

THE FARMERS' COLUMN

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

FACTS FOR DAILY USE

DON'TS IN BUYING HOGS AT PUBLIC SALES.
From now until the middle of April the order of the day in rural districts is the public sales of farm implements and livestock. It is seldom that a tenant farmer moves from one premise to another or a farmer retires without holding a public sale. In many cases the men who hold these public sales gather up cattle and hogs during the winter with the view of putting them out at profit at time of their sale. In this way stock which may come from premises where hog cholera has lately been prevalent, or other transmissible diseases have been present may readily spread disease.

Dr. C. J. Marshall, State Veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture sounds a warning to all farmers who attend these sales to take proper precautions to see that the livestock, and especially the hogs, have not been lately taken from any premises where any livestock has recently died or where there has been any transmissible disease.

Dr. Marshall has laid down the following list of "Don'ts" which should be closely observed:
Don't buy hogs and pigs without careful inquiry in the community. If you find that person desiring to sell hogs has recently lost one, two or more animals, don't purchase, but report the matter to the State Livestock Sanitary Board at Harrisburg.

Don't buy exceedingly cheap hogs and pigs unless you know positively that owner has not recently lost animals, but has some other good reason for sacrificing animals.

Don't buy hogs from several different people and put them all together on your own premises or allow them to come in contact with your own hogs and pigs. Keep each lot to itself until two or three weeks have passed and then put them in their permanent quarters only after being sure that none are showing any signs of sickness.

Don't go near a premise where there are sick hogs and don't allow any one from a premise where there are sick hogs to visit your hog pens or hog lots.

Don't go in or around hog pens at public sales or stockyards unless you want to purchase hogs. If animals are purchased, keep them separate on your premises, as indicated above, until they prove to be free from disease. Your shoes, at least, should be washed with a disinfectant after attending a public sale or stockyard before you enter your own hog pens or hog lots.

Don't take chances with a sick hog. Isolate any animal that shows any signs of being sick. If two or more animals develop the same symptoms call a qualified veterinarian. If your hogs are affected with hog cholera the sooner this fact is known the better chances you will have to save some of your animals. Hog cholera serum will not cure sick animals, but will protect well animals.

Don't waste money on patent medicines, hog cholera cures etc. For additional information write Dr. C. J. Marshall, State Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa.

FOUR ESSENTIALS FOR SUCCESS WITH POTATOES.

For the benefit of potato growers of Pennsylvania and for those desiring to become successful potato growers, the Department of Agriculture has arranged for a series of four articles by Sheldon W. Funk, farm adviser and market gardening expert, who says:

"In growing potatoes it has been my experience that there are four great essentials that go to make a good yield. First, plenty of organic matter in the soil; second, plenty of fertilizer; third, good seed; fourth, constant cultivation. It is true that there are many other things that must be attended to properly, but I believe that these four essentials are most important.

"The first of these, plenty of organic matter or humus in the soil, is, I believe the most important of all. Humus is a wonderful thing in the soil and if every farmer in Pennsylvania realized its value, what an increase in yields of all crops we would have in this state. It is absolutely necessary for the production of a good crop of potatoes, and I think that any man who tries to grow them without a good supply of this material in his soil is indeed a foolish man.

"Humus besides all the other things that it does, greatly increases the water holding capacity of your soil and when you do not have plenty

ADDISON.
March 1—Miss Della Kurtz of Swissvale is visiting her mother, Mrs. Annie Kurtz at Ridgeview.

Mrs. Maria Stark is confined to her bed from a very severe fall recently. Miss Jessie Rishberger and Miss Mintie Turney were calling at Ridgeview on Saturday.

Mrs. Annie Kurtz is spending the week with her son George at Humbert. We have been hearing some complaint about the children in the Addison schools not learning just as they should. Well, I would make this suggestion: Let the parents of such pupils visit the schools and when they see how careful the teachers are and how hard they try to make the scholars learn, they would change their minds. Mr. Paul M. Ross has charge of the primary room and Mr. W. F. Null, the grammar room and we are safe in saying both are earnest and conscientious teachers. The old adage says that you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink if he don't want to; so it is with children in school. Some will not learn no difference what the teacher does. We sincerely hope this suggestion to parents will be sufficient.

