

Lightning Rods.
 have been requested to publish an article entitled "Ten Questions and Answers About Lightning Rods", which appeared in the "Weekly News Letter to Crop Correspondents" by the U. S. Department of Agriculture July 8. Its length renders it unavailable but some of its salient features are summarized.--Ed. EXCHANGE.

Do lightning rods protect buildings? Yes, but rods must be of proper character, properly installed and grounded in relatively moist earth.

A properly rodded house may be struck several times without injury, whereas a single stroke without rod protection may cause disaster.

Buildings with metal roofs or wherein metal construction is properly connected to earth are already partly protected. If rods are added they should be put in direct metallic connection with roof and other metal work about the building. All down spouts should be led into metal pipes going into the earth to give proper earth connection.

Iron is one of the best materials for rods. Rust and deterioration are only partly overcome by galvanizing. If galvanized-iron rods are used they should be not less than one-fourth inch in diameter. Copper or aluminum is better but more expensive.

Rods should be put up in long continuous pieces as far as possible. Substantial iron points in combination with copper cables from 5-16 of an inch in diameter for small farm buildings to half an inch in diameter for large buildings form one of the best systems of conductors for lightning-rod construction. No benefit is gained by purchasing fancy patterns of material.

Good protection is afforded by a conductor running along the ridge of a building and extending to the earth, either at the middle of the sides or, preferably, at each of the four corners. Points should rise above any prominent features of the building, such as chimneys or, in the absence of these features, from the ridge of the roof at intervals of about 25 feet.

Reappearance of the lightning rod agent can soon be expected. According to a bulletin of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, thirteen years of investigation demonstrates that lightning rods are now 94½ per cent efficient in that Province. In the State of Iowa they are 98.7 per cent efficient, and in Michigan 99.9 per cent.

Total lightning claims paid by insurance companies on rodded buildings in Iowa during eight years was only \$4,464, while on unrodded buildings, which were of the same number, they paid \$341,065. In Ontario out of every 200 farm buildings insured 42 are rodded. Yet out of every 200 struck by lightning in 1912 only three were rodded buildings.

But don't let the agent put up rods that run through glass insulators. According to the Ontario bulletin, they should be in metallic connection with the building and no insulators should be used.--Wall Street Journal.

The cloudburst in Raleigh last week washed twelve corpses from their graves in the cemetery.

Noise Not Oratory.

Some people think that yelling and shaking the fist is oratory, and it is of a low grade calculated to attract the ignorant and thoughtless. Sensible men don't listen to it. What appeals to them is sober and quiet talk, something that awakens their reason and not their prejudice. It is a crime almost to arouse a person's spite and hate in discussing some public issue. But that is some people's idea of oratory. They think they have to get people mad at some other person and to blind them to the truth of the other side. And yet so much of our public affairs is conducted upon that plane.--Statesville Landmark.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has reported to the Senate its findings in the New Haven Railroad Company investigation, the substance of which is that the managers of the property have robbed the stockholders of from \$65,000,000 to \$90,000,000. Criminal indictments are expected.

Huerta Quits But Doesn't Salute.

Victoriano Huerta resigned the presidency of Mexico July 15. In his letter to the Mexican Congress he laid on President Wilson and the United States the blame for present conditions in Mexico, declaring that this country's attitude, and its assistance to the rebels, prolonged the revolution and depleted Mexico's resources.

Francisco Carbajal took the oath as President as soon as Huerta's resignation was read and accepted. Carbajal says he intends to retire in favor of Carranza, but wishes first to secure a general amnesty for person and property of those who opposed the Constitutionalists.

It is stated that Huerta has started to Europe, carrying along \$6,000,000 for pocket change, but this is very largely exaggerated, no doubt.

All is not tranquil yet in the blood-stained country, for distrust and jealousy appear to exist between Carranza and Villa, leaders of the rebel forces.

United States troops remain at Vera Cruz.

A. & M. College Twenty-Five Years Old.

The Agricultural and Mechanical College, in its growth, development and social usefulness has been almost a revelation to our State. It is just 25 years old this year, and is therefore by a good many years the youngest of our colleges for men. It represents a new type of education; yet, in the face of many difficulties, it has made for itself a most striking record. Its faculty numbers 66 specialists in industrial education who were trained in the best universities of America, and its enrollment of students, counting all courses, is 738. Its buildings number 26; its equipment is modern and practical, and its graduates are most successful. The catalogue, just published, furnishes an interesting story of activity in the industrial life of our State.

William Roselager, an 11-year-old boy of East St. Louis, won a spelling match when he spelled 1,400 words without missing. The match was limited to 35 boys and girls of the sixth grade.

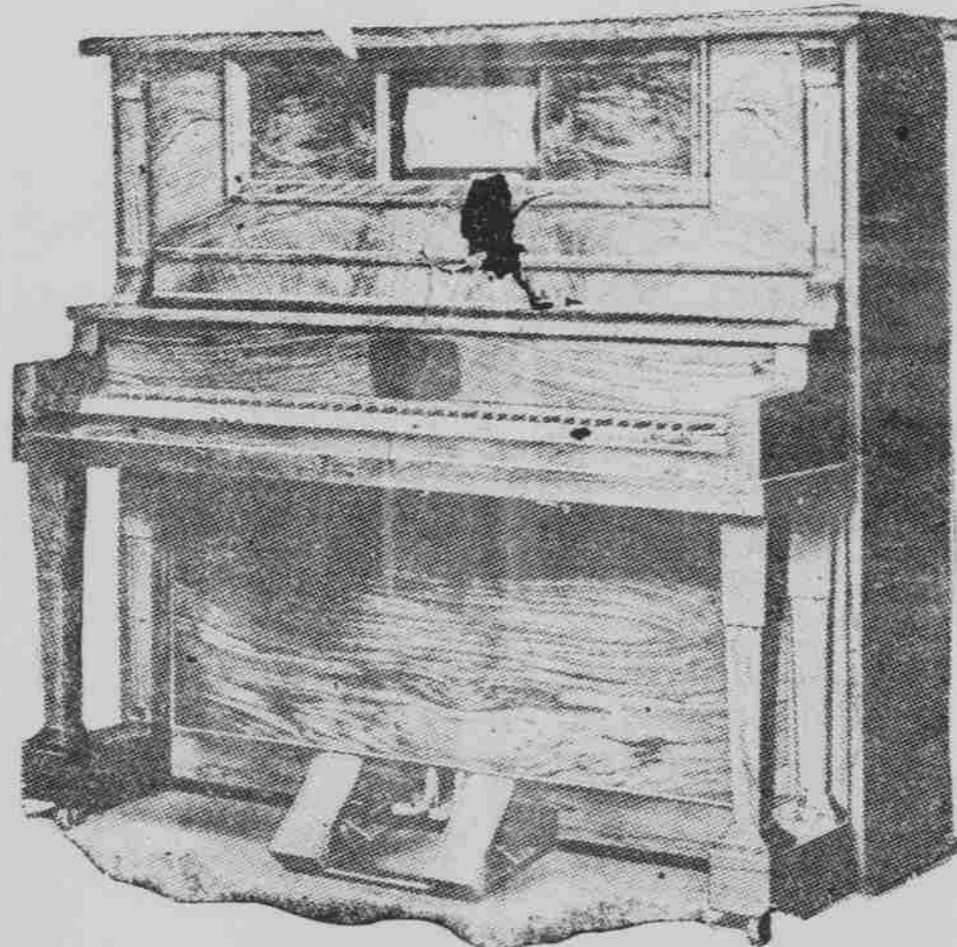
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