

People Talked About

RELIEVED OF BUSINESS CARES



Luther Burbank, whose achievements in the plant world are to be capitalized by a company that will undertake on a large scale to introduce his improved plants, vegetables, fruits and flowers, is the foremost living specialist in his line. He has originated the Burbank potato, several varieties of stoneless plums and prunes, various new fruits, flowers, grasses, grains and vegetables, and the spineless cactus, which promises to transform the deserts of the far west and southwest into fruitful dwelling places for man. Mr. Burbank was born in Lancaster, Mass., in 1849 and has lived in Santa Rosa, Cal., since 1875. All his experiments and discoveries have occurred on his California farm, where for several years he has been supported by the Carnegie fund.

In order that his wonderful discoveries may be more generally distributed and incidentally that his work of discovery may not be hampered by business worries, the brains and genius of Burbank, the "plant wizard," have been capitalized for several million dollars.

The men who have secured the sole right to distribute to the world the plant discoveries of the Santa Rosa naturalist are Hartland Law and his brother, Herbert E. Law, well known millionaires of San Francisco, and Oscar E. Dinner, a wealthy eastern capitalist.

There is no limit to the rights which the men have secured except one or two small contracts which Burbank is now filling.

Working alone, Burbank has not had time to give the results of all of his experiments to the public, but now a systematic effort will be made to distribute both his past and future products to all the world. One of the first things undertaken by the new company will be the fuller development of the spineless cactus, which promises to transform desert wastes into grazing lands for cattle. In this connection it is announced that Burbank has developed a cactus capable of producing saccharine matter which will yield both sugar and alcohol.

Like most men of genius Burbank is decidedly averse to the worries and routine of business affairs, and he welcomes the incorporation as the best means of ridding him of this handicap to his experiments. The company will be called "The Luther Burbank's Products, Incorporated."

Mr. Burbank, when asked regarding the formation of the new company, made the following statement:

"It is a fact that Herbert Law and his brother and Oscar E. Dinner have secured the sole rights to the handling of my products, with the exception of a few varieties I have already sold. I am glad to be rid of the business end. It will give me so much more time for the development of more fruits and flowers."

NEW COLORADO EXECUTIVE



Gov. John F. Shafroth, the new executive of Colorado, has stirred up a state-wide avalanche of comment, good and bad, by his announcement that he will depart widely from the ways of his predecessor in the matter of pardon-granting. The former governor was a Methodist preacher, Rev. Harry M. Buchtel, and he found himself unable to turn a deaf ear, apparently, to the pleas of the pardon-seekers. Men and women were released from the penitentiary in a stream by his orders.

Now Shafroth announces that while he is on the job it is going to be a pretty heavy task to drag a pardon out of his office. He has started to prove his promise by dumping a wagon load of petitions and affidavits into the wastebasket and declining to grant audiences to hear arguments for the unlocking of the prison doors. As a result, he is being bombarded with letters, some praising him for his stand and others denouncing him with bitterness for his lack of human sympathy and charity.

As congressman-at-large, before his election as governor, Shafroth astonished the politicians by deliberately and voluntarily resigning his office because he found that some of his followers in a hot campaign had indulged in tricks that were common in politics but not exactly up to the moral code anywhere else. "I want no office that is tainted with fraud," he declared, when he learned, after being seated in Washington, of some things that had happened him. Fraudulent votes had been cast and counted, although he had no hand in it. After his voluntary retirement his fellow Democrats at home scored him as a "quitter" while the Republicans sneered at his "pretensions of virtue." Full appreciation came later, however, and he was elected governor last fall by a heavy majority, succeeding a Republican.

OWNS BIG AFRICAN RANCH



W. N. McMillan, from whose African estate Former President Roosevelt is to make his start into the interior wilds of the dark continent in quest for white elephants and other big game, is a nephew of the late Senator James McMillan of Detroit, and the son of the late William McMillan, whose estate holds the largest interest in the American Car & Foundry Co. Mr. McMillan's legal residence is in St. Louis, but being a millionaire with the ability to satisfy his craving for adventure in the untamed sections of the globe, he is as much at home in Africa, India and a dozen other parts, as he is in the United States. As a hunter of big game, he is a notable figure and Mrs. McMillan, his wife, has killed her lion as well.

