

BRIDGEPORT EVENING FARMER

(FOUNDED 1790.)

Published by The Farmer Publishing Co., 179 Fairfield Ave., Bridgeport, Conn.

DAILY . . . 50c month, \$6.00 per year || WEEKLY . . . \$1.00 per year in advance

PHONE BUSINESS OFFICE Barnum 1208



PHONE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT Barnum 1257

FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES

Bryant, Griffith & Brunson, New York, Boston and Chicago

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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THURSDAY, DEC. 13, 1917.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF RAILROADS

THE RAILROAD executives have emerged from a discussion with the president. They are as well satisfied as they can be expected to be, considering that they were sitting in at the death of the private control of American railroads.

Confronted by the emergency of a tremendous war it was soon perceived that the disunited private operation of numerous private railroad lines did not furnish service on a war basis. The only alternative would of course be unified service by the government.

When a man has to give up running his own railroad and he has to make a choice, he usually prefers the government, to the private owner of some other railroad. For this reason private unification for private operation is practically impossible.

The railroads will be operated by the men who now operate them. This is right. The men who know the business of railroading are better able to do that business than anybody else.

The problem is not one of persons, but of systems. A lot of big and little railroads, each run independently to make profits for its own owners, could not possibly give unified service; could not even see the needs of the whole country, not to mention, gratifying those needs.

But unified control is another matter. Unified government control is another system entirely.

The railroads then will be run for service, as the post office is. Profits will be incidental. The railroads will be operated as whole, and not as a lot of disorganized individual lines. Resources will be used to best advantage. Parallel railroads will take on the advantage that inheres in double track systems. The whole matter will be much better and easier to manage.

The course America will take has already been pursued by the European countries. Government control is a necessity. Nor will there ever be a return to private control. That mechanism which does the best work in war will do it in peace. No more than steam engines can be replaced by tread mills will efficient publicly operated railroads be replaced by privately operated railroads. Humanity learns slowly, but what it learns it keeps. It never lets go of a labor saving machine. That is what public ownership of railroads really is, a great labor saving device, which avoids duplication and wastes of many sorts and kinds.

The rights of security holders will be protected during the period of control. When the period of actual ownership arrives the matter will be one of exchange of securities, government paper for private paper. Never afterward will the holder of a railroad security go to bed, not knowing whether his securities will be worthless in the morning. He will know that the bond the government gave him is a good bond, which will not be stealthily taken from him by the devious methods of modern railroad finance.

THE STATUS OF AUSTRIANS

THE RULES promulgated by the president take account of the circumstance that most of the subjects of Austria-Hungary, resident in this country are recent comers, are of peoples dissatisfied with the government of Austria, and largely people of subject races.

The wrongs and dissatisfactions which caused them to leave the fatherland are yet fresh in their minds. The Germans, who came many years ago, had largely forgotten the grievances which made them immigrants. The fatherland, with its modern methods, appeared to them as a sort of fairyland, in which things were better than in America. Hence some Germans resented war with the Kaiser with a fierce resentment. It has not been so with the subjects of Austria-Hungary. They are new comers. They are under no delusions about the nature of the government they left. Most of them are willing and eager to fight for the United States.

None of them have engaged in blowing up ammunition plants, nor in the other plotting which Germany fomented here. For this reason they are to be under few restrictions. They are permitted to go to and from their daily labor, even if it is in ammunition plants. They will keep in every way the status and the security in their persons and property, they had before war was declared on Austria-Hungary.

The future depends upon themselves. If they remain loyal and law abiding, peaceful and industrious, they will be protected by the American government, to the fullest extent. It is to their interest to suppress with a strong public opinion any among them who are foreign sympathizers, fomenters of disturbance or preachers of sedition. Such persons threaten the well-being of all the subjects of Austria-Hungary.

Bridgeport has a large population of subjects of Austria-Hungary, notably some three or four thousand Slovaks more or less, men who have been always in virtual insurrection against the monarchy, and who have come to the United States with no purpose of returning to the old country. These people are especially loyal to America, for it is the only country which has ever permitted them the freedom that belongs to the citizen. Bridgeport's Austro-Hungarian population has been loyal, faithful and industrious. While they remain so the privileges of the city and the country are theirs, almost as fully as if they were Americans.

