

# THE FARMER'S COLUMN

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

**SUCCESSFUL MARKETING**  
The Department of Agriculture at Harrisburg is doing a work for the farmers and for the people in general throughout the State that is greatly appreciated. This appreciation will grow from day to day as the people become better acquainted with its work and realize the benefits that are daily coming to them with but little or no expense.

The work of the Farm Advisers is beginning to bring forth fruit, some of it one hundred fold. None of the work however, seemingly gets quite so close to the hearts and pocketbooks of the people as that of marketing farm products. All are interested in this proposition, no matter where they live or what their occupation.

This important work has been assigned to E. B. Dorsett of Mansfield, Pennsylvania. He is ably assisted in this work by the other Advisers. In fact the members of the board are demonstrating what true co-operation is and means, by the splendid team work which they are doing. They are teaching the farmer that it is a waste of time, money and energy to produce a crop and then not be able to successfully market it.

After the crop is produced the farmer must know how, when and where to sell. It is a well known fact, that no matter how fertile the soil, how well the land is tilled, how abundant the harvest, it is of but little avail to the farmer if he is unable to market the crops at a profit. Successful marketing is the key to the arch with every farmer.

To be able to market successfully requires an unusual combination of qualities as well as market facilities not accorded to many. The farmer needs to be not only a good tiller of the soil, but he needs to be a good salesman as well.

Not all farmers are good salesmen not any more than all salesmen are good farmers.

Recognizing this fact the Department of Agriculture is making plans that will be beneficial to all parties interested. Farmers are now being taught the art of marketing as well as that of increased productions. Competent men are given instructions as to grading, sorting, packing, as well as market needs and cautions. An effort is being made to induce farmers to standardize their products.

Organizing the only one in our large cities are being consulted as to the best package for shipping and cold storage purposes. An effort is also being made to adopt a standard package for all fruit and vegetables. In fact a "Get together" policy has been adopted that means successful marketing.

**PENNSYLVANIA APPLE CROP**  
In seventeen counties of the State the apple crop is expected to reach the normal yield, while in fourteen counties the yield will be twenty per cent., or more below the normal, according to statistics prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

In the fruit belt consisting of Adams, Franklin, Cumberland, York, Lancaster, Fulton and Perry counties the general percentage is about eighty-five per cent. of a normal yield. There was a big June drop but orchardists report a splendid yield in sight. Pennsylvania ranks fourth among the States in the production of apples with only New York, Missouri and Ohio leading. According to the present estimates the production of this year should be about 13,424,400 bushels.

Statistics show that the Baldwin is the most popularly grown apple in the State with Northern Spy, York Imperial, Ben Davis and Rhode Island Greenings following in popularity in the order named. The Baldwins form about twenty per cent. of the crop grown in the State with Northern Spy about twelve per cent.

Some of the counties where a normal yield are expected are: Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Huntingdon, Luzerne, Mercer, Pike, Potter, Sullivan, Susquehanna and Tioga. In Susquehanna county ten per cent. above a normal yield is expected, in Mercer county eight per cent. and in Erie county six per cent.

The counties where twenty per cent. below normal crops are expected are: Beaver, Chester, Allegheny, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Greene, Juniata, Montgomery, Perry, Philadelphia, Union, Washington and Westmoreland.

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## CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR IS RUNNING FOR SENATE



Photo by American Press Association. HIRAM JOHNSON.

