

The Norfolk Weekly News-Journal

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Tariffs may not make prosperity, but no one can deny that they mar it.

It is rather humiliating to have little Rhode Island run the United States.

The city of Geneva will celebrate on July 10 the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of John Calvin.

An 80 per cent tariff on sugar and a 10 per cent tariff on diamonds tells the whole story. No need of comment.

It is every man's business to do impossibilities. He who says: "If I only could," will never accomplish anything.

Why should Walter Wellman need a balloon to find the north pole? The general impression is that he is a good deal of a gas-bag himself.

The breakfast-food manufacturers are said to be greatly more interested in the tariff on lumber than they are concerned about the price of wheat.

The real source of national weal or woe is the big national farm stretching from Manitoba and the Dakotas to the blue waters of the Gulf.

Abdul Hamid, the ex-sultan, kept, it is said, small change to the amount of \$7,000,000 in the palace at all times. He needed it. He had many wives.

German forests yield an annual net income of \$5 an acre, which is said to be as sure as the years that come and go, which claim can not be made for every investment.

The government at Washington is watching affairs in Cuba with no little anxiety. At the present moment the worst danger which threatens the island is bankruptcy.

Professional pedestrians say that walking is as hard to learn as aeroplaning. Maybe, but the loss of equilibrium is not attended by such serious results.

Not many southern cities were anxious to entertain the confederate reunion. The new south is too busy making money to nurse a forty-year-old grudge.

Colonel Bryan is the original flying machine man in the country. It is now more than thirteen years since he launched his presidential aeroplane and he has been up in the air ever since.

Eighteen hundred and nine has been called "The Year of Genius." It has kept things quite lively during 1909, to celebrate appropriately the centenaries of its brilliant statesmen, scientists, musicians, and writers, anyway.

A reputation thoroughly established in Europe for doing great things is a guarantee of an American's receiving great honor in his own home town. Wright brothers have fully demonstrated this.

With the Japs becoming insolent and annoying in Hawaii and Colonel Hobson still shrieking "war" on the Chautauqua course, Fourth of July orators ought not to suffer for lack of ammunition.

A new word has been coined by an English dramatist—"thousandaire." It seems in perfect analogy with millionaire and there is no apparent reason why the word should not come into regular use.

A dispatch from East Africa conveys the intelligence that Theodore Roosevelt is color blind. The people of the south discovered that some time ago. The New York World, however, is sure he can see yellow.

A Michigan man who had passed ninety-nine years on this mundane sphere, felt that he has lived long enough, and committed suicide. Seems a pity he didn't hold out one more year.

Senator Bristow of Kansas may not be accomplishing much in bringing about a revision of the tariff, but he is showing up the iniquity of the bang in holding up rates and is also punching the dignity of the senate full of holes. So perhaps his time is not wasted.

John Mitchell says that "unemployment is a great social disease and as far as my experience teaches me is growing in extent and seriousness. We cannot afford in this country to build up a permanent army of unemployed; something must be done and that immediately to arrest this tendency."

The secretary of the International Reform Bureau reports 500,000 suicides annually from the effects of

opium. The trouble with these people who refuse to live out their lives is not that their lives are not worth living, or because they lack opportunities, but because these men and women make wrecks of them.

William Mustard of Anderson, Ind., recently decided that he was too old to work any more, being 89 years of age. So he removed the sign over the door which for fifty-nine years has informed the public that they could get shoes repaired at his shop, folded his apron around his tools, locked his door and died. He was worth \$25,000, but was afraid to quit work lest it injure his health.

Thomas A. Edison has at last perfected his apparatus for building concrete houses for \$1,200 which would cost as much as \$20,000 if constructed from stone of the same design. Cast iron moulds are used in constructing these houses. It will take four days to set the moulds up and in six hours the concrete can be poured in. The Edison concrete house is destined to fill a long felt want if it proves to be as successful as now seems probable.

A new process of purifying and sterilizing milk has been invented by Dr. Rudde of Copenhagen. There are several strong claims made for this process. It removes the dirt, of which the best of milk contains considerable. It destroys the germs, does not impair the nutritive quality of the milk nor impart any unpleasant taste. Milk treated by this process will keep sweet much longer than ordinary milk and as the purifying and sterilizing is very quickly done, the cost of this prepared milk will not be much increased.

