Weekly Bureau of Information for All Who Till the Soil or Are Interested in Making Homes

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

All inquiries and communications addressed to The Times-Dispatch will receive prompt attention. This department will appear each Monday, and contributions or suggestions will be welcomed.

Facts for Farmers, Stock Breeders, Poultry Raisers, Orchardists, Truckers and Gardeners---Queries and Answers

FATTENING FOWLS BY CRAMMING

The "cramming" method of fattening poultry for the markets is gaining rapidly in popularity as its results are becoming better known.

For the best results a machine is essential, especially for the last ten days, for otherwise the birds will not eat nearly so much as they can digest and assimilate. A cramming machine and its operation are described as follows: A reservoir under which is placed a small force pump operated by means of a lever worked by foot is placed on a tripod. A tube is fixed to one end of the pump, through which the feed passes when the lever rod is lowered. This tube is of rubber or metal. If rubber, it may have a metal point. Metal tubes are more easily kept clean. The feed is placed in the reservoir, and is made into the consistency of thick cream. There are several ways of holding the bird, but the following will be found simple and effective: Fold the wings and grip the bird firmly either between the right elbow and side of the body, as shown in the illustration, or between the left elbow and the body, whichever is the more convenient. The head is grasped in the left hand, the first finger being placed in the mouth to keep it open. The tube is placed in the mouth and the bird is gently drawn on until the end of the tube reaches the crop, the neck being elongated as much as possible. The lever bar is gently lowered by the foot and the food is thus

Cramming Machine in Operation.

forced into the crop. One hand is kept on the crop and as soon as it is sufficiently full the foot is removed from the lever and the bird is gently removed. The operator soon learns to know when the crop is full. No stated amount that should be fed to an individual can be given, for the quantity varies with the size of the crop. Great care should be taken in preparing the feed to see that there are no lumps, for the tube is small and easily becomes blocked.

Hand cramming is a good system where but a few fowls are being fattened, but would be found rather laborious where many are fattened. The feed is made into boluses, or balls, which should be about two inches long and one-half inch in diameter. A large number of these are prepared before commencing to feed. The operator sits on a stool or box, firmly grips the fowl between his knees, and elongates the neck, holding the head in a similar manner to that described in using the cramming machine. He then dips a bolus in skim milk or water and forces it into the bird's mouth, pressing it down the throat with his finger. The neck above the bolus is then gripped with the thumb and first finger, which are run downward along the neck, forcing the bolus into the crop. It will probably take from fourteen to eighteen of these boluses to fill the crop, depending on its capacity. Some feeders practice this method in connection with crate fattening. The attendant, after feeding in the crates, feels the crop of each bird, and any not having a sufficiently filled crop are crammed in the manner described.

Reasons for Eating Fruit.

1. Because it is appetizing and palatable.
2. Because it is refreshing and thirst quenching.
3. Because of its nutritive properties.
4. On account of its salts and acids.
5. On account of its action on the kidneys.
6. Its laxative properties.

Milk-Fed Chickens Profitable.

Milk-feeding chickens in fattening coops is profitable industry wherever buttermilk or sour skim milk can be obtained at a reasonable price—not more than 50 cents per 100 pounds or 4 cents per gallon. The poultry husbandman of Clemson College recommends this, especially to farm wives who have a near market for poultry of high quality.

Fattening coops are made sixteen inches wide, eighteen inches high and six feet long for twelve chickens. Laths are nailed one and one-half inches apart on a light frame lengthwise on top, back and bottom, and up and down in front. If large chickens are to be fattened the front laths should be two inches apart. A trough is placed in the front of the coop, and the fowls put their heads through the front laths and eat from the trough. The coops are raised about two feet from the ground, and the droppings fall on the ground through the slatted bottoms. Thus the chickens are kept clean without the labor of cleaning the coops. Coops are placed outside under trees or in a well-ventilated room.

A packing-box may be made into a coop by removing the top and one side and nailing laths over these openings. The top then becomes the front of the coop, having the laths running up and down, and the open side of the packing box becomes the slatted bottom of the coop. In making coops, allow six inches in length for each chicken so that it will have sufficient room for standing and sitting down.

Best breeds to fatten are Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, Wyandottes and Orpingtons, and good crosses of these breeds. Leghorns do not fatten profitably unless confined when quite young.