## PETROGRAD DOCKS SWEEPED BY FLAMES

**Anarchists Blamed For Flames That Swept Moltion Works.**  
Reports of a conflagration at Petrograd in which a bridge across the river Neva, twelve large steamers, including several transatlantic liners, and the Putiloff gun works and other establishments were destroyed, are printed in the Lokal Anzeiger, Berlin. The newspaper says:  
"On Tuesday the wooden palace bridge across the Neva took fire at several places. Immediately flaming popoons drifting to Vassili Ostrov (Basil Island), where a huge fire broke out, and also to the port where twelve large steamers, including several transatlantic liners, a floating dock, the Putiloff works and other establishments took fire.  
"The police suspect the conflagration was the work of anarchists who planned to burn all public buildings being used for military purposes.  
"Vassili Ostrov contains the most important insular section of the Russian capital. The part of the island facing the admiralty quarter contains the bourse, the buildings of the University of Petrograd and of the Academy of Sciences, the Academy of Arts, the Mining Institute, the Zoological garden and the Semenoff gallery of paintings."

## TILLMAN GLAD SOUTH LOST

Slavery a Curse, Says Senator.  
"I never believed it possible that I could do it, but slowly and by degrees I have come to think that it was best for all concerned that the south was defeated," said Senator Tillman of South Carolina, urging passage of a bill dealing with Arlington National cemetery.  
"Slavery," he continued, "was a curse which had to be destroyed ere the south and the world could advance. It was a curse for which the south was no more responsible than the north. Both sections were responsible, and both paid four long, bloody years for their joint sin. It had to go while it went in the worst possible way and its going gave birth to an apparently unsolvable problem, still I who was born in and of the old south, am glad it is gone never to return."  
"I am glad also that the idea of nationality has supplanted that of confederation, despite the danger involved. So I can find it in my heart to make the amphitheater at Arlington truly national in its scope."

## HUNDREDS DEAD IN FIRE

**Ontario Towns Wiped Out—Rail Trains Go to Scene.**  
Forest fires raging in northern Ontario are believed to have resulted in the loss of from 150 to 200 lives. Other scores of persons have been injured and it is feared many of them may die.  
Several small towns have been wiped out by the flames that have been raging for seventy-two hours. Reports thus far received show that fifty-seven perished at Mushka, a French-Canadian settlement, and thirty-four at Mathewson. Cochrane has eighteen dead and thirty-four injured; Froquois Falls, fifteen dead and many injured; and Ramore, fifteen dead. The number killed at Porcupine Junction is not known, but the entire town was destroyed, except the railroad station.

## MINER KILLED IN FIGHT

**Reynoldsville (W. Va.) Man Dies From Beating With Flats Over 60 Cents.**  
Accused of murdering Robert Gardner, a coal miner of Reynoldsville, W. Va., by beating him with his fist when they quarreled over a debt of sixty cents in the southwestern turnpike near that town, Ois Richards, a young married man of that place, is in the county jail in Clarksburg awaiting trial for the murder.  
When arrested at his home by deputy sheriff, Richards was found wounded and Gardner had been killed. He admitted having the fight with Gardner, the officers say, but did not think the man was seriously hurt.

## NEW MEXICAN SENATOR AIDS HUGHES ON SPEECH



Photo by American Press Association. SENATOR A. B. FALL.

