

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

ITEMS OF INTEREST TAKING PLACE THIS WEEK THROUGHOUT THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE WORLD.

A deposit of radium has been found near Mauch Chunk, Pa.

The consumption of white arsenic in the United States in 1913 amounted to about 7,200 tons, valued at \$159,236.

Nearly 58,000,000 gallons of mineral water was bottled and sold in the United States in 1913, valued at \$5,600,000.

The per capita cost of the fire extinguishing equipment in Indiana cities averages \$1.15, according to the Indiana state fire marshal.

A recent compilation shows that 17 life insurance companies have in farm loans \$519,143,588, distributed in 42 states and Porto Rico. Of this amount North Carolina has \$794,830.

An article in The Times of London, calls attention to the field for group insurance open in England, and points out the fact that in this respect, business houses of the United States are ahead of those in Great Britain.

A shipment of three hundred tea saplings from Sir Thomas Lipton's plantations near Colombo has arrived in San Diego and are set out in the San Diego Exposition grounds, the first tea plants to take root in American soil.

The value of griststones and pulpstones produced in the United States in 1913 according to the United States Geological Survey, was \$855,627, a decrease of \$60,712 compared with \$916,339, the value for 1913.

The wild onion, or garlic, which causes an annual money loss to farmers of millions of dollars, can be eradicated by careful methods of cultivation, according to Farmers' Bulletin No. 610, of the Department of Agriculture.

General aeroplane transportation for all visitors to San Diego is provided for during all twelve months of 1915 by arrangement of the Exposition with Walter Brookings, the American aviator.

The scaffold is now removed from the frontispiece of the California state building, one of the most impressive of the San Diego Exposition, revealing the completed work of the Pierillis, the eastern sculptors who created the statuary.

Traveling 8,000 miles in an automobile, covering the distance twice across the United States and touching the four corners of the United States, with no damage of any consequences to their machine, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Rodgers and Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Rodgers arrived in Spokane, Wash., recently.

The manufacture of lime in the United States in 1913 broke all previous records, the production amounting to 3,595,390 short tons, valued at \$14,648,262, according to R. W. Stone, of the United States Geological Survey.

Victor Emanuel III, Italian Society of Edmonton, Alta., has completed arrangements to purchase four townships, 51,840 acres of government lands on the shores of Big Egg Lake, 85 miles north east of Edmonton, to be colonized by members of the association.

Two counties in Pennsylvania, Fayette and Westmoreland, which constitute the Connellsville coking district, had a combined production of bituminous coal in 1913 of over 65,850,000 short tons, within ten per cent of the total production of West Virginia, the second coal producing state in the Union, and exceeding that of Illinois by about 4,000,000 tons.

Opportunity for increasing trade with many important points on the Caribbean Sea has been given to Southern manufacturers and merchants by the recent establishment of the Seeburg Line of service between Mobile and Venezuela and Colombian ports. Three new steamers, making fortnightly sailings from Mobile, have been placed in this service.

The number of men in the world is about equal to the number of women, says the American Bankers, citing some interesting statistics. The average of human life is about thirty-three years. One-quarter die previous to the age of seven years, one-half before seventeen, and those who reach this age enjoy a felicity refused to one-half of the human species.

Many fire hazards have been introduced by the use of electricity for commercial and domestic purposes. Many of the dangers are little understood and therefore have practically no attention. One of the uses that is causing many fires is the electric iron. The housewife is called for a few minutes, the current is left on, and before it is thought of, the fire starts. The current should always be cut off when the iron is not in use.

Southern manufacturers and merchants should lose no time in taking advantage of the opportunity which the war in Europe has given them for extending their trade with South American countries, particularly Argentina and Uruguay on account of the direct steamship service to these countries through the port of Mobile, declares Mr. Charles Lyon Chandler, South American agent of the Southern Railway.

The outbreak of the European war has caused the New York price of tin to rise 65 cents a pound, although in the latter part of July tin was sold as low as 30.15 cents a pound. None of the European countries make a production which would greatly affect market values, and the disturbance of price is due mostly to the insecurity of ocean freights which are carried very largely in English or German bottoms.