Chickens to be milk fed are to be greased with 33 per cent mercurial ointment to kill lice in case of laying hens. During the first day in the coops they are watered, but not fed. On the second day they receive three light feeds of equal parts of corn meal, ground oats and wheat shorts, leaving a thin porridge of gruel of sour skimmed milk. The right thickness is obtained by using one pound of meal to one and one-half pounds of milk, making a mixture that will drop, but will not run from the paddle or spoon. Feed the chickens lightly for four days to accustom them to the changed condition. Then feed twice daily all the mixture they will eat until they are fat. Give fresh water twice daily and put small stones in trough twice weekly.

From fourteen to eighteen days is the proper time for fattening chickens, and they should gain three-quarters to one and one-half pounds in this time. At the present price of ground grain and with buttermilk at 40 cents per 100 pounds, the cost of making a pound of chicken flesh is about 8 cents. Milk-fed chickens bring higher prices than any other poultry meat, and it will pay any one to build a few coops and fatten chickens for home use. There are good markets for them in all large cities.

Hard Spring Wheat.

Hard spring wheat, although introduced into the Northern Great Plains of this country and Canada about the middle of the last century, did not become firmly established as a profitable crop until after 1870, coincident with the introduction of the purifier and roller mill. There are two chief varieties—Fife and Bluestem. The Fife was the first to be established. It is a little more hardy than the Bluestem, and has a slightly harder kernel. The kernel is particularly distinguished by its greater breadth in proportion to length and by its very broad groove. The Fife has white bare chaff, and the Bluestem white velvet chaff. Both varieties have red kernels and no beards.

Woodlot Problems.

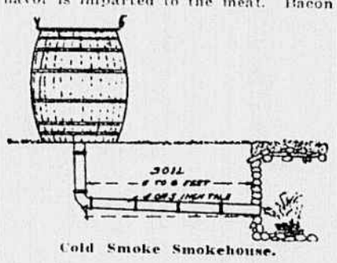
The farm woodlot problem is a very important one. It is the problem of making the woodlot pay. Farmers can no more afford to keep unprofitable land than they can afford to keep unprofitable cows. Idle land which is not growing more valuable is like a boarder in the dairy herd; it eats up part of the profit made elsewhere. Good farm management may or may not call for the opening of an actual book account with the woodlot, but every good farmer needs to know at the close of the year whether he is richer or poorer for his timbered land.

It costs money to hold land. Every acre means carrying cost. The tenant farmer pays this cost in rent. The man who works his own farm should be able to earn at least rent and wages. If he sold the farm and put the money in a good savings bank it would yield him a yearly income without the lifting of a finger. His farm is an investment. It should be a paying investment. A bank which paid no interest would be a poor place to put savings. So a farm which does not yield its owner and user a fair return on his investment as well as a fair return on the labor and industry of himself and his family is a poor place to work. Its possessor is paying for the privilege of owning it instead of making it pay him for what has been put into it. If the woodlot does not directly or indirectly compensate for taxes and interest allowance on its value, it is not doing its share toward making the farm pay. It is being carried at a net loss.

CURING AND SMOKING HAM

The proper method of curing and smoking meat which is to be kept for summer use is worth considerable attention. To cure hams and bacon and sausage and smoke them so that they are not only delicious, but have good keeping qualities, is something of an art.

For smoking hams and bacon, use only green hickory or hard maple, as knotty as possible, in a tight smokehouse. Keep the fire as low as possible with hardwood sawdust or clean, dry corncobs. Never use soft woods in smoking meats; there is too much carbon given off and a very undesirable flavor is imparted to the meat. Bacon



Cold Smoke Smokehouse.

should be smoked for two days and hams from three to three and one-half days.

In smoking summer sausage, be careful not to get the temperature above 70 degrees F. This sausage should be smoked with cold smoke. A cold smokehouse may be easily constructed. Sausage should be smoked for from thirty-six to forty-eight hours, being very careful to have a continuous fire. A large piece of wood with a big knot in it will smoke all night.

Hog Cholera Maxims.

If hog cholera appears in your herd, treat your hogs immediately with anti-hog-cholera serum. You can get it, with instructions for using, from your State Agricultural Department at cost. Afterwards they should be kept on a light diet and pure drinking water and confined to limited quarters that may be cleaned daily and sprayed three times a week with one part of compound cresol solution to thirty parts of water until the disease has abated in the herd. To obtain the best results the serum must be administered before the disease has progressed in the herd.

To rid the premises of infection:

Remove all manure and saturate with quicklime.

Burn all litter, rubbish and old hog troughs.

After the premises are thoroughly cleaned, spray walls, floors and other surfaces with disinfectant (one part compound cresol solution to thirty parts water). Where hog houses are small, turn them over, exposing interior to sunlight.