Mrs. E. G. Augustine, who underwent a very serious operation last week at the home of her sister, Mrs. S. Mitchell, is getting along finely. Drs. Franz of Confluence and Grez are the attending physicians.

Mr. Crist DeHaven and wife of Springfield, O. were summoned here last week by the serious illness of the former's sister, Mrs. Laura Duckworth. Mr. G. Strawn, of Butte City, Mont. is here visiting. This is Mr. Strawn's second visit to Addison in thirty years.

Mr. C. H. Bird, who had the misfortune to have three fingers cut off in a corn shredder, is again ready for work. His hand is healing nicely.

POCAHONTAS.

March 14—Austin Friedline was again in our vicinity over Sunday.

The institute at Pine Grove Friday night was well attended.

Fred Durr was a business caller in Meyersdale recently.

The ladies of the Sunshine Club will hold a bazaar in the basement of St. Mark's Reformed Church on April 8. Everybody cordially invited to attend.

Frank Albright is now living in the vicinity of Boynton, having moved this week from the home of his father-in-law, J. S. Hostetler, where he had been staying.

Irvin Bittner was a welcome caller at Mrs. S. J. Miller's last Sunday evening.

Mrs. S. J. Miller is on the sick list at this writing.

Mrs. Aug. Sass and Mrs. J. C. Miller are again on the mend.

Charles Durr was again seen in our vicinity after a siege of chicken pox.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Dietle were the guests of Millard Steinley over Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Barmoy spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Sass.

The Order of Owls will hold a festival and entertainment at Deal, Pa. on March 25th. Everybody invited to attend.

Pennsylvania ranks sixteenth among the States for the number of horses and twentieth for the number of mules it possesses. Iowa and Illinois lead with horses and Texas and Missouri with mules.

In North Heidelberg township, Berks county, it is reported that thirteen per cent. of the farmers are disposing of their stock and will retire.

of moisture you cannot expect many potatoes.
"We have three principal methods of getting this organic matter. First by turning down good heavy sods; second, by making heavy applications of stable manures and third by the judicious cover crops. The potato grower should have at least two of these things and better still all three.

"If you are making potatoes your money crop, or in other words your specialty, I think you should adopt a potato rotation so as to supply this needed organic matter. The best rotation that I know of for this purpose in Pennsylvania is potatoes, wheat and clover. With this rotation handled properly you can not only get good yields of potatoes, but your land becomes more fertile the longer you farm. Where you are using corn in the rotation and plant your potatoes on corn stubble, by all means use a cover crop in the corn. I prefer a mixture of either fifteen pounds hairy vetch and one and one-half bushels of rye or eight pounds of crimson clover and the above amount of rye to be sown either of these mixtures just before making your last cultivation in the corn. In plowing down this clover crop in spring, don't let the rye get taller than about twenty inches and don't turn your furrows upside down or your results will not be nearly as good.

PEACE RUMORS DOUBTED HERE

Belligerents' Views Too Far Apart, Washington Thinks

NEITHER THINKS OF DEFEAT

Each Side is Predicting Peace "Because It is Plain That We Have Won."—Wall Street Prices Drop.

Nothing is known in Washington about the latest crop of peace reports and official Washington is inclined to believe they are simply an aftermath to the statement made by Alexandre Ribot, minister of finance, on Saturday in the French chamber of deputies that "the end of the war is at last in sight."

A press report from Galveston, Tex., stating that a Galveston shipping firm had received word from London that "immediate peace was in sight" denied explanation either at the White House or at the state department.

The last reliable information which President Wilson has received bearing on the question of prospective peace came from Colonel House upon the latter's return from abroad. Colonel House emphasized his belief that the respective viewpoints of Berlin, Paris and London were so divergent as regards the possible peace terms that there was little prospect of any definite move at present.

