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RESPONSES SOLICITED

A wet May insures a big crop of hay.

The best beef is called "export beef"—this because we seldom get any of it to eat at home.

With a tank full of water, a piece of hose and a couple of good dogs a farm may be rid in a day or two of all the gophers. This plan is a success.

The surest cure for intemperance is to simply quit drinking whisky, and the surest cure for the alleged extorsions of the meat trust is to quit using meat.

It is estimated that not less than 200,000 newly shorn sheep and their lambs were destroyed by an unseasonable blizzard of snow which prevailed in May in the Wyoming mountains.

So long as the American woman refuses to take a hand in milking the cows—and it is likely to be quite a spell—just so long will there be no danger of overdoing the dairy business in this country.

We noted a pigeon taking a drink the other day and found that this bird drinks just as a cow or horse does and not by sips and a throwing up of the head, as is common to most birds when in the act of drinking.

What seems to be wanted more than anything else in this country is some central authority from which there is no appeal which shall fix prices both for labor and all commodities. It would save a lot of scrapping.

The next revision of the Bible should change the rendering of that passage where reference is had to the man putting his hand to the plow and looking back, for nine out of ten farmers in the west now ride the plow and do not hold it.

The young fellow who has worked for a farmer for five years and only has \$25, a spavined horse and an old buggy to show for it is a pretty poor financier, and when he dies the order to which he belongs will probably have to foot the bill for his funeral.

One of the most practical experiments in forestry of recent date is that of the Illinois Central Railway company, which has had planted 250 acres of catalpa trees in the south for the purpose of furnishing future ties for the road. One thousand trees were planted on each acre of ground.

A friend, a farmer, needing a good woman in the house to help his wife, spent three days in vain racing over the country to find one. He said it seemed queer that when a man could find a dozen good women who would marry him and do his housework for nothing it was impossible to hire one to do it.

A higher grade of cereals—wheat, oats, barley, flax and rye—can be raised north of the territory known as the corn belt than within its borders, which is no small compensation for the disadvantage of not being able to grow the corn. And not only is the quality of such cereals better, but the yield per acre is usually larger.

A farmer friend of ours said to us recently that he would like to have business continue in this country on a basis of 50 cents a bushel for oats. This would mean sixty cent corn, seven dollar hogs and beef cattle, thirty cent butter, hundred and fifty dollar horses, ten dollar hay and five dollar farm land rent prices. If such prices were to become standard, there would have to be a readjustment of compensation for all men receiving fixed salaries.

The steers of the western plains held a convention lately and resolved that so long as they are arbitrarily prevented from occupying a position as the head of the herd and are now to be further prevented from co-operating in the dairy business of the country they will hereafter turn their attention strictly to the production of the very finest porterhouse and sirloin steaks and rib roasts possible, which resolutions are cordially indorsed by the dairy herds of the country.

If so situated that you must renew an old strawberry bed in order to have berries for next year, do this: As soon as the bed has done fruiting mow it close to the ground with a sharp scythe. When a good growth of new runners and vines has started, spade up a strip right down the bed where the old plants grow and keep well cultivated until winter. This will work the old bed over on to new ground, and if there is sufficient moisture during the late summer and fall will give a good, productive bed next season.

A melon patch in a cornfield will sometimes neutralize the work of the local Sunday school.

If sparrows instead of tame pigeons come to be used as the targets in sportsmen's tournaments, the people will be inclined to look with more favor on these gatherings.

That big dog which now runs the farm separator has found his mission at last. There should be no big dogs kept unless there is a tread power of some sort for them to work.

Farmers would be more willing to die on their old farms if the country cemeteries were better cared for. Scarcely any one likes the prospect of being buried in a weed patch.

If one wants a perfectly safe investment for money nowadays, he must be content with about 3 or 4 per cent interest. Any security promising 10 per cent or more should be investigated very closely.

