TAKING A FAMILY BACK TO THE SOIL

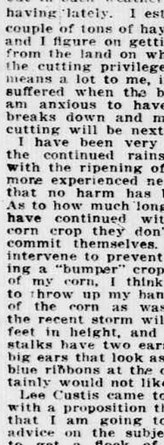
Being the Experiences of a Government Clerk Who Sets Out to Lower the High Cost of Living.

There is an old saying that you can't get too much of a good thing. Don't you believe it. Rain is a good thing, one of the best things ever. It is an indispensable thing to the farmer. Yet the farmer can get too much of it. He has been getting entirely too much of it lately. Unless we are permitted to have a week or two of continuous sunshine the losses are going to be reckoned up high in dollars.

About the only useful thing such weather as we have been having is good for is pasture. It's corking weather, however, for weeds. Farmers out our way tell me that never within their memory was there a year when weeds were so bad. Because of the condition in which the continuous rains have kept the soil it has been impossible to cultivate crops, and the result is that weeds have had their own sweet way. At the risk of having my veracity questioned, I am going to tell that there are ragweeds on my place six feet tall and more than an inch thick at the butt. They look like young trees. The boys tried to cut some of them down with a grass hook, but had to give it up. It required a sharp hatchet or an ax to make any impression on them.

Late Potatoes Smothered.

My crop of late potatoes, which I had figured on bringing in not less than $100, after saving enough for our own use, I fear is a complete failure. There is every indication that a lot of the seed rotted in the ground, and where they did come up they are almost completely smothered by weeds. It doesn't look like it would be possible even to cultivate them. The weeds are so thick and so high that a turning plow is the only tool that would have any impression on them. The worst of it is that the weed which predominates in the potato field is the wild morning glory. In fact, the morning glories cover the field almost completely, and



The infernal racket they make drives Jane almost distracted.

it is necessary to dig among them to find a potato vine. If there was a full stand of potatoes it might pay to clean the morning glories out by hand, which is the only practicable way I know of where the stand is so poor it probably would cost more than the potatoes would be worth. Just as soon as we have a sufficient number of days in succession without rain I am going to put Lee Custis in the patch to clean out a couple of rows, so that we can see what is there. I have no expectation, though, that it will be worth while to attempt anything more.

Because of the wet weather it is impossible also to make hay. I have considerable grass on my place which ought to be cut, and in addition I have bought the hay privilege on a neighboring piece of land. But there would be no use in cutting grass, only to have it ruined by daily rains. It requires dry, hot weather for the curing of hay, and this is especially true in my case, for a lot of that which I want to cut is Johnson grass, a heavy, rank growth that is more difficult to cure even than green oats.

Ruined by Wet Weather.

It makes splendid cow feed when properly cured, but it wouldn't be worth anything at all if cut and left out in such weather as we have been having lately. I estimate there are a couple of tons of hay on my own place, and I figure on getting five or six tons from the land on which I have bought the cutting privilege. That much hay means a lot to me, in view of the loss suffered when the barn burned, and I am anxious to have it cut before it breaks down and mats so badly that cutting will be next to impossible.

I have been very much afraid that the continued rains would interfere with the ripening of my corn, but my more experienced neighbors assure me that no harm has been done so far. As to how much longer the rains could have continued without hurting the corn crop they don't seem willing to commit themselves. Should anything intervene to prevent me from harvesting a "bumper" crop from what is left of my corn, I think I would be ready to throw up my hands and quit. Such of the corn as was left standing by the recent storm will average fourteen feet in height, and a majority of the stalks have two ears, great, whopping big ears that look as if they might win blue ribbons at the county fair. I certainly would not like to lose that corn.

Lee Custis came to me the other day with a proposition that sounds so good that I am going to get some expert advice on the subject. He wants me to get a flock of sheep or angora goats, preferably the goats, and turn them loose in the woods on that new land we bought last spring. He says the sheep or goats would make gains sufficient to show a good profit on the investment and that they would save a lot of money by cleaning out the underbrush and making clearing easier.

Anxious to Get Land Cleared.

I am anxious to get the land cleared up as soon as possible, and if goats will help me to do it without cost, even if they don't make a profit, it looks as if it would be a good venture. I don't think I will go into it, however, until I have consulted some one who knows more about sheep and goats than I do.

Jane likes the notion immensely. When she was a girl she visited on a farm where they kept sheep and she never has felt quite satisfied because we had none at Sunny Knoll. As she remembers it now all the sheep were gentle, playful little lambs. But you couldn't convince Ned of that fact. One day this summer he went abroad for blackberries and in one field met up with a flock of sheep. Being a companionable boy, he started out to make friends with them. It was all right so far as the lambs and ewes were concerned, but there was one old ram in the flock who was utterly lacking in the social instinct. He lowered his head and charged at Ned.