Wallow holes and cesspools should be filled in, drained or fenced off.

All runs underneath buildings should be cleaned and disinfected and then boarded up.

Destroy hogs that do not fully recover, as they may be carriers of cholera infection.

The Top Layer of Silage.

For the top layer of the silo a good practice is to use heavy green stalks from which the ears have been removed. This forms a heavy layer that packs well and at the same time contains a smaller amount of food material so that the minimum loss is sustained if it spoils. Various methods and materials have been used for covering the top of the silage to prevent its spoiling. None have given complete satisfaction, but the one mentioned above has given as good results as any, especially when the top layer was thoroughly wet down and packed firmly by tramping. The best practice is to commence feeding as soon as the silo is filled, in which case there will be no loss of silage through decay.

Winter Clean-up.

In the war against farm and orchard pests a fall clean-up is a good means of attack. Fall plowing is generally recognized as a good method for the prevention of insect injury; but rubbish left in piles along fences, or in the orchard, or garden, make the best kind of winter quarters for insect pests in various stages. Trash of this kind should be cleared away and burned. Burning will destroy any insects among the rubbish.

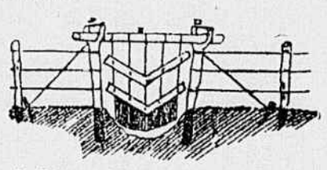
A SIMPLE WATER-GATE

Almost every farmer has one or two small streams running across his farm, and these streams, when the water rises, play havoc with the fences, so that hardly a farmer in the whole country has any sort of fence at all where it crosses the streams. Indeed, it is impossible to keep up an ordinary fence under such circumstances.

A water-gate which will prove highly successful may be easily constructed and made to last for years. An unusually high water might damage it, but if constructed according to directions, there is very little likelihood of its ever being washed away. If nothing but large stock is kept adjoining these gates, leave as much space as possible between the wires, to permit the passage of trash and timbers during floods.

When the water rises during a flood, a gate of this kind rises and floats on the surface of the stream, and there will be very little strain or pressure on the fence. As the stream runs down, the gate again settles into its original position, forming a stock-proof fence.

One must be very careful to keep all logs, sticks and trash from collecting and hanging on the gate after the water recedes, to prevent breakage or damage by sagging, which would cause the gate not to work as it should.—M. Coverdell.



A. Stream bed.

B. Forked posts on banks. These should be strong, durable and well set in the ground. Many times we see trees at the fence-crossing that are the correct distance apart to be utilized for this purpose, which makes it all the more lasting and permanent.

C. Pole to fit and turn in forks. The length and size will depend upon the distance across the stream. It should be as straight as possible, and must be smooth and round at the ends, to permit of easy turning.

D, d. Wire or straps to retain pole and prevent its rising during floods.

E, e. Smooth wires.

F, f. Boards or small poles attached to wires.

G, g. Stay-wires, to prevent posts from pulling up or leaning downstream. These should extend upstream from the posts.

Good Plowing.

Good plowing means more than making the field appear black. It means more than making straight furrows. However, a good plowman usually makes straight furrows. In a well-plowed field the soil is stirred and pulverized to the depth indicated as necessary by the kind of soil and the crop to be grown, and the stubble and rubbish are completely turned under, where it will be out of the way and quickly decomposed. For most crops deep, rather than shallow, plowing is the best practice.

To do good work with a minimum of power, plows must be equipped with properly shaped and sharpened shares. A good share allows a plow to run true, and little or no effort is necessary to hold it in place.

To turn under all rubbish a good jointer properly adjusted is necessary. No stubble or weeds are left sticking up between the furrows where a good jointer is used.

Keep the plowshare properly shaped and sharpened. Use a jointer, so that all rubbish is turned under completely. Increase the depth of plowing an inch or two each year for several seasons.

Helping the Farmer.

Not only do the agricultural colleges endeavor to assist the farmers by educating the younger generation, but they are taking advantage of every opportunity to assist the farmers who have not had the advantages that their sons and daughters are permitted to enjoy.

Destroy Grape Insects.

Several grape insects winter among the fallen grape leaves in trash in vineyards, and much may be done to destroy them if the trash be raked together and burned. Such work will be of value against the grape-berry moth and the grape-leaf folder, which hibernate in the pupal condition in the fallen grape leaves. The grape-vine flea-beetle and the grape-leaf hopper spend the winter as adults under trash of all kinds in and about vineyards, and the destruction of trash as indicated will expose them to adverse climatic conditions.