Central America's banana crop is making the country prosperous in spite of revolutions, mosquitoes, and exorbitant freight rates. The banana palm is far more industrious than its owner, and works legal holidays, days, nights and Sundays, which its owner does not do. A self-picking tree would be an improvement highly appreciated by the natives, and flying machines with which to carry the crop to its northern market, but these trifling advantages will probably soon be acquired.

The publication of testimony in divorce cases is utterly obnoxious to people of refinement and good sense, but some actual good may result from making the testimony in the Howard Gould divorce suit, since it so forcibly proves the utter futility of wealth and money spending as a source of happiness. Their lives had not enough serious aim and purpose to make them worth living. They merely wallowed in money spending and too late have come to a realizing sense of its emptiness. They could not buy happiness, nor a worthy motive for living with all the Gould millions.

The New York Times tells of the discovery of a method of removing the poisonous and intoxicating elements from whisky without removing its exhilarating effect. The discovery is doubtful. Science could hardly extract the intoxicating element without extracting alcohol, which is also the exhilarating element. A liquor which would serve the purpose of raising the spirits of men without afterward dragging them down to the level of brutishness would be a boon to mankind. But it will probably be necessary for a long time to come for the man who wants to get the good without the bad out of a spree to drink only in imagination.

THE COLORED MAN'S BURDEN. The case of Oscar Micheaux, the Pullman porter who went to Gregory county during the Bonesteel rush and, buying a relinquishment, "made good" as a farmer, ought to stand out as an inspiring example to others of his race who consider themselves handicapped in the game of making a living.

This man has apparently been as successful as his white neighbors. He has gained their respect. He has money in the bank. He has worked. Apparently persistent effort and unstinted work will do much to solve what now seems to be a problem.

A prominent social worker in Philadelphia says christianity has lost its hold on the working man because it has not been willing to stand committed to his needs and to those things which constitute industrial righteousness. This is a serious and very broad accusation, which cannot be accepted as including a majority of the churches of the country without more direct proof. Some churches may not stand for industrial righteousness and as much interest in the poor man's social, moral and physical welfare as in that of the richest member, but we do not believe this to be true of the larger number of religious organizations. If it is there is something radically wrong with the churches' interpretations of the teachings of the Christ.

A very happy exchange of international courtesies was concluded June 5, when Ambassador Jusserand, on behalf of the French government, presented the city of San Francisco a gold medal commemorating the courage and unbounded enthusiasm of the people of San Francisco in restoring

the city from destruction wrought by earthquake and fire in April, 1906. The thought of making them such a token first occurred to Ambassador Jusserand when he was receiving in person the medal given by the United States to the French government in commemoration of the kindly reception and aid given by the French people to Franklin during the revolutionary war. The news of the terrible disaster to San Francisco reached Washington just as Ambassador Jusserand rose to receive officially this medal, and the thought of a return compliment instantly occurred to him.

Before the civil war the raising of hemp and the manufacture of rope and other products from it was a great industry and many fortunes were amassed from it. Indirectly it gave a great impetus to the river traffic as the greatest plantations were along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and made up a large part of the cargoes of the river steamers. The introduction of wire tie for binding cotton bales and grain, the use of iron ships which dispensed with the use of oakum cordage and sails and other changes affected the industry adversely, but the chief cause for its decline was the abolition of slavery, which took away the cheap labor hemp raisers had depended on. White men would not do the hard work involved gathering the crop and breaking the tough hemp fibres. There is no reason why the industry should not be revived in many sections of the country as the work objected to can now be done by machinery.

Levi P. Morton was at one time minister to France and aspired to be named ambassador to the court of St. James. He estimated that four years in that coveted position would cost him \$400,000, and was willing to purchase the honor at that price, but he failed to receive the appointment. John Hay, who filled that responsible position during McKinley's administration, did not consider it necessary to entertain on a lavish scale in order to maintain the dignity of the United States and was able to perform valuable service for his country without the expenditure of great amounts of money. It cost Robert T. Lincoln about \$35,000 annually to represent his country at the court of St. James, and he entertained in what he considered a very modest way. No young man can really afford to fill that particular position if he is wholly dependent upon the salary he will receive, but he may aspire to the post of ambassador to the French court or that of Germany or Russia without feeling that large wealth is necessary before accepting such a position.

