

## FATAL ACCIDENT TO SHARON MAN

While engaged with his father-in-law, Ed. Wagar, in felling a huge chestnut tree on the former's farm, a mile and three-quarters northeast of Sharon, early Monday afternoon, James Stoddard met with an accident which caused him instant death. The tree had been nearly chopped through and had started to fall, but lodged in the branches of another tree. Stoddard then started to cleave the remaining splinters at the base, when the tree suddenly snapped off, allowing the but end to kick back, striking the unfortunate man in the forehead and crushing his skull and nose. He had previously been cautioned by his father-in-law to be careful as such an accident might easily occur. The deceased was well known in Medina, where he resided at one time north of town. Besides a widow and one daughter, the father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Stoddard of the Center Road and two sisters, Mrs. O. C. Wilcox and Mrs. Archie Curtis, also of Medina, survive. Funeral services were held from the home in Sharon at 11 o'clock and at the Congregational church in Medina at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, conducted by the pastor of the Sharon M. E. church, Rev. Joshua Crawford. Burial was made in Spring Grove cemetery.

## FILE PETITION AND GET FARM SCHOOL

Last winter more than 5,000 Ohio farmers and their wives went to a first class agricultural and home economics school for one week right in their own home town. They had the best of instructors for their school, too, since the speakers were furnished by the College of Agriculture of Ohio State University. To attend these classes the farmer and his wife did not have to leave home, the important chores about the farm and home, since the schools, which lasted one week, began at 9 o'clock in the morning and closed at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Separate sessions were held for men and women. Soils and crops together with either Animal Husbandry, Horticulture or Dairying were discussed in the men's section. Selection and Preparation of Foods and Household Management were discussed in the women's section.

Arrangements are now being made for agricultural extension schools to be held next winter. In order to secure one of these schools a petition should be on file with the Supervisor of Extension Schools at Ohio State University within the next two weeks. Quite a large number of petitions have already been placed on file. Some communities have made application fully a year ahead. Consequently, persons who contemplate filing a petition should do so as soon as possible because final decision as to just where the schools will be held will be made on July 1, 1915. Petitions should be on file several weeks previous to this time to receive the most favorable consideration. Blank petitions and further information about Extension Schools may be had by writing to Clark S. Wheeler, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

## WHAT A DIFFERENCE NOW

I remember, I remember the house where I was born, the little window where the sun came peeping in at morn. You'd hardly know the old place now, for Dad is up-to-date and the farm is scientific, from the back lot to the gate. The house and barn are lighted with bright acetylene, the engine in the laundry is run by gasoline; we have silos, we have autos, we have dynamos and things, a telephone for gossip and a phonograph that sings. The hired man has left us—we miss his homely face—a lot of college graduates are working in his place. There's an engineer and fireman, a chauffeur and a vet., electrician and mechanic. Oh, the farm's run right, you bet. The little window where the sun came peeping in at morn now brightens up a bath room that cost Dad a car of corn. Our milkmaid is pneumatic and she's sanitary, too, but Dad gets fifteen cents a quart for milk that once brought two. Our cattle came from Jersey and the hogs are all Duroc, the sheep are Southern beauties and the chickens Plymouth Rock. To have the best of everything, that is our aim and plan, for Dad not only farms it, but he's a business man.

## FINAL CALL FOR ELLA NETTLETON

After a lingering illness of several weeks, a stroke of apoplexy brought to a summary close the life of Mrs. Warren C. Nettleton, Tuesday, May 18, at 3 a. m., at her home a mile north of Windfall.

The deceased was born in Medina township March 16, 1840, and thus was 75 years, 2 months and 2 days at the time of her death. She is survived by the husband and one son Albert, who with his family reside on the farm adjoining that of his father.

Mrs. Nettleton through her long life in the county had made many friends by her kind-heartedness and genial nature and her departure to the other realm will tinge the hearts of many with sadness.

The funeral was held at the home on Thursday, at 2 p. m., Rev. H. S. Fritsch officiating. Burial was made in Spring Grove cemetery.