Light and Air Essential.

All stables, like houses, should have ample window space in order to admit a plentiful supply of sunlight and fresh air, in themselves among the most powerful disinfectants known. Bacteria thrive in dampness, dirt and darkness, and a clean, dry stable presents the most unfavorable conditions for their development. For this reason good drainage is also an essential point to be considered in the construction of a stable.

Grain in Steel Bins.

Manufacturers are now making steel bins for the storage of grain. They are excellent for the purpose, provided the grain has gone completely dry; otherwise it is apt to become damp. Grain should never be stored in steel bins as it is threshed from the fields or the stack, because the sun will quickly heat the steel and render the grain moist and cause it to spoil. Wood absorbs a great deal of moisture, although it has the disadvantage of deteriorating quickly, while steel is imperishable.

Planting Currants.

The best time to plant currants is in the fall. The reason that they do not always succeed in the spring is that they are planted too late. Spring planting should be made very early. There is nothing easier to plant than the currant if it is done at the right season.

Have Good Fences.

Keep the wire fences up in good shape. We are getting along toward the time when cattle get the fence breaking and jumping habit. If you do not want your stock to feed through the fence, throw up a furrow on each side of it.

Louse Powder.

A good, cheap and effective louse powder is made by adding a mixture of one part of crude carbolic acid and three parts of gasoline to plaster of Paris, all that the powder will blot up. When the plaster is dry, pulverize it and store in tight cans. Another effective remedy is to rub a piece of blue ointment, the size of a pea, well into the skin just beneath the vent.

BRIEF NOTES THOUGHT OUT BY THE WAYSIDE

If soy beans have not been grown before on the same land, inoculate.

Be sure to keep plenty of pure, fresh water before the hens.

Winter eggs are most successfully secured by keeping small colonies.

See that the sweet corn saved for next year's planting is stored in a well-aired place.

Spray or wash the foliage of house-plants frequently, if you would keep them in good health.

While the nutritive value of fruit is small it makes a pleasing and beneficial addition to the diet.

We all admire a man who does good things, unless we happen to be one of the good things.

It has taken centuries of experimental breeding to make the dairy cow the wonderful animal that she now is.

Bugs take a toll of seven and a half dollars from every person in the United States.

Charity covers a multitude of sins, but it is generally our charity and other people's sins.

Squash and pumpkins should be carefully handled in hauling, and placed one layer deep on wooden racks in a warm, well-ventilated storage house.

Pig raising will permit many systerms of management, and a person should work out a system best adapted to his farm, and stick to it.

Good breeds of live stock and the most approved and up-to-date labor-saving farm implements are a necessity on the farm.

The offspring from a single pair of lice, according to H. L. Kempster, of the Missouri Experiment Station, will in six weeks be approximately 125,000. This fact emphasizes the importance of keeping the poultry free from them.

Don't forget to plant seeds of perennials for flowers next spring and summer. Five cents will make a beauty spot in your yard if invested in forget-me-nots, Iberis, or larkspur.

Young trees should be watched carefully and the open spaces in the ground about them, which have been made by the wind swaying the trees, should be well firmed down. This is particularly important just before winter sets in.

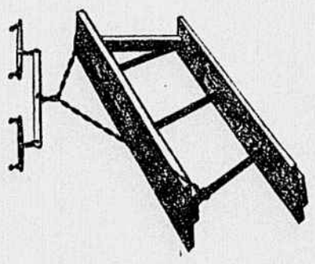
Fallen leaves should be raked off the lawn and piled in some out-of-the-way place and allowed to decay. They are useful in the garden when well decayed.

Fruit of every kind should be packed in boxes or baskets, stamped with the name of the grower, and if he will select a name for his product as a sort of trademark, in addition to his own name, he will have, in time, a valuable asset, provided he lives up to it in every way.

HELP TO MAKE GOOD ROADS

The use of the road drag is important in putting the roads in good shape for winter use. There are over 2,000,000 miles of earth roads in the country, and the split-log drag is of great service in keeping them in economical repair. The drag is used in many States and in foreign countries. It is used with two, three or four horses, and is easily constructed.

Drags are often constructed of planks instead of logs. The plank should be strengthened along the middle line by a 2x6-inch strip. A triangular strip may be used under the lower edge of the blade to give it the proper cutting slope.



The Plank Drag.

Usually two horses are enough to pull a drag over an ordinary earth road. The team should be driven with one horse on either side of the right-hand wheel track the full length of the portion to be dragged and the return made over the other half of the roadway. The object of this treatment is to move earth toward the center of the roadway and raise it gradually above the surrounding level. While this is being accomplished all mudholes and ruts will be filled, into which traffic will pack the fresh earth.