WAR AND SUGAR SUPPLY

Germany, Austria, Russia and France Produce Eighty Per Cent.

New York, Aug. 26.—The outbreak of war in Europe has resulted in a sharp advance in sugar prices. On July 30, the lowest net cash quotation of the New York refiners for granulated sugar was 4.165 cents a pound, while raw sugar was selling at 3.29 cents. By August 10 refined had advanced to 6 cents and raw to 5 cents.

Germany, Austria, Russia and France, the nations actively engaged in conflict, are the chief sources of Europe's sugar supply, producing together some 7,500,000 tons of beet sugar. This is nearly eight per cent of the entire output of beet sugar and more than one-third of the total sugar crop of the world. Ordinarily Germany, Russia and Austria export a million tons or more of sugar to other countries, largely to Great Britain. The largest production and the largest exportation is that of Germany. The harvesting of the German sugar crop is carried on largely by laborers from Russia and Poland, and this labor will not be available if the war continues during the harvesting period. In all the countries involved in the war the labor supply is drained by military operations, and it is likely that the beet fields may be devastated by the movement of troops.

Great Britain is the chief sugar importing country of Europe. Her yearly importations are over two million tons, of which approximately 700,000 tons ordinarily is drawn from nations now involved in war. With this source of supply cut off, Great Britain has turned to the New York market to secure sugar, buying 40,000 tons within the first few days of August and bidding up prices rapidly in order to obtain it. While the European war continues it will be necessary for Britons to depend for sugar upon sources of supply on which usually they do not draw to any extent. It is evident from what has occurred already that they are likely to continue in sharp competition for Cuban sugar which ordinarily comes to the American market.

The supply of Cuban and American grown sugar in sight at the end of July was just about sufficient to meet the estimated demands for American consumption up to the time when the crops now growing will become available. Any considerable outside draft upon this supply, therefore, was bound to show its effect at once in advancing prices.

Fortunately for the United States, in spite of the curtailment of production in the cane and beet growing districts due to the reduction of the tariff, America still has a domestic production of sugar including that of Porto Rico and Hawaii, which should amount to over one and a half million tons this year. This will serve as a great steadier of the market in case of a protracted war, and will prevent prices from going as high as they otherwise would, although the necessity of securing over two million tons from outside the United States, in addition to the domestic supply, will leave the American market under the influence of the general advance in world prices.

One of the arguments that has been put forward against the destruction of the American sugar growing industry through the removal of the import duty on sugar is that it would expose American consumers to all the violent fluctuations that take place in the European sugar market as a result of war, speculation or crop shortages. The present situation affords a striking illustration of the truth of this claim. If the United States were to double its sugar production, as might easily be done by the systematic development of its cane and beet growing industries, the American people would be entirely independent of the rest of the world for their sugar supply.

The retail price of sugar at the beginning of August this year was higher than on the corresponding date last year, before the reduction in the tariff rate went into effect. Prices collected from a large number of representative retail firms in New York City on August 1, before retail prices had been affected appreciably by the European war, showed that the average retail price on that date was 5.22 cents a pound, as compared with 4.93 cents on August 1, 1913.

WHY NOT TAX NORTH CAROLINA BACHELORS?

A great many state legislatures have given consideration to bills taxing bachelors, and many convincing arguments have been presented why men who escape matrimony should pay a penalty but why not tag them as a more painless and effective method of extermination. If the bachelors were tagged the widows could easily find them and Cupid would do the rest. The bachelor is naturally timid, but under the encouraging influence of a merry widow, he can easily be led to the altar, for there is no more helpless craft afloat than a lovesick swain who has passed the age of discretion, and the little imp that plays ping pong with human hearts has no more capable ally than a woman who loves at second sight for experience makes Cupid subtle and bold.

The women have tag days to promote most every other public enterprise and why not a tag day for the bachelors? We have in North Carolina approximately sixty-five thousand bachelors and an equal number of widows. Why not get them together, and solve two vexatious problems with one marriage license?

