TURKS LOST AT SEA.

Steamer Carrying Pilgrims is Said to Have Been Burned.

Constantinople.—The Turkish steamship Hurriet, carrying 250 Moslem pilgrims, has been burned at sea, and all on board perished, according to a report received here. The report was sent to a Turkish newspaper, and has not been officially confirmed.

For Washington Memorial.

New York.—Mrs. H. F. Dimock, president of the George Washington Memorial Association, announced that there had been subscribed more than half of the \$1,000,000 necessary for the erection of the proposed George Washington Memorial Building in Washington. Among the recent gifts was \$10,000 from James J. Hill.

Engineer Killed in Wreck.

Bristol, Tenn.—Both engines of a double-header coal train on the Virginia & Southwestern Railroad jumped the track and turned over down a bank at Clinchport, Va. Engineer Hicks, of Bristol, was crushed to death and Engineer Charles Brown and Fireman Joice were fatally injured.

Senate Defeats Referendum.

Topeka, Kan.—The Senate defeated the initiative and referendum and the recall bills which had been passed by the House.

Banker Sentenced.

New York.—A sentence of not less than two years and two months nor more than five years and two months was imposed by Judge Rosalby on William R. Montgomery, former president of the Hamilton Bank.

Lives To Be 98 Years.

Hagerstown, Md.—Paul Cline, aged 98 years, is dead at his home at Wolfville, east of Smithsburg, in county, his death being due to advanced age. Mr. Cline was a farmer nearly all his life.

BIG SLIDE ON PANAMA CANAL

All Theories of the Engineers Completely Upset.

Colon.—Without warning, upsetting all theories and all estimates, 500,000 cubic yards of rock and earth slid into the Pioneer cut just opposite the town of Culebra. It is one of the worst slides the canal commission engineers have had to contend with, and it is worse than any previous slide from the fact that the others could be explained, even predicted. The latest avalanche of dirt changes canal plans materially. It makes it seem necessary that the entire prism shall be enlarged sufficiently to prevent any occurrence of the sort after the completion of the canal. There seems to be no doubt that all of Gold Hill will have to be removed, in itself a considerable undertaking. And 335,000 yards of the slide itself represents waste. The remainder it was intended to remove.

Most disconcerting of all, theories which heretofore have served to explain slides to the satisfaction of the engineers' brains are pricked like a toy balloon. It always has been held that slides were caused when heavy rainfall made the earth soggy and the sloping beds of rock became slippery. When the weight overcame adhesion, and when the concussion of dynamite blasts gave final impetus, it was believed the slides took place.

But the Gold Hill slide is without precedent. There have been no heavy rains in this section for six weeks, and there has been no blasting in the vicinity for more than a year.

On the steep slope of Gold Hill, directly opposite the town of Culebra—in other words, on the east side of Culebra Cut—a section 100 feet long and from 20 to 100 feet wide dropped into the cut. On the 135-foot level was a ledge. The slide started above this ledge, which was completely destroyed along the entire length of the slide, a vast amount of material being forced clear down to and nearly filling the Pioneer Drainage Cut.

A few weeks ago a large amount of earth and rock slid into the canal at Las Cascadas, a few miles north of Culebra town. A few miles south is the great Cuchiarach slide which has been giving trouble. This makes it appear that the entire cut will have to be widened sooner or later to a large extent in order to avoid serious difficulty when the canal shall have been completed.

PLAGUE AND FAMINE RAVAGE.

Conditions in China Are Growing Steadily Worse.

New York.—Advices from China to the American Red Cross made public at its offices here are to the effect that conditions in the famine district are as bad as have been indicated by reports from various other sources and are growing worse as days go by.

That 2,500,000 Chinese will die for want of bread if assistance is not rendered immediately is the prediction in a statement made by the organization. This number comprises nearly the entire population of the northern part of the Provinces of Kiangsu and Anhui. The statement continues:

"The plague is creeping southward toward this famine district. It has ravaged Manchuria, and thousands of refugees, who have fled to Chefu, in Chantung province, have carried it there. Hundreds of deaths occur daily. The frozen ground prevents the burial of the dead, and long rows of coffins lie on the roadside.

"American Consul-General Wilder, at Shanghai, cabled to the Red Cross that persons stricken with this plague die in a few hours, and it is of so fatal a nature that no one ever recovers. The people at last have consented to cremation and several thousand of these bodies have been burned. The plague is now only about 150 miles from the provinces, and if it ever reaches there the result will be appalling."

Plague Wipes Out Entire Village.

St. Petersburg.—A telegram from Harbin reports the gruesome discovery of a Chinese village there in which the entire population is dead from the plague.

Indian Tries Aeroplaning.

London.—The first red Indian to take a trip in an aeroplane is Blind Bull, a Sioux, who accompanied S. F. Cody in a flight at Aldershot on the latter's biplane. The Indian is one of a Wild West company appearing at a local theater, and he made the flight in full war paint and feathers, injured.

Jack London Safe.

Oakland, Cal.—The report that Jack London, the novelist, was in jail at Mexicali, Mexico, as a revolutionist proves to be without foundation. Mr. London is here.

Echo of The Times Explosion.

Hot Springs, Ark.—A man believed by the police to be M. A. Schmidt, with a number of aliases attached to his name, suspected of being one of the men who dynamited the Times Building in Los Angeles, was arrested here. The prisoner said that his name was Fred Kaun and that his home was in Milwaukee. He answers the description of Schmidt as sent out by the Los Angeles police.

COMMERCIAL

Weekly Review of Trade and Market Reports.

