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**THE WORLD**  
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**F**AMINE conditions in Russia and China grow worse with later descriptions. Dr. Kennar, who was sent from Great Britain by the society of friends to investigate Russian famine conditions, reports: "There are twenty million people distributed in the southeastern provinces of Russia who, without aid, cannot live to see another harvest." Three-fourths of a million people are starving in Samara province alone, he reports, less than half of whom are receiving any relief whatever. What these more fortunate get consists of a dole of bread and soup once a day, not sufficient in quantity indefinitely to prolong their lives. He appeals to the Anglo-Saxons for money to save "twenty million human beings who are dying lingering deaths from starvation." From China the reports are no less discouraging. The Red Cross society announces: "The famine in China is unprecedented in severity and the period of greatest agony is yet to come. Many weeks must pass before there will be relief from new crops and millions today are kept alive only through the contributions of American people. The large amount of money and shipments of supplies already made have only partly relieved the situation and while hundreds of thousands of lives have been saved, hundreds of thousands must yet die unless large additional sums and shipments of food are provided." From north China authenticated instances are reported of the exhuming of corpses for use as food. The editor of the North China News writes: "When a people have been reduced to such straits that they will dig up and eat their own dead the severity and wide extent of the famine can be realized."

Secretary Taft stopped several days in Cuba on his way from Panama to Porto Rico to study conditions and reach a conclusion as to when the provisional American government may be replaced with a Cuban government. He found differences of opinion among the Cubans themselves on this point. The conservatives wished the elections delayed as long as possible, the liberals wanted them held at the earliest practicable date. The secretary decided that no election could be held until a census had been taken, and that the condition of the island would better be tested by preliminary election of minor officials before a presidential election is attempted. The date is left indefinite because of uncertainty as to the time required for a census and the time that should elapse between the preliminary and the main election. It is assumed that it will be a year at least before Cuba will again be in charge of her own affairs. Said Secretary Taft: "The carrying out of this plan, of course, is strictly dependent upon the tranquility of the country, which must continue through two elections and must give assurance of the stability of the new government."

The exchange of letters between President Roosevelt and E. H. Harriman precipitated a general discussion of presidential politics which crystallized into a common demand for the re-election of Mr. Roosevelt. Congressman Townsend of Michigan said: "I don't see very well how President Roosevelt can avoid a renomination. The demand for him is so great that he cannot refuse to accept. He is in the midst of some tremendous undertakings that need his direction. There is the Panama canal for one thing. If he were re-elected the work would be well on toward completion by the end of another term." At a dinner in Chattanooga in honor of Mr. Bryan, John Temple Graves, a Georgia democrat, proposed that the democrats should nominate Mr. Roosevelt and that Mr. Bryan should put him in nomination. He said: "Speaking here deliberately and in my fair judgment of the great majority of the plain and honest democrats of the empire southern state from which I come, I believe that we should put the party below the people, the principle above the man. We should rebuke the spirit of spoils and the hunger of faction. We should affirm our principles, confess our faith, recite the necessity of the reform of corporate capital as the supreme and transcendent issue of the times, pay tribute to the great and typical American who has proved himself the dauntless and conquering captain of the people's cause, and then, in that great convention of our own, William J. Bryan, the one unmatched and incomparable evangel of our faith, speaking for a pure democracy, and speaking for the whole plain people of the republic, should put in nomination Theodore Roosevelt for one more undisputed term of power to finish the work that he has so gloriously begun." Mr. Bryan replied that as matters now stand he would not nominate Mr. Roosevelt, and suggested that the democrats would find Senator LaFollette the best candidate if they chose to name a republican. Senator LaFol-

lette on the same day announced his support of Mr. Roosevelt for another term.

Speaker Cannon's opinion of the Panama canal on his return the first of the week was: "I was mighty well pleased and agreeably surprised, as was every member of our party, with the progress of the Panama canal. It is a mere question of work, which is being done rapidly under a splendid system. If I was paying for the job myself I would slap the boys on the back and say: 'Hustle along and get the dirt out.'" On Monday the United States supreme court decided that the Isle of Pines is a part of Cuba. This had been questioned by American settlers in the island who wished it to be taken over by the United States. It was claimed that the treaty with Spain gave it to the United States. An importer of cigars put the matter to test by refusing to pay the duty on a consignment of cigars from the island and sued the collector of the port of New York on his refusal to admit it free of duty. The court said: "We are justified in assuming that the Isle of Pines was always treated by the president's representatives in Cuba as an integral part of Cuba. This was indeed to be

expected in view of the fact that it was such at the time of the execution of the treaty and its ratification, and that the treaty did not provide otherwise in terms to say nothing of general principles of international law applicable to such coasts and such shores as those of Florida, the Bahamas and Cuba. The Isle of Pines continues at least de facto under the jurisdiction of the government of the republic of Cuba, and that settles the question before us."