## S. S. CONVENTION A MARKED SUCCESS

What was the largest and probably the best all round convention of Sunday school workers ever held in Medina county was held at the Baptist church at Medina on Friday and Saturday last. Every township in the county was represented at the convention and almost every school. The large attendance was in part accountable for the excellent spirit in evidence. With the large attendance was made possible also the splendid volume of song and the large measure of inspiration, together with the fine attention given to all the speakers. It was the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the Sunday school association in this county and it seems as tho the workers recognized the significance of the occasion and were determined to do the occasion justice.

The program was characterized by a series of most excellent addresses, among which chief mention must be accorded to the address of Mr. A. I. Root, on "Fifty Years of Sunday School Life in Medina County," to the address of Dr. W. B. Sluts of Wooster on "The Teacher and His Bible," and to the addresses of Mrs. Phoebe Curtis, of the state office at Columbus on "The Sunday School Program," "The Missionary Spirit in the Sunday School" and "The Religion of a Girl." Special note must also be made of the singing, under the leadership of Mr. C. R. Weist of the Cleveland Y. M. C. A. and two solos given by Mr. Fred Bohley of Medina.

The program committee certainly are to be congratulated upon the splendid success of the convention.

Officers were elected to direct the work of the Sunday schools throughout the county for the coming year. The list has at its head the name of Mr. J. M. Alderfer of Sharon, who has so successfully led the work for the last several years.

## AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

There are 272,045 farms in the state of Ohio. The average farm has 88.6 acres. Between 1900 and the last report there was an increase of 14.7 per cent in the population of the state and a decrease of 1.75 per cent in the number of farms. The acreage of farm land decreased in about the same per cent as the number of farms, while the acreage of improved lands decreased only 1 per cent.

The total value of farm property, which includes lands, buildings, machinery, live stock, poultry and bees, is \$1,902,685,000, an increase since 1900 of \$708,771,000, or 58.7 per cent.

The average value of a farm in 1900 was \$4,333, while at the last census it was \$6,984. The average value per acre rose from \$33.35 to \$34.

There are 54,997 mortgaged farms in this state. The average value of the mortgaged farm is \$5,160. The average debt per farm is \$1,491.

Size of farms—Under 3 acres, 2,531; 3 to 9 acres, 14,816; 10 to 19 acres, 18,115; 20 to 49 acres, 67,566; 50 to 99 acres, 89,174; 100 to 174 acres, 67,253; 175 to 259 acres, 13,361; 260 to 499 acres, 7,218; 500 to 999 acres, 916; 1,000 acres and over, 164.

The annual institute of the Medina County W. C. T. U. will be held in the Baptist church at Litchfield, Tuesday, May 25. Morning session to open at 10 o'clock, standard time. Miss Susan Hinman of Oberlin will be one of the speakers. In the evening a matron's gold medal contest will be held.

## EUROPE IN 1870 AND 1915

Recently it came to our attention that there resided in this county a gentleman who by experience was pre-eminently fitted for writing of the present conflict in Europe and the causes leading up to it. This gentleman is Dr. G. H. Mente, pastor of the M. E. church at Grangerburg. Dr. Mente is a lecturer of wide repute and is familiar with all the scenes of the present world struggle. He served under Louis Napoleon in the dark days of the French empire and is a direct descendant of one of Bonaparte's drummer boys in his Moscow campaign. Dr. Mente's father served as a lad of 12, under the great Napoleon. The following was contributed by Dr. Mente upon the urgent request of the Sentinel:

Europe is engaged in the most titanic struggle in the history of the world; Hannibal, Alexander, Bonaparte in all their days of military glory are sinking into oblivion when compared with the men of this century, leading the armies of Europe. No one dare foretell the final issue at this stage of the war, no man can figure out the future problems that must arise from the struggle. One thing is certain: The national fortitude, national temper and patriotism of the masses are being tried as never before and the different governments are facing a most stupendous deficit in their financial outlook; the present war in Europe has called for the very best of all the engaged nations, it will close with the expenditure of billions in dollars, and millions of human lives, for war always calls for the sacrificing of the best and strongest manhood upon the blood-stained altars of the war God. Hence the much talked about survival of the fittest can never be applied to warfare. Great surprises have already come to the engaging nations, great destruction to the invaded territories and if the proposed blockade of the ports of entry should prove successful, the finishing touches to the great world drama.

