

THE HARTFORD HERALD

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44th YEAR.

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WEEKLY READ AND MURMUR NOT.

For forty-four years The Hartford Herald has come as a welcome visitor to the homes of its readers and never, as its files show, has it missed many issues, and especially two issues in succession. But this week it is confronted with conditions perhaps never faced before. With no printer and foreman, the regular linotype operator sick in bed, the local editor recovering from an attack of the unnamable influenza, with depleted force and everything in confusion, The Herald attempts to come out with a regular edition. Behold us, dear reader, on Tuesday morning without a line of type set, machinery out of trim, no help except those we can press into service, and the paper due Wednesday morning; behold, we say, and sympathize. Our apology is abject, but we are doing our best. The paper is a poor excuse and will in no manner measure with its former excellence, but if we get out at all it will be little short of a miracle. Without the neighborly assistance of the Hartford Republican we could not attempt a paper. Their kindness will be long remembered. With this apology and explanation we submit this week's issue to our readers, with the promise that in future issues we shall attempt to atone for this week's shortcomings.

Owensboro Tobacco Market Strengthening

(Special to The Herald.)
Owensboro, Ky., Dec. 11.—There is a noticeable strengthening in the tobacco market during the last few days. Tobacco that has been selling low at the opening of the houses is now going higher with a prospect of prices equal and better than those of last year. With a good season, farmers are bringing their tobacco from every section in proximity to the Owensboro market, and hundreds of loads have already been delivered

and the growers received satisfactory prices.
The meeting of the Ohio county farmers last Friday and the meeting here Saturday seems to have nerved the farmers to demand a reasonable price and they are receiving it without question. A large number are delivering the weed from a distance and few have been the loads that were hauled back. Withal the prospect is better for a good priced crop than ever before.

POTASH HUNGER OF POTATOES

Throughout all of the principal potato-growing sections of the East there is growing evidence of the effect of lack of potash on potatoes. First this hunger for potash was made apparent by decreased yields. Virginia, Maine, New Jersey and New York have found that they cannot grow potatoes as well as they could five or six years ago.

Potatoes don't set as well, tubers don't fill out, and disease is more common.

Potato specialists, who have been studying the matter, say that most of the trouble is due to the lack of potash in the potato fertilizer. They also say that the new diseases of potatoes which have been so common for the past two years are nothing more than "Potash Hunger."

The Phoma stem blight, which was so common in 1918 along the Eastern seaboard, has been definitely traced down to malnutrition due to lack of potash. The disease is made apparent by a bronzing of the foliage followed by a premature collapse of the entire plant.

Specialists in Washington say that using potash fertilizer will remove the cause of the trouble, and advise farmers to buy fertilizer containing 2 to 3 per cent of potash for use next year.

MAKING AN ACRE PRODUCE MORE PORK

In these days when every acre must be made to produce its utmost, the results with fertilizers at the Ohio agricultural experiment station are most interesting.

Translating corn yields into terms of work, it was found that where no fertilizer of any kind was used, an acre of corn would produce about 282 pounds of pork; where manure was used on the corn land, 457 pounds of pork were produced; and where fertilizer was applied in addition to manure, an acre of corn produced 652 pounds of work.

On most farms manure is lacking and more dependence must be placed upon the commercial forms of fertilizer. All who expect to use fertilizer next spring should place their orders not later than November. Wartime conditions make it necessary to order far in advance.

MORE AND BETTER CORN

The average acre yield of corn in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, three of the leading corn-belt states, has been about 35 bushels per acre—and this on land which has been farmed for scarcely more than two generations, and which is naturally of the best. On the other hand, in New England, on land cultivated for well on to two centuries, on soil not of the best, and in a climate rather bleak and harsh, the average has been 42 bushels per acre. It is the consistent and intelligent use of fertilizers which has made the difference possible. In all corn sections yields of from 70 to 100, or even more, bushels per acre are easily possible. Fertilizers not only make possible the production of more corn per acre, but by so doing free land for other uses—for more wheat, or more of any other crop.