The fence, it seemed to Ned, was about a thousand miles away, so he shinned up the nearest tree. Ned had about made up his mind to stay all night, but after a while the rest of the sheep, evidently losing interest in the game, wandered away. The ram had a hard time deciding whether to follow the flock or stay with Ned, but after a lot of restless debating elected the former course. Even then he would stop every few minutes to look back and once or twice started to return, but thought better of it. When he had disappeared over the crest of a hill Ned slid to the ground and hotfooted it for the fence. He never did go back to get his berry pail. If we are to have sheep, therefore, Ned insists there shall be no rams in the flock.

Only a Few Turkeys Left.

Jane has lost a lot of her enthusiasm on the subject of turkey raising. She has been taking stock and finds that of fifty-seven which she hatched last spring only eleven are on hand today. She doesn't know what became of them or when they died. One flock of eleven got caught out in a heavy rain and all but one perished forthwith, but aside from these she knew of the deaths of only six or seven. The others simply disappeared one or a few at a time and their absence was unnoticed except in a general way. Whether they just naturally died or were caught by hawks or some animal there is no way of telling. At the last previous count she had twenty-five, and at that time all of them were supposed to have passed the age of high turkey mortality. They were big enough, in fact, to have made turkey broilers—if such things there be.

Instead of turkeys, she says, next year she is going to try ducks and geese as a poultry sideline. Last spring she set two hens on twenty duck eggs, hatched nineteen ducklings, and raised all but one of them. We have had two dinners of roast young duck and I tell you it is hard to beat. For Thanksgiving and Christmas, of course, nothing will take the place of turkey, but for just every day eating the family that isn't satisfied with young duck and chicken is mighty hard to please. I don't know whether we would care so much for goose. We never have had it but once since we were married, and we didn't make much headway then at eating it. It would not be fair, of course, to judge the entire goose tribe by the toughness of that particular member, for I think he must have died of old age, but I never since have been able to get up any enthusiasm on the subject. Geese are said to be not particularly difficult to raise, and if money is to be made out of them I certainly shall interpose no objection if Jane wants to give them a trial.

Guineas Are Not Popular.

I had a big hunch that we could make a pot of money raising guineas, so last spring I sent away and got a setting of eggs. The hen hatched out eleven and all but two of them lived. The nine I had planned to keep as a breeding flock, but we have decided we don't care much for guineas. They are supposed to be a half-wild bird and to run far afield, but our guineas evidently have been over-domesticated. Instead of spending their time far away, chasing bugs and grasshoppers, they hang around the kitchen door, and the infernal racket they make drives Jane almost distracted. We never have eaten guinea, but two of them are to furnish our dinner tomorrow. If we like them well enough we will endure the rest of the flock until such time as we can eat them up. Otherwise, the first huckster who goes along the road can have them for what he is willing to pay.

One thing the rain has done about which we have no complaint is to bring on an enormous crop of mushrooms. Down in the field, where the cows pasture the ground is almost covered with them these mornings. We have been having them creamed and on toast for breakfast and with meat and in other ways for dinner, and still the supply exceeds the demand. Jane has started canning them and already has about two dozen pint jars filled. She hasn't consulted the merchant who is to handle her other canned products, but if he doesn't want them we'll keep them for home use. There are a great variety of ways inwhich they may be cooked and served, and they ought to taste mighty good next winter.

Boys Get Into Trouble.

When I got home from the office the other evening Jane met me with an elongated face filled with grief and despair. The minute I caught sight of her I knew something awful had happened, and I nerved myself for the blow. Perhaps some accident had befallen one of the children, or, at the very least, the horse or one of the cows was dead. So many things have happened to us lately that I was prepared to hear of almost any disaster.

My apprehension was only increased when Jane showed reluctance to tell me what was wrong. It must be something worse even than I had imagined. But finally the story came out. Her sons had been smoking!

How long they had been at it is not quite clear, and they might have kept their secret safely had not Jim become too ambitious. Having spent my boyhood in the city, I never had heard of corn-silk cigarettes, but it seems that almost every country boy knows of and smokes them. "Bud" Brown, the open-faced, frank-eyed, seemingly guileless son of our neighbor, had initiated Jim and Ned and "Buster" Robinson into the secret of the forbidden indulgence. That is, it had been forbidden to "Bud," but as my injunctions to Jim and Ned against smoking always had applied to tobacco, they entered a technical plea of not guilty of disobedience so far as the corn-silk cigarettes were concerned.

Where Jim came a "cropper," bringing on exposure and robbing him even of the technical defense, was when he got hold of Lee Custis' old clay pipe and filled it with strong black tobacco from Lee's pouch. From descriptions furnished it would seem that Jim posed as a very dashing hero when he struck a match and lighted the pipe. In something less than three minutes he wasn't getting a bit of fun out of the hero role; had, in fact, about lost all inteerst in earthly things.

Jim Expected to Die.