It is wise that we look back over a few decades and compare the days of 1870 with the pages of history that are being written in blood at the present time. Only an unbiased mind is able to do this in justice to all parties concerned. I passed through the days of the humiliation of the great French Empire to seek and to find a new home on American soil and am therefore able to write a little of the past, at the same time dwell upon the present.

The so called neutrality of our country became a farce as soon as national division stirred strife among men of different nationalities; it matters not whether they hail from Germany, France, Russia, Serbia, Montenegro, Austria or England. This United States is made up of all nations, for here we find the Teuton, Slav, Celt, Norseman, Latin, English, Indian, African and Asiatic, all protected by the same flag, the starry emblem of liberty; and not one of the millions of home-seeking and home-finding emigrants can become a citizen until he abjures all fidelity to any foreign potentate whatsoever, at the same time swears to support the constitution and flag of his adopted country.

We claim to have solved the mystery of a national brotherhood of man. Hence we must ever forget that our high principles of American civilization call for great wisdom and the man who belittles any of the warring factions is not wise. It has always been a mystery to me, why in this American republic we should have Irish Americans, German Americans, and other nationalities still clinging to their former name, when in reality they have solemnly sworn to become Americans. This clanish spirit can bode no good if the country should ever be called upon to meet a foreign foe on land or sea; let us forget the corner where our cradle stood and sing the praises of the land that mothered us; America forever.

I will not enter upon the question whether or not the assassination of a certain man and his morganatic wife called for the drawing of the swords

of almost every power in Europe. I have no right to challenge France, Russia, England, or Germany, yet I can, unbiassed by prejudice, compare the attitude of the nations with their well formed program of almost half a century. One thing will be conceded by every well balanced mind, the war did not drop suddenly from the clouds because Belgium desired to remain a free and independent state.

Looking over history we must rather surmise that the expansive policy of Germany had a great bearing upon the present struggle. Have you carefully studied history? Frederick the Great was the real father of the present German politics: When Poland was unscrupulously divided in 1772, Prussia and later Germany has followed this policy of land grabbing at the expense of the weaker nation; thus Sleswig-Holstein, Hannover, Hessen, Frankfurt and Elsass Lorraine were added.

If we were to visit Germany today we would soon find that the country is divide into the civil and military hierarchy, whose head and heart is the Kaiser, and the common people tho not enslaved like the Russian serf of former days, yet who in reality are regulated from headquarters, the government by militarism for the people, a direct opposition to the policy of the great American emancipator, who believed in government by the people, for the people.

I am certain some one will call me to task for such statement, yet I am positive that hardly any newspaper is published in Germany today, that would dare to criticize the government. Thus it has been stated again and again that the German nation is a great machine, moved by the strong arm of militarism. It is also true that Germany is the best organized nation in the world; the empire has built up a splendid over-sea trade, several colonies have been found, thus altogether Germany represents a military system which at the present is threatening the balance of power in Europe, and perhaps will try to dominate the world if the scale of war should tip in favor of the Emperor. Still admitting all this, why should we condemn Germany for the present situation, which in a large measure has been forced upon her?

Germany is fighting for her very existence among the great world powers. She was compelled to make her army the most efficient in the world in order to upset the balance of power in Europe, which the other governments, especially that of the British Isles, have sought to maintain with so much concern ever since the downfall of Napoleon Bonaparte.