Nearly all of the experiment stations have experimented with fertilizer on corn. In Ohio 320 pounds per acre of a complete fertilizer increased the yield 17 bushels per acre—this where no manure was used. At the same station eight tons of manure, containing considerably more ammonia and potash, but no more phosphoric acid than the above fertilizer, produced an increase of 29 bushels of corn per acre. When this manure was supplemented with 320 pounds per acre of acid phosphate, however, the increase in the corn crop has been an additional 12 bushels. This means a total increase of 32 bushels per acre, produced by manure and fertilizer.

The West Virginia experiment station secured an increase of 47 bushels per acre from the use of complete fertilizer alone. At the Pennsylvania experiment station, 650 pounds per acre of a complete fertilizer increased the corn crop by 18 bushels.

Lack of available plant food is the greatest single factor causing low acre yields of corn. It is the function of fertilizer to supply this available food. Fertilizer, in connection with good farming practices, will double the acre yield of corn, and thus set free land more than sufficient to grow wheat enough for ourselves and for our allies in Europe. To grow more corn or more wheat we need send to the block not a single head of breeding stock. Owing to the labor and car shortage fertilizers for next spring should be ordered shipped now.

DO THIS NOW

FERTILIZER ORDER

U.S. MAIL

AND AVOID DOING THIS LATER

FERTILIZER DEALER

APRIL

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President Woodrow Wilson.

President Wilson will not sit at the peace table, but will be represented there by delegates while remaining in close contact with the heads of the other nations and prepare to decide questions referred to him.

Premier Clemenceau, it is believed, will be president of the peace conference. This is considered fitting because the conference will be held in France. President Wilson's disposition is in favor of entirely public proceedings, such as are carried on in the Senate chamber at Washington, with the press representatives given every facility to report certain business. Naturally there will be need of secrecy, as there is in the Foreign Relations Committee, but the President's idea is that the procedure could be much the same as at Washington, a committee considering the confidential and delicate features of various questions and then reporting back to the peace congress for action.

MARINE CABLES UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

Washington.—An order making effective government possession and control of marine cable systems of the United States, proclaimed by President Wilson under date of November 2, was issued here by Postmaster General Burleson. It directs that until further notice cable companies shall continue operation through regular channels, and asks the co-operation of officers and employees of the companies and of the public.

WANT PEACE CONFERENCE TO ACT ON PROHIBITION.

Columbus, Ohio.—The peace conference as a means of spreading the prohibition movement into countries as yet untouched by the anti-saloon forces was advocated here at the world-wide conference on prohibitions being held under the auspices of the Anti-saloon League of America. Rev. P. A. Baker, national superintendent of the league, addressing the meeting, said "that some how the prohibition sentiment must make itself felt at the peace table," but he did not indicate just what means might be adopted to further the purpose of the organization.

When soldiers meet in a spirited attack in a cafe, re-treat is the usual order.

ALWAYS LAND OF TROUBLE

Barbaric Invasion and Czarnism Have Molded Russian History, to People's Sorrow.

The backwardness of the Russians can be pretty adequately accounted for by three historical factors. There is, first, the Mongol yoke which rested upon them for nearly two and a half centuries. During the wonderful thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, while England was establishing her parliamentary and democratic models were being worked out in the free self-governing city states of Italy and the low countries, the Russians lay flattened under an alien Asiatic despotism. By the time they had rid themselves of the Mongols all legal rights of individuals, local communities and social classes had disappeared, leaving the power of the czars unlimited.

In the second place, for a long time after the Muscovites had freed themselves from the Mongols, their settlements in the rich treeless steppe to the south of them—the famous "black soil"—remained to become the granary of Russia and, indeed, of Europe—were exposed to raids by the nomadic Tartars hemming them on the east and south. Until the days of Peter the Great the Russians were for the most part confined to the less fertile forested region of the North, where they were safe from the incursions of the nomads. Let one imagine how our economic development would have suffered had our ancestors been confined to the wooded region of the upper Ohio and the Great Lakes because the fertile prairies from Indiana to the Rocky mountains lay open to the raids of barbarian horsemen riding up from the great populated area in the Southwest!