On Ju-Ja ranch, 20,000 acres of land 23 miles from the seat of government of British East Africa, the McMillans are experimenting in the domestication of wild animals, an experiment that is being watched with great interest by zoologists and naturalists everywhere. Here Roosevelt is to remain for several weeks discussing with his host the final plans for his plunge into the wilderness. Like the president, McMillan did his first hunting in the American west. He is 36 years old.

WORKING TO AVERT CLASH



Sir John N. Jordan, British minister to China, is one of the little group of diplomats at Peking who are just now bending every effort to ward off the small funnel-shaped cloud, no larger than a man's hand, which may turn out to be a war tornado.

Russia, operating a railroad line in Manchuria under a lease granted by the Chinese government, claims the right thereunder to levy certain taxes. Upon the failure of the Chinese merchants to pay, their stores and warehouses are closed by the Russian officials and placed under the Russian seal. Here are the ingredients of a fine international mix-up. The British and American representatives have lodged protests against the attitude of Russia and they are fearful that unless the Russian government sees fit to retire from its position trouble may be ahead. Sir John has been in the diplomatic service in China in some capacity or other ever since his graduation at Dublin 37 years ago, with the exception of a few years at Korea.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS in OPEN AIR

BOSTON'S MOVE IN AID OF TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN



THE CHILDREN SLEEP AN HOUR OUT OF DOORS AFTER DINNER



SCHOLAR IN A COLD WEATHER BAG



THE SCHOOL ROOM

Open air treatment for tuberculosis has extended to the public schools, at least this is so in Boston, which city is believed to be the first in this country to establish such open air schools. This experiment is being carried on jointly through the winter by the Boston Association for the Relief and Control of Tuberculosis, which organized it, and the Boston school board. Besides furnishing the teacher, the board has recently issued 200 street car tickets. These are for the children who are too poor to pay car fare, and for those who live a long distance from the school.

The principal reason for starting the school, says Walter E. Kruesi, secretary of the Boston Association for the Relief and Control of Tuberculosis, was that there were many tuberculous children and nowhere to send them. The association hasn't money enough to take care of all the children in the public schools who are affected.

The school board has signified its willingness to make an appropriation to increase the size of the school when assured of the permanent success of the scheme, and so great has been the improvement in the children in this school that the matter has passed beyond the experimental stage.

Mr. Kruesi would like to see the entire building, of which now only the roof and the dining hall in the basement are occupied, made over into an open-air school, accommodating 250 pupils. This could easily be done if the library which is maintained in the building at present were abolished.

The progress made by the pupils in this open-air school is the same as that made by normal scholars in the same grade in the public schools, but if these same children were compelled to remain in the ordinary school they would not progress at all.

Since this school was started, letters have come from Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus, from men interested in the experiment, the principal expression from those interested being surprise that no one had thought of starting an open air public school before.

There have been for a number of years open air schools for the children of the rich, private schools, and the one which was established in an abandoned schoolhouse in Providence, R. I., last fall, the first of its kind in America—which is not, however, a public school—another at Glen Gardner, N. J., while in California is located the Marlenfeld school for boys.

Dr. James J. Minot made a report to the school board in which he stated that there were 2,000 children who needed outdoor schooling, more than 250 of whom should have special nourishment and special attention to hygiene and should be allowed the maximum of fresh air.

"Mayor Hibbard will be remembered for one thing," declared Mr. Kruesi, "and that is because he recommended to the schoolhouse commission the advisability of providing a fresh air room for tuberculous children to be built in the new Abraham Lincoln school, and in the architect's plans this provision has been made, although the plans have not yet been submitted to the schoolhouse commission."

The superintendent of public schools, Stratton D. Brooks, heartily indorses the experiment, but believes the children affected by tuberculosis should be divided into three classes, as follows:

First, those so ill that their disease is infectious. Such children shouldn't be allowed in the school room any more than a child with diphtheria or measles, or any similar disease. Secondly, those who are weak, and in such a condition that their diseases may become dangerous to other pupils; and thirdly, those who are slightly affected, who might never have been in that condition if they had not been confined in stuffy rooms. This last class of children will be the ones directly benefited by having an open air room built in every school house.

