



THE FARMERS TALK TO FARMERS

Wait Not For the Weather, But Upon the Weather

(Written Specially for The Bulletin.)

I don't suppose that a really lazy person could be made other than lazy, even if he were preached at till the preacher's voice cracked and the rafters in the roof of his mouth fell in.

"My wife was born tired," remarked one neighbor, once, about a help-meet who was just a "help-me-eat" and little more.

"My husband's tongue is the only muscle he has that works all the time," said another neighbor, on another occasion.

Travelers in Mexico report that the word most used in that queer country is "manana," meaning "tomorrow." Ask a man to do a job for you and his answer is manana. Ask help on some sudden need and it will be manana. Ask for a favor and it will be manana. Ask for something beside the eternal trifles to eat, and you'll be promised a roast chicken "manana."

Mexico isn't the only country which has that sort of critter in it. There are several in Connecticut. I know of one or two within rifle-shot of my shanty. And even one or two is just about two too many.

We had a lowery, slowey, sticky kind of a spring and early summer hereabouts. It was a case of "catch-as-catch-can" with me, I remember. I might be said to have hovered over my gardens, sometimes with an umbrella and sometimes without, peering for a chance to get in one or two ticks of useful work in an interval between the sprinkles.

Sometimes a half day's sunshine would dry off a small, gravelly area sufficiently to make working it possible. Then it was hey for the tools and such tillage as was feasible, no matter how limited the area workable. Once in a while we would have a full day without a drizzle, and such precious hours were utilized from early morning till the last rays of daylight.

How many times, when I went out to meet the changing weather conditions, I can't tell or even guess, I simply remember that we kept hopping about doing what we could, whatever it might be, and whether it was what we wanted to do or not.

If the corn-ground was too heavy to plant or work we put in some rows of beans or peas, or sowed a few more rows of mangel, or set cabbage-plants, or tried anything else which offered the chance of keeping busy at something with possibility of results.

That phrase "possibility of results" is used deliberately. For I can't truthfully say that we made much that could be reckoned a promise of results for several weary weeks. There was a time when it seemed as if all we could do was to mark time and practice waiting used to the starvation which loomed over the horizon of the coming winter.

But we're both fairly experienced gardeners—my helper and I—and we've lived through anywhere from forty-seven to sixty-five New England seasons. That is to say, through any where from forty-seven to sixty-five different seasons. For whenever saw two New England seasons that were alike? Or like any other within the memory of the oldest inhabitant?

And so we kept a "it-kept-coming-lustily" at it, whenever the clouds gave us a chance and we could use a hoe without its clogging into a chunk of mud the first stroke.

Well, in spite of all this we had the finest early onions and beets and carrots that we ever had. The seed was sown when even we felt grave doubts as to the result, and it came up without germination. In the case of the onion-bed, I recall that we had to "save" it two hours, after pulling for the top dirt to dry off enough to make the use of the drill practicable. Luckily, we had two hours of sunshine, and the top inch dried out a little so that the drill could be run through it carefully, and with constant watching. It was much the same with the beets and carrots.

One of the results of this careful conserving of the chance quarter-hour of working weather has been that I've been selling beets and carrots and bunch onions for several weeks to neighbors who had just exactly the same chances to raise their own that we had, but who were too lazy to take advantage of them.

Another result was that, last week, "tomatoes ripenin' any yet?" queried one neighbor, as he walked up to the roadside fence and stopped for a chat, while I was pinching and tying some vines. For answer I stepped to

one side the patch and lifted a basket, already more than half full of red-ripe fruit, which I was picking as I found it while at the other work. "Gee!" And he walked abruptly off as if he were offended.

Another result was when another neighbor, after a rather too long session of complaint about the backwardness of the season, asked in a wholly unbecoming way: "When're ye goin' to have some sweet-corn?" "Gotsome now," was my answer. "Would you take a dozen home with you if you had it?" He seemed too dazed to make any immediate response. But he took the dozen which I put in his arms and then remarked as he meandered off: "I don't see how you all ways get things so much earlier than we can. I d-o-n't s-e-e h-o-w."

That last chap has some warmer ground than any I own. He could raise corn and several other things earlier than I can. But he's one of these go-it-easy creatures who can't ever work himself up to the point of getting things done. He's ready to late in May, and who had rather go fishing on a cloudy day than hang around his farm waiting for some possible chance of getting in a stroke of useful work.