Then there was the Romanoff autocracy, which in Shakespeare's day crushed the bulk of the people down into serfdom—which later became slavery—and kept them there for two and a half centuries.—Edward Alworth Ross in Asia Magazine.

APPEALED TO GIRL'S VANITY

Department Store Clerk Proved That He Had Some Little Knowledge of Human Nature.

Among nonessential citizens, a place must be given to the summer girl who does all her swimming on the beach. In all her togas which never could stand in cruel ocean waves. Whether this type is still in existence or not is a question, but at any rate a conversation overheard recently in a department store gives ground for suspicion. The ambitious clerk was selling a high-priced bathing suit and was managing the operation in a masterful way. She finally pinned her victim, a bluff girl, down to a choice between two; one was blue with green trimmings, the other purple with white.

"Do you ever have photos taken in your bathing suit?" asked the clerk.

"Why, sometimes," said the girl, mystified.

"Well," said the inspired clerk, "the reason I ask is because often girls have said that they want suits with contrasting colors because they show up so much better in the pictures. That's why you might like this purple with the white border better than the other, which wouldn't show up nearly so well. I didn't know whether you had thought about it or not, but often girls do have their pictures taken on the beach, you know."—Indianapolis News.

Napoleon's Descendant.

A great-grandson of Napoleon Bonaparte was killed recently in action not far from Reims, where he was at the head of a machine-gun section. His name was Daniel Napoleon Messard, and he was the son of a lady whose maiden name was Leon, and who was the daughter of Count Leon, a natural son of the emperor. The dead soldier bore himself bravely in defense of Reims, and was mentioned in dispatches.

Ohio County Boy Falls in France

Marlin Keith, a farmer of the Horse Branch section, has received word that his son, Lee Keith, was killed in action in France sometime ago. As his name has never appeared in the casualty lists, Mr. Keith doubted the authenticity of the news until it was confirmed by the government. Young Keith left last May in the big quota who went to Camp Taylor. He was sent to several

camps before going across and went into action immediately. He was killed just before the armistice was signed.

Mr. Keith recently lost a barn and a year's crop and the news of his son's death is very hard for him to bear amidst his other adversities. He has the sympathy of all his neighbors and friends.

DAZED BY HUN ATROCITIES

Emotional Faculties of Afflicted Belgians Probably Paralyzed by the Horrors They Had Witnessed.

Mr. Brand Whitlock, former American minister to Belgium, has been talking about the horror of Louvain in the London Daily Telegraph:

"I was struck by the lack of passion displayed by all those who had so terribly suffered. I seldom heard any of them express hatred of the Germans or any desire for revenge. 'None of them, as far as I could learn or observe, even acted in the tragic manner. There were no heroes and no histrionics; they did not even demean themselves as do people in the cinema or the romantic novels.'

"In moments of great danger, or great strain and tragedy, people are simple and natural; they do not act in the theatrical sense of the word."

To say that a play could be acted without gesture or other expression of what we feel is absurd. Nor would, I think, history support Mr. Brand Whitlock's inference, whatever may have been the story of unhappy Belgium.

When Miss de Berry died upon the scaffold in Paris, her sisters delighted the watching women. The Duc de Guise ran wildly from his executioner to throw himself at the feet of Henry of France. "It was for his country's misfortune—the family of the ill-fated Louis XVI did not cease their lamentations all night when they heard that he was to be guillotined in dawn."

The cheer of Judge Jeffreys found expression in the rappings and ranting of a madman. Beethoven went when driven from Grand, Henry VIII could sneer like a child—Catherine Howard shrieked at Hampton court, and the superstitious hear her shrieks to this day.

In my view, the unhappy Belgians were dazed by the very horror of the circumstance. The atrocities committed by the Hun were too awful. Shall we wonder if the emotional faculties were paralyzed?—London Dispatch.

UNITED THOUGH FAR APART

Ceremony Known as "Handschoen" Recognized Under the Dutch Law as Legal Form of Marriage.

Not so very long ago a Boer in Pretoria was married to a girl in Amsterdam, Holland, the ceremony constituting what the Dutch call handschoen, or glove marriage.