CONNECTICUT DAY AT CAMP DEVENS

Today being "Connecticut Day" at Camp Devens, an official farewell address was given by Governor Marcus H. Holcomb, who inspected the camp of the 34th Infantry in company with Adjutant General George M. Cole, Surgeon General Phineas Ingalls, Commissary General William C. Chesney, Judge Advocate General A. A. Ailing, Major P. Elton, Major John N. Brooks and Quartermaster General Francis J. Regan.

NO CREDIT FOR ARMY VOLUNTEERS

Through a ruling made by Provost Marshal General Crowder, the government will give local boards no credit for volunteer enlistments in specialized branches of the army. Only actual enlistments in the Infantry will be recognized by the War Department when the time comes for fixing the quotas.

DISOLVE PARLIAMENT.

Madrid, Dec. 13.—The cabinet has decided on the immediate dissolution of parliament and the calling of new elections.

CLEWS AGAIN IN ROLE OF 'SANTY' TO WAR CHILDREN

Henry Clews renews his appeal for the Dollar Christmas Fund as follows: "Many thousands of destitute children in Belgium are again looking to the Dollar Christmas Fund to shed a ray of sunshine upon their lives this year. They were not disappointed last year nor the year before and with a united effort we hope they will not be disappointed in 1917. Our desire is to cable the entire proceeds to Brussels on Christmas Eve and arrangements are already in hand whereby approved charities and agencies, acting under the auspices and control of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, will undertake the purchase of extra food in Belgium for distribution on Christmas Day. "The response to date has not been quite so gratifying as in previous years and at the time of writing there is a prospect—unless we open our hearts and loosen our purse strings—that the British contribution will beat the American contribution for the first time since the war started. There is, however, still time to make good and I write to you therefore to urge that everybody who has a dollar to spare may give to this good cause and that everyone who has given before may give again. Any donation sent to Henry Clews, care of Henry Clews & Co., bankers, Broad street, New York, will be gratefully acknowledged. The same representative and responsible committee which backed the first annual appeal of the Dollar Fund four years ago is with us again this year. In the name of the poorest of the poor in Belgium—over a million destitute little ones—I beg that you readers will help our committee to cable to Brussels a special contribution which we know from previous experience will be accepted by Belgium as an expression of sympathy with great sorrow from one people to another and a tangible proof that Christmas good will even in these days of strife and bloodshed has not disappeared from earth. (Signed) "HENRY CLEWS."

BURGLARS GET WHISKEY SUPPLY

Burglars effected entry into the saloon of Joseph Frankel at 34 Bostwick avenue some time last night, by breaking a side window, and stole \$50 worth of whiskey and \$2 in cash, according to complaint received at detective headquarters today.

Two other small thefts were reported. Harvey P. Dennison of 835 Warren street, complaining of the loss of two suits of clothing from his room, and Michael Krichovitz of 433 Main street, telling also of the theft of two suits and a number of small articles of little value.

GERMANS BACK OF NEGRO UPRISINGS

How German secret agents tried to make the race question embarrass our conduct of the war is described by Samuel Hopkins Adams in the first of a series of articles on secret enemy activities now appearing in Everybody's. "In the South," he writes, "a word-of-mouth propaganda was conducted among the blacks, with a view to prejudicing them against the war and in favor of Germany. Commercial agents, supposed or real, selling sewing-machines, crayon enlargements, household utensils, and the like, went from cabin to cabin, spreading the report that the equality denied to the negroes by the United States would be theirs when the Kaiser came into power; therefore any colored man taking arms against Germany would be fighting his race's best friend. "No honest person can claim that our hands are clean so far as the race question goes; but in this instance there is a suspicious identity in some of the editorials, as if they had been issued for use by some central organization. The Cleveland 'Wachter' and 'Anzeiger' and the Detroit 'Abendpost' published an editorial on the East St. Louis riots, almost, if not quite, word for word the same, calculated to stir up race hatred, while the Vorwarts, of New York, was playing up the news of lynchings, and striving to create the impression that a general program against Afro-Americans was in prospect."

