

Pennsylvania State News

The Norristown Elks' new auditorium will be dedicated November 6 with imposing ceremonies.

Lack of bids prevented the scheduled sale at Harrisburg of the Columbia & Montour Street Railway Company.

Frances Bolack, seven years old, died at the Pottsville Hospital from lockjaw following vaccination against smallpox.

There were 4,752 garments displayed at Perkasi in connection with the tenth anniversary meeting of the Needlework Guild.

Thieves at Altoona forced an entrance into I. Lang's store and stole forty fur coats, the retail prices of which ranged from \$250 to \$1,000.

The Central Railroad of New Jersey plans to go ahead immediately with the building of the new roundhouse and shops at the western end of Bethlehem.

George H. Fletcher, 30 years old, colored head waiter at the new Yorktown Hotel, York, was found dead at the Hotel Howard by a chambermaid when he failed to answer a call for dinner. His address was 4850 Ludlow street, Philadelphia. Death was due to asthma.

The number of farms in Pennsylvania is decreasing at the rate of more than 500 a year, a preliminary announcement of a farm census taken this year by the Department of Commerce shows. The census gives Pennsylvania 200,420 farms, a decrease of 1830 compared with 1920.

Seven hundred members of the United Mine Workers, employed by the Kingston Coal Company, Wilkes-Barre, have emptied their union treasury by dividing \$8,564 on a pro rata basis. Every member in good standing will receive about \$12. This action was taken in lieu of a proposal to help only the needy.

Firemen from many rural sections of Berks competed in the parade conducted by the Citizens' Hose Company of Wernersville, and prizes were awarded to the Wyomissing, Sinking Spring, Schaefferstown, Robesonia, Myerstown and Temple companies. The oldest fireman in line was William Kalbach, of Robesonia, aged 82 years.

The Department of the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, it was learned, is by no means certain that the state has sufficient grounds for instituting a suit in the United States Supreme Court against the State of New Jersey, in the matter of compelling that State to proceed with the authorization of new contracts for the Delaware River bridge.

Less than fifteen minutes after John Alexander, superintendent of the Cochrane Corporation, boiler manufacturers, had been held up at Norristown by three armed bandits and robbed of a \$3,200 payroll, an armed suspect was captured and is declared by the police to have confessed and to have been identified. He was a negro and gave his name as Ernest Hollimon of Chestnut Hill.

Forty-two persons were made homeless at Lancaster as the result of two fires, the losses totalling nearly \$40,000. The first and most disastrous occurred at the Ridgeway Inn, in the business district, where extensive loss was suffered by Max and S. Diamond, proprietors of an army and navy supply store in the front of the building. Nixdorf & Bard, owners of the building, also lost heavily.

Dolan Hendricks, aged fifty-five, a Sunbury farmer, killed himself with a shotgun.

Weatherly council has decided to purchase motorized fire apparatus at a cost of \$12,500.

H. W. Elridge of Reading was elected president of the Pennsylvania Commercial Secretaries' Association, meeting at Harrisburg.

While driving cattle through the streets of Mount Pleasant Samuel Brewer, fifty-one years old, dropped dead from apoplexy.

Sixth ward firemen at Greensburg have gone on record as being in favor of changing the form of government to that of a third class city.

Albert Graver of Weisport pleaded guilty to possessing liquors in his home and was fined \$100 and costs and given six months in the county jail.

Dogs are on the increase in Pennsylvania, reports of the bureau of animal industry made public showed. For the first eight months of this year the bureau issued 453,442 licenses compared with 444,062 for the same period in 1924.

Idle anthracite coal miners, who quit work September 1 on failure of the scale committee of the union and representatives of the operators to come to an agreement on a new contract, are returning from farms where they had temporary employment. Harvesting is over and there is no longer much demand for extra labor.

Miss Miriam S. Rohl, music supervisor of the public schools at Fountain Hill, near Bethlehem, is said to be developing quite a number of musicians in that section and recently organized another musical aggregation.

While shaving Harry Carlisle, aged thirty-eight, of Pottsville dropped dead from heart trouble. His body was found in the house where he lived alone. Neighbors saw Carlisle shaving at a window and when he did not put in an appearance the door of his home was broken down. His body was on the floor beside his shaving brush and cup.