Of course, we didn't strike twelve on everything we planted under doubtful conditions. Some crops are still unusually backward. Some show all the indications of proving complete failures. The point is that there doesn't seem to be anything done decently well, when we put it in. We took a gambler's chance, and we've already won out on several throws. "Blessed is the man what don't expect youtin' people should be an't-a-goin' to be disappointed." We have been, in some particulars—pleasantly disappointed. Which is not so hard to bear as the other sort of disappointment.

Laziness, shiftlessness, procrastination—what you will, the name matters little—is not only a poor way to win results, an inefficient, never-get-anywhere way, but it is something worse. It is the father and mother of waste and adversity and privation. It is worse still—it is the begueter of temptation and the foeter nurse of crime.

Edison was once asked "What are the greatest safeguards against temptation?" He wrote in reply: "I cannot answer the question, as I have never had any experience in such matters. I have never had the time, not even five minutes, to be tempted. If I were to hazard a guess as to what young people should do to avoid temptation, it would be to get a job and work at so hard that temptation would not exist for them."

We have been told, over and over again, that "Satan finds some mischief for idle hands to do."

It isn't necessary to import Satan into any consideration of the idleness question. The idle or any man and woman don't need outside suggestion or aid to set them at mischief. They are mischief in their own persons; themselves the source and generators of it. To attempt to put the blame for their own shame on poor Satan is an injustice to an over-worked devil.

When any one is so busy—brains, body, boots and breeches,—at some useful work that nothing else concerns him, he is impregnable. armored against all temptation whether from without or from within. Mr. Edison was absolutely and indubitably right. Neither any Satan with hoofs and horns nor any hordes, nor any concealed and insidious Satan of his own begetting lurking in his own heart, can find a chink in his panoply of mail through which to thrust even a pin's point of temptation.

Industry tends to advantage. But that isn't its chief merit. Industry helps produce results. But that isn't its chief recommendation. Industry leads to opportunities for leisure. But that is hardly an argument for it. Industry is usually a valid insurance against want. But that is only a side issue.

The one thing which is important is that a habit of industry, so persisted in as to become a second nature, leads to higher manhood and womanhood. It shuts the door, slam! in the face of temptation, before temptation has got around the corner a mile off, on its way to you-wards. The devil hates it worse than he hates any holy water. But laziness is the special brand of fertilizer with which the hot-beds of temptation and evil are manured into luxuriant growth.

What's the use of this sort of talk to farmers, you might ask. "Did you ever see a lazy farmer?" somebody queried the other day. Land's sake, yes! Dozens of 'em grow inside the poor-house and more outside of it.

Laziness doesn't consist merely in sitting under a tree and occasionally twiddling one's thumbs. It more frequently manifests itself in a neglect to get on to one's job and stay on it, when the conditions are such as to make excuses or neglect seem allowable. It is shown when we do a thing the easiest way rather than the best way: when we do what we feel like doing rather than what needs to be done; when we put on our best clothes and go to the picnic, rather than don our oldest rags and hoe the weedy potato patch; when we put off till tomorrow what could and should be attended to today; when we let momentary inclination dictate to eternal duty.

Did you ever read of the Meditations of Marcus Aurelius? Here is one: "A wrong-doer is often a man that has left something undone, not always he that has done something."

Marcus preached a great many years ago in Latin. I'm preaching now in English. Doubtless my sermonizing will do just about as much good as his. And that was none at all!

THE FARMER.

Workmen's Compensation.

Two workmen's compensation agreements have been approved by Commissioner J. J. Donohue as follows: Ashland Cotton Co., Jewett City, employer, and Bertha Lamber, employe, small house, with blood poisoning of index finger, at rate of \$5.25; Aspinook Co., Jewett City, employer, and Kenel Primrose, employe, injured right side, at rate of \$8.52.

NOTICE TO NERVOUS WOMEN

Mrs. Seibert Tells How You Can Overcome Nervous Conditions

Louisville, Ky.—"I suffered badly from nervousness, a run-down condition, no appetite and pains in my back—until I just had to give up. A friend told me about Vinol and I felt better after taking the second bottle. Now I have a good appetite and am feeling fine, strong and healthy in every way."—Mrs. I. F. Seibert.

The reason Vinol was so successful in Mrs. Seibert's case is because it contains the very elements needed to build up a weakened, run-down system, make rich, red blood, and create strength.

Broadway Pharmacy, G. G. Engler, Prof. Norwich, Vinol is sold in Willimantic by the Wilson Drug Co., in Danbury by the A. W. Williams Pharmacy, and in Putnam by J. F. Donahue.

G. A. R. MEN WILL CONVEIN IN OREGON

For 52nd National Encampment—From Aug. 18 to Aug. 24.

