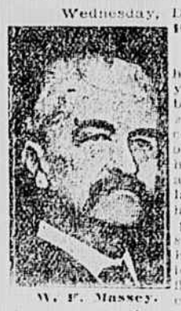
WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY

Wednesday, December 3, 1913.



W. F. Massey.

Hydrangeas in the Open Ground.

"I bought a large hydrangea several years ago in full bloom. The flowers were pink in color. I planted it on my lawn, and it has done very well, and has grown to a large size, but it has never made a pink flowers head since I planted it. Every summer it blooms, but the flowers have all come blue in color. Can you tell me why this is? I can tell you that it is a fact in the experience of every one who has planted the old hydrangea hortensia outdoors. It always makes blue flowers in the open ground. I once had large masses of them on a lawn, and they made blue flowers. I have taken cuttings from these same plants and grown them in pots in the greenhouse, and the flowers were pink in color. Now, why they turn blue in the open ground I do not know, and I do not think any one knows. We simply know that they do, and that is all we know about it. Some have a notion that it is the iron in the soil. But take some of the same soil and put the plant in a lower pot under glass, and it will make pink flowers. There are some things we know, but do not understand.

Tomato Rot.

"My tomatoes rotted badly this year at the blossom end. I would like to know what I can do to prevent this another season." The best way to prevent this tip rot is to have regular rains, or to irrigate in dry weather, it is not one of the rots caused by fungus disease, but is the result of intense dry weather when the fruit is maturing. You will have no tip rot of any consequence when the weather is perfectly favorable, or where you irrigate the crop completely. Spraying tomatoes with Bordeaux mixture is essential to keeping the foliage perfect and preventing the fungus rots, but spraying will not stop the tip rot in dry weather, and it is always worse in a dry, sandy soil than in a heavy, loam that retains moisture better.

Moving an Old Asparagus Bed.

"I need the ground now occupied by my asparagus bed for another purpose. The bed is about eight years old. Can I take these roots up and move them to a new place successfully?" Asparagus is pretty hard to kill, and I suppose that these old roots might get to growing again after a while if transplanted. But I can take the seed next spring and plant a new bed in the way I have heretofore described in these columns, and get more and better asparagus in a couple of years than you can get in five from the old roots. Better start a new bed from the seed, for you can grow asparagus more quickly and better from seed sown where it is to remain than by transplanting roots of any age.

Indian Runner Ducks.

"I have eighteen very nice looking Indian runner ducks. I have fed them corn, wheat, oats, bran and meal mixed, both wet and dry. I have shells and green food for them all the time, but they still do not lay more than two or three eggs apiece before stopping for fifteen or twenty days. What shall I feed for egg production, and how much per duck?"

This is from a woman correspondent, and I fear she has come to a poor source for information, and I insert her letter here in hope that some of our readers will give me their experience with these ducks. I am not at all skilled in poultry raising or feeding.

Land Plaster.

"Will not land plaster be a good application on clover?"

It was formerly used for this purpose, and on some soils showed a good effect for a time. Many years ago the farmers up in Pennsylvania found that they got some good results from plaster, and there came about a great interest in plaster, and they started plaster mills, and the farmers used it and came to the conclusion that plaster was the one thing needed. But after a while they found that plaster no longer gave them any results, and the practice died out and the mills went down. They found that their soil was getting acid, and then they went into lime with the same sort of enthusiasm that many are going into its use now, and they used lime in great quantities. I remember well when I was a college student in the Cumberland Valley that the farmers were liming their land at the rate of 200 bushels an acre. But they found that the lime was enabling them to use up the plant food in the soil, and that such heavy application was erroneous, and now, while in that section, they still lime occasionally, they never use over twenty-five bushels an acre, and take care to keep up the humus in the soil through clover. Plaster, the sulphate of lime, will not sweeten an acid soil as lime carbonate does. It has been largely used to mix with manure to prevent the loss of ammonia, but now we find that acid phosphate is just as good for this purpose, and adds plant food to the manure that the plaster does not. On soils abounding in insoluble potash, like most of the red Piedmont soils of the granite formation, the plaster will have some effect in releasing potash, but lime will do this more efficiently. I made a comparison years ago on adjoining fields with lime and plaster on clover, and I found that I got a great deal better result from the lime than from plaster. Acid phosphate carries about 30 per cent of plaster, and when applied to clover it will furnish food that the clover needs, and the plaster it carries will have some slight effect in releasing potash, but I hardly think that it pays to invest money in plaster alone.