1—Red Cross hydroplane removing wounded Spanish soldiers from scene of battle with the Riffs at Alhucemas. 2—Secretary of the Treasury Mellon giving house committee on ways and means his plan for reduction of income taxes. 3—Mrs. Rose Pastor Stokes, ex-factory girl and prominent radical, divorced by her millionaire husband, James G. P. Stokes.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Secretary Mellon Advises House Committee How to Reduce Income Taxes.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD
OPENING its hearings of tax revision plans, the house committee on ways and means first called on Secretary Mellon to tell what the Treasury department thought would be a safe reduction of income taxes and how it should be made. The heaviest cut advised by the secretary is in surtaxes, now paid on net incomes in excess of \$10,000. He argues that reduction of surtaxes will divert investment from tax-free securities to industrial and commercial enterprises; that more business will make more profits and more profits will make more tax revenue, and then it will be possible to reduce taxes again.

Summarized, Secretary Mellon's proposals are:

1. Reduction of taxes in the aggregate to the extent of from \$250,000,000 to \$300,000,000.
2. Reduction of normal taxes to 1 per cent, 2 per cent, 3 per cent, and 5 per cent, instead of 2 per cent, 4 per cent and 6 per cent.
3. Reduction of surtaxes to a minimum of 20 instead of the existing 40 per cent.
4. Surtaxes to begin at 1 per cent at \$12,000 instead of \$10,000, and run up 20 per cent above \$150,000 instead of 40 per cent above \$500,000.
5. Elimination of the 25 per cent deduction on earned income.
6. Reduction of and eventual repeal of the estate tax.
7. Repeal of the gift tax.
8. Retention of the taxes on admissions and on passenger automobiles.
9. Repeal of the taxes on trucks, tires and accessories.
10. Repeal of the taxes on art works and several other minor imposts.
11. Repeal of the provision for publicity of tax payments.
12. Enlargement of the board of tax appeals.

Mr. Mellon told the committee that although the soldier bonus will cost \$100,000,000 more than was estimated, tax revenue also has increased and there will be approximately a \$200,000,000 surplus on July 1, 1926. He guessed the surplus would be from \$250,000,000 to \$300,000,000 the following year, so it would be safe to reduce taxes that much.

Next day representatives of the National Association of Manufacturers appeared before the committee and made suggestions substantially in accord with those of Mr. Mellon. The secretary's plan was supported also by 50 representatives of Iowa tax clubs, who asserted the sentiment in their state was strongly for the administration's advocacy of repeal of the federal estate tax. A similar group from Texas said the same for that state. Chairman Green of Iowa and Representative Garner of Texas, ranking minority member of the committee, both favor retention of the federal estate tax, and both refused to admit that the tax club men fairly represented the sentiment in their respective states.

FEELING sure that it would be impossible to secure approval by the French parliament for the temporary arrangement plan of the French war debt to the United States, the Painleve cabinet rejected the plan when it was formally presented to it by Finance Minister Caillaux. It was then announced semi-officially that within a few days the government would submit to the American debt funding commission through the French ambassador to Washington new proposals for dealing with the whole debt. What these would be could not be learned, but as Caillaux was severely criticized for offering as much as he did, it is believed the new proposals will be even less acceptable to our commission than were those formerly rejected by it. Some of the finance minister's critics said he did not mean to make an offer that he seriously expected America to accept, but was simply arranging matters so that when parliament assembled he

could say that negotiations were continuing, avoiding confession that his debt settlement intentions had failed.

President Coolidge's stand that France need not expect any further loans in America until she funds her debt is backed up by the leading bankers, including President Mitchell of the National City bank and Dwight Morrow of J. P. Morgan & Company. It is known France wishes soon to borrow at least \$100,000,000 in Wall street to stabilize her currency on a gold basis. After a conference with the President Wednesday, Mr. Mitchell said to the reporters: "Any large loan to France under the circumstances could be made only on faith, hope and charity."

He went on to explain that it would be necessary to ask the American people to subscribe to any loan to France that might be obtained in Wall street, and with the credit of France impaired by her failure to fund her debts and stabilize her finances, American subscribers would be investing in the loan as a flyer in the above virtues.