W. T. Stead of England, visited the United States in the interest of the peace movement. He advocates the appointment of twelve representative American men and women as a committee to visit European capitals, adding to the delegation at each one visited an equal delegation, finally ending their pilgrimage at The Hague conference with more than a hundred delegates to present the argument for international disarmament or limitation of armaments. The first cases of Japanese exclusion under the new immigration act reached the department of commerce and labor. Secretary Strauss denied the right to enter of five Japanese who had been disbarred at the Mexican frontier when applying for admission with Mexican passports.

plant for earliest—the Early Richmond, followed by Montmerency, then English Morello for the latest. Their ripening season will lap onto each other. Therefore they will work well together, either for the market or for the home. A dozen or two dozen cherry trees will furnish an abundance of fruit for the home use. However, if you want a few more and let the boys and girls make some money, plant as many as you like. But they bear abundantly and a few trees produce a great plenty for the birds and boys and possibly some for the neighbors.

In planting those, plant fifteen or twenty feet apart. Plant a little deeper than the bud. Put the offset under the ground a little bit. A great many who complain about their trees dying or sprouting, get their trouble by not planting the proper depth. If planted too shallow, some cold winter kills the stock just below the bud and you don't know what killed your tree. The roots are alive but the tree does not leaf out right, and by the middle of the summer it is dead. Now, if it sprouts, it was planted too deep. It was planted six inches, probably, below the bud. So bear in mind in planting to plant it about two or three inches deeper than the bud.

**A Revised Fruit Report.**

In my report, written Saturday, April 6, but delayed a week in publication I gave a very encouraging outlook for the fruit crop. This morning, April 13, the outlook for a crop of fruit is indeed gloomy. With the mercury registering from 8 to 12 degrees below freezing in our orchards there is absolutely no hope for the fruit buds that are open or nearly open. There may be a sprinkling of buds among the cherries and native plums that will resist this cold and there is also a fighting chance for some of our late blooming apples. The cold freezing wind that blew during the night of the 11th and during the day following (Friday) was enough to discourage the efforts of nature to produce a fruit crop.

On Thursday last, in spite of several frosty nights that preceded, the opening of peach and plum blossoms looked bright and were apparently uninjured. This morning's freeze, however, is the final death blow to many a fruit grower's hopes. One of our energetic and enthusiastic growers kept fires and smudges going through the night among his fruit trees, but had to give up, beaten, this morning. There is still a fair chance for a crop of small fruits such as strawberries, whose blossom buds have not yet developed far enough to receive injury. Some strawberry beds that were left uncovered through the winter, or whose covering was removed too early may have some blossom buds developed far enough to receive injury. Last year we had a freeze on May 6 that destroyed fully one-half the bloom and unopened buds on our strawberry beds that were located on low ground.

The legislature made an attempt to tamper with the county assessor system but the bill got no farther than the house where for a time, it seemed as if it might pass. Some complaints were made by the smaller counties that the county assessors cost a little money but there was an overwhelming sentiment that they were worth far more than their cost in the taxable property they uncovered.

Striking a match to find a gas leak is as foolish as comparing cheap, adulterated material with high grade guaranteed paint like Bradley & Vrooman's. Sold by Western Glass & Paint Co., 317 South Twelfth street, Lincoln, Neb.

**The Fruit Garden**

**Are the Blossoms Killed.**

This question comes up again for answer since the freeze of a week ago, when the cold was sharp enough to form ice in our water troughs from one-fourth to one-half an inch thick. Brother Bixby of The Journal has given this question prominence in his department, and one would judge from the tone of his lament that there was but little to hope for in the way of fruit this season.

Others naturally share in this gloomy foreboding. From observations made by the writer and from reports from other growers, we believe that the late freeze did very little damage to the fruit buds in this section. Apricots are among the easiest of our blossoms to open and are consequently very liable to being taught by late frosts.

We noticed, however, that trees which were in full bloom last week have their germ centers still bright and apparently unharmed.

Our plum trees are also opening up their bloom bright and clear. Peaches and cherries, also, seem to have passed through this freeze unharmed, there may be some varieties that are over sensitive to cold that will drop their "fruit" before setting. There are also some localities, such as in narrow valleys or "draws" where the freeze was hard enough to injure bloom. There is more to fear, at present from long continued cold rains during the blooming period. Such rains chill the fruit germs and prevent the proper development of the pollen, and its subsequent work in fertilizing the pistils.