Governor Hughes of New York, in pursuance with the provision of the last session of the legislature, appointed a commission to investigate the stock and other exchanges in New York city. He appointed men of accepted ability and probity. They have just made their report to the effect that the stock exchange is a commercial necessity. It is necessary to quote only two conclusions of their report to prove how valueless it is. One distinguishes between the men who gamble after experience and the greenhorns. For the uninitiated they admit that speculation in futures is a losing game. They evidently forget that the moral quality of an act does not vary according to the man who commits it. The other conclusion is that manipulation of prices through morally unjustifiable is to be condoned when it is resorted to for the purpose of making a market for new securities. These reputable and supposedly self respecting men say frankly that new enterprises cannot be launched unless capital is provided and to gain capital securities must be sold and therefore an artificial market created from lies and dishonesty is a commercial necessity. This statement ought to be enough to prove that the gambling environment has so dulled the moral perceptions of otherwise keen men that they are not even ashamed to publish a report whose tone would indicate its authors as inmates of Sing Sing.

As long as twenty years ago Professor Langley of Pittsburg, Pa., began a series of experiments to do what Darius Green and a host of others before him had attempted—navigate the air. Like all men who attempt what has never been successfully accomplished, Professor Langley was ridiculed and sneered at by those who had honored him as a noted scientist. A few friends, among them William Thaw, father of the notorious Harry K. Thaw, stood by him. Mr. Thaw told him to go ahead with his experiments and he would see him through. And he did to the sum of fifty thousand dollars, with the result that those experiments conducted twenty years ago gave the world the knowledge which workers in the field of aircraft today recognize as basic for their mechanism. The aeroplane, constructed by Professor Langley, was a disappointment. It flew seventy feet and then sank in the Potomac. Professor Langley felt sure that he could have discovered the flaws in the machine and make a success of it, but after the first failure he was so ridiculed and jeered at that he made no further efforts to perfect his invention. Today

his theories are vindicated and his machine, which has stood for years in an out of the way corner of the Smithsonian Institute, is given serious consideration. Had a little of the interest now given to his invention been granted the inventor at the time he was on trial, he might have succeeded as well as the Wright Brothers.

OUT OF DOORS.

Everybody longs to be out of doors during the summer months as much as possible and enjoy the glories and comforts of nature in its multifarious forms. Did you ever stop to think that the thing about nature which soothes is its perfect impartiality? As Lowell long ago so beautifully put it: "Only Heaven can be had for the asking." That is why the thousands, especially those who work in office and factory, in the big and smaller cities as well, like to "hike" away from them as early and as much as possible at this season of the year and under the shade of the trees in park or on the grassy river bank or wooded glen drink in and feast on the things that are without money and without price and yet incomparably precious. No one can buy blue sky, clear pure air, or sparkling water and the fresh foliage pale in the sunlight and deepened in the shadows is as truly for one as for another. Nature plays no favorites. Heaven in the bestowal of its gifts always gives a square deal. Tired souls, worn from the crushing heat of stronger competitors in life's battles, find an undisputed peace, a satisfaction that is far beyond the power of words to express, in roaming over and possessing for themselves the public parks or the secluded but wealthy spots near river, bluff or fen. Here the flowers, the grasses and the trees as they nod their graceful heads in kindly recognition of each passing breeze or become radiant and all-glorious under the sun's benignant rays, smile upon each face alike and gladden the heart of struggling toiler and careworn magistrate in the same way. It is a wonderful thing, this grand annual exhibition of the seasons to which no admission fee is charged! What a rest the summer evenings and the summer Sundays bring to earth's tired folks! What a contrast and a relief to the ordinary routine of business and social life they bring! For six days in the week humanity has the experience of walking on "other people's grounds," but on the day of rest—Sunday—the public parks and roadways and unloathed nooks bring relief and gladness and self poise to countless thousands through this and other lands. Is it strange that there is a growing demand for parks and play grounds?

It is the cry of humanity for that justice and freedom and untrammelled gladness which all alike crave. It is one of the highest and truest compensations of life that if the fields are a little greener for one than for another, if the daisy by the roadside speaks a language more eloquent to a Burns than to a king upon his throne, if the stars "in the infinite meadows of heaven" are more truly "the forget-me-nots of the angels" to the simple maiden Evangeline than they are to a queen of society, it is because having fewer of this world's goods, the simple folk have less to worry them and a heart and mind more ready and willing to appreciate them. The best "cozy corners" are those provided under the great archway of the blue sky, in the out-of-doors. Let us enjoy the rest, the comfort and the inspiration which they afford. The best ally of right thinking and kindly living to be found wherever there is a congested population are the public parks. The great est blow to anarchy, the surest friend to free freedom are the "open spaces" where humanity can drink in, for a short time, the glories of the natural things about and each tired heart and brain can get a surcease from the "grind."