PUBLICATION of the full text of Locarno treaties did not lessen the chorus of praise for the achievement of the European statesmen who formulated the pacts, and their acceptance by the parliaments of the nations directly concerned seemed assured despite the opposition of various groups of extreme Nationalists and Communists. The suggestion emanating from the White House that the time was about ripe for the calling of a new armament reduction conference by President Coolidge was not so well received, especially by the French. Indeed, the Paris press frankly told America to mind her own business. Mr. Coolidge agreed that a conference limited to discussion of land forces would be Europe's own affair and could not be participated in by the United States; but he was said to be of the opinion that another conference on limitation of naval forces would stand the best chances of success if held in Washington.

THOSE who were disposed to sneer at the Locarno agreements had their opportunity last week to laugh at the idea that war could be prevented. Greek and Bulgarian troops got into a squabble on the frontier near Demehissar, Macedonia, and a Greek officer and a sentinel were killed. The Bulgarian commander explained it was all a mistake and apologized, but the Greek government at once sent an ultimatum to Sofia demanding \$400,000 indemnity, punishment of the Bulgarian officers responsible and formal apology from the Bulgarian government. Meanwhile Greek troops moved up to the frontier to attack the town of Petrich. The possibility of a new Balkan war was not a little disturbing to the governments of Europe. The situation was said to be complicated by unrest in Albania, where Italian propaganda is active. It was said in Sofia that the cabinet would protest to the League of Nations against alleged Greek invasion of Bulgaria.

REBELLIOUS Druses in Syria, penetrating Damascus, started a serious revolt there, but it lasted only one day, for the French commander, General Sarrail, attacked promptly with artillery, armored cars and tanks and compelled the rebels to surrender. The battle was fierce while it lasted, and the Moslem quarter of the city was largely destroyed by the French bombardment, and by incendiary fires. Two American warships were ordered from Gibraltar to Alexandria, Egypt, to be near the Syrian coast in case American lives and property were endangered.

GOVERNOR JACKSON of Indiana has appointed Arthur R. Robinson to fill out the unexpired term of the late United States Senator Samuel M. Ralston. Mr. Robinson, who of course is a Republican, will sit in the senate until March 3, 1926. He is an Indianapolis lawyer and in 1916 sought the nomination for the senate but was defeated by Harry New. During the World war he went overseas as a first lieutenant and was promoted to be captain and then major. He is married and has one daughter.

North Dakota must get along with only one senator next session, for Gov-

ernor Sorlie announces that he will not appoint a successor to the late Senator E. F. Ladd.

COL. WILLIAM MITCHELL was ordered to appear before a court-martial on October 28 in Washington, to be tried for imputation of "almost treasonable" conduct to high War and Navy department officials in the administration of the air defense. Formally, he is accused of violating the ninety-sixth article of war. Maj. Gen. C. P. Summerall heads the court-martial, the other members being Maj. Gens. Robert L. Howe, Fred W. Sladen, Douglas MacArthur, William S. Graves, Benjamin A. Moore; Brig. Gens. Albert J. Bowler, Edward L. King, Frank R. McCoy, Edwin B. Wynn, George Le R. Irwin, Ewing E. Booth; Col. Blanton Winship, Sherman Moreland, and Lieut. Col. Joseph I. McMullen.

Veteran officers predicted that Colonel Mitchell would be found guilty and sentenced to dismissal from the army and that this sentence would be disapproved and changed to a public reprimand.

"MA" FERGUSON, governor of Texas, is threatened with impeachment proceedings, and if her opponents have their way she will be ousted from office as was her husband some years ago. They assert that Mr. Ferguson is really the governor and charge the administration with waste of public funds, inefficiency of management, letting road improvement contracts to high instead of low bidders and other things.

Representative A. H. King called for a special session of the legislature to investigate these and other charges. Ferguson opposed it, declaring it too expensive. King's move has the endorsement of Lee Satterwhite, speaker of the house, who says he will re-issue the call. While the constitution provides that only the governor may call special sessions for emergencies, a statute enacted when Ferguson was governor provides that the speaker can call a session when joined by 50 members for impeachment purposes, and Satterwhite and more than 50 legislators intend to go to Austin and investigate.

ONCE more the Supreme court of the United States has upheld the Volstead act. Its constitutionality was questioned by attorneys for Druggan, a Chicago beer "baron," who was in jail, on the ground that it was enacted before the Eighteenth amendment was ratified by the necessary number of states. The court declared that congress had the constitutional authority to pass the Volstead law prior to the effective date of the constitutional amendment and that congress has the right to enact laws intended to carry out constitutional provisions for the future.