Jane, summoned by the thoroughly frightened Ned, found one of the sickest boys it ever had been her misfortune to behold. Even if the pipe hadn't been there as unimpeachable evidence, no attempt was made to conceal the facts. Jim was convinced he was going to die, and he had no intention of dying unconfessed and unforgiven. While Jane was wondering what remedy to apply, nature took things into her own hands and Jim was relieved of the worst of his suffering, the while he was relieved of his dinner. When summoned to judgment, after my arrival home, Jim appeared very weak and shaky and very penitent, but with love of life in some degree restored.

It is very seldom Jane thinks her sons should be chastized, but this was one of the occasions when she demanded that the rod should be applied. After hearing their stories I disagreed with Jane. Ned contended, with some show of logic, that he never had been forbidden to smoke cornsilk, and it had not seemed to him, he said, that it was the same as smoking tobacco. Jim's defense was the same up to the point where the pipe entered in. Just what prompted him to try the pipe he couldn't say, but he was very, very sure he never wanted to give it a second trial.

Laying aside temporarily my role of judge, I turned special pleader for the boys, and Jane finally consented to mitigating their punishment. So, instead of being whipped, they are to be confined "within bounds" for two weeks. They are not to be allowed to go off the place and neither "Bud" nor "Buster" is to be permitted to come to play with them.

Is Waylaid by "Buster."

Next morning, following the smoking exposure, when I was on my way to the station past the Robinson house, "Buster" was laying in wait for me, down the road a piece. He wanted to know if I intended telling his father he had been smoking. I told him I was not going to tell, but suggested that it would be a good plan for him to do so.

"I guess you wouldn't think it would be such a dandy plan," "Buster" responded, "if you knew my father as well as I do. He'd give me a peach of a lickin'."

As Mr. Robinson hasn't mentioned the subject to me, I reckon "Buster" followed his own judgment, instead of accepting my advice. I thought at first I ought to tell Mr. Brown, as it was agreed that "Bud" had been the tempter who led the other boys into trouble, but I decided not to do so. I am certain Mr. Brown doesn't allow "Bud" to smoke, but it might be he would not relish having a neighbor report his son's transgressions. "Bud" is an only child, and some parents are touchy about outside interference with the management of their offspring. I certainly have no desire to ge into Mr. Brown's disfavor.

Plans of Friendly Neighbors.

The Friendly Neighbors' Club is going to begin its "social season" the second Wednesday in September. Jane and her executive committee held a session at our house the other afternoon and agreed upon a program. The Wednesday evening sessions are to be purely social, with dancing for those who care to indulge. Heeding the old adage that he who would dance must pay the fiddler, a tax of 10 cents per couple is to be levied on the dancers each evening until enough money has been collected to pay for a phonograph, which is to furnish the dance music. There is enough money on hand to make the required initial payment on the machine.

Beginning in October, on alternate Friday evenings, there is to be a literary and musical program. Most of the entertainment will be supplied by home talent, but occasionally we hope to have a speaker or singer out from Washington. We will not be able to

Jim was convinced he was going to die.

pay imported artists for their offerings, but we will be able to assure them a warm welcome and a good time. In fact, "Have a Good Time" is to be the motto of the Friendly Neighbors' Club, and all of us are looking forward to the coming season with pleasant anticipations.

The original plan to make a co-operative selling and buying association out of it seems to have been dropped entirely. I haven't heard the matter mentioned for months. A few of us still are talking of an independent poultry association, but I doubt if anything will come of it. Since our recent meeting, when we did nothing but indulge in useless wrangling, several suggestions have been made that sound good, but I haven't any faith that they would be agreed to by a sufficient number to make the undertaking worth while. I acted as chairman at the recent meeting and it was adjourned subject to my call. I am not going to issue the call until there seems some better prospect of accomplishing something.

Looks Like Waste of Time.

If there was manifested any willingness of spirit to engage in co-operation it would be different, but I have about reached the conclusion that I had better devote all my spare time and attention to our own poultry business than to try to force benefits upon a community which it doesn't appear to want. With the program we have mapped out for Sunny Knoll there is work a-plenty to do. When the season's crops have been harvested and put away farmers are supposed to take life easy, but that supposition will not apply to my case this winter. With the days getting shorter, I will not be able to do as much work out of doors as I have been doing, but I'll need to put in every hour at it I can.

I'll have to depend, of course, on Lee Custis doing the bulk of the work, contenting myself with general supervision. He has the poles cut and hauled, and next week we are going to put up the shed, which is to shelter the stock, in place of the burned barn. When this is finished we are going to start in putting a fence around the entire eighteen acres, wih several divisional fences to follow. Probably not more than one-fourth of our total bounndary is now fenced, and I have a very insistent desire to complete the inclosure. It will not seem like our ownership of the land is complete until we have it fenced to keep our own stock in and other people's stock out. I would like to inclose the place with a good woven-wire fence, but I can't stand the expense, so have compromised on three strands of barbed wire.

