

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

VOL. L

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1924

NO. 28

FARMING TO BE ON SCIENTIFIC BASIS

Writer Sees Agriculture Becoming Centralized.

After studying the existing facts carefully and seriously, I can imagine the future unfolding in somewhat the following fashion:

With the progress of science and a more thorough diffusion of knowledge than there has been in the past, the development of agriculture should compare favorably with that of mechanical industry. Though the odds are against revolutionary discoveries, there will be a marked advance in agriculture as an art; and in a country having a considerable density of population this will require a real metamorphosis in agriculture as a business.

As the complexity of the situation increases, thus demanding more and more in the way of capital and knowledge, both the little farmer and the inefficient farmer will be forced to the wall. There will be a survival of the fittest.

Paralleling the tendency of the last 20 years in manufacturing there will be a trend toward larger units. Successful farming will require competent managers and highly paid specialists, and these can be retained only where there is a relatively large production.

To what lengths centralization will go, no one can say. The limit will surely be different in the various branches of husbandry. It is not likely, for example, that individual control can become as extensive in growing fresh vegetables for immediate consumption as in raising wheat and corn. But it seems quite probable that ultimately there will be agricultural undertakings comparable in size and scope to the United States Steel corporation. They will build up voluntarily because of the advantages offered.

There will be large farms growing as few crops as the exigencies of scientific farming permit, managed by business executives of high caliber and superintended by men adequately trained in the natural sciences and in farm practice. These farms will be firmly united into mutual-benefit associations having a single directive policy.

Planting will be controlled and over-production prevented. Standardized products will be sold, and sold throughout the year in quantities just meeting the current market demands, thus eliminating outside speculation. Margins now eaten up by middlemen, but from small quantities buying and from lack of economy in selling, will go to swell the annual balance of the growers themselves.

In brief the methods which have made the American manufacturer successful will make the American farmer successful.—E. M. East in Scribner's Magazine.

To Observe Sun Spots

A very small telescope, or even an ordinary field glass or opera glass, will afford the reader a view of sun spots at a time of solar activity. The safest way to observe them is to point the instrument at the sun and focus the eyepiece until a sharp image of its disk, several inches in diameter, is projected on a surface of smooth white cardboard held at a distance of from two to four feet. The spots can easily be distinguished from specks on the eyepiece by noticing that they move with the sun's image. At present we are just emerging from a period of solar calm during which no spots have been seen for weeks at a time. But a new cycle of activity has already begun, and a few spots are beginning to appear. The reader hardly needs to be warned that if he wishes to look directly with his telescope, field glass or opera glass he must protect his eyes with the blackest of smoked glass, as the intensely bright image would otherwise seriously injure them.—By George Ellery Hale in Scribner's.

Catches Faint Sounds

Sounds made by small insects generally believed to be absolutely mute may be heard by a microphone reported to have been completed recently by scientists of an eastern electrical concern, according to Popular Mechanics Magazine. Sounds heretofore too faint to be caught by the human ear are said to be recorded by the device, which registers the waves as they disturb a delicate current passing between contacts in an insulated ring. Experts claim that the apparatus may be of great advantage in the study of insect life.

Have a Poor System

Among the most generous—but unfortunate—of men are those who are always giving advice and never taking any.

One Doesn't Lead to Other

Gamble much and by and by you won't gamble much.—Forbes Magazine.

Women Surely Have Keen Sense of Money Values

If the average woman were without a sense of money values, as charged by a budget expert, the average American family would have less money in the bank than it has. Eliminating the girl who lives at home and can spend her earnings for pretty things, and whose extravagance is one of the manifestations of her youth, it would have been fairer to say the average housewife of America has a very keen appreciation of the value of money and how hard it is for the husband to earn it. It is probably quite true that women do not budget their expenses; neither did the great United States government until a few years ago. If the budget expert would go into the stores patronized by the wives of wage earners and note with what care and anxiety the customers spend their money and how anxious they are to get full value, she might revise her judgment a bit. With due respect to the paragraphers, the women are shrewd buyers. The hardly saved dollars which bulk so large in savings fund reports and bank deposits are where they are because the women of the country have put them there, often against the will of their husbands. The average man is a much swifter spender than a woman, and despite the jokes of the paragraphers and comic artists, all women do not throw away money on innumerable hats and gowns. The budget expert did less than justice to her own sex when she criticized their financial acumen.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Javanese Houses by No Means Things of Beauty

The clay walls which surround a Balinese farm in Java are usually two or three meters high. Very often they rest upon a foundation of stones and are covered with a heavy layer of rushes which are to protect them from destructive tropical rains. A door in the wall is closed at night with wooden or bamboo planks, the Detroit News states.