It seems to the unbiased mind that Germany has threatened the peace of Europe not because it has been perfecting her army and navy, but the other powers have with alarm seen the military system of Germany grow, until it stands today among the leading nations of the world. All European states, small or large, have a military system, yet none of the great powers has been willing to make sacrifice of time and money to bring their respective armies to the point of such excellence as has been reached by the German people. It is not true that England has persistently followed the policy that her navy must be as powerful as the combined navies of all other European powers? Up to this present struggle no power has dared to challenge the mistress of the seas; altho bitterly opposed to war, I believe that it is the duty of every sovereign state to maintain such military and naval units, as its citizenship deems needful for the proper protection of their interests on land and sea; this same right has been accorded to all powers, hence it is unfair to condemn Germany without a cause. No one doubts that if the German navy had been in such a demoralized condition, its army so morally unfit to cope with an enemy, as Russian arms proved themselves in the Japanese struggle, no hue and cry would have been raised in regard to the danger threatening the peace of the world, so far as Germany was concerned.

(To be continued)

Mallet Creek High school commencement this Friday evening in the York Congregational church. Music by Harrington's orchestra and Mr. F. Bohley, baritone. On Saturday evening in the town hall the annual alumni banquet. The township 8th grade chorus will sing at the commencement exercises.

While Mrs. C. L. Griesinger was learning to drive her new auto Tuesday afternoon she momentarily lost control when turning the corner at Spring Grove and East Washington streets and the machine took a diagonal course across the street, running into a water hydrant and breaking it off at the ground. The auto was up-

## HAVE YOU SEEN O. C. GARDNER?

Relatives of O.T. Gardner are at a loss to account for his absence from home. He left Medina about six weeks ago ostensibly to accept a position with a tea company in Ashland. He returned the following week stating that his work was proving prosperous. Since then his family have received no word from him, nor have they been able to ascertain his whereabouts. He is said to have been seen walking in the road this side of Berea two or three weeks ago, but further than that nothing has been seen nor heard of him by his family. He has a family of small children dependent upon him and in the father's absence the responsibility is being shouldered by the older sons. Anyone seeing Mr. Gardner, or knowing where he may be found, will do a righteous act by notifying the family, or the authorities at Medina.

## THE WINANS SCHOOL LAW

The Winans School law 24 point. The Winans School Law, which passed the House Tuesday night makes some quite radical changes in the present school code, but, in the main, does not materially injure the rural school system; in fact, the law, as we see it, seems to be intended to strengthen the power of the county board of education and county superintendent and to hasten consolidation or centralization of schools. Some of the more interesting features are as follows: No district superintendent is allowed to have charge of fewer than 30 teachers, but a school district maintaining a first-grade high school may remain out from under district supervision, and the local board of education will have power to say how much time the principal of such school shall give to actual supervision. Such schools will receive no state aid toward payment of principal's salary, but such principal shall perform the office of superintendent directly under the county superintendent. This provision will add work for the county superintendent. Another feature of the new law is the power of the county board of education concerning the closing of schools having a daily attendance under 12 for the past year. In cases of this kind the county board shall have the power to exercise its discretion as to whether such school shall be closed or continued, and from their decision there is no appeal. The county board also has power to set one whole district into another.

## ROBBERS ENTER CHIPPEWA HOME

Last Thursday afternoon while he and his wife were absent from home two tramps broke into the palatial residence of John Dix, a mile south of Chippewa Lake, ransacked it and stole a couple of gold watches, some silverware and other articles. The tramps had appeared at the Dix home about noon and asked for something to eat. They were given their dinner. Within hearing of the tramps. Mr. and Mrs. Dix unwittingly discussed their proposed absence from home and it is believed the former secreted them selves a safe distance from the house until Mr. and Mrs. Dix went away. The tramps gained entrance through a cellar window. Sheriff Gehman was notified and the latter spent Thursday evening in an effort to get some trace of the thieves, but without avail.

