

The Meyersdale Commercial

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When the monkey put its paw in the hole in the fence it grabbed so much it could not pull it out again. That's Germany's action in Russia.

OAT SMUT AND ITS TREATMENT

At this particular time, when the food question is so vital, seed oats should be treated to prevent the growth of loose smut. Loose smut has been known to cut down the yield as much as eight per cent. It is a preventable disease and the treatment is easily applied, at a cost of about four and one-half cents per bushel. The treatments are the same as those recommended for stinking smut in wheat. The forty per cent formaldehyde solution is the treatment most commonly used. It is prepared by adding one pound of formaldehyde to fifty gallons of water. This solution should be sprinkled on the oats at the rate of one gallon of the solution to four bushels of oats. The oats should be stirred thoroughly, so that all of the grains are moistened. Frequently, to avoid the labor of stirring, the oats are placed in very porous bags and immersed in the solution for ten minutes, but this method requires more formaldehyde and gives no better results. Copper sulphate is sometimes substituted for formalin, but this requires one pound of copper sulphate to five gallons of water. It is applied the same as the formalin treatment. (Contributed)

WHY THE EDITOR LEFT TOWN UNANNOUNCED

Mrs. J. T. Miller read an article on "Personal Devils." Seventeen were present. The first fall meeting of the Ladies' Matinee Musicals will be held in the Central Christian Church Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Mr. Roberts went to Kansas City with a car of hogs. Several of the neighbors went in together to make up the car. —Exchange.