In spite of the fact that a distance of 3,000 miles lay between the bride in the Netherlands and the bridegroom in the Transvaal they were just as effectively married under the Dutch law as if both had been present in the same church.

The bridegroom sent to his friend, or best man, in Amsterdam a power of attorney to represent him as his proxy at the ceremony, and at the same time forwarded his glove, which at the proper moment, when the two were made one, was held by both the bride and the proxy. The wedding was duly registered at Amsterdam and at Pretoria, where the bridegroom filed an affidavit with the proper magistrate.

This curious form of marriage is a purely Dutch institution, the custom having originated, it is said, in the old times of Dutch-Batavian rule. It is, however, a dead letter in the Transvaal since the English took over that colony.

Fawn Remarkably Tame.

While standing in the woods Warden Otis C. Small of Hammoncton, N. J., says a young fawn approached and after eyeing him for a short time came up and rubbed his body with its nose. The warden says he had no trouble in making friends with the deer. Warden Small expressed the opinion that deer knew when the closed season was on, but that this was the first instance when one actually held him up in the woods.

A Delinquent Citizen.

"Can you direct me to these offices?" inquired the man with a slip of paper in his hand.

"No, I have lived in Washington all my life. You had better ask some one who has made a study of the town since all these new buildings went up."

BURLESON WRONG, IS MACKAY REPLY.

Clarence H. Mackay, President of the Postal Telegraph-Commercial Cable Companies, upon being shown the statement of Postmaster General Burleson regarding his reasons for taking control of the cable lines, said:

"I fail to see the point of Mr. Burleson's argument. The land line systems are theoretically in the hands of the Postmaster General, but practically they are operated by the two telegraph companies exactly the same as they were before the Postmaster General took them over. Mr. Burleson fails to point out how any more traffic can be sent over the ocean cables than under present control. Those cables already are operated to their full capacity by the most expert management and he cannot add to their capacity. The recent breakdown of the Western Union cable system caused the cable business to go by the Commercial Cable Company's cables, and its facilities were overtaxed. But how could Mr. Burleson have added to their capacity during that interruption?"

"Ever since the United States entered the war the American ends of the cables have been under the control of Government officials as effectively as any control could be. They have been under the control of the Director of Naval Communications, and not a single thing pertaining to the operation of the lines or the facility with which cable despatches are being handled was done without his knowledge."

"There is not a quarter of the need of close control of the cable systems now or during the period of readjustment that there was during the war was a vast quantity of war news which is now quickly subsiding since the armistice was declared."

"Mr. Burleson, of course, is not a practical cable man and knows absolutely nothing about that line of business and his reasoning is not convincing. He is all wrong."

"Mr. Burleson says he has other reasons. I fear that the chief one is incipient Government ownership."

Knowledge Unto Himself.

A group of business men met on a street corner in a certain city and were discussing the progress that has been made by the allied forces on the western front. During the conversation a fellow-citizen, who is fond of expressing his opinion, but whose field of information is so limited that he doesn't appreciate how small it is, joined the crowd and listened to the various expressions.

Unable to hold his silence, he declared:

"There ain't no doubt but that our boys has thrown new life into the allies, but in my opinion the Huns can't fight like the Germans did."

And then before anyone could get in a word he added:

"And then we've done lots better work since our merchant marines has got into the front line action."

Birds as Barometers.

Birds are excellent barometers. A number of our birds—swans, wild duck, coots, moorhens and others—build their nests either on the banks of a river or floating on its surface attached to the reeds or water grasses. These birds, it is said, never by chance get caught by floods, and if you see a swan's nest, say, a foot above the river level you may be sure that during the next few weeks there will not be rain enough to raise the river above that height. The common robin knows a great deal about forthcoming weather. If he sings in the morning it is a certain sign of bad weather.

Prepar Pirate.

"You seem to be rather proud of being a pirate," remarked the trusty lieutenant.

"I am," replied Captain Kidd. "I'm a regular pirate, I am. When I want to sink a ship I superintend the job in person. I don't sit at home and send a lot of scared sailors out to take chances all by themselves in U-boats."