## WILL CONTEST WILL

Through Prosecutor Underwood the county commissioners will undertake to have the court set aside the will of the late wife of James Ostrander of Wadsworth township, but who at the present time is an inmate of the county infirmary. Ostrander is not altogether of sound mind and it is claimed that in signing to his wife what he supposed was a life lease to 16 acres of land left him by his mother, it proved to be a warrant deed. Since the death of his mother, her son by a former marriage naturally lays claim to the property. The commissioners believe they will be able to set the will aside and in their effort to do so have the sympathies of a large number of Wadsworth people, who bear a friendly feeling for Ostrander and believe that he should not be made an object of charity when there is property available that rightfully belongs to him.

## DEATH CALLS AGED LITCHFIELD MAN

After having attained to the long life of 85 years, 2 months and 13 days, considerably over half of which had been spent in Litchfield, this county, Marcus G. Goodrich passed from life at his home last Saturday at the close of day.

The deceased was born in Vermont, March 2, 1830, and came to Ohio in 1853, locating on a farm in York township, near the Litchfield line. Here he resided until 1866, when he removed to the adjoining farm in Litchfield, where he made his home thereafter until the time of his death. On September 15, 1856, he was united in marriage to Eliza Lamson of York. A separation followed this union some years later and November 18, 1884, Mr. Goodrich married Mrs. Ida Atwood, also of York. There have been three children, Mrs. Sybil May Warner, who resides near Elyria; Mrs. Minnie Marion Manning, now dead, who resided in York, and Clara Dean Goodrich of Berby, Vt. The widow, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren also survive.

The deceased had always been an industrious man, of strict integrity, and was respected by all with whom he had acquaintance or dealing. He will be missed not only by his family, but by a wide circle of friends as well.

Funeral services were held from the home Wednesday forenoon at 10:30 o'clock, conducted by Rev. Hooper of Mallet Creek, where burial was made.

## BOYS ENTER YOUR NAMES FOR CONTEST

Ohio's future as a live stock state looks bright. Today the Buckeye state ranks high among other states in the number and quality of farm animals produced. What then is the cause of this burst of enthusiasm for the future? Simply because farm boys in Ohio are becoming interested in stock raising. This is shown by the fact that more than 2500 boys have already entered the Boys' Livestock Judging Contests which will be held at the local fair and several other county fairs this fall. If this is not one of the liveliest and most interesting contests ever held at the fair, it will not be the fault of the boys. They are coming out in full force.

Boys in this county who have not already sent their names to Clark S. Wheeler, Supervisor of Extension Schools, Ohio State University, Columbus, should do so at once. Each boy who does well will receive a handsome badge and instructive literature on live stock judging which will help him prepare for the contest. These bulletins have been especially written for the boys and describe in plain words how to size up a good draft horse, dairy cow or lard hog. This contest at the fair an event to which the boys can look forward to with training will help to make the judging real pleasure, and if they enter, they will learn something worth while about the value of livestock. It is the belief of the authorities at the College of Agriculture, that if the boys can be trained to know the good points about farm animals, they will want to stay on the farm and help produce them. Liberal prizes have been offered the winners by the fair board in addition to three free trips to Farmers' Week offered by the College of Agriculture. Send in your name now.

## TAKE TIME BY FORELOCK

Evidently Orlo Johnson and wife of Lafayette township believe implicitly in the adage "a stitch in time saves nine." They filed bills Monday with the commissioners for \$200 and \$1,000 respectively for compensation for damages to land in which a ditch, that thus far has only been petitioned for, will, if eventually dug, likely intersect. The commissioners are not due to visit the site of the ditch until the 27th of this month and even then may decide that there is insufficient cause for digging one. The proposed ditch would be better than a mile long running from north of Chatham east until near the Lafayette line, then northwesterly into Lafayette township, where it would encroach upon the Johnson acres.

Rev. H. S. Fritsch attended the 68 annual meeting of the Congregational conference of Ohio which opened at Painesville Tuesday morning and continued until Thursday night. Prominent Congregationalists from all over the country were present. Among the lay speakers were ex-president Taft, Paul Howland, and Wayne B. Wheeler.