

GREAT FALLS DAILY TRIBUNE

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EDITORIAL PAGE

TWO VIEWS OF THE CHANGE

It is only a few mornings now until the people of the United States will be expected to move their clocks forward in repetition of the daylight saving plan practiced generally last summer. On the whole it seems from a review of the comment which the change elicited last year that the plan of moving clocks ahead one hour during the summer months met with approval or indifference in cities and in town, but that it encountered real opposition from the farmers. In fact, speaking for Montana, it may be said we lived and moved and conducted our business with two standards of time operating side by side and interlocking. For while many of those who live outside the cities adopted the new time schedules, many others did not. It would be difficult to say what a majority of the farmers did in regard to the change, but it is not so difficult to say what a majority of them thought about it—they did not like it at all.

The plan saves electricity by adding one hour of daylight to the evening. That means nothing at all in the country. It gave to the people, as its proponents so eloquently pointed out, an added evening hour for recreation by forcing them out earlier in the cool of the day—an excellent thing for the city man with his garden, his tennis club or his motor car. On the whole, with the possible exception of mothers of small children whose bedtimes were regulated by the appearance and disappearance of the sun, the daylight saving plan was approved of in the cities when it was given much thought at all. But what is the case of the man who lives on the farm and who crowds the greater part of his productive activity into those months covered by the altered time schedule?

There is no question but that farming operations are timed more closely in harmony with the course of the sun than are urban activities. It doesn't do the farmer any good to get out an hour earlier in the morning, and to rout out the hired help at the earlier hour, if conditions outside are not properly set for the day's work. In localities where there is a heavy dew, some farming operations must wait until the sun has had a chance to get in his work before they can profitably make a start. Then when the rush of work is on, there is a natural reluctance on the part of the man who knows that some part of the fruit of a year's work depends on present harvesting activity, to knock off work with the sun standing high in the sky. In most cases he cannot see his way clear to do it, and so the line of least resistance opens to many and they stick to the old time. It only adds another kink to the mental process necessary to reckon time and adjust movements to it anyway, so after awhile they get accustomed to the double standard of time, and so do the small-town merchants and business men who come in most frequent relationship with them.

Farmers on this side of the line are not the only ones who are interested in this subject of time changing. A letter written by a Canadian farmer in emphatic protest against clock-changing recently came to The Tribune's attention. He writes:

I am protesting against this fool daylight saving proposition. I am sending six children to school and they are going to follow the old time. We tried out their daylight saving last year and it was no good with the youngsters, with everyone breaking their necks in the morning and no time to help to do a few chores, and running wild in the middle of the afternoon with nothing to do.

At any rate we will soon be fitting our work to the new conditions—that is, some of us will and some will not—but since the usual expressions on the subject heard about town are either neutral or commendatory, it can do no harm to indicate that there is another side to the matter of daylight saving—and the country dwellers as a rule appear to be on that side.

WANT A MILITARY HERO

There is evidenced in many quarters a desire of republican party followers to hitch the 1920 G. O. P. wagon to some military star. The military candidate and the military president are facts in American political history which may account for the present groping for a leader with qualities sufficient to capture the public imagination and force enough to rescue the party from its present hydra-headed condition of leadership—or lack of it. Several months ago the Pershing-for-President club blossomed forth in Ohio, and more recent advices tell of the formation of the Leonard Wood republican club in Colorado.

The Pershing movement met with some early frosts. One of them was the interesting statement of Senator Warren of Wyoming, General Pershing's father-in-law, to the effect that he could not say positively whether the American military leader was a republican or democrat in political faith. Another was the attitude of the general himself. But with General Leonard Wood the situation appears to be somewhat different. There are those who see in the coincidence of the Leonard Wood club and the out-

break of the general himself in speeches on Americanism of pronounced Rooseveltian hue, a gentle feeler of public sentiment which may indicate nothing at all, or may indicate that the central figure in the movement is not in an unwilling frame of mind.

It will be a departure from tradition in political history in the United States if we do not have a blooming crop of military candidates—for each war has left figures whose prominence, won on the field of battle was transferred to a totally different field. Candor compels the admission that successes won in directing military campaigns were not always repeated in paths of peace. So there is plenty of precedent for the present search for a new leader, and there probably is seen to be some method in it, born of necessity.