Sunshine is a very potent factor in securing a good pollination of the fruit blossoms. We need the rains to water our gardens and nourish the fruit trees but we should pray for warm showers with sunshine alternating for the good of our fruit blossoms.

"There's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip" is very true as applied to the chances between the calx and the mature fruit. Nature is very provident, however, with her bloom. If one-fourth of the blossoms that open on the major portion of our fruit trees were permitted to develop into perfect fruit there would be a breaking down of the trees and an over supply of fruit on our markets. One-tenth of the blossoms is perhaps about the average number that attain full development.

**The Busy Season.**

This is the time of year when the fruit grower and gardener has to hustle to keep up with the season. Planting time is the most important season of the year. It is the beginning really of our harvest for without sowing one can not reap. It behooves the horticulturist then to be "up and doing" at this season, and not only to be diligent but to be thorough with his work. The preparation of the soil for the seed should be carefully and well done, if one would reap the best results from his season's work.

**Fruit for the Home.**

The above is the topic of an address given before the summer meeting of the Nebraska state horticultural society by G. A. Marshall of Arlington. We give extracts from it as follows.

Returning to the subject proper, I might first take up the strawberries. We should prepare the ground and plant the plants very carefully, the same as we would prepare the ground for the lettuce or onion bed. Then plant the plants with care like we would the tomato or cabbage plant. Plant just the right depth, not too shallow or too deep. Either is destructive. Give thorough cultivation, mulch in the fall very little. Do not put on

four or five inches of covering, not more than one or two inches. Scrape it off the plants in the spring and allow it to remain between the rows. Now about varieties, there are at least twenty-five varieties that you can grow and be happy with every one of them. However, some are much better than others and if you want to know more about them, get some of the near-by growers' catalogues or consult the horticultural reports. For raspberries and blackberries, my idea is to prepare and handle the soil so as to conserve moisture through the latter part of the summer and fall, and the whole secret is then solved. If it is a dry season, or like it was this season, dry in autumn, mulch them and you will carry them through. If you have an extreme dry summer and autumn, you can only grow canes and wait until another year for the bearing. If you have planted a young orchard, plant your berries in your orchard. Some object to that but I can see no objection. You can grow them all together. We grow blackberries and raspberries when we have a young orchard to grow them in. There is no drying out of the trees or of the soil under the plants. They are not great plants to sap the moisture out of the ground. It is a perfect plant to put in the orchard. The soil never crusts under them. The young trees in the course of two or three years will furnish the necessary shade and windbreak that the berries want. Therefore they work together.

As to currants and gooseberries, put them in the same place, only in the fruit tree row north and south. If you plant a currant in the sun, it will grow and bloom perfectly but it is a little too bright and warm for the fruit to hang on in large bunches as it should. If you put them in the shade they will succeed much better. They do better here than east. We have no currant worms here. We do not have to spray them their natural condition. The gooseberries are to be handled in about the same way.

As to varieties of the cherry, would

**S.S.S. CURES SKIN DISEASES**

No skin disease can exist without an underlying cause, and in most instances that cause is either a humor in the blood or an excess of fiery acids in this vital fluid. These humors and acids get into the blood, generally because of an inactive and sluggish condition of those members whose duty it is to collect and carry off the waste and refuse of the body. This unhealthy matter is left in the system to sour and ferment, and soon the circulation becomes charged with the acid poison. The blood, in its effort to rid itself of this foreign matter, begins to throw off the humors and acids through the pores and glands of the skin. These coming in contact with the delicate tissues and fibers with which the skin is so abundantly supplied produces irritation and inflammation on the surface, and Eczema, Acne, Tetter, Psoriasis, Salt Rheum, or some other troublesome and disfiguring skin disease is the result. External applications, while they soothe the itching, and are beneficial in keeping the skin clean, can never cure skin affections, because they do not reach the blood where the real trouble is located. A thorough cleansing of the blood is the only permanent cure for skin diseases. S. S. S., the greatest of all blood purifiers, is the best treatment. It cures by neutralizing the acids and removing the humors from the circulation so that the skin, instead of being irritated and diseased by the exuding acrid matter, is nourished and soothed by a cooling, healthy stream of blood. S. S. S. goes down to the very bottom of the trouble, removes the foreign matter and thereby permanently cures every form of skin trouble. Do not expect to cure a blood disease with local applications alone, but begin the use of S. S. S., and when you have removed the cause the skin will be free from disease. Special book on Skin Diseases and any medical advice free. **THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.**