## A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

Soldiers of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey in two years of warfare just concluding captured 2,558,000 officers and men, while the entente allies in the same period made prisoners of 1,855,000 Teutons and their allies, according to a compilation published by the German government.  
Brody, fifty-eight miles northeast of Lemberg, has been occupied by Russian troops, says an official statement.  
Austro-German forces have been driven from the line of the rivers Slonevka and Boldurovka, in southern Volhynia, and have fled in the direction of Brody, pursued by the Russians. Explosions and fires have been observed in Brody.  
Russian forces have broken the entire Austro-German front west of Lutsk. The Austro-Germans were routed and 9,000 men, including two generals and forty-six guns were captured.  
In the eastern war theater battles of almost equal intensity and extending over a vast front are in progress.  
The Russian onset proved too much for the Germans under General von Linsingen, southeast of the Vladimir-Volynski, where the German lines were penetrated near Svinichy, but German counter attacks were immediately launched and are proceeding.  
North of the Pinsk region the Russian offensive is of especial violence. Berlin reports six attacks by two Russian army corps east of Gorodische, with the battle continuing after Russian failure to gain ground in these assaults. Northwest of Liachovichy, two Russian divisions repeatedly surged forward, the tide of battle several times ebbing and flowing.  
On the Balkan front, the only war area in which comparative quietude has prevailed, the Serbians are reported on the offensive. They have attacked Macedonian positions held by the Bulgarians and, according to a Salonika dispatch, have occupied a series of heights six miles south of the Greek frontier. Berlin reports considerable losses for the attacking forces.  
The battle along the British front in the Somme region continues without pause and, according to the British war office, with success for the British.  
They claim clearing of the Brandburgers in the important position of Delville wood near Longueval, giving General Haig's forces complete possession of the wood.  
The last German strongholds in the Longueval have been captured by the British troops, according to the official statement given out by the British war office. Hand-to-hand fighting continues in the vicinity of Pozieres, the statement adds.  
The fighting for Delville wood is said by observers to have been virtually the fiercest of the war. The violence of the British bombardment is indicated by an estimate that on the 1,000-yard front during one period three shells a minute fell on every yard.  
The battle at Verdun is still raging with violence. Paris reports a German effort to attack at the Thiaumont front, northeast of the citadel, which was checked in its preparatory period by the French artillery fire. The clearing of German trenches at Auberive, in the Champagne, by a Russian reconnoitering party, is also announced in the Paris statement. The Russians returned with some prisoners.  
Berlin fails to concede a British gain of ground at any of the places mentioned, despite British attacks in strong force, with hand-to-hand fighting at some points along the line.  
The Italians have gained more ground in the Dolomites region, the war office announced. After hard fighting with the Austrian defenders at Monte Coltricon the Italians extended their positions. Austrian attacks in force on Italian positions in various sections further to the west were repulsed.  
In a naval battle between several German submarines and three British patrol boats off the coast of Scotland one of the British vessels was sunk according to a report received by the Dutch newspaper Haendelsblad.

## FEDERAL INQUIRY IN WAGE DISPUTE

**Railroad Managers Submit Plans to Avoid Great Strike.**

**ARBITRATION IS OFFERED.**

Agree to Refer Demands of Men For More Pay to the Interstate Commerce Commission or to Accept Settlement Under Newlands Act.

New York.—The announcement that the strike vote which has been in progress among the train service employees of American railroads for the past several weeks has been completed, and that the final demands by the union leaders are soon to be presented to the railroad managers here, indicates that the public will soon know whether the controversy between the railroad workers and their employers is to be settled peacefully, or whether a nation-wide strike is to be inflicted upon the country.

Thus far the leaders of the four unions—the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the Order of Railway Conductors and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen—have refused to consider any proposal for an arbitration of the questions in dispute, or for settlement of the controversy by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Would Cost \$100,000,000.  
The demands of the train service men for an increase in wages, which, it is estimated, would cost the railroads of the country \$100,000,000 a year, were originally presented last March. At that time the representatives of the unions asked for a conference with a committee of railroad managers representing the various railroad lines of the country.

This conference began here in New York on June 1st, and continued for two weeks. The railroads were represented by a committee of nineteen managers, and the brotherhoods by the heads of their various national and local organizations—some eight hundred men in all.

Choice of Methods Offered.  
The conference failed to reach a decision owing to the refusal of the union leaders to consider any modification of their demands, or any proposal for arbitration. At the conclusion of the meetings the railroad managers submitted a proposal to refer the whole question to the Interstate Commerce Commission, or to arbitration under the provision of the federal statute covering this matter.