For the republican party now is by no means leaderless—it is somewhat questionably blessed with a multiplicity of heads, and the situation is further complicated by the fact that when one leader drops from the ranks or talks himself out of a following, there are two more ready to spring into the vacancy. On the whole, if the search for a military Moses is a well-directed one, they will probably rest content with Dr. Wood. He came into military being late in life, after he had had an opportunity to identify himself politically; he is the logical successor of the late Colonel Roosevelt, whose close friend he was and to whom he owed his ascendancy in a military sense; and from his difference with the administration he may be able to extract some political capital.

One of these days people will be reading at their breakfast tables of a successfully completed trip across the Atlantic ocean with the air the medium of travel. And it was only a few years ago that the Wrights gave the skeptics something to talk about by completing a heavier-than-air machine which they could make to skip a few hundred feet through the air. Few people now are blind to the tremendous possibilities opened by the past two years in the way of aerial travel. Developments are coming swiftly, one on the heels of another—as witness the British airship now building, estimated to have a lifting capacity of eighty tons. Regarding mechanical accomplishment, twentieth century folk are by no means the complacent non-believers their great-grandfathers were. It was not so very long ago, in fact just on the eve of the greatest era of mechanical invention up to that time—the busy decades that gave us the telephone, the telegraph, and electric light, the talking machine, the wireless, the automobile—that our late and honored ancestors were quoting approvingly the remark of some wise man who said that life held nothing more worth living for—all the great discoveries had been made.

LATEST NOTES OF SCIENCE

- Uruguay has about 1,600 miles of railroads but only one tunnel.
- Leather waste enters into the composition of much of the best wall paper.
- In Sweden bricks made from peat are successfully used in small buildings.
- Vermont is estimated to have 2,000,000 horsepower of undeveloped water power.
- Some vineyards in Italy are cultivated on the faces of almost perpendicular cliffs.
- An electrically operated machine has been invented for plucking feathers from chickens.
- Argentina maintains a meteorological station at an elevation of 4,000 feet above the sea.
- A patent has been granted for an egg substitute made chiefly from thoroughly cooked yams.
- A substitute for jute is being made in Russia from kenaf, a native plant of abundant growth.
- Direct wireless communication has been established between the station at Arlington, Va., and Rome.
- A Cuban has invented a material made of palm fiber to be used as a substitute for cedar in cigar boxes.
- A coal shovel which will sift ashes as they are taken from a heater without re-handling has been patented.
- According to a London chemist the surest way to determine the age of a painting is to analyze the pigments.
- A sliding weight on the handle of a new ice pick does the work, the hand that holds it remaining stationary.
- Careful investigation has led Japan to claim to be the richest nation in the world in radium-bearing waters.
- Shields have been invented to prevent the propellers and rudders of power boats being tangled in fishermen's nets.
- After 50 years of service an organ with bamboo pipes in a Christian church in Shanghai still is in fairly good condition.
- The foot-rest of a new elevated bootblack's stand is hinged so it can be used as a step to aid a person to reach the chair.
- Corrections made recently in maps of Greenland have shown it to be about 150,000 square miles larger than formerly believed.
- A rotary stump-cutting machine has been invented that clears land and prepares the wood for paper pulp in the same operation.
- An artificial coffee has been invented in Japan which is said to have the right flavor and a large percentage of nourishment.
- A scoop with a notch in front, the whole surrounded by a rim, has been invented for shaking insects from plants and catching them.
- An Englishman has invented a tool to probe cuts and small holes in automobile tires and remove articles which might cause punctures.
- What may be termed a one-man submarine has been invented to aid in searches for under-water objects, especially vessels that have sunk.
- Electric locomotives have been built for a German railroad with heavy grades that haul loads of 230 tons at a speed of 42 miles an hour.
- California's development of water-power in the last few years has grown until that state ranks second only to New York in that respect.
- There is authentic record that a sewing machine was patented in England in 1755, 81 years before the first American machine was invented.

HASKIN LETTER

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

STICK TO STANDARD VEGETABLES

Washington, D. C., March 19.—What to plant and how many are the vital questions which millions of home gardeners are asking themselves and their wives these days. Seed catalogues, magazines and the neighbours offer a perplexing variety of suggestions. Avoid fancy, and stick to standard vegetables. Avoid those that are known to be difficult to grow and those that require a lot of room—unless you happen to have a lot of room. In a word, be a conservative, and stick to the well known best-growers. This is the timely advice of certain experts at the department of agriculture who were consulted concerning the new vegetables which are always put forward in the spring.