Four thousand able bodied men, chiefly reservists and veterans of previous campaigns, drawn from Edmonton, Alta., and surrounding country, on the way to the front are awaiting orders to join the fighting force in Europe. Fully twenty per cent of the adult male population of Edmonton, a city of 73,000, has joined the infantry.

PRICE OF DRUGS GOES UP

The Journal of the American Medical Association calls attention in its current number to the disturbances of our drug supply that are likely to follow the war in Europe if it is prolonged for any great length of time. This country depends largely upon European manufacturers for many drug preparations and on European middlemen for crude drugs. Even cinchona bark, the mother source of quinine, though a product of South America, has been obtained by the United States largely through the London and Amsterdam markets. The war may therefore prove the occasion for direct importations of this material from South America that will save the middleman's profit.

Many of our synthetic drugs and alkaloids come from Germany. The price of strychnine, caffeine, cocaine, formaldehyde and salvarsan will almost surely advance rather sharply. We probably shall have to take up their manufacture for ourselves if the war last more than a few months. This will be of decided advantage after the war. France is our chief source of supply for tartaric acid and Austria-Hungary, with France and the Balkan States, for the essential oils. Even in these, however, the possibility of American manufacture when high war prices prevail is not out of the question.

The war probably will cause inconvenience and an advance in price at first, but will almost surely result in ultimate benefit to this country by throwing us back on our own resources for the supply of important drugs.—Herald.

NORTH CAROLINA HORSES WORTH \$139 EACH

Washington, D. C., Aug. 26.—The North Carolina horse is now worth \$139 per head, according to a report just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, while a year ago its average value was \$128. There are 180,000 horses on the farms of this state, and they are valued at \$25,020,000.

In 1910 the number of horses in this state was 166,000, and had an aggregate value of \$20,086,000.

In the entire United States there are 29,962,000 horses and they are worth \$2,291,638,000, or \$109.32 each.

NATION FACING MEAT FAMINE

Economic experts of the Federal Government are giving the high cost of living problem thoughtful consideration and are investigating the high prices of meat. The Department of Agriculture has just completed a census of the meat-producing animals of the United States and finds that there has been a decrease of 4,183,000 head and an increase of \$176,530,000 in value during the past year. On January 1, 1914, the herd numbered 144,507,000 compared with 148,690,000 head a year ago.

The bulk of the nation's decreased meat supply is in the swine herd. Compared with last year the number of hogs in the United States diminished 2,185,000 head; cattle 175,000 head and sheep 1,763,000 head. The major portion of the increased values is credited to the beef animals. The value of cattle, excluding milk cows, when compared with last year, shows an increase of \$166,688,000; swine have gained \$9,842,000 in value, while sheep have depreciated \$1,476,000.

"Young man, unequalled for laziness, unqualified for work, wants place to hang around and draw salary; steady. Call Max, 1842J."

The advertiser, George A. Quick, a recent arrival in Spokane, Wash., from St. Cloud, Minn., has been offered many positions, ranging from a scarecrow to the custodian of two children of the wife of a traveling man. More than one hundred and fifty replies were reported the morning following the appearance of this unusual advertisement in the "Want" columns of the Spokane Daily Chronicle.

Quick tried to obtain an easy job with an ordinary want ad, and failed. He thought of a new scheme to attract attention, so he described himself as "unequaled for laziness and unqualified for work". It brought the desired result.

"I have had more than one hundred and fifty calls, many of which were from women," said Mr. Quick. "One man wanted me to sit on his front steps and keep agents away. Another said he would give me a job as scarecrow in his cornfield north of the city."

"One woman wanted me to take care of two children. She said she was the wife of a traveling man. One girl called and told me to take a Hilliard car and ride to the end of the line, walk one block and ask for Miss Hunt. One woman said she would like to have me come out to her farm and watch the lawn and shrubbery grow. Another offered me a place as chauffeur of a baby carriage."

"One man promised me a real job and I am going to see him right away about it."

\$100 REWARD, \$100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. CHENY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by all druggists, 75c.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

PRESIDENT WILSON WARNS AMERICANS

The determination of the United States government to keep this country from becoming involved in the European war and its controversies was manifested in several ways this week.