MARCH REVIEW

NEWS OF THE YEAR 1918 REVIEWED MONTHLY AND ORDERLY ARRANGED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

- 1. Ada Foust and David Wilson, Pine Hill, united in marriage; born, to Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Swearman, Markleton, a girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hall, Confluence, a boy; John W. Kemp, Meyersdale, died, aged 34.
2. William R. Ream, Jenner, Twp., died of apoplexy, aged 90; Jennie Phillippi and Edward May, Harnedsville, united in marriage.
3. Mary Patterson and Albert Berkley, Salisbury, Julia Meese and Hubert Wagner, Salisbury, united in marriage; Mrs. William Fritz, Berlin, died of a paralytic stroke.
4. John Landis, Hollsopple, died of cancer, aged 61.
5. Pearl Radcliffe and James Fuller, Elk Lick Twp., Daisy Wright, Windber, and Clarence Shaffer, Johnstown, united in marriage; Marion Grotfelty, Salisbury, died of pneumonia, aged 68; Richard J. Vought, Jr., Somerset, died, aged 30; Mrs. Bruce Hyatt, Harnedsville, died, aged 66; Simon P. Miller, Somersfield, died of heart trouble, aged 62.
6. Prudence Hay and Fred Speicher, Berlin, Priscilla Custer, Hooversville, and Daniel Baughman, Monessen, Nellie Stutzman and Harry Dupstadt, Stoyestown, Ida Kruker and Frank Kenay, Jenners, Marie McVicker and Arthur Olson, Ralpton, Mary McCluskie, Hollsopple, and Tony Larosa, Camp Reville, Beulah Christner and Alfred Brocht, Garrett, united in marriage.
7. Anna Pyle, Somerset, and Newton Kretzman, Rockwood, Ada Fritz and Cloyd Mostoller, Pugh, Myrtle James, Salisbury, and Charles Connor, Adams, united in marriage; born, to Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Farner, Salisbury, a boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Keefer, Somerset, a boy, to Dr. and Mrs. R. C. Stringer, Windber, a girl.
8. Dr. Royal B. Koontz, Stoyestown, died of tuberculosis, aged 32; May Gahagan and John Breth, Windber, united in marriage.
9. Mrs. James McQuade, Berlin, died of internal trouble, aged 53; William Ayers, Markleton, died of tuberculosis, aged 32; Mrs. Tonika Loesky, Windber, died, aged 25; born, to Mr. and Mrs. Grant Thomas, Salisbury, a boy.
10. Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hinebaugh, Salisbury, a girl, to Mr. and Mrs. James Hook, Somersfield, a boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hook, Somersfield, a boy; Mrs. Samuel Weimer, Milford, Twp., died, aged 52; R. Scott Johns, Salisbury, died of a paralytic stroke, aged 74; Joseph, 3-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Benti, Windber, died of pneumonia.
11. Luella Meyers, Rockwood, died, aged 3; Blanche Bittner and Webster Duecker, Garrett, united in marriage; born, to Mr. and Mrs. Noah Speicher, Salisbury, a girl.
12. George Porter, foster son of Mr. and Mrs. George Gray, Coal Run, died of pneumonia, aged 13; Mrs. Chauncey Pritts, Somerset, died of heart trouble, aged 59.
13. Charles Snyder, Friedens, died of an affliction of the liver, aged 7; Graydon, 8-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Merle Miller, Boswell, died; Leora Mankameyer, Larimer Twp., Callie Wirick and Park Boyer, Hooversville, Mary Ringer and Robert Baldwin, Shanksville, Daisy Nicklow and Mose Hawk, Listonburg, united in marriage.
14. Elizabeth Traup, Somerset, and Sergt. J. J. Livingston, Camp Hancock, united in marriage; Elmer Berkebile, Kantner, accidentally killed in mine, aged 26.
15. Mrs. Wesley Mock, Windber, died, aged 36; Herman L. Umberger, Central City, died of internal injuries, aged 51; born, to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Miller, Springs, a boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lohr, Springs, a boy, to Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Sanner, Markleton, a girl.
16. Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Wolf, Rockwood, a girl, to Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Farling, Rockwood, a girl.
17. Fern Zearfoss and Galen Meyers, Rockwood, united in marriage.
18. Irene Hayes, Confluence, and William Poling, Albert, W. Va., united in marriage; Veda Shoemaker, Somerset, died, aged 38; Lucille, 13-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Y. D. Shaffer, Confluence, died of meningitis; Frank B. Nicklow, Addison, died of tubercular infection, aged 49.
19. Prof. James C. Begley, Somerset, died of pneumonia, aged 67; born, to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Parnell, Windber, a boy.
20. Infant child of Archie Cochrane, Boynton, died; Stewart Simpkins, Salisbury, died, aged 53; Jennie Walker, Berlin, and Clyde Dwire, Markleton, Elizabeth Tice and Noah Beachy, Summit Mills, Mary Pile and Claude Stutzman, Somerset, united in marriage.
21. Gladys Benson, Friedens, and Simon Fritz, Berlin, united in marriage; John M. Wolfersberger, Rockwood, died, aged 71.
22. Albert W. Musser, Brothersvalley Twp., died of heart trouble, aged 65; born, to Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Bittner, Meyersdale, a girl.
23. Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Milton Bodes, St. Paul, a girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Dan Engle, St. Paul, a girl.
24. Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mazer, Wittenburg, a girl.
25. Joseph A. Walker, Rockwood, died of pneumonia, aged 75; Dr. Charles F. Livengood, Boswell, died of apoplexy, aged 53.
26. Philip Arnold, Meyersdale, died, aged 89.
27. Mrs. Hannah Swain, Acosta, died, aged 82; Minnie Marker and Theophila Schaub, Kingwood, Goldie Wissingner and Norman Lehman, Scalp Level, Melda Brant and Earl Meyers, Friedens, united in marriage; born, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Ellis, Garrett, a girl.
28. Ollie Bauman and Thomas Poorbaugh, Glencoe, united in marriage.
29. Mary Smith, Dumas, and Clark Holiday, Fort Hill, united in marriage.
30. Ruth Shaffer and Clyde Vincent, Boswell, Nina Sturtz, Garrett, and Elmer Walker, Hollsopple, united in marriage.

SPRING CLEANING.

Father looks dyspeptic an' poor ma is pale an' wan, Sister's got the dust cloth out an' mother's got the broom An' I got a sorter hunch And they make the everlastin' dust skedaddle in the room; There'll be sardines an' some crackers just et on the fly for lunch. The kitten beats a mad retreat, the dog too runs away Oh, the famly always hates it but it has to be, by Jing— For the family is unset—ma is cleanin' house today. This topsy-turvy mix-up when ma's cleanin' up for spring. The furniture is moved around, some of it's in the lawn,

ON THE OPEN ROAD

With BRUCE CALVERT.