"Cutbert" murmured the poet's wife, as she lit her cigaret with a rejection slip, "why doesn't any one want your stuff?" Her husband shuddered. "I am an unhappy medium," he answered, "and a victim of forehead discrepancies. What I write is too low for high-brows, and too high for low-brows."—Everybody's Magazine.

Linonine MARVELOUS MEDICINE For Colds

Linonine takes that awful kick out of a hard cold and renders it harmless. It is the great family remedy for all forms of colds and a remarkable preventive for the more dangerous winter complaints of adults and children.

Have a bottle of Linonine handy at all times—there's no telling what instant it will be needed, especially so for coughs that threaten bronchitis. Nothing quite equals Linonine for bronchitis.



All druggists, 60c, \$1.20.

STATEMENT ON NEW SECURITIES OF GOVERNMENT

Hartford, Dec. 13.—Because of some misunderstanding regarding the difference between the new Thrift Stamp and the old Postal savings stamp, the director of the Thrift Stamp and War Savings Certificate campaign in Connecticut, has issued the following explanatory statement regarding the war thrift stamps: "War savings stamps are baby bonds." They have the government behind them, and are desirable investments at any time. Each purchaser of one of the 25-cent stamps is given a "thrift card," which will hold 15 stamps. When filled this card may be exchanged for a \$5 War Stamp at any post office, bank, or other authorized agency, by adding 12 cents in cash at any time prior to February 1, 1918, after which time add one cent for each additional month. To those who prefer to buy \$5 worth of stamps outright if bought before February 1, 1918, the cost will be \$4.12, with one cent added for each month, so that a \$5 stamp purchased in December, 1918, would cost \$4.23. When buying a \$5 stamp a folder will be furnished which bears the name of the purchaser, which is called a war savings certificate. This can be cashed only by the original purchaser, save in the case of death or disability. These certificates contain 20 spaces, and therefore, when filled, are allowed to hold more than ten of these complete certificates. Interest on a Liberty Loan Bond is payable every six months, but interest on war savings certificates will accumulate and will be paid in one sum on January 21, 1923, at the rate of four per cent interest, compounded quarterly. A thrift stamp or war savings stamp if lost is the same as a lost postage stamp. Consequently it should be affixed to a thrift card or a war savings certificate at once. Thus, with the name of the owner displayed, it would be recognized and returned if lost, as it can be turned in for cash by none but the original purchaser. The Thrift Stamp furnishes a means for making small loans to the government which can be taken up by small wage earners who have been unable to purchase Liberty Bonds. As the War Savings Certificates are accumulative, the owner will, in time, have loaned money to the government equal in value to that of a Liberty Bond.

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BRITISH STILL OPTIMISTIC ON "SUB" QUESTION

London, Dec. 13.—Despite the fairly large number of sinkings reported this week, there is no decrease in optimism among those who know the submarine war situation, who see no reason for modifying Premier Lloyd-George's statement of Nov. 30 that there is no longer any fear of the submarine proving a decisive factor in the war. Events since Nov. 20 in fact have tended to increase rather than decrease the confidence with which the premier spoke. The month of November was a red letter month in the anti-submarine war, for three reasons. First, the loss of tonnage during the month was the lowest since the unrestricted submarine campaign began. Second, the sinkings of enemy submarines were the greatest ever recorded in a single month. Third, the launchings of new merchantmen from British yards came "within measurable distance" of equalling the loss of tonnage by submarine attack.

NATIONAL MARKET CO.

Extra Big Special AT OUR Butter and Egg Department for Friday

- BROOKFIELD EGGS 45c doz.
Best JUNE CREAMERY BUTTER 49c lb.
ELGIN CREAMERY BUTTER 46c lb.
GUARANTEED JERSEY EGGS 48c Doz.
NUT MARGARINE 30c lb.
WHOLE MILK CHEESE 29c lb.
FRESH Y. A. CHEESE 30c lb.
BEST COMPOUND 25c lb.
PURE LARD 31c lb.

NATIONAL MARKET CO.

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Happy thought!