Roosts and Nest Boxes.

The proper height for roosts is about two feet from the ground. The dropping board platform should be about six inches below the roosts. It is better to have the nest boxes at another part of the pen, about a foot or two above ground. Placing them under the roosts gives hiding places for rats and mice back of the nests, and, besides, the fowls while scratching throw considerable dirt in the nests when the latter are placed on the floor.

Value of Skim Milk.

A pint of skim milk will repair more tissue and furnish a little more energy and make about half as much heat as a pint of whole milk—and it will cost less. Five pints of skim milk will furnish as much food value as a pound of round steak, and cost a quarter as much. A glass of skim milk and a half pound of bread will furnish one-third enough nutriment for an entire day, and will cost 5 cents. And skim milk is good for babies in extremely hot weather.

Canning Pays.

Canning at home, where fruits and vegetables are grown, is an attractive business which may be started in a small way, and developed into something bigger. It is essentially a farm industry and every member of the family may have a part, either in producing the crops or in the canning operations. The boys and girls of the home generally take an interest in canning, and when given a chance to make some money for themselves, they will develop habits of industry and thrift. If you did not try it this year, suppose you give it trial next year.

BATTLE OF CHAMPAGNE IS SERIES OF ASSAULTS

Different Sections of French Forces Execute Independently Part of General Plan.

GERMANS CAUGHT IN BEDS

To Thorough Preparation Is Attributed by Most Competent Critics Success of First Rush and High Proportion of Prisoners Taken.

PARIS, November 14.—The battle of Champagne, according to information received from most reliable sources, was a series of assaults by different sections of the French forces, each of which had its particular object in view arranged to harmonize with the general plan, but executed independently. The lines that were forced were those organized by the Germans after the battle of the Marne, and perfected by a year of systematic labor to a point where their defenders had so much confidence in them that the officers in command, though anticipating an attack, were caught in their beds by the first lines of the French rush.

The trenches were not only fortified by every means that the war of trenches has developed, but the position was naturally strengthened by a line of heights north of Perthes, from Souain to Tahure, by the twin heights Mammelle Nord and Mammelle Sud, north of the Mesnil, with the strong fortifications of the Trapeze. To the north of Massiges, the heights No. 191 and 199 furnished excellent support, and were strongly organized. Resting on these heights were two positions about two miles apart, the first composed of three lines of parallel trenches in some places and five in others, with barbed wire defenses between them. All the ground covered by these positions was also fortified with transversal and diagonal trenches, permitting lateral and enfilating fire with redoubts so armored as to hold out and continue firing even after the trenches had been demolished.

LABYRINTHS AND NETWORK IN MOST EXPOSED SPOTS

In the most exposed spots in level country there were labyrinths and networks. Complicated as were these earthworks, they had no secrets for the French staff. Every one of those trenches, redoubts, communicating trenches and labyrinths had been located, named or numbered and plotted on the general staff maps, so that each sector knew exactly what it would find. The ranges of every part of those lines had been taken, and when the artillery opened, the three-inch shells fell with deadly precision upon the defense works, leveling trenches, demolishing redoubts and blockhouses with loopholes, blocking up communicating trenches and obliterating barbed-wire entanglements. While the fire of the light field pieces covered all the ground covered by the first line and the supporting trenches as far as the second position, the heavy guns attacked general headquarters and encampments further back, completely blocking railway traffic by the destruction of stations and making it impossible to bring up supplies to the trenches of the first position during seventy-two hours.

While the bombardment was in progress the officers explained to the men of each different sector what the general plan was, and what part his particular sector was to take in it. The men knew from the maps that were shown them what they would find after they had leaped over the parapet of the first trench; they knew from their instructions what they were to do at each obstacle. They knew what their final objective was and when they reached it, though ignorant of what the adjoining sector was to do further than the columns were to meet at a designated spot. To this thorough preparation is attributed by most competent critics the success of the first rush and the remarkably high proportion of prisoners taken.

CONDITIONS IN WHEAT NOW IN FAVOR OF BULLS

Storms Expected Within Next Few Weeks Will Have Important Effect on Market.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

CHICAGO, November 14.—Conditions in the wheat markets of the world now favor the bulls. While the fall thus far has been an open one in the spring wheat country on both sides of the international line, it is a problem as to when there will be a complete change in the weather. It is expected that with the next few weeks there will be storms. Sleet and heavy snow will make it impossible for the railways to handle all the grain now in a position to be moved to points of distribution, and this weather will cut off the movement no little.