What of business and education? Business men are complaining, apparently with good reason, of the stupidity, lack of initiative and general incompetence of our school and college graduates. And yet big business, as the power behind the throne, is itself responsible for our educational system. Financial domination, business interests, makes the schools what they are today. The school system, like every other institution, knows its master's voice.

But how, pray, can our educational mills turn out anything else than mentally helpless, incompetent pupils? Throughout all their school lives the students are rigidly held down to the blind worship of authorities. They come into an intellectual world already prepared for them—all cut and dried, a world of finalities. All instruction and all reaction by the pupils must conform to this rigid regimentation. Any questioning of matter presented or conclusions taught is suppressed with iron hand. Even teachers and college professors who do question things are, as we have seen, dismissed or compelled, in self-respect, to resign. Here we see intellectual Prussianism in its full flower.

Never in all his school life having been permitted to take a single step or to think a single thought of his own volition; having from the time he enters the system had his individuality systematically suppressed, all originality carefully ironed out of him, how can we expect the pupil on emerging from that mangle to function, for the first time in his life, as an independent, thinking being? He has never been taught to think. All he has ever been asked to do was to accept, believe, remember. I repeat, you can pass through all the grades from kindergarten to the university and graduate with high honors without ever once being guilty of a single bit of original thinking on your account. How, then, can the pupil, after spending all his formative years under such a regime of inhibitions tending to induce helplessness, all of a sudden, after commencement day, show forth initiative? He cannot. It is worse than absurd to expect it. All the pupil can do when he leaves school is to react as he has been drilled to all his life. Thus he stands around waiting for some one in authority to tell him what to do. If no one is at hand to set his wheel in motion, he waits helplessly.

Big business wants humble slaves, wants unquestioning labor and obedience, and at the same time howls because it cannot get both. Blind obedience and virile, active thinking, mental ability—initiative—never go together. It is only after leaving school or college that there is ever any opportunity for original thinking, and by that time it is usually too late. The twig has been bent—Old Man Grabitall has seen to that—and so the tree will grow. The mark of a small, pedantic mind is intolerance. Tell me, is a college degree any guarantee of a liberal mind? Yes, it is—not. On the contrary, you can always count upon your classical scholar being safely sane and reactionary. The brilliant exceptions for which we are devoutly thankful only attest the rule.

So long as dollars are placed above souls, profits above principles, products above producers, the school system will remain what it is—a vast machine taking into its hopper fresh, original, beautiful human material and grinding therefrom stupid, standardized, unlovely cogs, fit only for the slave system of industry into which they will be plunged. "Beware when God lets loose a thinker upon the world!" said Emerson. The only hope of perpetuating the present regime is in keeping the workers stupid, unthinking. The day that sees any considerable number of thinkers among the workers will spell the doom of capitalism, and well the masters know it!

WHAT'S SO AND WHAT ISN'T

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MAKING PEOPLE GOOD BY LAW

Can you make people good by law? That depends on what you mean by making people good by law. If you should pass a law providing that "it is hereby enacted that John Smith shall be good," it would in all probability not have the slightest beneficial effect upon John Smith. But, if you were to pass a law providing that John Smith should be surrounded by a good environment, and then carry the provisions of that law into actual operation, John Smith would begin to get better right away. Capitalism uses the former method. Socialism will use the latter method. Capitalism provides by law that people shall not murder, nor steal, nor cheat, nor fight, nor adulterate, etc., etc.. But the environment is such that they keep right on doing these things. Socialism will change the environment so that people will no longer be driven to do evil. Men are chiefly the product of their environment. If their environment is bad, they are bad. If their environment is good, they are good. Under the present capitalist system, the environment of all men is comparatively bad. All men are thereby compelled to be comparatively bad, whether they want to or not. It has been said that the province of government is to make it hard for men to do wrong and easy for them to do right. That is surely one of the provinces of government. But the present system does the exact opposite. It makes it hard for men to do right and easy for them to do wrong. Socialism does not propose to pass a law providing that "it is hereby enacted that all men shall be good." But it does propose to change the environment of men so that it will no longer be necessary for them to do wrong, so that it will be easy for them to do right and hard for them to do wrong. We propose to establish a social system in which it will not be to the interest of men to do wrong. It is perfectly evident that, under such circumstances, men will become morally better.