The quiet, brief outings of the summer time, in parks and elsewhere, which convince us of nature's splendid generosity of gifts and her absolute impartiality in their bestowal do more than all else to demonstrate to us, each and all that "God is in His heaven, all is right with the world." And in that thought humanity finds an everlasting anchor for its faith and patience and brotherhood.

AROUND TOWN.

Only a week more. Look out for lock-jaw. Only three days more, Johnny.

The wise golf player raises his own caddies. The political campaign is "warming" up. When you see a tornado coming, duck. How fast can Mrs. Gould get on the stage? Did you ever see the salt cellars act so ornery? Carry your cyclone cellar around with you.

Dustin Farnum's press agent is "there" anyway. You'll have to hurry if you're to be a June bride this year.

Only one more week till they close at 8 o'clock in the evening. Don't complain about the heat. You might have to live in Chicago.

Saturday, Sunday and Monday will be the slaughter days this year. That Sigel story has been a good filler for over ten days.

What chance has a straw hat with rain every fifteen minutes? Everybody was surprised that Taft didn't yell "Fore," when he took that drive for a corporation tax.

You'd be surprised at the bright things a fellow can think of when he doesn't have a pencil.

Norfolk claims distinction in the fact that no Chinaman has yet been arrested here on suspicion of being Leon Ling.

An ordinary sized newspaper wouldn't have had room for many more murders than have developed during the past week or so.

One man who has plenty of time and inclination to play golf, never gets out to the links because his wife won't let him. It interferes with supper.

The Taft family cow will have to be hobbled for one afternoon at least. Maude Adams is going to play "Peter Pan" on the white house lawn.

ATCHISON GLOBE SIGHTS.

We know a certain man who is always being treated unjustly. And it is never his fault. He is fair with everybody, he says, but every day—almost every hour, in fact—some one plays him a mean trick. But it is never his fault. All of you know men of that sort.

"I am in a position where I should do something sensible," said a man today, "but I cannot decide. I fear that after I decide what is sensible, and do it, it will turn out exactly what I should have done." That has been my experience so many times heretofore. It is easy to say, "Be sensible," but it is difficult to decide what is sensible.

Americans are everywhere known as a great people to worry. They worry each other; no American considers that he is doing his duty unless he is worrying the life out of three or four people. If it isn't his wife and children, it is his neighbors, or his competitors. All of us should take an oath to worry fewer people in future. It's a wicked business. Whenever possible, let people alone in the enjoyment of their natural rights.

Progress; don't be silly. Don't believe in hypnotism, phrenology, mythology, or footology generally. Don't believe in that which is denied by the best minds in the world. Read a little, and read standard authorities. Avoid books or newspapers printed by societies. Such books and newspapers lie like weather prophets. A book issued by a phrenological society will assert that phrenology is a well-tested scientific fact, although every scientific man in the world laughs at the nonsense. This sort of book affords no information; it supplies nothing but falsehoods. Every foolish doctrine has a "publication society," to spread literature that is not reliable. Don't read that sort of literature. A democratic paper never tells the truth about democratic measures. Modern people are outgrowing the folly of being partisans on any subject. They look for the truth, and respect it. If you have been wrong, acknowledge it, and make a new start.

About Norfolk.

Pilger Herald: The Pilger ball team has been engaged to play ball at Norfolk on the third for a purse of \$75. A special car has been secured and a large crowd will go from here to root for the Pilger team. It is expected that the car will be attached to No. 119, a freight that leaves here about 9:30, and will be brought back on No. 40 in the evening. It is no more to be expected that the crowd will follow the ball team, as no town has a more loyal set of fans than has Pilger, and everyone that can should go to help the home team win on that day.

To Dinner Via Balloon.

Going to dinner forty-two miles away in a balloon was the experience of N. H. Arnold, A. D. Converse and W. H. Richardson, who recently ascended at North Adams, Mass., in the North Adams No. 1. The balloon was sailing near the ground over the farm of George W. Hodges at Greenfield Center, N. Y., when two of the farmer's daughters invited the party to come down and have dinner, and they did.