A man who has to work for a living lost a ten dollar job with us not long ago just because he overcharged on a little thirty cent job which he did for us. It pays to be fair in small matters just as well as in large ones.

The summer storms, leaving a trail of overturned windmills in their wake, do a good deal of advertising for the gasoline engine on the farm as a substitute for the windmill in the work of pumping, churning, grinding, etc.

The demand for American horses and mules for the conduct of the Boer war has about ceased. This demand did much to stimulate the price of horseflesh and put it at about the highest figures known since the war of the rebellion.

Any woman looking for a means of living who will intelligently take up the poultry business will find it one of the safest and most remunerative employments available. There is no danger that the poultry business will ever be overdone in this country.

Just remember that while the corn crop of 1901 was worth from 50 to 90 cents a bushel on the farm there was almost absolute immunity from hog cholera. We do not say that there is any connection between the two facts, for it may be only a coincidence.

An effort should always be made to interest the farm boy in some one particular thing connected with the farm work. It may be horses or cattle or pigs or chickens or possibly fruit growing. If the boy shows any special liking for any particular branch of agriculture, encourage him in it.

Something is badly out of joint when two men, both well to do young farmers, will commit suicide, one because his wife objected to his going to a neighbor's auction sale and the other because the rain washed out a field of corn which he had just finished planting. Both of these tragedies were enacted recently in a western state.

Asked in what particular manner agriculture has been most benefited by the discoveries in science during the past fifty years, we should name the making of cheap steel. All earth working implements used to be of iron and never worked clean or easily. With the steel came the highly polished surface, lessened friction and an infinitely better quality of all earth work.

A series of duststorms which fairly peeled the surface of the field, followed by hail and the beating of about six inches of rainfall inside of three days, had, we thought, about finished up an acre and a half field of seed onions for us. But our faith was not as strong as the vegetable we were trying to grow, for out of all the adverse conditions the crop is coming along all right.

We find that by covering the strawberry bed with a good heavy coating of straw in the late fall and letting the vines remain covered up just as long as possible in the spring the blooming and fruiting season can be set back at least a week or ten days. This is a decided advantage with the late varieties, as it prolongs the picking season that much. Care must be taken, however, that the covering is not left on too long or the plants will be seriously injured.

It is pleasing to know that the government got caught on the oleo deal as well as the unsophisticated consumer, a case developing during the debate upon the bill in the senate where the government, advertising for a quantity of oleomargarine, got it at 14 cents a pound, and at the same time, advertising for genuine butter, was furnished the same article of oleomargarine at 23 cents a pound and could not detect the fraud. Hereafter such a swindle will be impossible.

A very comprehensive experiment recently concluded by the Iowa State Agricultural college in the feeding of sheep for market demonstrated the following interesting facts: First, that sheep will make practically as large gains on grass alone as on grain and grass; second, that in economy of gain grass alone gave the best results; third, that corn at 33 cents a bushel is a more economical grain to feed sheep on grass than oats at 23 cents or barley at 40 cents; fourth, that mutton can be produced much more economically during the summer months on grass alone or grain and grass than by feeding grain and hay during the winter months.

OLEO LAW AND DAIRY INTERESTS.