Opposite the familiar red tomato on the inside of your life is the new one, the latest creation of scientific agriculture, such as the rat tail radish and the purple flowering onion, depicted in all their glory in six colors. The amateur gardener, or even the veteran of at least a few years, who has not forgotten the lure of the novelty is hard to resist.

Thoughtfully the gardener turns the page and reads about a bean which Jack must have saved from the bean stalk episode. It is a triumph of pictorial art as it is a triumph of imagination. It grows bushels of beans, on a single stalk, and supply a whole family for a year. It seems strange that Hoover has not discovered this magic bean and ended the food shortage in Europe in a week. The gardener is often further bewildered at this season by learning of interesting foreign plants growing triumphantly in somebody's back yard. Udo, the Japanese equivalent for celery, has a number of times been exploited as a practical home crop that "can be grown successfully from Maine to Florida." One year many back-yard farmers were temporarily converted to the cultivation of truffles. You may succeed with any of these things, but the chances are a hundred to one you won't.

Not only are freaks and fads to be avoided, according to the experts, but also those vegetables which are hard to grow. They say, for instance, that there is not much chance for amateurs to produce a good asparagus bed, or to mature a crop of cantaloupes.

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Fancy vegetables and new discoveries are attractive, and the amateur farmer is inclined to try anything once. The danger is that a long struggle with an asparagus bed that finally yields tough asparagus, if any at all, is apt to discourage the beginner. He will never try his luck at gardening again. A long list of attractive hoodlums could be compiled by any experienced gardener, but every novice has visions of home grown watermelons or cantaloupes, and especially difficult plants for the beginner to grow.

The small scale gardener, is recommended by the department of agriculture to concentrate on better seed. Here is where gardening requires fine judgment. Otherwise, the gardener is taken in by descriptions of improved varieties and improvements are chiefly imaginary. When asked about this, the department of agriculture suggested that the more extravagant the promised, the less they are to be fulfilled.

"One year," said a department sci-

entist reminiscence, "a new Magic Berry was widely and extravagantly advertised as easy to grow, delicious, and especially fine for making pies. A great many people fell for the discovery, which happened to be a weed. It could be cooked and used for pie filling, of course, but it was no rival of the standard berries as to flavor. It was a little harder to exterminate that weed than to cultivate it."

By way of constructive advice to the home gardener, the department of agriculture says: "plant your backyard patch to the best advantage." If you have only a 10 x 14 lot, don't try a row of corn, two rows of potatoes and a few pumpkins. Corn is a fine thing for the home garden—if you have space enough to plant a large number of hills so that pollination will be successful. A short row of corn that will feed the family with a poor grade of grain on three occasions is a bad investment. Better buy corn from the grocer if your patch is very small.

The same thing is true of peas. A one hundred foot row planted in peas will produce enough for only twenty-five individual meals, whereas the same land in beets, carrots, or beans will yield a crop of much greater food value. Still, the gardener usually likes the sensation of eating peas fresh from his own garden patch, so peas are included in the list of advisable crops.

Irish potatoes are yet another crop which are worth the trouble of raising only if you give enough space for them. They are, however, sufficiently valuable to be allotted their share of ground. The Irish potato yields about 150 or 160 bushels to an acre. On a twentieth of an acre of ground eight bushels can be raised. With a few more, enough to supply two people for a year.

The average city garden is about 30x60 feet, the many patches are planted on a 10x20, or even smaller lot. For such lots, the following crops are recommended by the department of agriculture. The first eight best growers are beans, carrots, parsnips, celery, turnips, tomatoes, lettuce, and radishes. For second choice are onions (not planted from seed), spinach, kale, cabbage, potatoes, peas, and Swiss chard.

Variety can be obtained in a small garden by planting an early crop of peas, beans, potatoes, and cabbage to be followed later by beets, carrots, celery, and spinach. Vegetables that require more time for growing can be planted in another part of the garden. There is no argument against the home gardener trying his luck with a fancy vegetable or two if he has the inclination and a little extra space.