Tribute to George Meredith.

Died May 15, 1909. He listened to the mighty lyra of earth And learned the lore of soul compelling song. He pondered on the rime of right and wrong And saw the hearts of men, their woes, their mirth. He pondered on the rime of right and wrong And saw the hearts of men, their woes, their mirth. In him our vision had a second birth. For by his words we saw as through some strong Enchanted lens the conscience of the throng. The font of ill, the hidden source of worth. Shall death claim him, on deathless knowledge reared? Shall dreams o'ertake the master of the dream? Nay: his the perfect love that never feared. His words send through our grief a radiant gleam— "With Life and Death I walked, and Love appeared. And made them on each side a shadow seen." —Joyce Kilmer in New York Sun.

Making Money On the Farm

II.—Maintaining Fertility

By C. V. GREGORY, Author of "Home Course in Modern Agriculture" Copyright, 1909, by American Press Association

NOT all lands need tile drainage, but there are none on which the problem of maintaining fertility is not an important one. Fertility of the land in its broadest sense means its ability to produce large crops.

One of the important factors influencing fertility is the amount of plant food in the soil. Ten elements, carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, calcium, magnesium, iron, sulphur, nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus, are necessary to the growth of plants. From 90 to 95 per cent of the dry matter of plants is made up of carbon, oxygen and hydrogen, which are obtained from air and water. Of the others only three, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, are used in such large quantities that the supply in the soil is likely to become exhausted. These three are usually spoken of as the essential plant foods.

Amount of Plant Food in Soils.

These plant foods are present in varying amounts in all soils. In many cases it is necessary to increase the supply by the use of commercial fertilizers. The real need of most soils, however, is not the addition of more of these materials, but the judicious use of those already there. It is estimated that there is enough phosphorus in the Mississippi valley to raise a hundred bushels of corn to the acre every year for sixty years and enough potassium to last 600 years at the same rate. Much of this phosphorus and potassium is combined with other materials in such a form that it is unavailable for the use of the plants. One of the principal problems of the farmer, then, is to make this stored fertility available.

One of the most effective means of doing this is by keeping the soil plentifully supplied with humus. Humus is the name given to decaying organic matter in the soil. It is the humus that gives the dark, rich color to soils. It leaves that "brown streak in the furrow" that farmers have long regarded as an indication of fertility. Humus gives the soil a spongy texture and greatly increases its water holding capacity. It also makes the soil lighter and warmer. Soils which contain large amounts of humus do not bake or become cloddy easily. They are mellow and respond readily to cultivation. Humus contains considerable nitrogen and furnishes a home for bacteria, which aid in making plant food available. Certain acids are also formed in the decaying of humus that aid in making the phosphorus and potassium available. It might almost be said that the chief problem of maintaining fertility is the problem of keeping the soil supplied with humus.

Maintaining the Humus Supply.

Probably the best way of maintaining this humus supply is by the liberal use of barnyard manure. The surplus straw should be used for bedding, so as to save all the liquid portion and add to the bulk of the manure. Shredded fodder is also good for this purpose. The manure should be hauled



FIG. III.—ACCUMULATION OF MANURE.

to the land as fast as formed. When it is allowed to decay in the barnyard much of the nitrogen is lost, and rains falling upon it also wash out other elements. The manure spreader is an implement that should be found in every barnyard. The manure can be loaded direct from the stables to the spreader at almost all seasons of the year and spread in an even layer upon the field. With a spreader the manure can be made to cover twice as much ground, so that the whole farm can be some over-offener.

While barnyard manure is undoubtedly one of the best means of maintaining fertility, it cannot always be had. Many farmers, because of their location near markets which demand certain crops, find it more profitable to supply those crops than to raise live stock. Others prefer grain farming because it is less confusing. Such farmers must have some method of maintaining fertility which does not depend primarily upon manure.

The Value of Clover.

change the nitrogen of the air into nitrates, a form in which it can be used by the plants. Fully one-third of the nitrogen collected by the clover plant is left in the soil in the roots and stubble. One crop of clover in a four year rotation will furnish nearly enough nitrogen for the remaining three crops in the rotation.