The walls around farms of "poeng-gavas" or district mayors, are usually built of more substantial material. The same is true of the homes of Balinese princes. Yet while these latter houses may be elaborately decorated they resemble the more humble dwellings in that they are exceedingly filthy. The numerous members of the family—parents, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, married or unmarried—live in a single house.

The pigs, dogs and goats found on every Balinese farm are kept in a separate hut. The loan huts are usually built upon wooden elevations and are exceedingly ugly and ungalvanic. On each farm one will also find bamboo baskets to house the fowls.

Words We Have Clipped

A few years ago a music-hall comedian made a great hit by clipping familiar words, and we still hear him limited in colloquial conversation, London Tit-Bits says. People say "im poss" for impossible, "biz" for business and "pash" for passion.

But such clipped words are not destined to appear in any dictionary, and we must go back much farther in the history of words to find that when we say: "He led the van," we mean the "vanguard"; when we speak of a pair of van horses, we mean "cervan"; when we retire to the "drawing room," we ought to say the with-drawing room; when we talk of a "hobby" we refer to riding a "hobby-horse"; when we talk of sport we mean "disport," of "tending" we mean "attending," or a "cute" lawyer we mean acute, and of a "still" we mean a distillery.

Cluck! Cluck!

A tourist was driving her motor car along a narrow road in Maine, when she noticed a farmer with a yoke of oxen attached to a wagon approaching.

Thinking that the team might turn off at a side road which she was near she stopped the car where the road was widest and waited. Three or four hens gathered around and one sat down in front of the machine.

When the farmer drew near he aimed a toothless grin at the fair driver and a handful of dirt at the hen, saying: "I'll roust her out for ye. These danged hens be always agittin' in the way."

Fair Enough

Rents were exceedingly high in that part of the city in which the young couple felt they had to live. After looking at apartment after apartment they began to get discouraged.

At length, after looking at one that just suited them, they expressed indignation when the agent told them the rent would be \$150 a month.

"I can't ask less, because of the view," the agent said.

"Well, I'll tell you what we'll do," the young husband replied, "You knock off \$50 a month and we'll sign a contract never to look at the view."

Man's Mind Ever in Abject Grip of Fear

Primitive man began his existence on earth under conditions that caused his hair to stand on end a dozen times in the day of thrilling adventures. When he looked around him it was with an anxious, watchful eye for enemies, and an ear strained to catch the howlings of strange beasts.

It was with reluctance he surrendered his consciousness at night, for there was no security about his rude couch. He looked up at the sky with no sense of friendly aid to be sought there, but rather with craven dread of some malign intent in the strange movements of the stars and in the periodic appearance of flaming comets.

Man lived for countless ages with fear at his elbow, and the centuries of his advance in knowledge and culture have not enabled him to rid himself of the "monster," says E. V. Odle in P. T.'s and Cassell's Weekly. One result of this is that the language of almost every civilization abounds with taboos and superstitions, while even a good many of the sayings of the great are colored with the emotions of fear.

Science has disposed of superstition, but it has come to understand only a very little more about the emotion of fear. It is only in his head and in his heart that man is sometimes a hero; in the pit of his stomach he is always a coward. Physiologically, the emotion of fear hits us very literally below the belt. It affects the great network of nerves situated under the diaphragm and known as the solar plexus. These nerves are closely associated with all the most vital organs and they control the very pilot upon which the human mechanism works. Hence, the "sinking feeling" that we experience in moments of fear is due to an actual relaxation of the diaphragm itself and the consequent embarrassment of the heart and the pulmonary system.

Science has also discovered that the sense of fear, when it becomes intensified, tends to produce a well-marked condition known in medical terms as a phobia. There are agoraphobia or fear in crowds; monophobia, or fright of being in a confined space; anthropophobia, or fright of society; bathophobia, or fright of things falling; siderodromophobia, or fright of railway traveling.

Tells a Pathetic Story

It is a two-inch strip of cigar-box wood, with a half-inch hole rudely whittled through it at one end, and with soiled strings of cloth attached. It occupies a place in the collection of curious things in the office of Dr. Sydney Ussher, the chaplain stationed by the Episcopal City mission at the City home on Welfare Island.

The whittled hole, Doctor Ussher explains, was once filled with a glass lens from a broken pair of spectacles, and the strings of cloth were used as ear loops. An old inmate of the institution, who had lost the use of one eye entirely and was almost blind in the other, had laboriously contrived a home-made eyeglass in order that he might not lose touch utterly with the news of the big city across the river.