The department of agriculture's warning is to gardeners who aspire to raise all their favorites in a small patch of indifferent soil. While you stock up seed for the garden patch, the department suggests that a bean vine on the back or front porch is a practical ornament.

Agriculturists prophesy that the American people have awakened permanently to the advantages of the home garden. Many people had fresh vegetables regularly on their tables last year for the first in their lives. On a 30x50 lot carefully planned and cultivated practically enough fresh vegetables (except potatoes) for the average family can be raised.

Seed for lot of this sort cost two dollars or less. "If you think the home garden doesn't pay just try going to market with less than five dollars in your pocket," is the department of agriculture's reminder of the cost of market produce.

German Seamen Balk at Entente Service

London, March 21.—The Hamburg seamen's union, after a discussion of the ship owners and the Hamburg senate, has agreed that half of the crews of ships transporting foodstuffs to Germany shall be recruited from the union, providing that the transport union recruited the other half, according to a Central News dispatch from Amsterdam. The senate directed that they would not man ships carrying entente troops.

CHRISTIAN SOCIALISTS FAVOR NATIONS LEAGUE

Lucerne, Switzerland, March 21.—The international conference of Christian Social Labor associations, in session here, passed a resolution, strongly supporting the league of nations. Delegates included representatives of associations in Switzerland, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Holland, and Lithuania.

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TRAVELETTE

By NIKSAH. VAILIMA. The Samoan Islands have two shrines—the home and grave of Robert Louis Stevenson. In his search for health, Stevenson built a home on one of the islands and called it Vailima. Five Waters. Here he spent the last four years of his life.

Vailima lies far up a steep mountain road. It is a rambling, green-roofed house, half native style, half an English country home. Stevenson is said to have enjoyed contrasts of native and English life. It pleased him to have his household appear in evening dress at dinner and to be waited upon by Samoan natives.

His many kindnesses toward the natives so touched them that they were roused to enough energy to build a road up the mountain to his home. The crude but important piece of work they called "The Road of the Loving Heart." It shall never be made, it still endures, this road that we have dug," prophesied the natives on presenting their gift.

The grave of Tusitua, the story teller, lies far up the mountain beyond Stevenson home. The trail is so difficult that the services of a fifty-year-old native were needed to carry the casket and his destination. The mountain path leads thru a tropical forest of the gorgeous flowers of Samoa. Hibiscus, ope jasmine, orange blossoms fill the air with their perfume. Many birds sing and flash their wings in the air, for native chiefs fond use of any firearms on the mountain where Tusitua lies.

On a tiny plateau at the top of the mountain is the tomb with the memorial verse that Stevenson himself wrote carved on the stone. Far away from even the quiet life of the native settlement Stevenson's grave is the most peaceful place in an island of peace.

Austria Would Be Glad to Miss Ex-Emperor

Berne, March 21.—The request of former Emperor Charles, that he be permitted to live in Switzerland, was said, was made with the knowledge and consent of the Vienna government, which considers that his removal from Austria would be in the interest of the German-Austrian republic and the former ruler's security.

McADOO DEAF TO BUZZING OF THAT BEE

Santa Barbara, Cal., March 21.—Although he has been spoken of as a presidential possibility, W. G. McAdoo, former secretary of the treasury, who arrived here yesterday from New York City, had nothing to say regarding the rumor that preceded him west. The McAdoo intend remaining here until April 15, when McAdoo will enter the practice of law in New York. McAdoo was called east by the death of his son-in-law.

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BISHOP HONORED AS FIRST TO CLIMB MOUNT M'KINLEY

London, March 21.—The Royal Geographical society has awarded the Back Grant to Archdeacon Hudson Stuck, of the Yukon, in recognition of his travels in Alaska and his ascent of Mount McKinley in 1913.

WAR CORPORATION PLANS \$288,000,000 BOND FLOATATION

Washington, March 21.—The War Finance corporation is considering floating a large bond issue, probably of \$200,000,000, within a few weeks, to provide funds for railroads and to meet any other demands on the corporation. The interest rate contemplated is 4 3/4 per cent.

The bonds would run for a year, or possibly a year and a half, according to tentative plans. They would be sold privately to banks and big business interests. The bonds would be exempt from all taxes except estate, inheritance, excess profits, war profits and surtaxes, and interest on \$5,000 owned by any single interest would be entirely tax exempt. The corporation has authority to sell its bonds below par.

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