Plans for the trip to the fifty-second national encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, in Portland, Oregon, are announced by Christian Quinn, of Danbury, department commander for Connecticut. The encampment will be held August 18-24. The Connecticut department has adopted as its official route: Hartford to New York, then to Chicago, to St. Paul and from St. Paul via the Northern Pacific to Portland.

The headquarters train will leave Hartford Wednesday, August 14, at 9:44 a. m. Meriden, 10:09; New Haven, 10:38; Bridgeport, 11:08. There will be ample time for lunch in New York, and all of the party will assemble at Grand Central station to take the 2 p. m. express for Chicago. The arrival in Portland will be August 18 at 7:30 a. m. Those from New London and vicinity will leave New London at 7:30 a. m. Wednesday, and connect with the headquarters train.

Tickets for the round trip from the principal points in Connecticut to Portland and return by the same route will be had at reduced rates for those entitled to purchase them. Those entitled to purchase tickets are members of the Grand Army, nurses of the Civil War; members of the Women's Relief corps; Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic; Daughters of Veterans; Sons of Veterans; auxiliary and members of the family of any of the persons belonging to the orders named. The word "family" means those who would naturally accompany the member of the organization going to Portland.

The Connecticut headquarters will be at Hotel Perkins, fifth and Washington streets. There will be a meeting of the Connecticut comrades entitled to vote at Hotel Perkins, Tuesday, August 20, at 10 a. m. to select a member of the national council of administration and one for the committee on resolutions.

William H. Shaffer of Robert O. Tyler post, Hartford, has been appointed official coin bearer for the Connecticut department and George Dunmore of John M. Morris post, Westfield, and Henry M. Crocker of Admiral Foote post, New Haven, aides on the staff of Department Commander Quinn.

The encampment parade will take place Tuesday morning, August 20, at 10 a. m. The Sons of Veterans will act as official escort. No caricatures of Uncle Sam or any nature will be allowed. There will be a camp fire in the auditorium Tuesday evening and the first business meeting will be held in place Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock.

Charles Penton of Willimantic has been appointed an assistant inspector-general on the staff of Inspector-General Thomas H. Brown.

President Wilson has issued an order that all Civil War veterans may attend the reunion at the expense of pay during the time required in travel to and from Portland and the time of the encampment.

GARDENS MUST NOT TAKE VACATION

Keep Weeds Down — Last Call For Planting This Season.

Home gardeners may feel that they are entitled to a vacation. They have earned a rest, that the garden is far enough along to take care of itself and that the crops are so nearly mature nothing more need be done. But no says expert E. M. Brown, in talking this over with the food committee. The garden that is neglected now will be just so much more troublesome next spring. Every weed that matures seed this fall will mean a whole lot of little weeds next spring; so keep your garden clean to the very end of the season.

Furthermore, your garden needs no vacation; in fact it will be a better garden if it is kept working all the time. What about the rows from which you have harvested a crop of spinach or early string beans, and Swiss chard, early beets, carrots and onions. These rows ought to be working and there are two ways to keep them at it. First of all, you might plant lettuce, radishes and early beans, but remember that these late planted crops have not got a summer ahead of them. You will have to water them and keep them with the first frost. Perhaps you have depended on nitrate of soda to give your plants a start and now you can't get it. Use commercial fertilizer, try sprinkling or poultry manure, but see that the soil is well spaded and the manure well mixed. Beets, turnips, and celery can also be included to protect the crops and these will stand a little frost. Mr. Brown made it plain that this was the last call for planting. If you wait until next week, it may be too late; it's late enough now.

Finally, if you have definitely made up your mind not to plant any more crops, there is one other alternative and you ought not to neglect it. Clean up the vacant rows and sow them to clove to get a winter cover crop on the land. It will mean a better garden for next year. Weedy rows sap the fertility of your soil. Weedy corners produce enough seed to last for a couple of years. Pull the weeds, hoe them up, or at least cut off the tops with a sickle or scythe to prevent seeding.

NORTHFIELD MEETINGS.

Lose Nothing in Interest Although War Lessens Attendance.

War conditions have affected the attendance at the general conference, now in session at Northfield, there being very many less than the average number on the grounds. Saturday night about 400 were in tents. The meetings are not lacking in enthusiasm however. At the prayer service Tuesday conducted by C. M. Alexander, reports were asked for from the Pocket Testament League Workers and those present reported a total of 30,000 signers since the conference last year.

A conference was recently held in England to provide parents with advice and information on the various professions and occupations open to girls.