"It is often necessary," said Doctor Ussher, "to help with little personal problems that the city cannot look after. The city provides good medical talent and excellent nursing care for our old folk, but the cost of eyeglasses has never been included in a municipal appropriation. Sometimes I am asked to play the part of a semi-professional oculist in the hope that the long days may be made a little less dreary for the poor people whose lives are ending here."—Washington Star.

Pampered

She was really a sweet-looking woman and she wanted something for Teddy. After she had gone through the toy stock and worn the clerk to a frazzle she admitted that she was stumped.

"You see," said she, "Teddy is three years old and it is difficult for me to know just what he would like. When he was a puppy I could buy him balls and things like that, but he does not seem to care for them any more."

And then the worm turned. "Why don't you buy him a nice silk nightie, tied with a blue ribbon?" the clerk asked, sweetly.

But the fond mother didn't get it at all.

"Oh, he has all those things," she replied.—Argus (Seattle).

Circles Around Moon

Circles around the moon are caused by moisture in the atmosphere. It frequently happens that the sunlight reflected from the moon to the earth is so refracted by the atmospheric moisture that a ring or circle is formed. The more moisture there is in the atmosphere the smaller the circle will appear. The form and size of the ring will depend entirely upon the particular condition and quantity of moisture in the air.

QUIPS

The early maid catches the bright train.

Where justice reigns 'tis freedom to obey.

He's true to God who's true to man.—Lowell.

Many have got into the habit of being dissatisfied.

A great man marvels that the world calls him great.

Only a dentist gets paid for looking down in the mouth.

A man's temper is apt to improve the more he doesn't use it.

Lenity will operate with greater force in most instances than rigor.

Write to the mind and heart, and let the ear glean after what it can.—Bailey.

If you get into too deep a rut you may break a wheel off when you try to get out.

But a perverse temper and a fretful disposition make any state of life unhappy.—Cicero.

There is such a thing as too much caution. You may be so slow as to fall asleep on the job.

Planting corn and expecting beans isn't half as foolish as sowing selfishness and expecting happiness.

In praising or loving a child, we love and praise not that which is, but that which we hope for.—Goethe.

To explore Great Britain thoroughly by motoring over its full length of highways would take 1,773 days traveling at 100 miles a day.

Asphalted paper is used as a mulch to keep down weeds in more than 10,000 acres of pineapple plantations in Hawaii.

How Public Opinion Saved Virgin Forest

Bordering the highway along the coast of Oregon not far south from the mouth of the Columbia river was a fine stretch of virgin forest. This picturesque stretch of road was known far and wide, says Nature Magazine of Washington. The property bordering the highway and the timber belonged to a paper company. When the price of paper advanced a few years ago, the ax, the cross-cut saw and the donkey engine began an advance along the highway. The print upon the very paper they had made carried a story of the annihilation of the beauty spot to the people. The value of public opinion soon overtopped the high price of pulp. The corporation had a legal right to go on with the cutting, but they stopped operations because the virgin forest bordering the highway was really worth more as scenery than as pulp. Since then the paper company has been reforesting this area.

Earthquake Marked Young

The youth of Japan will feel the effects of the great earthquake of last September for many years and in many ways. New evidence of this has been disclosed by a physical examination made recently of the school children of Yokohama. It was found that the earthquake had afflicted 677 children with "night blindness," or inability to see after nightfall, even in the best artificial light.

Physical deterioration after the quake was found to be general. Of about 23,000 children examined, fully 3 per cent were anemic.

How It Started

It is not an unreasonable supposition that many, if not most, quarrels are like that described by a Washington lawyer.

"So you and your husband are forever quarreling?" he asked a fair client seeking advice.

"Yes," she said.

"What do you quarrel about?"

"I forget the subject of our first quarrel. But we have been quarreling ever since over who was to blame for it."

Market Through Sheep

Sheep not only afford a good market for soluble feeds but for unsoluble material, such as the forage around fences and ditch banks, the pick-up on meadows and stubble fields and other odds and ends of pasture not of sufficient acreage to use for cattle.

He Started Something

Hub—Are you aware, my dear, that it takes three-fourths of my salary to meet your bills?

Wife—Good gracious! What do you do with the rest of your money?

GREATEST VOLCANIC ERUPTION ON RECORD

The most spectacular volcanic eruption that ever occurred was the eruption of Krakaton, in the Malay archipelago, in 1883. This was, undoubtedly, the most stupendous event of the kind that has occurred within the period of volcanic observation.