This is a much cheaper form of obtaining nitrogen than by purchasing it in commercial fertilizers at 10 to 15 cents a pound. It is much more profitable to keep the nitrogen supply fairly constant by the continued use of a rotation with legumes than to add a large amount at one time. Nitrogen in the form of nitrates is readily soluble, and every rain washes some of it out of the soil. This is not true of the other essential elements to any marked extent. Too liberal a supply of nitrogen at one time tends also to promote too rapid leaf growth at the expense of fruit or grain.

The stubble and roots of the clover, together with the cornstalks and other rubbish, will do a great deal to keep up the humus supply. In addition to

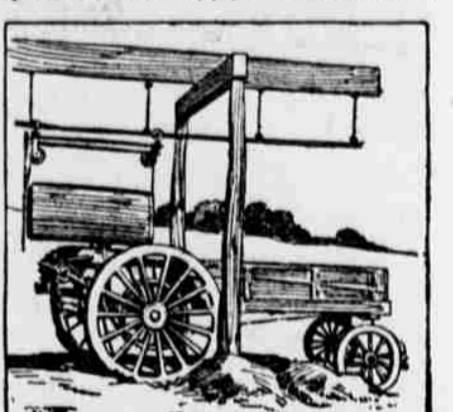


FIG. IV.—LOADING MANURE SPREADER.

this, if no manure at all is available, some humus may have to be supplied from some other source. This is especially true if the soil is naturally poor in humus. One of the simplest ways to supply this is by green manuring. This means the turning under of a green crop, such as clover, cowpeas or some other legume. This supplies both humus and nitrogen. The best time to plow under such a crop is in the fall, so that it will have time to decay before spring. A large mass of undecayed material plowed under in the spring checks the upward movement of moisture and is liable to make the land sour.

Another method of adding to the humus supply is by mowing a crop of clover about having time and letting it lie on the ground. The second crop can be cut in the same way or used for fall feed or for seed.

"Clover Sick" Soil.

After clover has been grown for a considerable length of time, especially if much has been plowed under for green manure, the land is liable to become "clover sick." This is caused by an excess of acid in the soil. This acid can be neutralized by the application of ground limestone. Caustic or quicklime is not so good as limestone, since it burns up large quantities of humus and in general is too violent in its action. Lime has another advantage on clay soils in that it causes the particles to adhere together in larger masses, thus making the soil more porous. The usual rate of application is from twenty to forty bushels to the acre. With the application of any other new method, it is best to try it on a small scale first. Then if it proves profitable its use can be extended.

The judicious use of clover or some other legume will effectively solve the humus and nitrogen problems. There remains the question of the potassium and phosphorus supply. Clover also aids with these. The humus formed from it helps to dissolve the unavailable materials and prepare them for the use of the plant. As stated before, there is enough potassium in the upper seven inches of the average prairie soil to last 600 years under the most intensive culture and enough phosphorus for fifty years. Clover changes this seven inches into twice as many feet. Clover roots go down ten or a dozen feet or farther. Alfalfa roots go down twenty feet or more. These deep roots bring up minerals from the lower layers of soil and leave them where the shallower rooted grain crops can get them.

Making Fertility Available.

Gypsum, or land plaster, has a considerable effect in making potassium and phosphorus available. Applied at the rate of 500 or 600 pounds per acre, it will often increase crop yields considerably. It also has a beneficial effect on alkali soils. Use one or two bushels to the acre.

Probably the most effective way of making phosphorus, potassium or other plant foods available is by tillage. Frequent and thorough cultivation, keeping the soil fine and mellow, favors the chemical processes by which locked up plant food is made available.

It must be remembered, however, that the faster these materials are liberated the sooner will the supply become exhausted. When rotation with legumes, tillage and the application of lime and gypsum no longer produce satisfactory results it is a sign that there is a lack of potassium or phosphorus, or both, in the soil. Phosphorus is more liable to become scanty in amount since the supply is smaller. Bone-meal and ground phosphate rock are the best forms in which to apply this material. The former is quicker in its action, but considerably more expensive. Potassium is usually bought in the form of muriate or sulphate.

Blamed the Planets.

In the middle of the fourteenth century in Paris a new ordinance enjoining the cleansing of the streets and the shutting up of swine was carefully neglected, as usual, and a terrible plague was the consequence. The faculty of medicine, called upon for a remedy by the king, sent to inform him after long discussion that the plague was the result of a hostile conjunction of the planets Mars and Jupiter.