THE SHORE LINE ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY MAKES Important Announcement



BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7th, the method of paying cash fares on our local cars will be as illustrated. The use of duplex tickets will be discontinued on local cars, and partially discontinued on interurban cars. Interurban transportation will be sold only on interurban cars and after such cars have traveled beyond a FIVE-CENT ZONE which has been established.

TRANSFER LIMITS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED as follows:— From Maples Corner to the end of the West Side Line; from Cemetery on the Yantic Line to Harland's Corner; from Thamesville to Zone 128 at the Sanatorium, on the New London Line.

A ZONE FOR THE COLLECTION OF FIVE-CENT FARES FROM ALL PASSENGERS has been established at the Sanatorium on the New London Line; at Harland's Corner on the Yantic Line, with a second five-cent zone to the end of the line.

On the West Side, Boswell Avenue and Laurel Hill Lines, FIVE-CENT FARES ONLY WILL BE COLLECTED. On the Taftville Line, a five-cent zone will extend to the Greenville Cemetery, with a second five-cent zone from there to Taftville.

On the Central Village Line this register will be used for the collection of a five-cent fare from all passengers riding within the Norwich city zone extending from Greenville Cemetery to Franklin Square.

These five-cent collections are to be made through this portable register. Passengers coming in from interurban lines will have the transfer privileges as usual, with the transfer limits extended as indicated.

THIS MEANS THAT ALL TRAVEL ORIGINATING IN NORWICH OR NEW LONDON OR WITHIN THE ZONE LIMITS ABOVE INDICATED, calls for the initial payment of a five-cent fare through this portable register, regardless of the distance the passenger may wish to travel; the only exception being the Norwich and Westerly Line, where no present change in method of fare collection is being made.

Transportation beyond the Sanatorium is sold only to the College, at which point the collection of five cents is made by means of this register, covering the ride into New London.

WAR INCOME TAX. A Federal law provides an 8% war tax on transportation and requires that conductors ascertain and that passengers state their destination; and on the New London Line leaving the College, and on the Willimantic Line after leaving Taftville for Willimantic, an amount sufficient to cover the war tax to the final destination will be collected, and a receipt issued by the conductor will be retained by the passenger as evidence that his war tax has been paid to the destination.

On the Central Village Line and in the opposite direction on the Willimantic-New London Line, the same arrangement will apply.

The register used is simply one of those 20th century brain and labor saving mechanisms rigged to serve our particular business. Similar devices, used to simplify clerical work and protect thousands of cash-handling employees, are in universal use.

ADVANTAGES UNDER THIS NEW OPERATION STAND-OUT PROMINENTLY THE PASSENGER pays his cash fare by easily inserting his nickel into the hand-held register instead of placing same in the conductor's hand. The accustomed physical act of payment is not so much changed as you might think. There is no hardship.

THE CONDUCTOR is relieved of registering fares. Collection means registration and the conductor's instant possession of all cash, as usual. The entire transaction involving payment, registration and delivery is accomplished automatically and instantly at passenger's finger tips. All this saves time, labor, and eliminates the old unavoidable annoyance of jostling passengers during the old "ring up" process. The correct audit of all cash collected is no longer a matter of memory or optional intent. The conductor is relieved of mental accounting. His integrity is protected from slurs and unjust suspicions. Instead of collecting fares in "bunches," carrying the record in his mind, unable to reach the register cord, the conductor now realizes that each passenger knows his fare is registered the instant of payment. Excited passengers cannot now "ring up" cash fares by mistake, as formerly, or dispute regarding denomination of coin paid, whether a nickel or quarter, etc. The chance for honest financial error is eliminated along with any plausible basis for excusing intentional irregularities. This means a "square deal" without casting reflections or imposing hardships.

WE ASK OUR PATRONS TO REMEMBER, PLEASE, —that the old method of paying car-fare is now being rapidly discarded all over the country; —that the method of paying fares into collecting registers, or coin-counting boxes, etc. (the conductor simply supplying full charge, but having nothing to do with registering fares)—this method is now regarded as the modern, non-trouble making, mutually-fair and businesslike system; —that the slight change in passenger's physical act of payment, when results accomplished are considered, constitutes no hardship or basis for grievance from any able-bodied passenger.

The system is identical with collection principles on pre-payment cars. Thousands of these registers are in successful use by conservatively managed companies in many large cities.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR NICKELS READY. READ NOTICE POSTED IN OUR CARS. The passenger tendering 5 pennies will be handed a nickel, in exchange, for insertion.

CONDUCTOR ALWAYS RETURNS FULL CHANGE. We solicit the co-operation of our patrons and a willingness to show reasonable patience until our conductor become accustomed to the slight changes made in their work.

The Shore Line Electric Railway Company