

THE FARMERS' COLUMN

Some Practical Suggestions Well Worth Knowing From the Department of Agriculture.

FACTS FOR DAILY USE

FOR THE BEE KEEPER

March is the month the bee-keeper will do well to look to his stock that there is sufficient stores to last until the blossoms come. The past season was an exceptionally poor one for honey and it would not be strange if notwithstanding the open winter, many colonies of bees will require feeding during the spring months. Examination to determine the need of this is always possible when bees are kept in modern hives, as it is only necessary to expose an inch of two of the back ends of the combs to see if there are stores or not.

Bees wintering outdoors always consume the honey from the front of the hives first and if no sealed honey is to be seen at the rear of the hive the colony will soon starve if not attended to. If the weather is warm enough to allow opening of hives and full frames of honey are on hand it is a simple matter to exchange them for empty ones, or for temporary help they can be placed flat on top of the bees until warmer weather comes in April. Candy made of sugar is also a handy method of feeding and as a last resort thick syrup given in a feeder can be used and all wrapped securely to keep in as much heat as possible. It is only to prevent starvation, however, that feeding should be resorted to. Stimulative feeding uses up the vitality of the bees at a time when it is most needed to build up the colony and there is nothing gained, for with normal outdoor wintering and plenty to eat all colonies having good queens are boiling over with bees before the honey harvest opens.

During a long cold spring a substitute for pollen in the shape of flour, corn meal, oatmeal, pea meal or crushed oil cake will be gladly accepted by the bees and cause the queen to keep on laying when otherwise the colony might dwindle off.

FARM HOME HOTBEDS WILL PROVIDE EARLY VEGETABLES

A hotbed is a medium for an abundance of early plants for the farm garden and may be used also to supply such vegetables as lettuce and radishes to the farm table during early spring.

One should not be discouraged if his first attempt to make a hotbed proves a failure. Probably more failure with hotbeds result from an improper preparation of the manure than from any other reason.

The manure should be in a high state of fermentation before it is placed on the bed. J. R. Bechtel, of the Pennsylvania State College School of Agriculture and Experiment station, advises placing the manure in a square pile in a protected place as it comes from the horse stable. After it is allowed to heat a few days the pile should be rebuilt, the interior and exterior portions mixed and the whole allowed to heat thoroughly again, after which it is ready for the hotbed pit.

For Pennsylvania conditions the pit should be 24 to 30 inches deep and lined with boards. The frame placed over the pit, and supporting the sash should have one side six inches higher than the other, so that the glass will have the necessary slope. When the manure has been placed in the pit, properly tramped and covered with 4 to 6 inches of soil the sash are put in place. Seed may be sown when the temperature in the soil subsides to 90 degrees.

FOUR ESSENTIALS OF SOIL MANAGEMENT.

Drainage, sweet soil conditions, organic matter and plant food are the four essentials of proper soil management for profit. Wet land cannot earn the money for the owner that well-drained land can earn, and the problem of the farmer who has a living to make from his land is to first see that his land is well drained. The right use of lime will keep the soil friendly to the crops by correcting the acidity. Organic matter is the life of the soil and the means of supplying it through stable manures, clovers, grass sods, and other cover crops should be considered carefully by every farmer. Land that is already fertile may be made more productive by supplying the deficiencies with plant food. Soils that are unproductive require fertilizers containing ammonia, phosphoric acid and potash under most conditions. These essentials must be considered wherever there is farming, for best results.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

CALLED TO WEST FRONT TO AID CROWN PRINCE



GEN. VON MACKENSEN.

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

The Germans have captured Forges, west of the Meuse, according to a statement issued by the French war office. The statement adds that several German attempts to debouch against Gouze Hill (Cote de L'Or) were repulsed by the French.

Three of the Verdun forts defending the city from the east have been almost totally wrecked by the German bombardment, according to Amsterdam dispatches.

Attacks of German infantry in the Verdun region evidently have been suspended for the time being, as official statements do not mention any activity by the infantry arm and the Berlin statement notes a slackening in the struggle.

Capture of nearly 1,000 French near Verdun on Saturday and Sunday was announced by the German war office.

Important movements of German troops in Belgium are reported in a dispatch from The Hague. It is said that 40,000 German cavalrymen of the landsturm are on their way to the front near "pres."

Eight hundred Austrians were killed or wounded in the raid made by Italian aeroplanes Feb. 19 on the city of Laibach, according to information received here. One of the Italian aeroplanes was destroyed.