We are asked to say something as to the probable effect of the new oleomargarine law upon the dairy interests of the country. The new law goes into effect July 1. It imposes a tax of 10 cents per pound upon oleo if colored to resemble butter. Over 100,000,000 pounds of oleo were made the past year and sold at prices running from 3 to 10 cents per pound less than butter sold for. Most of this oleo finally reached the consumer as genuine butter, was so bought by him and so eaten by him. Oleo can be made to closely resemble butter at a first cost of about 10 cents per pound, but as it passes as butter it always rises and falls in price with the genuine article which it imitates. The profit connected with its manufacture has been enormous—more than 100 per cent when butter was selling at the high prices of the past season. Oleo uncolored is a distasteful looking article of food, and, while just as good in every way or just as bad, as you choose, when uncolored as when colored, it will not in an uncolored state find any market, and the 10 per cent tax will virtually kill the business of its manufacture. The constitutionality of the law is yet to be tested, and it is barely possible that the supreme court of the United States may kill the law, though hardly likely. One makeshift has already been suggested by the manufacturers in the shape of a capsule of coloring matter which is to be furnished with the oleo, the buyer to do his own working over and coloring. This won't work, for the consumer will not buy the stuff when he knows for sure that he is getting oleo. Assuming that the law will stick, it means much to the dairy interests of the country. It will mean the milking of half a million more cows and possibly some advance in price of butter until the supply gets adjusted to the demand. We do not think that it means any permanent advance in butter prices, but simply a larger and wider market for the product. Butter can be produced on the average farm at a first cost the year round of about 13 cents a pound, and the consumer may still expect to be supplied at from 20 to 25 cents, save under such conditions of extra high priced dairy rations as have prevailed the past six months. The claim that the beef animal is to be materially lowered in price because of the law which will prevent the conversion of his tallow product into butter is more of a boggy than a fact, for the cottonseed oil men and the lard men have a hand in this oleo product as well as the steer man. The law when in successful operation will do this—it will give the people a genuine butter product, remove from the dairy interests one of the most ingenious and rascally frauds which ever beset a legitimate and important industry; it will give the poor man a wholesome and, if he shuts his eyes, a palatable substitute for butter selling at a reasonable price; it will encourage the further development of the dairy interests of the country, which is something which cannot fail to be of the greatest benefit to agriculture as a whole, and, lastly, it is a step in advance in the line of pure food legislation which we all hope may be continued in many other lines.

PIGS AND THE PROPRIETIES.

A word to the man who keeps hogs in town—the retired granger, who wants to carry on agricultural operations under the glare of the electric lights—don't keep them. There may be nothing strictly insanitary and malarial about the odor of a town hogpen in July dog days, but it's mighty unpleasant and does not harmonize with lovers in hemlocks on moonlit midsummer nights on the adjoining lot. If the town ordinances do not forbid your keeping hogs in a well ordered municipality, have a little regard for the eternal fitness of things and the good opinion of your neighbors. There are a good many things which are all right enough on the farm which are all wrong when you move to town to live, and letting your chickens run at large and keeping hogs in a pen are two of them, and there are lots of sinners along these lines. When the agricultural department develops that new breed of dude hogs, perhaps things will be different.

A LIVE GOVERNOR.

Be it said to his great credit that the governor of the state of Minnesota from his private purse offered a fifty dollar gold medal to that Minnesota creamery butter maker in a state contest who secured the highest scoring on twelve tubs of butter, one made each month during the year. A young Swede running an unknown creamery in the backwoods of the state won the prize, and now he is as famous in dairy circles as the Brazilian with the dirigible balloon. Of course a Swede won the prize, for it is impossible to offer a prize for fine butter and have any other than a Scandinavian of some variety get it.

TO GET RID OF THE WEEDS.

What shall be done with the ragweed and Mayweed in the pastures, the foxtail, morning glories and cockleburrs in the cornfields, the wild hemp and artichokes by the roadside and the purslane in the garden? For the pasture, put on less stock and give the grass a chance to grow; for the weedy cornfield, seed down and give the sheep a chance at the pests which befall it or give it a summer fallow; for the weed cursed highway, enforce the laws and have the weeds cut at the proper time of the year, and for the garden try mulching with straw for everything which can be mulched.

*John Trigg*

DISARMAMENT OF BOERS

Majority of Burghers Lay Down Arms in Good Spirit.

LONDON CROWDS CHEER KING

Royal Party Participates in Impressive Thanksgiving Services at St. Paul's Cathedral—Enthusiastically Greeted by the Populace.

London, June 9.—The war office received the following message from Lord Kitchener:

"The disarmament of the Boers is proceeding satisfactorily and good spirit is displayed everywhere. Yesterday 4,342 rifles had been surrendered up to date."