Buildings for the Poultry.

Another job we want to get at as soon as possible is the building of an incubator cellar, with a brooder house above it. We are going to put this building on the slope of the hill facing south. The floor of the brooder house upstairs will be about level with the ground at the back, and there the outside runs will be. At the front the incubator cellar will be about one-half under ground. This will afford ample protection from the cold north winds, but with sufficient air and plenty of sunshine from the south. The walls of the cellar are to be of concrete, with concrete floor.

The brooder house is to be well built of good lumber, double floors and walls and as absolutely proof against wind and dampness as we can make it. All other poultry buildings, now and in the future, are to be constructed as cheaply as possible, but I am not going to scrimp on the brooder house. We want to make a success of the chicken business, and to do so we have got to keep the baby chicks alive. E. S. M.

The Searchlight — LATEST NEWS OF SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND INVENTION

A party of students from the natural science department of Columbia University, New York, is taking a summer course in the form of an excursion into the western part of the United States. The trip will last about two months and be under the direction of Prof. D. W. Johnson of the university faculty.

The studies made will include different geologic formations in the different localities. The trip will lead to Devils tower, Yellowstone and Glacier National parks, the Yosemite valley, the Royal Gorge of the Arkansas, Lassen peak and the Lake Bonneville region.

This is the first extensive trip arranged for a student party of this kind, and is expected to be a practical demonstration of the advantages to be derived from a study upon the actual sites where they are found of different natural manifestations. Mineralogy, the formation and composition of the different kinds of soils and earths, as well as rocks, fossils, lava and other stony materials, will each receive attention in this broadened system of nature study.

COMMISSION TO REPORT.

Suffrage to Negro in Danish West Indies Proposed at Copenhagen.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

COPENHAGEN, August 5.—Proposals have recently been made looking to the granting of universal suffrage to the negro population of the Danish West Indies, but no action in the matter will be taken until a report is received from a commission to be appointed to consider the result of universal suffrage among the negro population in the southern states of the United States.

The negroes in the Danish West Indies largely outnumber the whites, and the granting of the vote to the black is, therefore, regarded as a proposition of considerable movement. The Danish minister of finance, Dr. Edward Brandes, is one of the leaders of the movement for opening the electoral privilege to the negro.

GOVERNOR IS MUM ON FERRET PLANS

Georgia's Executive Cannot Reveal His Steps to Clear Up Lynching.

INTIMATES VERY CLEARLY IS HUNTING CRIMINALS

Will Hold Conference Some Time Next Week With the Officials of Baldwin and Cobb Counties.

ATLANTA, August 21.—Gov. Harris' conference with the judges, solicitors and sheriffs of Baldwin and Cobb counties to urge these officials to do everything in their power to apprehend the lynchers of Leo M. Frank will be held some time next week. The exact date had not been fixed today.

It was said at the governor's office today that the executive department could not make public at this time all the steps it is taking to clear up the lynching.

"When an official is hunting down criminals he doesn't usually notify the criminals of every move he has made and contemplates making," was the statement made at the capitol.

Gov. Harris let it be known today that the people of Georgia would resent outside interference or advice in dealing with conditions growing out of the lynching of Leo M. Frank.

Gov. Harris' Statement.

"The lynching," he said, "was a crime against the civilization of our state and a blot upon Georgia's fair name that cannot be erased. None of us approves of mob violence or lynch law, and all of us regret what has happened. I have and will continue to exert every power at my command to bring the members of the mob to justice.

"But if the members of the mob are brought to justice it will be through the courageous efforts of Georgia officials and courts, supported by the sentiment of the citizens of the state, and not through the newspaper editorials and resolutions of indignation and offers of rewards coming from other states.

"I am afraid these things will only serve to aggravate a situation that already is deeply humiliating to our people, and, if they continue, will eventuate in a great deal more harm than good by defeating the efforts of the state to apprehend the guilty parties."

Many Letters Urging Action.

The governor has received many telegrams and letters during the past two days urging him to take decisive action. Shortly before his inauguration, the latter part of June, when it was thought the Frank case might come before him for final determination, Gov. Harris received many communications on the subject from all parts of the United States.

He announced at that time that "you can say for Nat Harris that if the case ever comes before me I will be guided by my own conscience and the influence of Georgians. Outside influences will have no weight. This is a Georgia case to be settled by Georgians."

BOARD GIVES SANCTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL STRIKES

While general conditions apparently are daily becoming better, additional sanctions to strike were granted certain groups of workers in nearby cities by the executive board of the International Association of Machinists last evening. This followed the appearance before that board of committees representing the places affected, each of which urged the permission to strike be granted. Before sanctioning any requests the board looked carefully into the individual cases.

Although the board had planned to adjourn today it was impossible to do so because of the great amount of business brought before it, due to the practically national unrest among machinists who are urging an eight-hour day, and in many instances increased pay. It is probable the board will have to hold sessions tomorrow as well as Monday.