R. G. Dun & Company's weekly review of trade says:

Every important development of the week has served to confirm and strengthen the recent growth in business confidence. With depleted stocks merchants, while still conservative in their operations, are displaying greater activity. Some definite idea of the improvement that has occurred in iron and steel is furnished by current estimates indicating an expansion of nearly 15 per cent. in the blast furnace operations of the leading producer from the low point of the year and by the recent statement of the same interest showing an increase of 426,000 tons in unfilled orders on hand during the month of January.

Aside from a further broadening of activity in finished lines, it is significant that greater animation has developed in pig iron at certain leading centers and the belief is growing that the declining tendency of prices has been permanently checked. Agricultural machinery interests have been active buyers at the West, but demand for rails has been light this month, which is not surprising, in view of the large contract recently placed. Some plate mills are reported as operating at 75 per cent. of capacity, while the volume of new structural orders is well maintained.

Wholesale Markets

NEW YORK.—Wheat—Spot irregular; No. 2 red, 95¢ elevator and 95¢ f. o. b. afloat; No. 1 Northern Duluth, 108 1/2¢ f. o. b. afloat.

Oats—May, 37 1/2¢; July, 37 1/2¢. Corn—Spot easy; new No. 2, 51 1/2¢ f. o. b. afloat.

Butter—Steady; receipts, 9,600 pkgs. Creamery thirds, 18¢ asked.

Eggs—Irregular; receipts, 22,507 cases. Fresh gathered firsts, 15 1/2¢@16 1/2¢; refrigerator seconds, 11¢@11 1/2¢; state, Pennsylvania and nearby henry whites, 21¢@22¢; do, gathered whites, 20¢@22¢; Western gathered whites, 19¢@21¢.

Poultry—Alive steady; Western chickens, 14¢@14 1/2¢; fowls, 15¢@16¢; turkeys, 16¢@20¢. Dressed quiet; Western chickens, 14¢; turkeys, 13 1/2¢@16¢; turkeys, 15¢@22¢.

PHILADELPHIA.—Wheat 1/2¢ higher; contract grade No. 2 red in export elevator, 91 1/2¢@92 1/2¢.

Corn—1/2¢ higher; February, 50 1/2¢@50 1/2¢; March, 50 1/2¢@50 1/2¢; April, 50 1/2¢@51 1/2¢.

Oats—Steady; No. 2 white, natural, 37¢.

Butter—Firm; extra Western creamery, 30¢; do, nearby prints, 32¢.

Eggs—Steady; Pennsylvania and other nearby firsts f. c., 19¢ at mark; do, current receipts f. c., 18¢ at mark; Western firsts f. c., 19¢ at mark; do, current receipts f. c., 18¢ at mark.

Cheese—Steady; New York full cream, fancy September, 14¢; do, fair to good, 13¢@13 1/2¢.

Poultry—Live steady; fowls, 15 1/2¢@17¢; old roosters, 11¢@11 1/2¢; spring chickens, 14¢@17¢; ducks, 17¢@18¢; geese, 14¢@15¢. Dressed steady; turkeys, nearby, 23¢; do, Western choice, 22¢; do, fair to good, 20¢@21¢; fowls, nearby, 16¢@16 1/2¢; do, Western, 13¢@14¢; do, roosters, 13¢; roasting chickens, nearby, 14¢@17¢; do, Western, 13¢@17¢; ducks, nearby, choice, 18¢@20¢; do, fair to good, 16¢@17¢; do, Western choice, 18¢@19¢; do, fair to good, 14¢@16¢; geese, Western, choice, 18¢@19¢; do, fair to good, 14¢@16¢; geese, Western, 11¢@12¢.

BALTIMORE.—Wheat—No. 2 red Western, 93 1/2¢; contract, 93¢; No. 2 red, 91¢; steamer No. 2, red, 89¢; steamer No. 2 red Western, 89¢.

Corn—Contract, 50 1/2¢; steamer mixed, 48 1/2¢; steamer yellow, 48 1/2¢; no established grade, 46 1/2¢.

Oats—No. 2 white, 36 1/2¢@36 1/2¢; standard white, 36¢@36 1/2¢; No. 3 white, 35 1/2¢@36¢; do, No. 4, 25 1/2¢@25 1/2¢.

Hay—No. 1 timothy, \$20.50@21; No. 2 do, \$19.50@20; No. 3 do, \$16@18; choice clover mixed, \$18.50@19; No. 1 do, \$17.50@18.50; No. 2 do, \$14@16; No. 1 clover, \$13@13.50; No. 2 do, \$12@12.50.

Butter—Creamery, fancy, 27¢@28¢; do, choice, 25¢@26¢; do, good, 21¢@24¢; do, imitation, 18¢@21¢; do, prints, 28¢@29¢.

Eggs—Market is steady. We quote, per doz.: Maryland, Pennsylvania and nearby firsts, 15 1/2¢; Western firsts, 15 1/2¢; Southern firsts, 14 1/2¢; guinea eggs, 7¢@8¢.

Live Poultry—Chickens: Old Hens, heavy, 14¢; do, small to medium, 14¢; young, choice, 17¢@18¢; rough and poor, 13¢@15¢; old roosters, 10¢; ducks, white Pekings, 18¢; muscovy and mongrel, 16¢@17¢; puddle, 18¢; geese, nearby, 14¢@15¢; do, Western and Southern, 12¢@13¢; turkeys, hens, per lb., 21¢; do, gobblers, young, 20¢; do, old toms, 18¢; do, rough and poor, 12¢@13¢.

Live Stock

PITTSBURGH.—Cattle steady; supply light. Choice, \$6.50@6.70; prime, \$6.25@6.40.