Dispatches received by the Associated Press from Pretoria confirm the statements made in Lord Kitchener's communication to the war office and say that the whole staff of the late Transvaal government, with a body guard of fifty men, surrendered last Saturday.

The following formalities are observed when General Botha, General Dewet or any of the Boer commanders accompany the British who have been detailed to receive surrenders: The Boer leader goes out to meet a commando and returns at its head. The Boers who come in are generally dressed in dilapidated clothing, but have a smart and soldierly bearing. Those who are to surrender are then assembled and the Boer leader delivers an address to his men, urging them to listen to the British officer who has been detailed on this work. The British officer then makes a speech to the men of the commando, in which he informs them of the admiration of King Edward and the British nation for the gallant struggle and the bravery of their people, and promises that the British authorities will do their utmost to help them resettle on their farms. A meal is then prepared for the Boers, after which the formal surrenders occur. In many instances the Boers have cheered King Edward. The Boers are allowed to retain their horses and saddles. The majority of them appear to be glad that the war is at an end and that they will now be able to join their families.

Among the men who surrendered to the British authorities at Balmoral, Cape Colony, were four Americans, who will be granted free passage to Delagoa bay.

A few of the Boer women still indulge against surrender, but the general feeling among them is in favor of making the best of the situation.

Throughout the dominions of the British empire, and especially in all the principal towns of South Africa, thanksgiving services for the return of peace were held yesterday. Lord Kitchener attended a thanksgiving service at Pretoria, at which 6,000 British troops were present.

THANKSGIVING DAY IN LONDON.

King Attends Devotional Services for Return of Peace.

London, June 9.—The noisy jubilation with which London has resounded for the last week was succeeded by the less noisy demonstrations of thankfulness for the return of peace in South Africa. The thanksgiving services held in London yesterday were typical of the services held throughout the empire, but the presence of King Edward and other members of the royal family at the principal devotional service in London, and the progress of the royal personages to and from St. Paul's cathedral through cheering thousands of British subjects and visitors in London gave thanksgiving day in the metropolis the added feature of a notable historic occasion.

Although the weather was chilly, the streets for the entire distance from the palace to the cathedral were thickly lined with people, who bared their heads and cheered as the members of the royal family and other notabilities passed. The streets leading to St. Paul's cathedral were densely crowded with people and a number of persons fainted in the crush.

GAYNOR AND GREENE IN COURT.

Americans Under Arrest in Canada Seek to Escape Extradition.

Quebec, June 9.—The case of the two Americans, Gaynor and Greene, who were arrested in Quebec for defalcation at the request of the United States government, was resumed before Judge Andrews. The attorneys argued at length the motion to quash the writ of habeas corpus, and at the conclusion Judge Andrews took the case under advisement. The contention of the counsel for Gaynor and Greene was that Judge Andrews has no jurisdiction.

Cuba Agrees to Amnesty.

Havana, June 9.—The senate passed the bill granting full amnesty to all American citizens under sentence in Cuba or against whom proceedings are pending. As the house has already passed the bill, nothing but a few formalities stand between C. F. W. Neely and Estes G. Rathbone and freedom.

Chief of Police Ends His Life.

David City, Neb., June 9.—Joseph Calvin, chief of police of David City, committed suicide by shooting himself yesterday. He was despondent because of falling health.

Kruger Will End Days in Holland. Brussels, June 9.—Mr. Kruger declares that he will end his days in Holland.

IOWA COMMISSIONS NAMED.

To Complete the Capitol and Attend to Soldiers' Monuments.

Des Moines, June 9.—Governor Cummins Saturday named two commissions provided for by acts of the last legislature, one to complete the state capitol building and improve the grounds and the other to locate the positions of Iowa troops on the battlefields of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, to erect monuments and place markers.