Agents Investigating Controversies.

Every mail is bringing letters to President W. H. Johnston, either telling that the demands made by the respective workers have been granted, or urging permission to strike. In the cases where strikes are threatening, agents are being sent out and all possible efforts to adjust matters to the satisfaction of both employes and employers are being made.

Word has been received that 400 machinists at the Mijur Motor Electric Company at Hoboken, N. J., are on strike. The shortening of the working day for employes of the following concerns at Bridgeport, Conn., was announced by President Johnston today: American-British Manufacturing Company, Burns and Bassick Company, Sprague Motor Company, Standard Manufacturing Company, Electric Cable Company and Warner Corset Company. At the last-named company 3,200 unorganized woman workers went out for a day or two. They are now organized and have resumed work with a forty-eight-hour-a-week schedule and a 12 per cent increase in salary.

TO INVESTIGATE CONGESTION.

Traffic Conditions at 14th and F Streets Under Board's Observation.

Operation of the new 14th street connection of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, which affords direct street car service from northwest Washington to the bureau of engraving and other government buildings south of Pennsylvania avenue, is producing congested traffic conditions at 14th and F streets which are being investigated by the public utilities commission. Inspectors of the commission are making observations to determine what can be done to facilitate the movement of cars at this point during the rush hours.

It is possible that a re-routing arrangement can be effected which will materially relieve the situation.

According to officials of the commission, it had been expected that some congestion would be developed at this point, although as yet few complaints from patrons have been received. The commission believes that, even with the congestion produced, the new service is a more satisfactory and expeditious method of conveying government employes to and from work during the rush hours than the former roundabout service over E street.

Farewell Party for Mr. Jensen.

Many friends of Norman H. Jensen, employes of the interstate commerce commission, tendered him a farewell party at 1106 L street northwest last night. Mr. Jensen left this morning for a lengthy trip to his former home in Nebraska.

HIS VIEWS ADVERSE TO INTERIOR PARKS

District Surveyor Hazen Questions Benefits Derived From That Form of Playground.

Questioning the benefits derived from the conversion of Willow Tree Alley, formerly recognized as one of the capital's "vice spots," into an interior park, District Surveyor Melvin C. Hazen, in his annual report to the Commissioners today, urges that insanitary alleys hereafter be developed into minor streets rather than interior parks.

Willow Tree Alley Park, he asserts, has been acquired at an expense of thousands of dollars, yet few persons know of its existence. "Certainly the visitor, nor the majority of our citizens, never saw or received any benefit from this kind of a park," states the report.

Continuing it says:

"There is no doubt of urgent necessity for bettering these localities of vice and insanitary conditions, but the conversion of them into interior parks is not believed to be the most desirable, for the idea and whole object of a park is that it should be for the benefit of the greatest number of people, affording a place of recreation and pleasure and at the same time serving the great purpose of beautifying and making more attractive the city.

Enumerates Objections.

"These interior parks would be surrounded by insanitary back yards, from which there would be objectionable odors, and the backs of houses with all their objectionable features exposed to the parks.

"Many of these houses would be inhabited by undesirable tenants, whose influence and mode of living would be anything but agreeable to the park idea. An investigation of Willow Tree alley, converted into a park, is convincing that these parks should be opened wide to the streets, and not entered, as is done in this case by a narrow, objectionable alley. I do not believe that the better class of citizens would permit their children to pass up these alleys into these interior recreation parks."

In Mr. Hazen's opinion the better treatment of insanitary alleys would be to convert them into minor streets to run through the square from street to street, providing for a parkway between and two fronts for the remaining lots. In squares where this treatment could not be used, he states, a minor street could be opened through the square, thus eliminating many objections raised to the interior inhabited alley.

"In most cases, with this kind of treatment," states the surveyor, "benefits could be found equal to the damages, while I can see little benefit in the interior park scheme. This plan could be extended throughout the city with much less cost, at the same time eliminating many objectionable alleys. The minor street scheme would add revenue from taxes, while the other would be a heavy burden imposed.

"I recommend that the law be so changed that the entire cost need not be assessed upon the remaining property benefited."

Surveyor's Recommendations.

Among the recommendations in the surveyor's report are that an appropriation of $2,000 be made to cover the cost of survey for condemnation of streets in Barry Farm.

He also proposes that a minor street be extended from Georgia avenue to Florida avenue, about opposite the base ball park, so that the Georgia avenue car line could be brought through this street, connecting with its present 9th street tracks. The plan, which is designed to relieve congestion of traffic in that vicinity during the base ball season, previously has been recommended by the surveyor.

Mr. Hazen urges that Rock Creek drive and Lovers' lane between Massachusetts avenue and R street be condemned and improved and that the Commissioners secure legislation authorizing them to abandon old county roads when they become useless and in some cases a hindrance.

Discusses Park Needs.