More About Dasheen.

My crop of the Dasheen tubers has been lifted and stored in a warm cellar. I have not tested the eating quality of the tubers, as I have so few that I intend to keep all for planting. The Department of Agriculture has been having these grown at Brooksville, Fla. The secretary of the Brooksville Board of Trade writes very enthusiastically about the plant. He says: "You can treat the young stalks as celery, and secure a product superior to asparagus tips or mushrooms. A single planting will grow eight crops, coming off every two weeks. You can also use the stalks as rhubarb, and some of the leaves as greens. When the tubers mature you can use it in any form that a potato can be used, or grind it into flour and make of it anything that can be made of flour. You can make a piecrust of the flour and the filling with the green stalks, or the tuber as with sweet potato or pumpkin." All of which I would say should be taken with some allowances, if any one should taste the stalks or tubers raw, he will find that he has caught a tartar, and will have to resort to lemon juice to stop the burning of his tongue and mouth. No one can distinguish the growing Dasheen from the ordinary Caladium esculentum or elephant ears so much planted for ornament. The only difference I can see is that the rootlets of the Dasheen are white and those of the Caladium are pink. They will grow best on low, moist and rich soil. I grew them this year on dry, sandy upland, and the dry summer was a hindrance to their making large tubers. Whether they are any better to eat than the tubers of the Caladium, which are a popular food with the Sandwich Islanders, remains to be tested. But the green leaves and stalks of either are as acrid as those of the common Indian turnip. Cooking destroys this.

Saving Seed at Home.

"I gathered seed of tomatoes this summer from the finest fruits I had. Will not these seed be as good as any I can buy?" If the surrounding plants were all of the same variety, your seed will be as pure as any you can buy, and, selected from the best specimens, they should improve. If extra earliness is the object, I have found that it is better to get seed from as far North as possible. I have been getting seed of the earliest tomato, the Earliana, from a firm up near the Canada line, who have been breeding and selecting this seed for years. I find that this seed comes into fruit earlier here than seed saved here, though my seed make just as good fruits. In fact, there are many seeds which the careful gardener can save and do better than by buying. Seed of early peas should always be bought from a reliable seedsman, for they are grown in the far North, and do better than home-grown seed. Several years ago, not having facilities for starting egg-plants early as I wished, I bought potted plants from a nursery, and did this for two years, and every year had diseased plants. Then I got seed saved by a neighbor of the same variety, and had healthy and prolific plants, and since then have been saving my own seed. Seed of Lima beans saved here from the earliest ripening pods will do better for our planting than seed from the North. This is especially true of the Small Lima or Butter bean.

Seed of sugar corn saved here will do far better than the bought seed, for these are nearly all grown in Nebraska, and seed of corn of any sort grown far north or south of the place where it is planted will not do as well the first season as home-grown seed, for corn needs to be acclimated to a locality to do its best. Seed of the Mammoth, Egyptian and Stowell's Evergreen corn saved right where it is to be planted will give far better results than seed from a distance. Seed of the extra early varieties of sugar corn will lose in earliness, but will gain in vigor by being saved at home.

INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY OFFICERS

HOWARD D. HADLEY, President.
Photo by Foster.

N. M. PARROTT, Secretary.

THREE A'S IGNORE TREASON CHARGE

No Committee Appointed to Handle Case of Dr. Heyl, Who Roasted Organization.

CONVENTION ENDS ITS WORK

Optimistic Talk as to Attendance Started by Local Member of Automobile Club.

With the written charges of treason against Dr. A. B. Heyl, of Cleveland, still pocketed in his coat, President John A. Wilson yesterday ignored their expressed injunction that he appoint a committee of five to try the offender, and at 3:15 o'clock the convention of the American Automobile Association adjourned sine die without further reference to the matter which on the day before threw the association into an uproar.