THE Episcopal house of bishops, in the New Orleans convention, concurred with the house of deputies in removing the word "obey" from the wedding service, and also voted to eliminate the bridegroom's announcement "With all my worldly goods I thee endow." Proposals that women should be eligible for membership in the house of deputies and that bishops might license women as lay readers were lost. The deputies voted for striking the 39 articles of religion from the book of common prayer; they also passed a resolution urging the United States senate to participate in and to assist in maintaining the permanent court of international justice at The Hague.

WHEN the National Council of Congregational Churches opened its sessions in Washington, President Coolidge, elected and re-elected its honorary moderator, delivered the chief address. Saying that it was his understanding that the purpose of the council was to enlarge and improve the moral and spiritual life of the nation, he declared that at the present time crime and defiance of law are menacing our government; and he called on all churches to contribute their influence in building up respect for the law and strengthening the foundations of the Union.

Frank J. Harwood of Appleton, Wis., manufacturer and leader in Sunday school and Y. M. C. A. work, was elected moderator for the next two years.

Make Plans for Winter Harvest

During the Warm Weather Great Quantities of Milk Spoil for Lack of Ice.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Fall is the time of harvest, but winter is coming, and then there will be opportunity for another harvest, in the ice on ponds and streams. Every summer great quantities of milk are spoiled, or so impaired by high temperatures that the owners are forced to accept smaller prices on account of low-grade products. This milk might be saved by the use of ice.

Ice is so useful that it is made artificially for consumption in cities. Farmers too often do without it, when they might just as well have it at no expense except that of labor at a time of year when work is commonly slack—provided there is an ice house ready. If there is no ice house, one can be built at moderate expense.

Where plenty of ice is used farmers are able to deliver practically all of their product sweet, though some of it travels several hundred miles to market. Other foods besides milk often spoil in hot weather, especially meats. Many farm families do without fresh meat in the summer unless they are near enough to a meat market to buy it in small quantities. They might just as well keep several days' supply in the home ice box.

Ice Cream is Delicacy.

Then again, ice cream is a delicacy which everyone appreciates. It has become an important article of food for city and village people, but farmers often do without it. They might just as well enjoy ice cream as anyone else. Ice cream is not hard to make, and the freezer to make it with can be purchased at a small cost. But ice is indispensable.

When planning to use a given supply of water for ice, says the United States Department of Agriculture, make sure beforehand that the water is pure. Clear the pond or stream of vegetable matter; otherwise it will be frozen in the ice. Protect the water supply from drainage from contaminating sources, such as privies, barn yards, and refuse heaps. Keep the ice surface clear of snow, as it retards freezing. Mark off the surface into cakes of the desired size, being sure that the lines form rectangles. Cut out a strip of ice the width of the cake desired. Force this strip under the surface of the ice field, thus opening a channel to the landing. Saw off large cakes and float them to the landing, where they may be cut into smaller cakes.

For the average farm, the only tools required are two saws, two pairs of tongs, two ice hooks, one pointed bar, one straight board for marking.

Where cream only is to be cooled, allow at least one-half ton of ice per cow. For cooling milk, allow 1½ tons per cow. These quantities should be enough to leave a margin for household use; but it is better to have too much than too little. Whenever practicable, build the ice house in the form of a cube. Allow 45 cubic feet of space for each ton of ice.

Best Location.

Locate the ice house in a shady place near the dairy house, and where there is good natural drainage. If water from the melting ice is not removed, melting will proceed at a more rapid rate. If the house is built on sloping, porous ground, natural drainage should be sufficient; but if on a clay soil, artificial drainage should be provided.

Use plenty of insulation. If sawdust or mill shavings are used, see that they are dry. Commercial insulation is more efficient and durable than either, but is more expensive. Wooden houses insulated with sawdust or mill shavings should be ventilated. Houses with commercial insulation and a cement finish need no ventilation.

The bureau of dairying, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., has further information about ice houses and the use of ice on the dairy farm.

Oil From Crank Case of Automobile Is Valuable

Oil from the crank case of the automobile or tractor is too valuable to discard, according to the agricultural engineering department of the New Jersey State College of Agriculture. The waste oil may be used for lubricating almost all farm machines. As the oil is used in the crank case it becomes diluted with fuel oil that escapes past the piston, and it may collect a certain amount of fine metal particles and pieces of carbon. It is then necessary to remove it from the engine, but if it is allowed to stand in an open metal container much of the fuel oil evaporates and the solid material settles to the bottom. In this way the lubricating qualities of the oil are restored except that it usually remains too thin for engine use. It is excellent oil for farm machines, or wherever a squirt can be used.