With reference to the District's park needs, Mr. Hazen says that action should be taken to acquire Piney Branch parkway running northeast from 16th street and Piney Branch so as to connect with the municipal hospital. This park was recommended by the park commission in 1902 and previously had been recommended by the District Commissioners.

"This land has much natural beauty, and is well adapted for park purposes," states the report, "but it is now rapidly being destroyed, and besides the land is rapidly increasing in value. It is only a question of time when this valley will become as great a nuisance and eye-sore as the Rock Creek valley, which, as is well known, is now a great insanitary dump."

Recommendation is made by the surveyor that authority be given to acquire a small park at the west end of the new Q street bridge, with a connection along the westerly boundary of Oak Hill cemetery to the Georgetown Heights. The estimated cost of this project is $40,000.

BIG INSURANCE FRAUD ALLEGED; TWO HELD

Three "dead" persons on account of whose "deaths" Edward S. Englar of 1009 8th street northwest, assistant superintendent of the Washington branch of the Prudential Insurance Company, and Charles H. White of 1312 Q street northwest, an agent of the company, are alleged to have collected claims, were very much alive when they appeared in the Police Court today to testify against the two men who were charged with three offenses each of false pretense.

In the arrest of the men by Detectives Burlingame, Baur and Kelly late yesterday afternoon, it is said a gigantic scheme to defraud the insurance company has been unearthed. According to the police and an official of the company thousands of dollars have been obtained by the defendants in the alleged false pretense scheme.

It is charged the men took up policies which the insured were going to drop or allowed to lapse, and that they presented to the company what were purported to be genuine death certificates, undertakers' certificates, as well as other certificates in connection with the death of a person insured in the company. Checks were promptly made out by the company, it is said, and they were supposed to have been paid to the beneficiary, but instead, it is alleged, the defendants forged the name of the beneficiary and kept the proceeds of the check.

It was said by an official of the company that the alleged fraudulent scheme has been going on for some time, and that the company has lost between $5,000 and $10,000. In none of the cases so far located, it was stated, has the amount of a claim been over $500.

A letter carrier was one of the persons alleged to have died. "I don't look like I am dead, do I?" he asked, when questioned as to whether he had passed away last May, as was alleged. "I have been delivering mail for some time, and hope to continue to do so," he said.

Owing to the absence of several important witnesses the case was postponed in court today until Monday, August 30. Assistant United States Attorney Arth, in charge of the prosecution, asked $3,000 bond for the appearance of each of the defendants at the hearing.

TEUTON WARSHIPS ENTER RIGA GULF

Engaged With Russian Fleet Defending Coast, According to Petrograd.

PETROGRAD, August 21.—A German fleet has penetrated the Gulf of Riga, and is engaged with Russian warships defending the coast, according to an official statement issued at the Russian war office.

German Fleet Succeeds.

A powerful German fleet has been attempting, since August 8, to force an entrance into the Gulf of Riga, which would permit them to give assistance to their army which occupies the western coast of the gulf. The Russian official statement indicates that they have accomplished their purpose, probably penetrating through the Dirben channel, which is the only practicable way for large ships to enter the gulf.

The Russians asserted that their warships and seaplanes were successful on the 8th in repulsing nine German battleships and twelve cruisers with a large number of torpedo boat destroyers. The Germans asserted this attack merely was a reconnoissance to determine the position of Russian mines.

Russians Driven Off.

A German admiralty statement issued August 11 said that German cruisers drove off Russian torpedo boats which appeared near the entrance of the gulf the preceding day, in spite of repeated attacks by Russian submarines.

A Petrograd official statement issued Thursday admitted that Russian warships protecting the entrance to the gulf had drawn in closer, "owing to the great superiority of the enemy's fleet."

WITNESSES IN WRANGLE DURING GRAFT INQUIRY

Woman Said to Have Denied She Paid Money to High Police Official.

A conference with United States Attorney Laskey, on his return to Washington early next week, is expected to determine how much of the police graft testimony is to be submitted to the grand jury.

Mr. Hawken made a visit to Hyattsville and its vicinity last night, but declined to discuss the purpose of his visit or whether he secured any available information.

Two colored women from the District jail were examined today by Mr. Hawken. While they were being questioned by the assistant prosecutor another colored woman, said to have been well known in the old "segregated" district, was called into the room.

Indulge in Loud Talk.

A lively scene must have been enacted in Mr. Hawken's office from the loud talking which "filtered" through the door. Accusations in a high voice were answered in loud and angry tones, denials and epithets and recriminations being freely exchanged.

It is understood that the two young women charged that the former proprietress had paid money to a high official of the police department and the woman strenuously denied the accusation.

Mr. Hawken declared today that the rumored disappearance of Margaret Stout, the woman who first gave away the police graft charges, was giving him no concern. He was aware that she had left the city and that she might be in Canada, he stated, but as her bond only requires her presence when the appellate court has disposed of her case, he could not make any objection to her leaving the city.