Laibach is a city about forty-five miles east of Gorizia and has a population of about 30,000. It has been stated that it is the headquarters of the Austrian army operating against the Italians.

An Amsterdam dispatch says that since Feb. 21 heavy fighting has been in progress between the relief forces of General Aylmer on the Tigris and the Turkish troops, according to advices from Constantinople.

Especially severe fighting has been taking place near the town of Nasrife. The British have recently moved up a new large force to proceed to the relief of General Townshend at Kut-el-Amara.

The Russian Black sea fleet is extending its operations to the westward of Trebizond and has bombarded the mouth of the Terna river, where a fleet of sailing vessels had taken refuge. The Terna is 210 miles west of Trebizond.

The Russian advance is still 250 miles from the nearest point of approach to the Bagdad railway, south of Bitlis, namely Ras-el-Ain.

The loss of more than 3,000 lives in the sinking of the French auxiliary cruiser Provence is the greatest ocean disaster of modern times. Up to the present the largest number of lives ever lost in one wreck was when the White Star liner Titanic struck an iceberg off the Newfoundland banks on April 14, 1912, and sank with a death loss of 1,595. The rescued numbered 743.

Sidi Barani, a town in eastern Egypt, was recaptured without opposition by British forces after being for three months in the hands of tribesmen commanded by Turkish officers. Further information indicates that the Turkish casualties on Feb. 28 were heavy. Thirty-three thousand rounds of ammunition, a machine gun, fifty camels and a large quantity of dates were captured.

Among the prisoners were Gasfar Pasha, the second in command, and Nehad Bey and about thirty-three others.

British steamship Maloja struck a mine in English channel 147 drowned. The Russian army took Bitlis, 110 miles south of Erzerum, by storm.

Switzerland will be compelled to charter transatlantic steamships to bring her own food across the sea under protection of her own flag if the war continues much longer, in the opinion of many persons here. The view is expressed that Germany's program at sea may mean the starvation of Switzerland unless some such action is taken.

Five Children of Family Die.

Five of seven children of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Crosier of Sewel Valley, W. Va., died within ten days. Their deaths occurred in the following order: Forrest Ayres, aged two; Alfred Leon, nine; Lynd's Clarence, seven; Goldie Madeline, eleven, and Paul David, thirteen. All died with measles and pneumonia.

U. S. GRAND JURY INDICTS BREWERS

102 True Bills Found In Probe of Political Contributions

MAY BRING JAIL SENTENCES

Charges Allege Federal Penal Code Violations and Conspiracy in Expenditure of Money in Federal Elections

The United States grand jury indicted 101 brewing corporations of Pennsylvania in connection with the federal grand jury. The indictments were ordered by Judge Thomson, who acted upon two presentments of the grand jury in which the action was recommended.

The violations charged are covered by two sections of the United States criminal code. Section 83 forbids any national bank or corporation to make a money contribution in connection with any election of national officers, and section 37 covers the charge of conspiracy.

The indictments were made in four presentments attacking the different brewing companies separately, as they were members either of the United States or Pennsylvania Brewers' associations, two of the associations the grand jury had been probing.

An indictment was returned against the United States Brewers' association, but not the Pennsylvania Brewers' association, because the first is a corporation and the other is not. Fifty-eight brewing companies, members of the Pennsylvania Brewers' association, and forty-two brewing companies, members of the United States Brewers' association, with the brewery association itself, are indicted.

Three big brewing companies in and around Pittsburgh are indicted as members of both associations, the Pittsburgh Brewing company, Independent Brewing company and Port Pitt Brewing company of Sharpsburg.

Little is said in the indictments of specific offenses alleged under section 83, federal penal code, the so-called federal corrupt practices act, and section 37 of the same code.

Under these sections fines not to exceed \$5,000 in the first and \$10,000 in the second, may be assessed. There is a provision for imprisonment of officers and directors of corporations under both sections, but the indictments do not touch the individuals, a matter to be taken up by the grand jury, in all probability, when it convenes March 20 in Erie.

SLAYS RIVAL, CHARGE

Carlo Scaglione Sought For Murder of Tony Loverde, South Brownsville.

As the result of a love affair, Tony Loverde, aged twenty-seven, a miner, is dead at his home in South Brownsville, Pa., and Carlo Scaglione, aged thirty-one, a track walker, is being sought by the police.