The capitol improvement commission is composed of A. J. Funk of Spirit Lake, Charles A. Cummings of Des Moines and Edward P. Schoentgen of Council Bluffs. The commission will expend \$250,000.

The personnel of the Lookout Mountain commission, which has the expenditure of \$35,000, is as follows: Senator Alexander Young of Washington, Joseph D. Fegan of Clinton, Alexander J. Miller of Oxford, Mahlon Head of Jefferson, Alonzo Abernethy of Osage, Thomas C. Alexander of Oakland, Solomon D. Humbert of Cedar Falls, Samuel H. Watkins of Libertyville, F. P. Spencer of Randolph, Elias B. Bascom of Waukon, Elliott Frazier of Morning Sun.

THIS WEEK IN CONGRESS.

Canal Bill in Senate and Irrigation and Cable Bills in House.

Washington, June 9.—The greater part of the time of the senate the present week will be given to the inter-oceanic canal bill. An effort probably will be made by the supporters of the Nicaragua route to secure an agreement to vote on the bill next Saturday, but the probabilities are all against success.

The house program for this week includes consideration of the Pacific cable and the senate irrigation bills, which the rules committee is anxious to have disposed of before the time set for taking up the first government bill. Special rules have been prepared for the consideration of both measures. The cable bill will be given two and the irrigation bill three days. Some of the house leaders, including Cannon, chairman of the appropriation committee, it is understood, will oppose the irrigation bill, but the friends of the measure are very hopeful of its passage.

SHRINERS AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Many Caravans of the Faithful on Hand for Imperial Council.

San Francisco, June 9.—When the call of the muezzin floated from the steeples of Islam temple last night many caravans of the faithful had arrived to attend the imperial council of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, which convenes tomorrow. During the day twelve trains arrived. The city has assumed a holiday appearance. Streets, business houses and residences are bright with flags and bunting and the insignia of the order is seen everywhere. Twenty thousand electric lights will be used in illuminating Market street. The grand parade is scheduled for tomorrow night. The festivities will close Saturday.

Baseball Scores Yesterday.

American League—Baltimore, 6; Cleveland, 2; Chicago, 14; Washington, 7; Detroit, 2; Philadelphia, 3; St. Louis, 1; Boston, 7.  
American Association—St. Paul, 10; Milwaukee, 3-0; Kansas City, 11-6; Minneapolis, 2-8; Columbus, 0; Indianapolis, 3.  
Western League—Colorado Springs, 6; Denver, 2; Des Moines, 0; Kansas City, 5; Milwaukee, 5; Peoria, 3; Omaha, 6-4; St. Joseph, 9-5.

Lockout at Denver.

Denver, June 9.—In a statement issued yesterday the contractors and material trades association refuse to take back any of the striking builders unless they agree to dissolve the building trades council. The men say they will not do this and the situation now partakes of the nature of a lockout. The mill men held a meeting, but no decision was reached in regard to taking back their striking employees.

Duelist Wounded in Ear.

Rome, June 9.—The duel between Signor Prinetti, the minister of foreign affairs, who was challenged to fight by Signor Franchetti, a member of the chamber, as the result of a heated discussion last Friday in the chamber of deputies, occurred last evening at the villa of the Marquis Meidis. Franchetti was slightly wounded in the ear. After the encounter they became reconciled.

Morgan in Good Health.

Venice, June 9.—The statement published in the United States that J. P. Morgan had broken down and was in the hands of a physician is without foundation. Mr. Morgan and his family left Venice on the yacht Corsair June 1 and he was then in good health. It was Mr. Morgan's intention to proceed from Brindisi overland to England to attend the coronation of King Edward.

Moyer Elected President.

Denver, June 9.—The annual convention of the Western Federation of Miners adjourned last night. Edward Boyce refused to serve as president and Charles Moyer of Lead, S. D., was elected in his stead. The other officers elected follow: Vice president, E. D. Hughes, Butte, Mont.; secretary and treasurer, W. D. Hayward, Silver City, Ida.