Miss Helen M. Mead is the teacher of this interesting class of fresh air

boys and girls, and takes an individual interest in the little pupils.

The wind was blowing at the rate of 40 miles an hour when the visitor recently climbed the four flights of stairs leading to the airy schoolroom, whose sides of white canvas flapped in the wind like wings of some strange bird. This slight protection is to prevent the copy books and papers on which the children write their lessons from being whirled away over the roofs and scattered broadcast about Franklin park.

There is an inside school room which is reserved for the worst days, but it has never been pressed into service notwithstanding the fact that one or two blizzards have raged here this winter. The children themselves prefer the outdoor room. Possibly it seems less like the typical lesson room to them.

Each boy and each girl is provided with a heavy blue ulster. The girls wear gray and pink hoods tied securely under their chins. The boys wear skull caps, which they pull snugly down over their ears. The most interesting articles of their attire are the brown cloth bags into which they crawl, hooking them around their waists.

These bags look most complicated with their ropes, straps and buckles, but the children have so mastered the art of getting in and out of them that it takes only until the teacher counts four for them to discard them.

For the benefit of the visitors Miss Mead asked the children various questions and they gave their ideas of the school in enthusiastic replies.

The children are given a breakfast upon their arrival at 8:45. It consists of fruit, bread and butter and hot cocoa. While one section of the class is attending to work in the kitchen, the other section is studying in the class room. At 11 comes a recess of 20 minutes, followed by luncheon, consisting of some hot meat dish with vegetables, a dessert of nuts and homemade candy. Then back to the school-room where, on different days, sketching, cutting, painting and manual work are taught.

Not all the time is devoted to study. The children play games in groups, and it does one good to hear their happy laughter and to watch their cheeks flush and their eyes grow bright! Again, before they depart for their homes, they are given a light lunch, consisting of hot milk and all the bread and butter they want. They also are given all the milk they will drink, but at night this is always given to them hot.

There are many more applications for school attendance than can be accepted, for each case is being carefully studied and a record kept of the progress of each child in order that the value of this experiment may be ascertained.

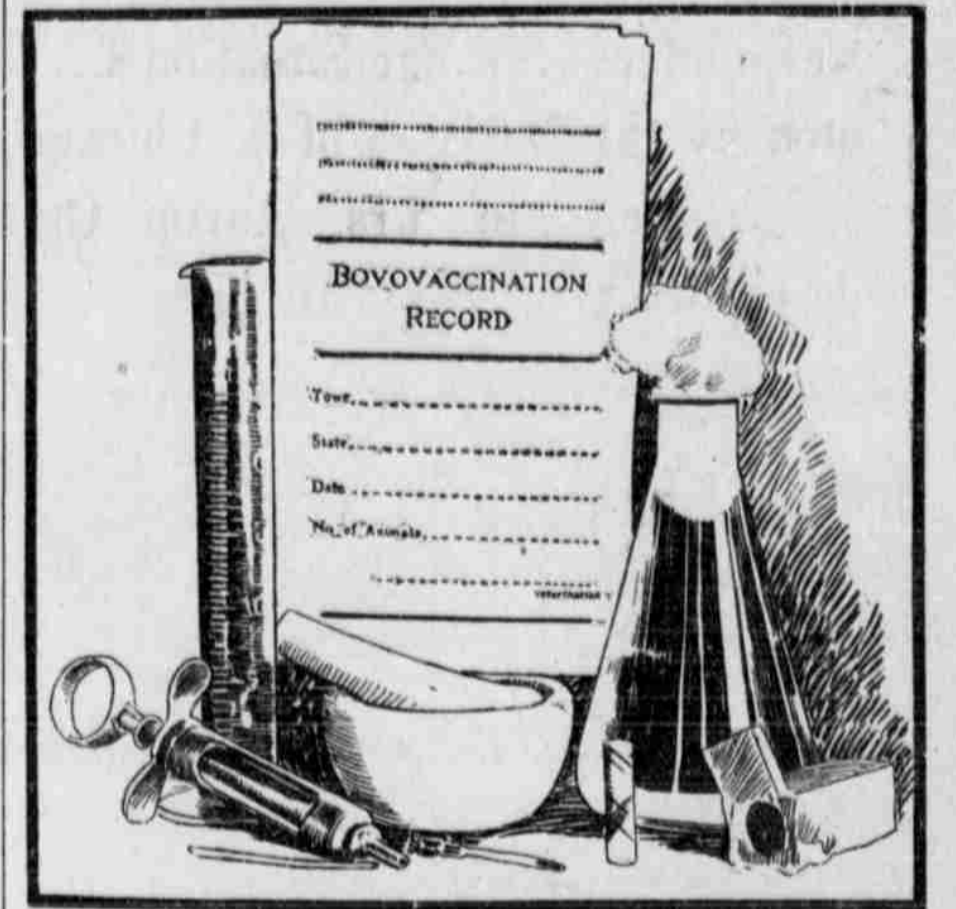
Maggies Eat Live Pigs.
Portland, Ore.—Ike Ely, farmer of Hover, Wash., is battling with a flock of maggots to keep the birds from devouring his pigs. His sty of 100 porkers has been repeatedly attacked during the past few days by the birds, made bolder by hunger. Because of deep snow they cannot get their usual food. They swoop down on the pigs and peck their ears, which had been notched by the owner and still showed blood. The birds have kept the ears of all hogs bleeding ever since, and Ely declares that in some cases half the ears are gone. The beasts are defenseless and Ely has so far been unable to keep the birds away. He does not dare use poison for fear the hogs will eat it.