SHIP SAILINGS FROM N. Y. NOT HALTED BY LOSSES

Four Liners Get Away for Europe, or Prepare to Do So, Today.

NEW YORK, August 21.—Recent activities of German submarines had no apparent effect on sailings of transatlantic ships from this port today. Four liners, flying American, British, French and Italian flags, with over two thousand passengers on board, in addition to full cargoes of exports, sailed or prepared to sail before night.

The Cunard liner Orduna, with 275 passengers, of whom seven are Americans, left port at 10:20 a.m. for Liverpool.

The American line steamship New York was to sail at noon with 470 passengers, the French line steamship La Touraine with 220 passengers is to leave at 3 p.m. for Bordeaux and the Italian liner Stampalia, with 1,087 passengers, will let go her lines at 4 p.m. The passengers on the Stampalia include over 1,000 in the third class, the majority of whom are men going to Italy to enlist for the war.

The Cunarder Orduna carried 9,000 tons of cargo, officials of the line said, but they added that there were no explosives or war munitions aboard. It was also said by officials of the line that the sinking of the Arabic resulted in cancellations, but on the contrary several persons booked passage just prior to the ship leaving port.

AUCTION SALES.

FUTURE DAYS.

ADAM A. WESCHLER, AUCTIONEER.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE, KNOWN AS THE FAIRMONT APARTMENT HOUSE, FORMERLY THE MELTON, SITUATED AT 4th STREET AND NEW YORK AVENUE N.W., SAME BEING A FOUR-STORY BRICK APARTMENT HOUSE, CONTAINING 28 APARTMENTS.

By virtue of a certain deed of trust duly recorded in Liber No. 3209, folio 328 et seq., of the land records of the District of Columbia, and at the request of the party secured thereby, the undersigned trustees will sell at public auction, in front of the premises, ON TUESDAY, THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF AUGUST, A.D. 1915, AT THREE O'CLOCK P.M., the following-described land and premises, situate in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, and designated as and being lot numbered twenty-nine (29) in Martha B. Melton's subdivision of lots in square numbered five hundred and twenty-five (525), as per plat recorded in the office of the surveyor of the District of Columbia, in Book No. 30, at page 10, subject, however, to a balance of $26,800, due on account of a prior deed of trust, together with the improvements, consisting of a four-story brick apartment house.

Terms of sale: One-third of the purchase money to be paid in cash, balance in two equal installments, payable in one and two years, with interest at six per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, from day of sale, secured by deed of trust upon the property sold, or all cash, at the option of the purchaser. A deposit of $750.00 will be required at time of sale. All conveyancing, recording, etc., at cost of purchaser. Terms of sale to be complied with within ten (10) days from day of sale, otherwise the trustees reserve the right to resell the property at the risk and cost of defaulting purchaser after five days' advertisement of such resale in some newspaper published in Washington, D. C.

Taxes, interest on first trust, insurance to be adjusted to the date of transfer.

FRED BEALL,
Woodward building.
WM. H. SHOLES,
Southern building.
Trustees.

au18-d&dbs,ex8u

AUCTION SALES.

THIS AFTERNOON.

PHILADELPHIA AUCTION COMPANY, 616 4½ s.w., will sacrifice at auction consigned merchandise. Sale to be held every Saturday at 6 p.m. A. FOX, Auctioneer.

FUTURE DAYS.

ADAM A. WESCHLER, AUCTIONEER.

Bankruptcy Sale of Tailoring Goods, Fixtures, Etc.

By virtue of an order of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, holding a Bankruptcy Court, in re G. T. Israel, bankrupt No. 1050, the undersigned trustee will sell by public auction, at Weschler's, 920 Pa. ave. n.w., MONDAY, AUGUST TWENTY-THIRD, 1915, AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK A.M., 74 pcs. High-grade Cloth, including Suit and Pants Patterns, Triplicate Mirror, Show Tables, Roll-top Desk, Counter, Fashion Plates, etc.

Terms: Cash. L. P. LOVING, Trustee.
au18-d&dbs,exSu Columbian building.

THOS. J. OWNERS & SON, AUCTIONEERS.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE AT CHEVY CHASE, MD., IMPROVED BY A MODERN EIGHT-ROOM BUNGALOW, NO. 6315 CONNECTICUT AVENUE.

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a deed of trust from Harry V. Boulic and Eva R. Boulic, his wife, to Thomas Bradley and Robert B. Peter, dated the 13th day of December, in the year 1912, and which is duly recorded among the land records of Montgomery county, Maryland, in Liber No. 232, folios 303, etc., the undersigned will offer at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the premises, on MONDAY, THE THIRTIETH DAY OF AUGUST, A. D. 1915, AT THE HOUR OF FOUR O'CLOCK P.M., all the property mentioned in said deed of trust, it being the north forty-five feet front by the full depth thereof of lot No. 6, in block 3, in section 3 of the subdivision made by the Chevy Chase Land Company of Montgomery county, Maryland, and being as per plat No. 74, recorded November 3, A. D. 1905, in Plat Book No. 1, one of the land records of Montgomery county, Maryland.