A special report of the Northwestern Grain Dealers' Association regarding the movement of wheat in Western Canada shows that 185,000,000 bushels already have left the farms of that country. This, in itself, is a bullish item, although the crop raised north of the international line was by far the largest ever grown in that country. Not only Great Britain, but Italy and Norway, have bought large quantities of Canadian wheat, and it will be sent out of that country as rapidly as cars can be obtained for its movement.

While clearances from North America were enormous last week, it is expected anywhere from 80 to 90 per cent of the wheat cleared was raised in Canada.

According to special advices from abroad, and from sources generally considered authentic, there is a great scarcity of spot wheat and an inadequate foreign movement into the importing countries, which has been the principal bullish factor abroad. This strength will continue until relief is given by increased quantities. The large supplies of wheat in both the United States and Canada are attracting unusual attention in England, and merchants there consider the prospects good for taking care of large United Kingdom imports, and they believe floating quantities soon will show a large increase.

There is a bull movement on in the corn market at Chicago. Not only do private reports tell of the loss to corn by frost, but the government report—which was a supplemental document—shows more loss than was generally believed. The old bull crowd, made up of Chicago and down-State speculators, are in the Chicago corn market in a large way, and are long on goodly amounts of the futures.

Oats continue to show strength in sympathy with the strength displayed by corn, coupled with the continued good demand for this grain on export account. Farmers are not selling oats in a free manner, although the receipts have been larger, with the shipments mainly from country elevators.

Hog products were in a rut most of last week. The foreign meat trade is large but with the country full of pigs and hogs, and general slaughtering to take place in a big territory, will mean a much smaller demand for large lots from the packing centers during the winter, and this is expected to be felt especially in the Southern trade. According to W. L. Gregson, the late trading in hog products last week gave evidence of a much broader interest.

WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW

NEW ORLEANS, November 14.—The net change last week in the cotton market amounted to a gain of 23 to 28 points. Prices ranged over about a half a cent a pound, being depressed $1 a bale early in the week by crop estimates and recovering later on threatened unfavorable weather.

During the greater part of the week the trade was occupied in trying to discount weather conditions. A wet freeze was continually expected as the result of disturbances crossing the country, and the cold wave which followed them. At one time it was expected that there would be killing frosts in a large part of the belt, but the cold weather did not strike far enough south and it appears that damages through temperatures has been confined chiefly to Oklahoma.

The crop estimates of the week ranged from a little under 12,000,000 bales, including linters, to nearly 13,000,000. It cannot be said that they had any permanent effect on the minds of traders since at the end of the week opinion was as varied on the yield as ever.

This coming week the trade will do much speculating over ginning returns. The next ginning report will be issued by the Census Bureau on November 22, and it will carry the crop down to yesterday. This report is expected to be one of the most important of this season because of the light it will throw on the size of the crop. Until this report is out of the way, other features probably will not have the influence they usually would.

SURFACE CONDITIONS SHOW MARKET STRENGTH

Occasionally Undertone Suggests Heaviness or Irregularity—Investment Stocks Uncertain.

NEW YORK, November 14.—Surface conditions indicated a fair degree of strength in the stock market for the greater part of last week, but occasionally the undertone suggested heaviness, or at least irregularity. This uncertain tendency applied more especially to investment stocks, in which considerable foreign selling was encountered.

What the railways lacked in stability was neutralized by the renewed strength of various industrials and coppers. United States Steel at 88 3-8 duplicated its highest price of recent years. Anaconda Copper at 88, made a new record, and American Smelting, which almost rivaled Steel in activity, rose 10 points to 101 3-8, its maximum quotation since 1909-10. Steel's rise was a logical response to the remarkable October tonnage statement, and the flood tide of trade prosperity. Higher prices for copper, lead and by-products transferred to the very satisfactory state of those industries.

The mid-week recession in war shares, some of which declined violently, opened the way to further discussion of intrinsic values, but their quick rebound pointed rather conclusively to the overextension of speculative accounts. The week closed with numerous additional rumors and conjecture regarding new deals among the industrial and equipment companies engaged in profitable contracts.

General business conditions show variable betterment. Bank clearings are piling up. As yet the mercantile demand for money is moderate.

Exports are assuming such tremendous volume as to cause a revision of all recent "trade balance" estimates.