He Was Willing.
"Young man," said the stern parent, "I have been greatly annoyed by your extravagant habits. Hereafter I shall expect you to pay your own bills."

"All right, father," rejoined the youth. "I don't expect you to run about seeking my tailor, hatter, shoemaker and the rest of the bunch. Just hand me a good-sized check each month and I'll attend to the minor details myself."

VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS IN CATTLE

Good Results from Use of Bovovaccine, the Discovery of Von Behring, German Bacteriologist—By H. L. Russell and C. Hoffman, Wisconsin Agricultural College.



Outfit for the Application of Bovovaccine.

In combating tuberculosis of domesticated animals, two methods are open for consideration:

1. Destruction of the casual organism, the tubercle bacillus, by eliminating the already diseased animals and disinfecting the infected premises.

2. Possible methods of producing immunity in susceptible animals by rendering them resistant to the tubercle organism.

The first method is easily attainable by the detection of the presence of the disease by means of the tuberculin test and the subsequent separation of affected animals. In this way the continued spread of this scourge can be entirely prevented. As no known method of cure exists for the disease in cattle, animals once infected must be isolated from healthy stock to prevent further spread of contagion. To remove all further danger from the disease, thorough disinfection of the quarters occupied by the tuberculous animals is imperative.

With certain other diseases, methods of vaccination have already been perfected, the efficiency of which is so great as to practically control such maladies. Diphtheria antitoxin, vaccination against smallpox, the Pasteur treatment for rabies and anthrax are potent illustrations of the efficiency of immunizing the bodies of susceptible hosts against the ravages of these human and animal plagues.

Numerous attempts have been made by scientific investigation to devise systems of vaccination against tuberculosis that will render susceptible animals resistant to invasion. Within recent years several investigators have announced various methods for this purpose.

In 1902, Von Behring, the prominent German bacteriologist, announced the discovery of a substance called bovo-vaccine with which he claimed calves could be immunized against natural infection from tuberculosis. Coming from the discoverer of diphtheria antitoxin, which remedy so revolutionized the methods of handling this disease of childhood, bovo-vaccine was hailed with high hopes. Von Behring's experiments, then reported, seemed to indicate that a successful method of rendering cattle resistant had at last been found. In a series of lectures given in Cassel in 1903, he made the following sweeping statement: "The entire suppression of bovine tuberculosis is now only a question of conscientious and properly conducted protective inoculations, and, of course, also a matter of time."