"She needs a tea service for Christmas! No more attractive Christmas present for the average 'femme' than a dainty tea service. We have sets that will gladden the feminine eye, and at the same time render in long service all that you expect from superior pottery. While these attractive sets are on hand, choose yours!"

AMERICAN HARDWARE STORES (Incorporated) FAIRFIELD AVE. AND MIDDLE ST.

Up one Flight and the difference in rent is yours. Xmas Jewelry at square deal prices.

Henry C. Reid & Son JEWELERS

Room 210 Conn. Nat. Bank Bldg. 1094 MAIN ST.

Skating Shoes

The ideal present for the young man to enjoy the fine skating. \$4.50 pair.

Look these over.

Anklets

Fine for keeping the ankles in position. Canvas, Leather and Elastic.

Skate Straps

In Leather and Canvas.

THE ALLING RUBBER CO.

1126 MAIN ST.

THAT OPEN ATTIC

isn't worth much to you. Is it? Why not convert it into warm, cozy rooms at low cost, by using

PEERLESS PLASTER BOARDS

Made in sheets 32 in. x 36 in. Are fireproof, sound-proof and sanitary. Any handy man can apply them. A hammer and saw are the only tools you need.

Peerless Boards can be nailed direct to studding. Made from gypsum plaster and are non-conductors of heat and cold. Bring in the measurements of any unfurnished part of your house and we will gladly assist you, without obligation.

PHONE BARNUM 344.

Wheeler & Howes Co. Coal and Masons' Materials East End Congress Street Bridge. BRIDGEPORT.

Advertisement for Paramount and Arcraft trade-marks. Includes text: "Paramount and Arcraft trade-marks in a theatre announcement signify something. Something more than mere seating capacity and a ticket booth. 'Foremost stars, superbly directed, in clean motion pictures.'" and logos for Paramount Pictures and Arcraft Pictures.

Advertisement for Upholstery and Slip Covers. Includes text: "UPHOLSTERY AND SLIP COVERS CHRISTMAS IS COMING HAVE YOUR HOME FIXED FOR THE HOLIDAYS. We have a big selection of tapestry, velour, genuine leather and imitation leather covered parlor suites. We have one of the most completely equipped workshops in the city. Our specialty is upholstery work in all its branches. If your furniture needs the attention of experts you will find that we will do your work satisfactorily and at prices that will be reasonable for high class work." and illustrations of furniture.

Advertisement for Highland Spring Water. Includes text: "AN AID TO HEALTH—PURE WATER A healthful drink which is absolutely uncontaminated by impurities of any kind. State License No. 10. BOTTLED DAILY. DELIVERED DAILY. Telephone 3802-12. W. M. LANE, Distributor of HIGHLAND SPRING WATER R. F. D. NO. 2, BRIDGEPORT, CONN."

Advertisement for Sprague Ice & Coal Co. Includes text: "SPRAGUE ICE & COAL CO. DEALERS IN ANTHRACITE AND BITUMINOUS COAL EAST END E. WASH. AVE. BRIDGE. Tel. 4673-4674"

Advertisement for Frank Miller Lumber Co. Includes text: "QUALITY Lumber Means ECONOMY 'Because' It saves the workman a lot of hand work. Enables him to do a larger day's work. There are a lot of NEW WRINKLES in house building these days, bringing the cost of house erection down to rock bottom. If you are thinking of building we would like to show you these things. PHONE US! 108 THE Frank Miller Lumber Co."

Advertisement for Radford B. Smith. Includes text: "RADFORD B. SMITH FAIRFIELD AVE. VARIETY STORE BROAD ST. CO-OPERATIVE—CAR FARE FOR CUSTOMERS PROFIT SHARING WITH EMPLOYEES USEFUL GIFTS FOR INFANTS AND CHILDREN We have just received a few dainty White Dresses in advanced styles for girls from 2 to 6 years at prices ranging from \$1.95 to \$2.95. At \$3.95—There are dainty White Dresses for girls 8 to 14 years. At 89c to \$2.48—A good variety of Infants' Long or Short Dresses. At 98c to \$7.50—Gingham and Serge School Dresses. DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR TOY DEPARTMENT ADVERTISE IN THE FARMER"