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Our Safe Deposit Boxes

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First National Bank

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Capital and Surplus - - - - - - - - - - - $3,000,000

HOPEWELL PROPERTY IN URGENT DEMAND

Several Sales of Large Proportions Made During Past Week—One Lot Brings $21,000.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

HOPEWELL, VA., November 14.—The remarkable activity in real estate in Hopewell, City Point and vicinity, continues unabated. It appears to be impossible to supply the demand for building sites, both for mercantile and dwelling purposes.

There have been four large sales in the past three days. The corner of Hopewell and Broadway, Hopewell's busiest spot, was sold by H. S. Smith and R. D. Eppes, for $21,000, to Richmond parties. Talheimer & Morris acted as agents. This property has a frontage of fifty feet on Broadway and 110 feet on Hopewell Street, and is opposite the Farmers and Marchants Bank. The lot with twenty-five feet front on Broadway next to the Fire Building, was sold to Richmond parties for $7,500, this sale being consummated yesterday. The lot immediately across Broadway with a frontage of twenty-five feet, was sold several days ago for $4,000.

In addition to the above, the Real Estate and Construction Company of Du Pont City; the Atlantic Coast Realty Company, in the Buren Homestead and Battle Ground additions report such an increased demand for this property that it will be necessary to increase their sales force in order to accommodate prospective buyers. The Hopewell Heights, Virginia Heights and West View properties have been developed, and are being marketed at a price very satisfactory to the owners. Cedar Level, the development at the Old Cedar Level Station, has furnished the big sensation. All during the week lots offered for sale there have been bought up and quite a number resold at a profit, in some instances, of two for one.

The Du Pont Company bought of R. D. Eppes, eighty acres near the "B" plant earlier in the week for the purpose of erecting on it 650 cottages for its employees. The contract for the cottages has been let to C. W. Hancock & Sons, contractors, of Lynchburg, Va., while $400 an acre earlier in the week was reported to have been the price paid for this property. It is now generally known to have been in excess of double that amount.

Quite a number of transfers of property in Old City Point have been recorded during the week at prices of $5,000 to $7,000 an acre.

The largest amount involved in any acreage deal, however, was in the deal closed on Friday, whereby the property adjoining Cedar Level, consisting of 180 acres, was acquired by a Chicago syndicate for $85,000.

PRINCE ALBERT IS ILL

He Will Be in London for Several Weeks to Undergo Special Treatment.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]

LONDON, November 14.—The official press bureau to-night gave out the following statement:

"Prince Albert is ill of an obstinate gastric disorder, and will be in London some weeks to undergo special treatment."

Prince Albert, second son of King George, is a midshipman, twenty years old. He had an attack of appendicitis about a year ago, but after an operation rejoined his ship.

RAILROADS.

SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY.
"The Progressive Railway of the South."

Southbound trains scheduled to leave Richmond daily: 9:35 A. M., local to Norlina; 1:20 P. M., sleepers and coaches to Jacksonville, Atlanta, Birmingham; 6:35 P. M., through coaches and sleepers to Jacksonville; 12:45 A. M., sleepers to Atlanta, Birmingham, Jacksonville, Tampa and coaches to Jacksonville.

Northbound trains scheduled to arrive in Richmond daily: 4:20 A. M., 8:20 A. M., local, 9:39 A. M., 5:37 P. M.

Richmond & Chesapeake Bay Railway Company
Superseding Schedule of April 14, 1914. Schedule Subject to Change Without Notice.

Trains leave Richmond b*5:50 A. M., *7 A. M., b8 A. M., 9 A. M., **10 A. M., 11 A. M., 1 P. M., 2 P. M., 3 P. M., b4 P. M., 5:20 P. M., 6:20 P. M., 7:10 P. M., b8 P. M., 10 P. M., 11:45 P. M.

Trains leave Ashland *5:50 A. M., b*7 A. M., 8 A. M., b9 A. M., 10 A. M., **11 A. M., *12 noon, **1 P. M., 2 P. M., 3 P. M., 4 P. M., b5:20 P. M., 6:20 P. M., 7:10 P. M., 8 P. M., b9 P. M., 11 P. M.

bCarries baggage. *Daily except Sunday. **Sundays only.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Trains Leave Richmond—Main St. Station. Schedule figures not guaranteed. For the South—Daily: 5:30 A. M., local; 10:30 A. M., express; 6 P. M., express, with observation sleeping car for Atlanta; 11:15 P. M., express, sleeping car open 9:00 P. M. 3:00 P. M., local, for Keysville and Chase City—week days.

York River Line—5:10 P. M., Steamer Train, except Sunday, connecting for Baltimore (Parlor car). 7:35 A. M. and 4:15 P. M., daily local.