The great crater of Krakaton rose to the surface of the sea in a series of peaks. One of these was the island of Krakaton, which projected above the water to a height of nearly 3,000 feet, says Harry A. Stewart in the American Magazine. On August 26, 1883, a succession of violent explosions began which lasted until the morning of August 28. Half of the island was blown into fragments. Where one of the peaks, 1,300 feet high, had stood was a submarine cavity more than a thousand feet deep.

The mass of stones and dust thrown upon some of the adjacent islands was so great as to bury their forests and largely augment their land area. The actual sounds of the explosions were so great that they were heard at Rodriguez, 3,000 miles away. Never before or since have sound waves been heard at such very great distances.

Photographic Telescope

Accurate measurements, by means of a huge photographic telescope, thirty-six feet long, to determine the direction of the stars' movements, are planned by scientists of an eastern university.

An expedition, equipped with the tube, said to be the third largest in the world, is preparing to go to points in the southern hemisphere where atmospheric conditions will be favorable to the task.

Included in the outfit is a camera with a twenty-six-inch lens. Data to be obtained is expected to clear up some perplexing problems of the skies.—Farm and Ranch (Dallas, Texas).

Gas

Forty years ago, kerosene was the main by-product of crude oil. Around refineries, men drew off a barrel of gasoline to wash a pair of overalls, and dumped it out. Then came the auto.

This year, refiners say, 9,177,000,000 gallons of gasoline will be produced in the United States. This will be a fifth more than in 1923. How long, at this rate of increase, until the underground oil reserves will be exhausted?

The future, fuel, and probably within your lifetime, will be alcohol or electricity sent by radio from central stations.

She Changed Her Mind

Among the jurors summoned was a woman who wished to be excused. "Well, madam, why don't you want to serve on this jury?"

"I'm opposed to capital punishment."

"But this is merely a case in which a wife is suing her husband for an accounting. It seems she gave him a thousand dollars to pay down on a handsome fur coat and he is alleged to have lost the money at poker."

The woman juror spoke up promptly. "I'll serve. Maybe I'm wrong about capital punishment."

Offset the "Briny"

A summer boarder at a small seaside resort took as much interest in the ocean as if he owned a controlling interest in it. He was always talking about "the briny." He was standing on the beach one day when a bather slipped in and almost immediately slipped out. The recent one was promptly called to account.

"What's the matter? Don't you like the briny? What's wrong with the briny?"

The other pointed to the plenitude of floating rind and replied briefly: "Too watermelon today."

One Thing They Did

"Ain't got no Shakespearean actors now like what we had in the old days," declared Hank Hayfoot, a prominent member of the grocery league.

"This is the repressed school," retorted a city fellow who happened to be present. "You're thinking about the old-style robust school. All those fellows could do was to rant around and bellow."

"Well, they kept us awake, anyhow."

Good Qualities First

We are firm believers in the maxim that, for all right judgment of any man or thing, it is useful, nay, essential, to see his good qualities before pronouncing on his bad.—Carlyle.

Words Worth Pondering

Obstinacy and heat of opinion are the surest proofs of stupidity. Is there anything so assured, resolved, disdainful, contemptible, solemn and serious as an ass?—Montaigne.

Good Motto for Life: "Bring Out the Best"

Did you ever stop to think what kind of a woman your wife would have been if you had not asked her to marry you? Or did you ever imagine what type of man your husband would have been if you had not answered "Yes"?

Have you ever crushed any ambition, chased away any talents or driven inspiration from your household? What have you done to increase or develop your life partner's talents? Whether you are aware of it or not, you have either brought out the best side of this partner's life or buried all that was good in him or her.

A good many of us possess two sides. There are more Doctor Jekylls and Mr. Hydes in the world than we realize. How frequently you are a person of a man and some one else's do not tally! You will often say: "I can't see how Brown tolerates Jones; he's the meanest man in the world!" And yet Brown has found the better side of Jones.

Have you found the better side of your husband or wife? Have you done anything to bring that better side to the front?—Chicago Journal.

China Had Great Ruler in Ch'in Shih Huang

Fifty miles south of the Chinese city of Peking has been discovered the walls of an ancient city, which flourished over 2,000 years ago. The walls embrace greater area than the walls of Peking and lie buried at an average depth of four feet. Late in the Second century B. C. there arose a king in the then comparatively small China who compared favorably with Alexander in conquests and empire building and whose empire lasted almost until the present day. This was Ch'in Shih Huang, or Shih Huang Ti ("The First Emperor"), whose rule ending in 209 B. C. marks the close of the feudal period and the beginning of the empire in Chinese history. Shih Huang Ti subdued the feudal princes, built the famed great Chinese wall and successfully defended the country against the Tartars from the north.