President Wilson addressed an appeal to the American people calling on them studiously to refrain from any expression or act that might reveal the slightest partisanship. Leaders in Congress of all parties voiced similar views.

Official information from Berlin said the Japanese ultimatum had been delivered to the German government and that diplomatic dispatches indicated that war between Japan and Germany was not unlikely.

The Japanese Minister at Berlin apparently foreseeing such an eventuality, asked Ambassador Gerard to be prepared to take over Japanese interests in Germany.

Secretary Bryan received from Emperor William a long message transmitted through Ambassador Gerard, the contents of which was guarded closely, but which it was learned, expressed the grateful appreciation of Germany for the tender of the good offices of the United States. The German Emperor took occasion to point out causes of the present war and argued it is understood, that while he was trying to mediate between Austria and Serbia, Russian mobilization began. White House officials denied the message contained any project concerning the attitude of the American press toward Germany. Officials said there was nothing to indicate whether the German Emperor would at any future time accept the tender of good offices.

Addressing the American people, President Wilson this week issued a statement on the European war, warning citizens of the United States against "that deepest, most subtle, most essential breach of neutrality which may spring out of partisanship, out of passionately taking sides."

The President pleaded that the United States be "neutral in fact as well as in name during these days that are trying men's souls."

"We must be impartial in thought as well as in action," he said, "but put a curb upon our sentiments as well as upon every transaction that might be construed as a preference of one party to the struggle before another."

Officials close to the President made it clear that he was determined to take no part in the dispute between Japan over the situation in the Far East. While that controversy was not specifically referred to in the President's statement, it became known that he is resentful of efforts believed are being made to embroil the United States in it.

FARM FACTS

Those who till the soil are the chosen people of God.

Farming is as old as the human race and yet in its infancy.

Success is bound to come to the farmer who plans while he plows.

No farmer is unsuccessful who thinks more of his barn than he does of his home.

The development of the farmer himself must precede the full development of the ground he tills.

No civilization has ever advanced beyond its agricultural development.

The best farmer does not bother about getting ahead of his neighbor; his great business is to get ahead of himself.

We must give the people who live on the farm the same educational advantages for their children as those of the cities enjoy.

The country clergy is an agency of much potentiality because the rural life movement is religious as well as industrial and social. There should be an industrial and a social survey of every community.

The pastor, the teacher and the school and church officials are they who should make such a survey.

In a recent survey of a community in New England, the average annual income of 154 farmers who have a common school education was \$229, while the average net income of 122 farmers of the same locality with a high school education was \$482 annually. This was worth to each farmer who possessed it \$253 each year.

NORTH CAROLINA LEADS IN FIREWOOD CONSUMPTION

Washington, D. C., Aug. 26.—There are 4,034,000 cords of wood valued at \$7,076,000 consumed on the farms of North Carolina annually, according to a report that has just been issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. The total yearly firewood consumption in this state is 4,873,000 with a value of \$9,525,000. North Carolina consumes more firewood than any state in the Union. The consumption in the cities of this state is 713,260 cords and 117,000 cords are used in the mineral operation of North Carolina each year.

In Continental United States annual consumption of firewood amounts to 85,937,000 cords, valued at \$250,000,000. Of this amount 69,961,000 cords are used on the farms, 14,222,000 cords in the cities of the nation and 1,751,000 cords are used in the mines of the United States. The average value of wood consumed in the United States is \$2.91 per cord and \$1.95 in this state. The average consumption per farm in the United States is 11 cords per annum.

NOTICE

Having qualified as Extr. on the estate of D. Stanton Davis, deceased, before W. C. Hammond, Clerk of the Superior Court of Randolph County, all persons having claims against said estate are notified to present them to the undersigned, duly verified, on or before the 1st day of August, 1915, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery; and all persons owing said estate will come forward and make immediate settlement.

This 28th day of July, 1914.