Trains Arrive Richmond—From the South: 7:05 A. M. and 8:00 A. M., 3:50 P. M., 8:33 P. M., daily; 8:40 A. M., except Sunday. From West Point: 8:45 A. M., except Monday; 9:40 A. M. and 6:15 P. M., daily.

Office 907 E. Main St., Phone Madison 273.

Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac R. R.
To and from Washington and Beyond

Leave Richmond daily	Arrive Richmond daily
*4.30 AM †4.30 AM, † 8.40 AM,	† 7.50 AM, * 1.10 PM, † 2.50 PM
†9.23 AM *9.35 AM, †12.01 PM,	†6.25 PM, * 6.30 PM, † 9.00 PM
†3.30 PM *5.47 PM, † 8.20 PM,	†9.30 PM, *12.35 NL, †12.40 NL

Ashland Accom. week days, lv. Elba 7.30 AM, 2.15 PM, 6.30 PM; Ar. Elba 6.30 AM, 11.25 AM, 5.42 PM. Fredericksburg Accom. week days lv. †4.00 PM; Ar. †8.25 AM. Sundays Lv. Elba 4.15 PM; Ar. 10.45 AM. *Main St. Sta. †Byrd St. Sta. (stopping at Elba). Read the signs.

Richmond & Petersburg Electric Ry

Leave Richmond	Leaves Petersburg
*6 A. M. *3 P. M.	‡5:15 A. M. 3:30 P. M.
7 A. M. 4 P. M.	6:35 A. M. *4:35 P. M.
8 A. M. 5 P. M.	†7:30 A. M. 5:35 P. M.
*9 A. M. †5:45	*7:35 A. M. 6:35 P. M.
10 A. M. *6 P. M.	8:35 A. M. ‡7:05 P. M.
11 A. M. *7 P. M.	9:35 A. M. *7:35 P. M.
†12 A. M. 8 P. M.	*10:35 A. M. 8:35 P. M.
1 P. M. *9 P. M.	11:35 A. M. 9:35 P. M.
2 P. M. 10 P. M.	12:35 P. M. *10:40 P. M.
11 P. M. Chester	*1:35 P. M. 11:40 P. M.
*12 P. M. Petersb'g	2:35 P. M.

*Express. ‡Limited. †Week days only.

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO RY

Cin., L'sville & West. Main Line, Local — *3:00 p. *11:00 p.
James River Line — *8 a., †2 p., †5:15 p.
N. News, Nfk., Old Pt. — *10:00 a., †6:15 p.
Newport News, Local — *9 a., *12 m., *1 p.
Trains arrive from Nfk. — *7:15 a., *5:00 p.
Trains arrive from Nfk. — *11:30 a., *2:45 p., *6:30 p., N. News, *9:57 a., *8:00 p. From West, *8:20 a., *3:40 p., †9:55 a., †1:10 p., 7:00 p. daily from Charlottesville except Sunday from Thurmond. Jas. River, †8:35 a., *7:10 p.
*Daily. *Except Sunday.

Norfolk & Western Railway
ONLY ALL-RAIL LINE TO NORFOLK.
Schedule in effect November 14, 1915.

Leave Byrd Street Station, Richmond, FOR NORFOLK: *6:15 A. M., *9:00 A. M., *3:00 P. M., *4:00 P. M.

FOR LYNCHBURG AND THE WEST: *6:15 A. M., *9:50 A. M., *3:00 P. M., *9:20 P. M. Local to Crewe, 6:35 P. M.

Arrive Richmond from Norfolk: *11:40 A. M., *6:25 P. M., *9:00 P. M., *11:30 P. M. From the West: *6:50 A. M., 18:35 A. M., 12:10 P. M., 11:40 P. M., *6:17 P. M., *9:00 P. M.

*Daily. †Daily except Sunday. ‡Sunday only.

W. B. BEVILL, P. T. M., Roanoke. W. C. SAUNDERS, G. P. A., Roanoke. C. H. ROSLEY, D. P. A., Richmond, Va.

Richmond & Rappahannock River Ry
MAIN LINE.

Leave Richmond.	Leave Pamunkey.
*7:00 A. M.	*8:15 A. M.
*11:00 A. M.	*12:15 P. M.
‡3:45 P. M.	†5:00 P. M.
‡9:00 A. M.	‡10:15 A. M.

*Daily except Sunday. †Daily, ‡Sunday only.
WEEK-END EXCURSION RATES ALL STATIONS.