He had money, transportation, writing and other things which aided centralization, and destroyed as much of the ancient classics and traditions as possible, with the idea that the history of the Chinese empire should begin with his reign.

Guiana Blow Gun

Perhaps the most elaborate form of blowgun is that made by the Indians of the Guianas. It consists of an inner tube fashioned from a certain palm which grows very thin and straight.

The pith center and the knots here knocked out with a hardwood stick, and the bore, about one-half inch in diameter, is ground to a machine finish with a rough leaf which cuts like sandpaper. This barrel is then enclosed for protection in an outer casing made of two lengths of hardwood grooved down the center, glued together and bound with ornamental cane and beadwork, says the Detroit News.

A lip piece of carved wood is carefully fitted, and sights are added—actual front and rear sights, the latter open, the lower jaw and canine teeth of some small jungle cat—and the weapon is then a completed zarabalan, a field piece of some eight to ten or twelve feet in length, according to the available length of the original inner tube.

Joke on Archeologists

Fossils of prehistoric animals which lived during the great Ice age are found in certain layers of blue clay in Tennessee. Man, it has been claimed, arrived on the scene thousands of years after these blue clay deposits were made. Recently, however, geologists working near the site of an old Indian earthwork found some of this same sort of blue clay. Underneath this clay were human bones. The discovery was exciting—the geological evidence seemed to place the first Tennesseans back with Ice age fossils.

"Then some kill-joy in the party discovered that the Indians had evidently transported this clay from some distance and packed it down into flat layers resembling geological strata."

Refuge in Silence

Mrs. Scrubbs, whose highly colored imagination was well-known in her neighborhood, was called as a witness in a damage suit.

"The evidence which you will give to the court shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth," said the clerk.

"Yes," quavered Mrs. Scrubbs, now thoroughly frightened and unable to think of one word of the story she had resolved to tell—a story in which she was the heroine.

"Well," asked the judge, "what have you got to say about the case?"

"Well, Judge," she replied, "with the limitations I've just had put on me, I don't think I've anything at all to say!"

Valuable Black Walnut

A number of native black-walnut trees have been discovered whose nuts possess superior cracking qualities. By means of scions or buds from the original trees, these are being propagated in greater numbers each year, since the value of the nut crop is thereby greatly enhanced and the timber is of the same high quality as that of other walnut trees. Stocks of these selected trees are available in limited numbers from the owners and make possible the growing of valuable nut trees about the home or in nut orchards, says the American Forestry association.

Forced to Beg Off

An indefatigable traveler, arriving in New York, did not go to the palatial caravansary he usually patronized but put up in an obscure hotel on a side street. But the very next day he bumped into the manager of the down-to-the-minute hostelry where he had always stopped and where he had been known so well.

"Why, Mr. Blank," was the shocked greeting, "in New York and not stopping with us?"

"It's this way, old fellow," explained Blank contritely. "I'm too tired this trip to live up to the unparalleled service you give."

Gold in Australasia

A rich gold reef was recently discovered near Ardethan, New South Wales, samples from which assayed 15 ounces gold to the ton. Another vein was found near the old Bodangora mines on property previously worked. The width of the new vein is about two feet, and an assay taken from it showed free gold ranges from 1 ounce 13 pennyweight to 2 ounces 7 pennyweight per ton.

Huge New X-Ray

To reduce the cost of treatment and increase its effectiveness, an X-ray tube has been invented which is said to radiate five or six times as many curative rays as ordinary tubes. Thus the time of exposure is cut down. Another process is being perfected to extend the use of the X-rays to internal cancer.

Made Walls of Ice

Ice as masonry has made possible the sinking of a mine shaft through 6,000 feet of swamp to reach deposits of coal in northern Belgium. Workmen were handicapped by walls of the shaft frozen in until the walls were frozen into solid ice. It is expected that the 30 rich coal beds in the newly discovered field will be made accessible through the use of refrigeration systems.

Mrs. Crandall (Iowa) Tells How She Stopped Chicken Losses

"Last spring, rats killed all our baby chicks. With I'd known about Rat-Snap before. With just one large package we killed swarms of rats. They won't get this year's hatch, I'll bet." Rat-Snap is guaranteed and sells for 35c, 65c, \$1.25. Sold and guaranteed by GRAHAM DRUG COMPANY.

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