Germany, however, predicts peace at no distant date. According to Berlin, peace is in sight because the entente allies are beaten and must despair of depriving Germany of the fruits of victory. According to London and Paris, peace is near because Germany is beaten.

Market Reflects Rumors.
Rumors of an early peace sent prices tumbling on the New York stock exchange. Every stock that is in any way affected by the war lost from 2 to 6 points and many of those not known as "war brides" were thrown on the market.

The downward plunge was led by Crucible Steel, which showed a loss for the day of 6 1/4 points. Babcock and American Locomotive were similarly affected, the former losing 5 1/2 and the latter an even 5 points. United States Steel, Airbrake and Westinghouse registered losses of from 2 to 4 points.

Shipping men evinced a lively interest in reports from Galveston that tonnage arrangements had been cancelled there by the receipt of a cable dispatch from a prominent London chartering firm, which gave as its reason that "immediate peace is in sight." Members of large shipping firms said, however, that no word of a confirmatory character had been received in New York and that no cancellations had been made. Insurance brokers, who handle marine risks, also said that they had received no intimation of the step reported in the Galveston dispatch.

WIDOW THREATENED

Writer Says Murder and Arson Will Follow Refusal of Demand.
Mrs. Mary Kuehbart, a widow of Smithfield, O., received a letter demanding \$1,000, under threat that she would be murdered and her house and barn burned unless she complied.

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Pittsburgh, March 21.
Butter—Prints, 40@40 1/2; tubs, 39@39 1/2. Eggs—Fresh, 23c.
Cattle—Choice, \$9@9.25; prime, \$9@9.25; good, \$8.50@8.90; tidy butchers, \$8.25@8.75; fair, \$8@8.25; common, \$6@7; heifers, \$6@8.25; common to good fat bulls, \$5@8; common to good fat cows, \$4@7.50; fresh cows and springers, \$35@75.
Sheep and Lambs—Prime wethers, \$9@9.25; good mixed, \$8.40@8.85; fair mixed, \$7.50@8.25; culls and common, \$4.50@5; lambs, \$7.50@11.75; veal calves, \$11@11.50; heavy and thin calves, \$7@8.
Hogs—Prime heavy, heavy mixed and mediums, \$9.90@9.95; heavy Yorkers, \$9.95@9.90; light Yorkers, \$9.25@9.40; pigs, \$8.65@8.75; roughs, \$9@9.25; stags, \$7@7.50.

Cleveland, March 21.
Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$7.75@8.50; good to choice butcher steers, \$7@8; fair to good butcher steers, \$6.50@7.25; good to choice heifers, \$6.25@7.25; good to choice butchers, \$6.50@7.25; good to choice cows, \$6@6.50; fair to good cows, \$5@6; common cows, \$4@5.
Sheep and Lambs—Good to choice lambs, \$11@11.50; fair to good, \$9.50@10.50; good to choice wethers, \$8.50@9; good to choice ewes, \$8@8.50; mixed ewes and wethers, \$8.25@8.50; culls, \$5.50@7.50.
Calves—Good to choice \$11.25@11.75; fair to good, \$9@11; heavy and common, \$6@9.
Hogs—Heavy Yorkers, \$10@10.05; light Yorkers, \$9.90@10; mediums, \$10@10.05; pigs, \$8.75; stags, \$7.50; roughs, \$8.

Chicago, March 21.
Hogs—Bulk, \$9.50@9.65; light, \$9.10@9.65; mixed, \$9.25@9.65; heavy, \$9.20@9.65; roughs, \$9.20@9.40; pigs, \$7.60@8.60.
Cattle—Native beef steers, \$7.50@9.30; stockers and feeders, \$6@8.20; cows and heifers, \$3.80@8.70; calves, \$8.25@10.75.
Wheat—May, \$1.09 1/2. Corn—May, 75 1/2c. Oats—May, 44 1/2c.

MAY SUCCEED HOLLWEG AS GERMAN CHANCELLOR



PRINCE VON BUELOW.