A. E. DAVIS.

W. S. DAVIS, Exrs.

WAR WITH MEXICO NARROWLY AVERTED

As Recently as a Fortnight Ago Action Was Urged—Wilson Stood Firm—It is Reported That Majority of Cabinet Urged Sending of Troops to Mexico When Carranza Rejected Peace.

Washington, Aug. 25.—Just how close the United States came to being involved in a war with Mexico as recently as a fortnight ago was revealed recently by high officials of the administration.

When General Carranza abruptly rejected the overtures of the peace envoys sent by President Carballo and at the same time ignored diplomatic efforts of the American government to bring about a peaceful entry of the Constitutionalists into Mexico City, drastic measures were urged upon President Wilson.

Many members of the Cabinet, it is said, a majority, urged sending American troops from Vera Cruz to the Mexican capital to prevent anarchy then expected to follow from the failure of the Carballo government and the Constitutionalists to reach an agreement.

President Wilson, however, firmly resisted all pressure, arguing that sending of American troops into Mexico City would probably mean war with the Constitutionalists. A few days later overtures came from the Carballo government to the effect that if American troops would come to preserve order they would be assisted. Other promises were made—the United States was to be given a coaling station in Magdalena Bay, the Chaminel claims were to be adjusted and many other things of particular interest to the American government were to be arranged.

The President rejected all approaches believing the Constitutionalists themselves would maintain order. He gave his attention instead to the possible split between Villa and Carranza and renewed efforts to harmonize the leaders.

To carry out this purpose, the President sent a personal friend, Paul Fuller, a new York lawyer, to see both Villa and Carranza.

Mr. Fuller saw the President and Mr. Bryan secretly in Washington and has just arrived at Villa's headquarters, where he is co-operating with George C. Carothers, American Consular agent, in urging Villa to join with Carranza in maintaining peace in Mexico. Announcement of the fact that Mr. Fuller had gone to see Villa was made by Secretary Bryan today.

White House officials said Mr. Fuller went to Mexico merely to gather information for the administration. It was reported in some quarters that Mr. Fuller was sent to familiarize himself with conditions and that he eventually might be named American ambassador to Mexico.

TRAINING THE TOMATO VINE

It is too late to train the tomato vines of 1914, but the following letter in the Southern Farmer by A. Jeffers, of Prince Anne county, Virginia, is worth putting away for reference next spring.

Previous attempts to grow tomatoes were not successful, almost failures, in fact. The weather was too wet or too dry; the sun was so hot that the tomatoes blistered or the vines drooped on the ground and the tomatoes rotted before ripening, and if perchance a few escaped the combination of calamities, the hens "flew over the garden wall" and greedily and speedily devoured and destroyed them.

Last year another effort was made with an entire change of program. The madam grew the plants in the house so as to have them early. At proper time the plants were transplanted in a row in the garden. Care and pains were taken to encourage the young plants to grow. A stake was driven in the ground at one end of the sixteen-foot row, another stake at the other end, and one in the middle. The plants were hoed and mulched, and the liberal rainfall, together with warm weather, caused the plants to grow vigorously. They were soon 18 inches tall and climbing rapidly. A wire was stretched from stake to stake about fifteen inches from the ground and the young plants encouraged to divide and go up on either side of the wire. In a few days another wire was stretched fifteen to eighteen inches above the first, and the tomato branches that grew up on the left side of the lower wire were encouraged and persuaded to grow up on the right side of the second wire and vice versa.

When the third wire was added the vines were crossed again, or the principal ones were crossed or woven into the wires so that the vines were in an upright position. In short, the wires were the "warp" and the thrifty tomato vines were the "fill-in" to this beautiful garden fabric. The vines speedily climbed to the top, five or six feet tall, and then the madam went out with her little shears and snipped off the ends of the plants in order to encourage a more liberal fruitage, for tomato plants are, in some respects, like some individuals. If let run at large without control, the heads are held too high, and the growth runs all to vines and leaves, often "nothing but leaves," but the pruning knife of adversity is needed often to bring fruit, so the madam pruned the plants and they yielded a splendid fruitage.