If the top oil is poured off, a heavy residue remains. This may be put into a convenient container and applied with an old paint brush to the scouring surfaces of the field implements.

Any lubricating oil may be used to some extent for insect control. A small amount applied to the surface of ponds or pools of water will prevent mosquito breeding.

Care of Home-Grown Seeds Is Important

Correct Labeling and Storage Are Essential.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The correct labeling and proper storage of home-grown seeds are of vital importance if the best yields are to be obtained. Seeds of satisfactory quality when harvested often, through neglect, are worthless at planting time. Cloth bags are the best containers for large seeds such as peas, beans, and corn and for large quantities of small seeds. For smaller lots ordinary letter envelopes, either homemade or purchased, if gummed to close completely, are satisfactory.

Every container should be labeled to show the kind and variety of seed, the exact date when harvested, and the place where grown. For the cloth bags, in addition to the label on the outside, a slip of paper bearing the above information should be inserted with the seed.

Many seeds, especially beans, corn, and lettuce, are subject to injury by a number of insects, most of which may be destroyed by fumigation with carbon disulphid. This liquid can be purchased in tin cans at drug stores. Carbon disulphid, when exposed to the air, as when poured out into a dish, produces a foul-smelling gas that is heavier than air. Therefore, in fumigating seeds it is necessary to place the liquid in a receptacle above the seeds in order that the gas formed by evaporation may sink into them and reach every part of the container. A tight tin pail, box, or barrel makes an excellent container for fumigating seeds. For a tight barrel full of seeds one-half cupful of carbon disulphid is sufficient. For smaller containers a proportionate quantity should be used. Immediately after the fumigation has been started the container should be covered with several thicknesses of heavy paper, or other tight cover, and allowed to remain covered from one to two days. A longer fumigation in tin pails is apt to injure the germinating power of the seeds. Seeds to be fumigated should be dry.

Carbon-disulphid gas is highly inflammable. Therefore, no lights or fire of any sort should be allowed near while fumigation is in progress, or an explosion may occur. The foul odor of the gas disappears after the seeds have been aired for several days. After the seeds have been packed a suitable place should be found for storing them. Cellars are too moist, attics usually are too hot, but a second-story room ordinarily is an ideal place providing the temperature does not fall below freezing and the seeds are dry when stored.

Seed can be protected from mice if kept in tin boxes or mouse-proof wooden boxes, or if suspended in cloth bags.

Plan to Reduce Expense by Employing Farm Power

That farm power and labor cost too much is the conclusion reached by agricultural engineers of the Pennsylvania State college. Under the leadership of R. U. Blasingame, head of the college farm machinery department, part of the 1,800 acres of college farm land will be devoted to an experiment to reduce these costs.

So far as is known the Pennsylvania State college is the first agricultural experiment station to put aside part of its farm for power farming experiments with a research engineer devoting full time to the work. H. E. Josephson, a graduate of Saskatchewan university and the Iowa State college, is in active charge. A four-year rotation of corn, oats, wheat and hay will be used in the experiments.

"With power and labor constituting 65 per cent of the cost of producing corn crops, we felt that some means should be employed to decrease this burden," says Blasingame. "Figures collected on 116 farms in Lancaster county in 1923 gave that average. Interest, depreciation, taxes, insurance, seed, fertilizer, marketing, and profit composed the other 35 per cent." It is hoped that a substantial reduction will be obtained by means of the plans used in the experiments.

FARM NOTES

A self-feeder for hens will prove profitable.

The only stock that should be abundantly watered is live stock.

Give the rhubarb bed a liberal application of barnyard manure this fall.

Flow out and corn land now. Every acre plowed this fall means one less to plow next spring.

Egg production from home is dependent not only upon the ability of the hens to lay eggs, but upon an abundant supply of the kind of food out of which eggs can be produced.

While picking fruit the grower should observe what kinds of insects are bothering the trees. During the winter plans and preparations can be made to resist their attacks next year.

Artificial light may be used on late-hatched pullets, permitting them to finish their growth. A 12-hour day is all that should be given until they are well developed. After that 13 hours of light may be safely used.