The alternative suggestions which they advanced for adjusting the controversy were as follows:  
"1. Preferably by submission to the Interstate Commerce Commission, the only tribunal which, by reason of its impartial position and its control of the revenues of the railways, is in a position to consider and protect the rights and equities of all the interests affected, and to provide additional revenue necessary to meet the added cost of operation in case your proposals are found by the Commission to be just and reasonable; or, in the event the Interstate Commerce Commission cannot, under existing laws, act in the premises, that we jointly request Congress to take such action as may be necessary to enable the Commission to consider and promptly dispose of the questions involved; or  
"2. By arbitration in accordance with the provisions of the Federal law, entitled, 'An Act Providing for Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration in Controversies between Certain Employers and their Employees,' approved July 15, 1913, and commonly known as the Newlands Act."

**Unions Refuse Offer.**  
The union leaders declined to consider the suggestion of the railroad managers, and announced that they would seek a vote of the members of the unions asking that they be given authority to declare a strike on all the railroad lines of the country. This strike vote has been in progress for the past six weeks, and according to reports which have been received here from time to time, will result in giving the four union leaders the authority which they asked for to halt every railroad train from one end of the country to the other.

Meanwhile a resolution has been introduced into Congress at the request of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States directing the Interstate Commerce Commission to investigate the whole question of railway wages and their relation to railway earnings. The commercial interests, the newspapers, and public men of the nation have gone on record as demanding that the dispute be settled peacefully.

What the Public Pays.  
Out of every dollar the public pays the railroads for transportation the railroad employees receive 44 cents. The traveler who spends \$100 a year for his tickets is paying \$44 for railroad labor. The merchant whose freight bills amount to \$1,000 contributes \$440 to the railroad payroll. The merchant gets the money from his customers in the prices he charges for his wares. The public pays every dollar of the railroad bill.

## How Are You?

is a very common question. Can you say that you are well in every respect? If so you are EXTREMELY FORTUNATE—Eye defects cause conditions that make you feel bad—  
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## OVER A MILLION BUSHELS OF PEACHES

Estimates made by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture on the probable peach crop of the State for this season place the amount at 1,124,200 bushels compared with a production of 2,044,000 bushels last year.  
The production last year was the largest ever known in the State, the other high years being 1910 when 1,600,000 bushels were produced and 1914 when 1,541,000 bushels was the estimated crop. Thousands of bushels of peaches went to waste last year, but with improved marketing facilities and the smaller crop this season suitable markets are expected to be found.  
There is not a county in the State where a normal yield is expected, Carbon county ranking highest with 97 per cent. estimated. Other counties which report prospects of good yields are: Berks, 85 per cent.; Lehigh, 82; Northampton, 82; Perry, 82; Philadelphia, 85 and York, 80.  
Counties which show very small percentages of a normal crop are: Allegheny, 25; Armstrong, 18; Butler, 20; Cambria, 20; Forest, 25; Jefferson, 22; Lackawanna, 20; Somerset, 10; Venango, 26; and Washington, 25. Counties where practically no crop is expected are Elk, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, McKean, Potter, Tioga and Westmoreland.

**MALICIOUS SETTING OF FORESTS ON FIRE.**  
The Commissioner of Forestry has referred to the Attorney General thirty-one cases of careless or malicious setting of forest fires, with a recommendation that prosecutions be brought in every case where the evidence warrants it. Ten other cases are being prepared by the Chief Forest Fire Warden, and will be submitted to the Attorney General within a few days. These cases represent over ten per cent of the total number of forest fires this spring, a record never before equalled in this State. Prosecutions have been ordered for cases in Blair, Lackawanna, Lehigh, and Monroe counties, and others are expected in Potter, McKean, Westmoreland, and Lycoming counties. In addition, a civil suit for damages resulting from a forest fire in Forest county will be followed by criminal action if the verdict in the civil suit is favorable, and a case in Indiana county has been worked up by one of the Game Wardens, and will be tried in the September term of court.  
It will be the policy of the Department of Forestry hereafter to ask for criminal prosecution in every forest fire case where reasonable evidence can be secured, regardless of whether the fire was started maliciously or carelessly. The act of 1915 puts carelessness and incendiarism on the same plane, and the forest officers mean to do all they can to see that it is enforced.

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