John S. Miller, Esq., of Somerset, a contender for the Republican nomination for State Senator, was in town last week in connection with his campaigning duties. Arthur W. Pletcter, employed by the Lorain Steel Company, of Johnstown, Sunday's opinion of a certain prominent enemy alien, the thoughtful person will perhaps recall that a body usually judges others by their own weaknesses. But, then, Mr. Company, of Johnstown, Sunday's appeal is always to be passed through town Wednesday en route to West Salisbury for a brief visit. Reviewing Billy Sunday's published opinion of a certain prominent enemy alien, the thoughtful person will perhaps recall that a body usually judges others by their own weaknesses. But, then, Mr. Company, of Johnstown, Sunday's appeal is always to be passed through town Wednesday en route to West Salisbury for a brief visit.

QUOTATIONS FROM CURRENT POETRY.

I am thy soul, Nikoptis. I have watched These five millenia, and thy dead eyes Moved not, nor even answer my desire, And thy light limbs, wherethrough I leapt aflame, Burn not with me nor any saffron thing. See, the light grass sprang up to pillow thee, And kissed thee with a myriad grassy tongue, But not thou me. I have read out the gold upon the wall, And wearied out my thoughts upon the signs, And there is no new thing in this place. *** And no sun comes to rest me in this place, And I am torn against the jagged dark, And no light beats upon me, and you say No word, day after day. Oh! I could get me out, despite the marks, And all their crafty work upon the door, Out through the grass-green fields. *** Yet it is quiet here; I do not go. —Ezra Pound, in "Lustra." What though the moon should come With a blinding glow, And the stars have a game On the wood's edge *** A man would have to still Cut and weed and sow, And lay a white line When he plants a hedge. Also— There's nothing very beautiful and nothing very gay About the rush of faces in the town by day *** And the soft March wind and the low March mist Are better than kisses in a dark street kissed *** Oh, the better let the little things I loved when little Return when the heart finds the great things brittle; And better is a temple made of bark and thong Than a tall stone temple that may stand too long. —Orrick Johns, in "Asphalt." I am a tree that puts out little boughs Dreaming of harvest and a yellow moon; But Love, who owns me by my many vows, Comes nibbling, nibbling, late and oft and soon. I like his lips upon my tender leaves; 'Tis joy to make him feasts of honey-buds; But doubts come trembling, and a fear me grieves—I may stand barren in the laden woods. And Love himself some day may seek my shade To find but bony branches waiting him. What shelter could I give him weary laid? What succor fruit from my staring limb? Ah, Love, do not my harvest dream devour, Lest thou know famine in my barren hour. —Olive Tilford Dargan, in "The Circle's Rim."

LOCAL LIBERATION HOME LETTER MESSAGING Mrs. Ed relatives in George was a bus Tuesday. Mr. and were busin berland Fr Mrs. Da Cumberland relatives an Mrs. W daughter, Saturday, Mr. Jose ha, Nebras sister, Mrs. James J. Weldin, of visiting rel here. Mrs. An taken to th tal, Cumber treatment. William was visiting F. Baer, n burg Satur Miss Ma tained the K. Club at evening. P ent. Daniel E Greene, CH spending a here with Mrs. Mrs. Elias H Mr. Oscar of St. Pau caller at th fice on Satur home in Me Walter B visited at brother and Mrs. S several days Mrs. Ch daughter, B Somerset, an mer's broth ter, Dr. and Mrs. A. daughter E several wee with Mrs. L Mrs. Luke H L. Miller. Mrs. Irving Nile, of St. Commercial to see how printed. We show them a how this pa done. Mrs. Sam Livengo country in o units. Her h dustrious mi