Bank Wrecker Found Guilty.

Whitcomb, Wash., June 9.—John Dix, charged with wrecking two banks in this county while under his control, was found guilty of larceny by embezzlement, and a punishment of 10 years in the state penitentiary.

FIFTY HURT IN WRECK

Train is Derailed and Excursionists are Victims.

ONE DEAD, THREE LIKELY TO DIE

Others Suffer Less Serious Wounds in Accident Near Alpena, Mich. Tender Jumps the Track and Sudden Stop Ditches Three Coaches.

Alpena, Mich., June 9.—An excursion train on the Detroit and Mackinac railroad, which left here yesterday morning for Saginaw, consisting of an engine and twelve coaches, was wrecked at Black River, while running forty miles an hour. One man was instantly killed, three were probably fatally injured and nearly fifty others received injuries of various degrees of severity, ranging from bruises and cuts to broken limbs.

The excursion was under the auspices of the German Aid society of Alpena. When the train reached Black River the tender jumped the track. Engineer Hopper instantly set the airbrakes and reversed his engine. The sudden stop threw the first three coaches of the train off the track and into the ditch. The first car was thrown half around and the next two plowed through it and cut it in two. August Grosinski, the only person killed, was seated in this coach with forty other excursionists. His body was terribly crushed and death was instantaneous.

The escape of the others in the car was well nigh miraculous. Grosinski's little son occupied the same seat with him, but the lad was uninjured. The three wrecked coaches were piled up in a heap and 200 feet of the track was torn up.

Following are the most seriously injured: John McCarthy, Alpena, left arm broken and serious internal injuries, will probably die; Ernest Legatski, Alpena, right leg broken and probably fatal internal injuries; Jacob Mondorff, Alpena, probable fatal internal injuries; Louis Peppier, Alpena, right thigh fractured; Carey Beyer, right leg broken, three toes cut off and head seriously injured.

MET WITH HEAVY RAINS.

Trainmen Tell of Deluge in Kansas and Nebraska.

St. Joseph, Mo., June 9.—Train crews arriving here from runs extending west into Kansas and Nebraska say they never encountered such severe rainstorms in their railway experience as they met Saturday night. All trains were greatly delayed. A St. Joseph and Grand Island engineer, at a point 100 miles west of here, said the rain fell in such heavy sheets that it was impossible to see even a few feet from the cab of his engine. He sought refuge for his passenger train on a siding, remaining there for several hours until the storm subsided. Several bad washouts have occurred on the St. Joseph and Grand Island railroads. Large sections of fine agricultural land in what is known as the Platte purchase is entirely submerged. The losses in crops will be enormous. Farmers believe that in a general way the losses will be evened up by increased yield in crops on table lands.

LIGHTNING STRIKES A CHURCH.

Bolt Sets Fire to Building and Interrupts Graduation Exercises.

Odell, Neb., June 9.—During the graduating exercises of the high school, held at the First Methodist church Saturday night, lightning struck the edifice, demolishing a tower in the forepart of the structure and rendering several spectators and graduates unconscious. The building was soon afire and the lives of many people were in peril. A large tank of water afforded prompt and effective means of extinguishing the flames. It is believed no deaths will result, although several women were removed from the church to their homes suffering severely from shock.

Negro Kills White Woman.

Lawrence, Kan., June 9.—Mary Coop, a white woman, was killed at her house in the lower part of the city yesterday by Charles Anderson, a negro restaurant employe. There were no witnesses to the crime. The woman's neck was broken. Anderson was arrested.

Shot by His Brother-in-Law.

Chillicothe, Mo., June 9.—In a street fight here, Harvey Gibbons was shot and fatally wounded by his brother-in-law, John Galvin, the result of an old grudge. Galvin recently secured Gibbons' arrest on the charge of stealing a bible from him. Galvin was arrested.

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