According to Joseph Gramere, with whom Loverde made his home, Loverde and Scaglione were rivals for the hand of an Italian girl in Brownsville. Both went to visit her and met near her home. Following a slight quarrel the suitors went to a Browns-ville saloon, drank together and apparently settled their differences. When they returned to South Brownsville Scaglione was denied admittance to Loverde's boarding house.

Scaglione, the police say, then drew a revolver and started shooting. Three of five shots struck Loverde and Scaglione ran toward Brownsville. A crowd of Loverde's friends started to pursue Scaglione who, they say, turned and pointed a revolver at them, threatening to shoot, then fled. It is thought that Scaglione headed for Uniontown.

CREDIT FOR HOME WORK

Pupils Will Get Good Marks For Washing Dishes, Etc.

A new departure whereby the pupil is given school credit for work done at home, such as washing dishes, chopping kindling wood, bringing in coal, making beds, running the washing machine or carrying a horse has been inaugurated in Redstone township, Fayette county, Pa., under the supervision of Superintendent Ira H. Hess.

In a statement Superintendent Hess says that "it is not good taste to give credit for home work where pupils have been compelled to perform the act." Pupils earning home work credits will be given credit at the end of the year under regular studies.

PITTSBURGH EDITOR DEAD

M. E. Gable, Gazette Times Writer, Was a Printer.

Morgan E. Gable, editorial writer of the Pittsburgh Gazette Times, died at his home after a brief illness. Mr. Gable was born at Tamaqua, Pa., in February, 1862. He learned the trade of printer and from that graduated into the editorial department of newspaper work.

MENTIONED FOR UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT



JOHN W. DAVIS, U. S. Solicitor General.

SUFFS TO ATTEND

June Conventions to See Great Demonstrations For Votes For Women.

Delegations of women outnumbering delegates of the two political parties will attend the Democratic and Republican national conventions, according to announcements at the Washington headquarters of the National Woman's Suffrage association.

The chief purpose behind the move is to secure in each platform of these two parties a plank favoring votes for women. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president, is now in the field devoting her energies to plans for the selection of these delegates. State suffrage organizations, representing congressional districts, counties, cities, precincts and every other political unit, are co-operating with the national association at every stage.

CLAIMS QUILTING TITLE

Washington (Pa.) Woman, 76 Years Old, Picked 81 Quilts In Year.

Washington county, Pa., has an aspirant for the quilting championship of the country, age to be considered. She is Mrs. Eva Newman, aged seventy-six, of West Finley, who, during the year ending March 3, pieced eighty-one quilts. Aside from this, Mrs. Newman attended to all household duties. Specimens of her handiwork are scattered throughout the length and breadth of West Finley township. Providing she enjoys good health, Mrs. Newman expects to eclipse this record during the ensuing year.

THREE FOUND SLAIN

Girls and Uncle Dead in Summerville (W. Va.) Tragedy.

Bound and gagged, with their throats cut, the bodies of Edith and Reva Rader, aged sixteen and eleven, respectively, were found in the home of their uncle, James Neil, aged thirty, at Summerville, W. Va.

Neil's body, with a bullet wound in the head, was found about 200 yards from the house and not far away was a shotgun. Physicians say both girls were attacked before being murdered. Prosecuting Attorney Weaver is investigating.

BAKER FOR WAR SECRETARY

Former Cleveland Mayor Named to Succeed Lindley M. Garrison.

Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland, has been selected by President Wilson for secretary of war.

Mr. Baker's name had been mentioned in connection with the position several times. He was offered a place when the cabinet was formed, but declined.

Mr. Baker has accepted the position and is now arranging his affairs in Cleveland preparatory to coming to Washington to take up his duties.

THREE DEAD IN EXPLOSION

Two Others Injured In West Virginia Sawmill; Cause Unknown.

In a sawmill explosion at Ireland, Lewis county, W. Va., three men were instantly killed and two probably fatally injured.

The dead are Clay Bland, Lee McCarty and Thomas Bennett. The injured are Alvin Neely and Lee Bennett. The mill was located upon the farm of W. P. Stock. No cause has been assigned for the accident.

AUTO RAMBLED RIGHT ALONG

Struck by Train, Machine Rides Block on Cowcatcher.

After riding the cowcatcher of a train for a block, being struck at a grade crossing in Sharon, an automobile containing three men rambled right along and went several hundred feet on three wheels until it crashed into a building.