This property has a frontage of forty-five feet on the west side of Connecticut avenue and is situated about 300 yards north of Bradley lane. It is improved by a frame bungalow, containing eight rooms, with two baths and cellar. It has all the modern improvements and is heated by hot water.

Terms of sale: Cash, upon the ratification of the sale. A deposit of $500 will be required when the property is knocked down. Conveyancing at the cost of the purchaser.

THOMAS BRADLEY,
ROBERT B. PETER,
Trustees.
au11,14,18,21,25,28

ADAM A. WESCHLER, AUCTIONEER.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE TWO-STORY AND CELLAR BRICK DWELLING, NO. 80 U STREET NORTHWEST.

By virtue of a decree passed in equity cause No. 33618, Supreme Court D. C., the undersigned will sell at public auction, in front of the premises, on MONDAY, AUGUST THIRTIETH, 1915, AT FIVE O'CLOCK P.M., the following land and premises, situate in the District of Columbia, and being lot 73 in Harry Wardman's subdivision of lots in block 5 of Moore & Barbour's Second Addition to Washington, as per plat in County Book 19, page 18, surveyor's office D. C., together with a right of way for alley purposes over the rear three feet of lot 74 of said subdivision, subject to the covenants of record as to the occupancy of said premises and the character of improvements thereon to be erected.

Terms of sale: One-third of the purchase money in cash and the balance in two equal installments, payable in one and two years, with interest at 6% per annum, payable semi-annually, from day of sale, represented by notes of purchaser to be secured by first deed of trust on property sold, or all cash, at purchaser's option. Deposit of $100 will be required at time of sale. All conveyancing, recording, revenue stamps and notarial fees at cost of purchaser. Terms of sale to be complied with within fifteen days from day of sale, otherwise trustees reserve right to resell at risk and cost of defaulting purchaser.

JAMES SCHICK, Trustee.
Evans Building.
WILLIAM C. SULLIVAN, Trustee.
410 5th st. n.w.
au16-d&ds

THOS. J. OWEN & SON, AUCTIONEERS.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE, CONSISTING OF MODERN THREE-STORY BROWN-STONE FRONT DWELLING HOUSE, CONTAINING TEN ROOMS AND BATH, KNOWN AS NO. 2424 14th STREET NORTHWEST, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Whereas default having been made in the payment of the principal of and the interest on the debt separately and exclusively secured on the hereinafter described land and premises by a certain deed of trust bearing date May 31, 1907, and recorded May 31, 1907, in Liber 3081, at folio 277, of the land records of the District of Columbia, and at the written request of the holder and owner of the notes secured by said deed of trust, the undersigned, the trustees named in said deed of trust, will offer for sale under the provisions thereof, at public auction, in front of the premises, at FOUR O'CLOCK P.M., ON FRIDAY, THE TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF AUGUST, 1915, the following described land and premises, with the improvements, easements, rights, ways and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate and lying in the county of Washington, District of Columbia, namely: Lot numbered 88, in Aulick Palmer's subdivision of lots in part of the "South Grounds of Columbia College," now known as "Craven Terrace," as per plat recorded in Liber county No. 6, folio 55, of the records of the office of the surveyor of the District of Columbia, being known as lot numbered eighty-eight (88), in square numbered twenty-six hundred sixty-one (2661).

Terms of sale: One-third (1-3) of the purchase price in cash, of which a deposit of $200 must be made with the trustees at time of sale, and the balance in equal notes of the purchaser payable in one and two years after ratification of sale, with interest at the rate of six per cent (6%) per annum, payable semi-annually, secured by deed of trust on the property sold, or all cash, at the option of the purchaser. The terms of sale to be complied with within ten days from date of sale, in default of which the property will be resold at the risk and cost of the defaulting purchaser, after five days' readvertisement, in some newspaper published in Washington, D. C. All conveyancing, title examination and recording at the expense of the purchaser.

EDWARD J. STELLWAGEN,
GEORGE E. FLEMING,
Trustees.
Office, Union Trust Co., H and 15th sts. n.w.
au16-d&ds,ex8u

ADAM A. WESCHLER, AUCTIONEER.

Retiring Sale of Sauter's Decorative Art Needle Work, Wall Cases, National Cash Register, Show Cases, Iron Safe, Etc., at No. 723 11th Street N.W.

BY PUBLIC AUCTION.

Tuesday, August 24, 1915,
Commencing at 10:30 o'clock a.m.

Large collection of Decorative Art Needle Work, including Centerpieces, Doilies, Table Covers, Scarfs, Pillow Tops, Children's Dresses, Towels, Ladies' and Children's Knit Slippers, Crochet Cottons, Silks, Floss, about 500 lbs