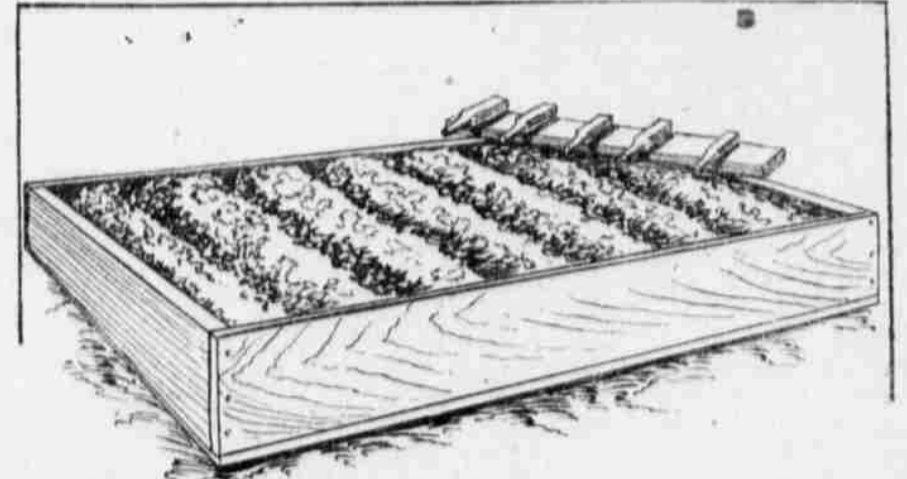
A year later he published a brief preliminary report of the results he had obtained to that date. These were extremely favorable, and were, on the whole, apparently substantiated by reports from other investigators. By means of his method of vaccination, he was able to raise perfectly healthy animals even when the latter were continually exposed to a tuberculous environment. The true efficiency of the vaccine could not be determined at the time, for the animals had not attained maturity, so that the duration of the immunity caused by the vaccine could not be ascertained. Nevertheless the results secured were exceedingly promising.

The principle involved in the production of bovo-vaccine is radically different from that used in the preparation of tuberculin. Tuberculin is a germ-free extract of cultures of tubercle bacilli, while bovo-vaccine consists of a weakened culture of living tubercle bacilli of human origin. The human type is used because of its greater adaptability for vaccine purposes than the bovine type. The commercial product is specially prepared as follows: After a sufficiently weakened culture has been obtained, it is grown upon a suitable medium, then carefully dried so as not to destroy its activity, and finally pulverized. It is then accurately weighed out into containers and sealed.

Most reliable results are claimed for animals vaccinated as calves between three weeks and three months of age. Young stock up to two years of age may be treated, provided they are free from tuberculosis. Mature animals (two years or older), however, cannot be successfully treated. The vaccinating process consists of two injections made three months apart. The first and weaker vaccine contains one so-called immunizing unit, equivalent to .004 grams of dry tubercle bacilli; the second vaccine consists of five such units. For inoculation purposes the powder is thoroughly mixed in a sterile mortar with a sterile one per cent. common salt solution of which two cubic centimeters are used for each immunizing unit.

After a thorough emulsion is made, the material is then ready for injecting into the animal. For this purpose the neck over the left jugular vein is shaved, washed with a disinfectant and the injection made directly into the vein. To do this the needle of the syringe is held almost parallel to the jugular vein, then with a quick downward movement forced through the wall of the latter.

For the Starting of Early Celery



Celery growing on a commercial scale has received most attention in the "muck-bed" areas of Michigan and New York, where thousands of acres are devoted to this crop. California and Florida have taken up the industry and during the winter and spring months provide northern cities with large amounts of celery. There is, however, no reason why local growers should not hold their own markets from June to January against the importations from the south. To secure an early crop the best

plan for the amateur grower is to fill with fine soil three inches deep. This soil should be pressed down and the seeds scattered either in rows or broadcast. Cover the seeds by sprinkling through a fine sieve a small quantity of leaf mold or sand. The window of a moderately warm room with frequent sprinkling will provide the conditions necessary for germination. When the seedlings appear after two or three weeks turn the boxes daily to keep the growth even. The illustration shows the form of box used for starting the plants.