To Revise Borough Assessments. Realizing that with the rapid growth of New Kensington present assessments of property are in many cases discriminatory the borough council and the school board will soon confer with the commissioners of Westmoreland county with a view to revising the assessments of the borough.

GERMANS FAIL TO CUT FRENCH LINE

Fighting In Douaumont Village Results in No Gains

GERMAN RAIDER MAKES PORT

Moeve Completes Another of Spectacular Dashes Which Have Featured War from the German Side

Fighting of great violence continues at Douaumont in the Verdun region. The Germans made a heavy attack against the French front along the line from the Haudremont wood to Louaumont fort. This assault was repulsed.

It is stated semi-officially that the battle at Verdun continues with the same intensity and without causing any change in the respective positions of the opposing armies. Fighting is still going on for definite possession of the village of Douaumont.

The situation as a result of this second phase of the German offensive is regarded as altogether different from that of the first days of the battle. The only progress made by the Germans was during the first two days of the second attack. For the last forty-eight hours they have not advanced.

The comparison also is in favor of the French by reason of the fact that the Germans now have lost the advantage of surprise and also because the ground has been torn up to such an extent that it cannot be organized properly.

Reinforcements brought up by the Germans since the inauguration of the second phase of the battle on Wednesday are estimated at 250,000 men, raising the total forces utilized by the assaults to more than 500,000. Estimates of losses show wide variance. Details of local actions and the size of the reserve forces brought up cause French observers to make the deduction that the Germans have paid a very heavy price for the six square miles of ground they have gained.

In front of the village of Vaux alone 4,000 German corpses were counted after the eighth unsuccessful attack.

Moeve Completes Raiding Voyage.

Official announcement was made in Berlin that the German cruiser Moeve had arrived in "some" German port. She had on board a large number of British prisoners and \$200,000 in gold bars.

The announcement says fifteen vessels were sunk by the Moeve, which also laid mines at several points. One of these mines, it is stated, sank the British battleship King Edward VIII. The statement says:

"The naval general staff states that the Moeve, Commander Burgrave Count Dohna Schlodien, after a successful cruise lasting several months, arrived at some home port with four British officers, 19 British marines and sailors, 266 men of crews of enemy steamers, among them 103 Indians, as prisoners, and 1,000,000 marks in gold bars."

CAR STRIKE AT CAPITAL

Men Demand More Pay, Shorter Hours and Better Conditions.

Not a street car in Washington is running. For the first time in the history of electric railway traction the capital is having the experience of a real street car strike. A few cars were operated Sunday by motorman and conductors who stuck to their posts. Fear that violence might occur caused officials of the Capital Traction company and the Washington Railway and Electric company to stop all cars temporarily. Whether traffic is to be resumed will depend on the outcome of efforts being made by the commissioners of the District of Columbia and officials of the department of labor to bring about arbitration.

The strike organizers are threatening to call a sympathetic strike among workers at the power plant of the Potomac Electric Light and Power company, which supplies the city with most of its light. This company is owned by the Washington Railway and Electric company.

SUPPORT PREPAREDNESS

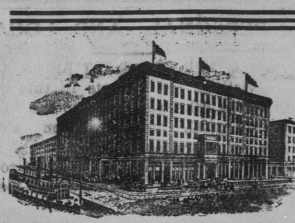
Philadelphia Concerns Encourage Employees to Enlist in Companies.

Three big industrial concerns of Philadelphia have announced their intention of supporting the preparedness movement by organizing their men into companies, so that they could be ready should the time come to uphold on the field of battle the honor of the United States.

The employees, the majority of whom are as enthusiastic as the organizers themselves in supporting the movement, will be under no expense in enlisting. The employers will supply them with uniforms.

The companies are the Packard Motor Car company, Philadelphia branch; the Freihofer company, the Lubin Manufacturing company. The number of men on the payrolls of the three concerns approximates 1,000, many of whom have already enrolled their names on the list of those willing to be soldiers.

Subscriptions For Road. Citizens of Lower Burrell township, near Parnassus, have raised \$10,000 by public subscription to be used for the improvement of a new road, extending southeast in the direction of Millganton.



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I have bought a car load of No. 1 Galvanized Roofing and will sell at the lowest possible figure and guarantee the price till this car is sold, should it drop before March 1st, the customer shall have the benefit. Also the best price on No. 1 Bangor or Sea Green Slate as cheap as shingles. Spouting, Ridging, Nails and Valleys. Write for Delivered Prices to any Railroad Station. All Work Guaranteed and Done to Order.

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