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

Five French double motor aeroplanes bombed the German balloon station at Metz, the ammunition depots near Chateau Salins and the aerodrome at Dieuze. Thirty shells of large caliber were dropped during the course of this expedition of which twenty fell on the station at Metz.

The Prince of Wales has arrived in Egypt on appointment as staff captain to the general commanding the Mediterranean forces.

Vienna reports that the hospital ship Elektra, in the Austro-Hungarian Red Cross service, bound from the North Adriatic to South Dalmatia, was torpedoed by an enemy submarine. The steamer is stranded. One sailor was drowned and two Red Cross nurses badly wounded. Elektra was not unknown to the enemy as a hospital ship and was provided with prescribed visible marks.

The German drive at the Verdun defenses has again shifted its direction. Strong assaults were made by the Germans on the lines east of Verdun, five successive assaults in the Vaux region being repulsed by the French, Paris announces.

The heavy fighting in the last few days has been to the northwest of the fortress and Paris reported massed attacks by the Germans, who drove at the French position at Dead Man's Hill, only to be forced back eastward toward the Corbeaux woods, suffering heavy losses. Although a bombardment has been continued in this region the infantry attacks have not been renewed.

Important operations may be developing along the southern part of the Russian front, as Vienna reports increasing activity by the artillery on both sides. In Galicia the Russians have attacked along the Strypa, but without success, the Austrian war office declares.

The Italian offensive along the Isonzo is commanding increasing attention, although Vienna's latest report on the situation declares the attacks on the Austrian lines have decreased in violence. The current statement by the Rome war office records counter attacks by the Austrians on positions newly won by the Italians. These are declared to have been repulsed.

Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor, may follow Admiral von Tirpitz into retirement, according to a dispatch from Geneva to the Daily Express, quoting Berlin reports, which also state that Prince Bernhard von Buelow, the former chancellor, will soon leave Lucerne for Berlin.

A message from Berne says that Naby Bey, former Turkish ambassador at Rome, is reported to be endeavoring to negotiate a separate peace for Turkey with the allies.

Forty-four German ships of from 12,000 to 20,000 tons in size have been seized by the Brazilian government, according to a dispatch from Liverpool.

LAST OF THE ALLENS KILLED

Shot In Dispute Over Course of Former Comrade.

Jack Allen, lone survivor of the Allen clan of Carroll county, Virginia, died in a mountain cabin near Mount Airy, N. C.

The clan terrorized the countryside by murdering judge, prosecutor and several other persons when their leader was pronounced guilty of a minor offense in Hillville county court March 14, 1912.

Allen died avenging what he considered an insult to the honor of the clan. He had stopped on his way home at the cabin of Mrs. Robert Martin. Will McGraw, a neighbor, came in. During the conversation McGraw said that he did not think Wesley Edwards, who helped the Allens in the attack, was particularly brave. Allen drew, but McGraw was quicker and killed the former.

Just to Show His Ability.
As Robert Manning, a "dip," left the train at Ossining, N. Y., to serve two years in Sing Sing he handed the conductor his watch. Manning had picked the conductor's pocket despite the fact that he was handcuffed.



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SCHOOL CENSUS BEGINS JUNE 1.
Starting June 1, an attendance census of all children of school age from 4 to 6 years and 6 to 16 will be taken and the records turned over to the school boards as required by state law. Separate lists will be kept of the children in the 4 and 6 year class and those ranging from 6 to 16 years.

When parents or guardians of children refuse to furnish the names, age, address and school attended by the youngsters, the officers are empowered to prosecute under misdemeanor charges for which a minimum fine of \$5 and costs are prescribed.

After these records have been obtained, the school authorities will be able to strictly enforce attendance of all children whether in regular classes or the continuation schools.

Between eleven and twelve thousand persons attended the Farmers' Institutes held in York county, being an average of nearly 1,000 persons a day. York county farmers attribute much of their success to the institutes conducted annually by the Department of Agriculture.

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