HOW FRENCH PEOPLE CURE STOMACH TROUBLE

A household remedy of the French peasantry, consisting of pure vegetable oil, and said to possess wonderful merit in the treatment of stomach, liver and intestinal troubles, has been introduced in this country by George H. Mayr, who for twenty years has been one of the leading down town druggists of Chicago and who himself was cured by its use. So quick and effective is its action that a single dose is usually enough to bring pronounced relief in the most stubborn cases, and many people who have tried it declare they never heard of anything to produce such remarkable results in so short a time. It is known as Mayr's Wonderful Stomach Remedy and can now be had at almost any drug store. It is now sold here by Asheville Drug Store.

"Shield Brand" Clothes

Are well worth looking at.

The "SHIELD BRAND SPECIAL" at \$12.50 is recognized as the best suit at the price to be had anywhere. Then we have others at \$10.00 and \$15.00 that are equally good values.

Be sure to come in and see our newest models for fall.

The Clothes You Want To Buy

At The Price You Want To Pay



\$12.50

Sold by

W. W. Jones, Asheville, N. C.

HOW PLAGUE IS TRANSMITTED FROM RATS TO MAN BY MEANS OF FLEAS

Rats are dangerous. They have no legitimate business nor can they serve any good purpose in any community. Sanitarians are well agreed that rats are a serious menace to health. They are so filthy in their habits as tenants of the sewers and as feeders on everything dirty and diseased that it is no wonder they are carriers of disease, parasite and plague infection.

That rats are afflicted with many diseases more than bubonic plague is confirmed by Dr. Rupert Blue, Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, who, speaking on this point, says:

"Other infections of the rats are: Trematodes, or flukes; cestodes, or tape worms; nematodes, or round worms; protozoa; insects and vegetable microbes."

Of the rats examined in San Francisco, 30 per cent were infested with tape worms.

Plague is primarily a disease of the rat. It is communicated from the plague stricken rat to other rats and from rats to man by means of fleas, as the principal agent, though it has been determined many times that handling a rat that has been dead of plague only a few hours gives the infection almost instantly.

Two small boys while playing in an unused cellar, found the body of a rat. The corpse was buried with unusual funeral honors. In forty-eight hours both were ill with bubonic plague.

A laborer finding a sick rat on the wharf picked it up with the naked hand and threw it into the bay. He was seized three days later with plague. But the flea is the chief inoculator. Fleas abandon a rat dead of plague and go in search of living beings who still have warm blood circulating in their veins. Biting man, they inoculate into him the living virus which starts the disease.

Since plague is a disease due to rats and rat-fleas and not to filthy or dirty habits, there's only one thing to do to avoid plague: eradicate the rat. This can be done by making war on them with traps, poison and starvation, and by "rat proofing" against them; that is by building them out.

As a result of the Chinatown plague epidemic in 1907, so efficient was the rat proof constructions that followed, that rats and plague were entirely "built out" of that part of the city.

DISEASE PLAYS HAVOC WITH NORTH CAROLINA HOGS

Washington, D. C., August 26.—Diseases caused the swine breeders of North Carolina to lose 65,100 hogs, valued at \$612,900 last year, according to a report which has just been issued by the Department of Agriculture.

This is an average death rate of 50 per 1,000 head. During 1913 the ratio was 58 head per 1,000 and a total of 77,400 head were lost. The latest census reports, which are dated January 1, 1914, show that there are 1,262,000 head of hogs in North Carolina and they are valued at \$12,258,000 or \$9 per head.

The farmers of the entire nation last year lost 7,004,800 head of hogs from disease. Their total value was \$75,000,000, and the death rate 119 per 1,000.

INFECTION AND INSECT BITES DANGEROUS

Mosquitoes, flies and other insects, which breed quickly in garbage pails, ponds of stagnant water, barns, manure piles, etc., are carriers of disease. Every time they bite you, they inject poison into your system from which some dread disease may result. Get a bottle of Sloan's Lintiment. It is antiseptic and a few drops will neutralize the infection caused by insect bites or rusty nails. Sloan's Lintiment disinfects, Cuts, Bruises and Sores. You cannot afford to be without it in your home. Money back if not satisfied. Only 25c. at your druggist.