One of the officials closest to the president said afterward that the matter could be taken up by the executive committee, which would probably summon Dr. Heyl and try him on the charges preferred against him by the convention. It is the prevailing belief, however, that the written charges will never again see the light of day, and that the matter will be referred to hereafter only as "the late unpleasantness."

Changes His Attitude.

After the article in a Cincinnati paper, condemnatory of the association, had been read and Dr. A. B. Heyl had been declared to be its author, President Wilson said that he was getting tired of this sort of charge, and that it was either a lie or the truth, and that the burden of proof was on the writer. He began immediately after the charges were approved by the convention to appoint the committee, but when the two Ohioans, Harry Vaile and Harry Gordon, members of Heyl's club, refused, Mr. Wilson desisted.

But his attitude was still one of stern protest against the article. Yesterday President Wilson changed his attitude. He said: "The talk of ring rule is too ridiculous to deserve mention. All the influential men who will give of their time and money we want in this so-called ring. It is inevitable that in our organization, as in many others, there will be a small coterie of objectors to the policy of those intrusted with the administration of affairs. Dr. Heyl did not appear. It was said, however, that he was still in the hotel.

Question of Attendance.

Shortly before adjournment one of the members addressed the chair to say that the A. A. A. was not, and should not be held, responsible for the impression which had gone abroad that 750 members would be in attendance on the Richmond convention, nor for the statement to the Advertising Committee of the City Council, which had resulted in the committee appropriating $750 for the entertainment of the convention.

Robert B. Allport, of the Richmond Automobile Club, explained that the statement that there would be 750 delegates to the convention had been made by a member of the local club, whose enthusiasm and optimism had run away with him. This man, Mr. Allport said, has since been the butt of jest and jeer for his enthusiastic exaggeration. The Advertising Committee was first asked by Preston Belvin, an official of the A. A. A., for $1,500, saying that about 600 delegates were expected. He added that the conventions generally attracted between 1,600 and 1,800 people. Later the request was reduced to $1,000.

The Council didn't have time to act on this appropriation, and a member of the Richmond club asked for and received $750 in cash. This, it is said, will be returned to the city.

The discussion was ordered not to be recorded on the minutes. President Wilson took occasion to remark, however, that other delegates had come in yesterday, making the number about 100. It stands, however, that only sixty-two delegates were accredited, and that the officers were elected and all the important business transacted by that number.

Wound Up in Short Order.

Additional executive committeemen were appointed as follows: George C. Miller, Richard Kennendell, of Pennsylvania; Fred C. Pabst, of Texas, and S. A. Miles, of Maine. George C. Diehl, of New York City, was reappointed chairman of the good roads board; Howard Longstreth, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the committee on touring, and William Schimpf, chairman of the contest board. The convention adjourned at 11 o'clock for a sight-seeing spin through the city, cars being furnished by the Richmond Automobile Club.

The afternoon session lasted only three-quarters of an hour. A motion of Dr. Rowe, of Baltimore, that the association issue educational propaganda to teach children how to avoid accident and how to care for themselves was adopted. Such instruction, Dr. Rowe, explained, is now being given to the children in Baltimore, and has been productive of much good.

The question of the request of the Southern California Association to have jurisdiction over the whole of the State was referred to the executive committee. A motion to place the cycle car under the contest board was adopted unanimously. Mr. Ventlier, of New York, and Dr. Sweet, of New Jersey, were added to the executive committee. Then the chair announced that there would be a midsummer meeting, which would be a "picnic."

A rising vote of thanks was given to Richmond, to the State and to the local automobile club, and at 3:15 o'clock the convention adjourned sine die.

VAILE SOUNDED INSURGENT NOTE

Tells Three A Organization That Its Methods Must Be More Democratic.

DR. HEYL ATTENDS BANQUET

Member Whose Article Caused a Row Dines in Harmony With Everybody.

Sounding the first insurgent note that was heard above the din resulting from the crowding of three days' work in one, Harry Vaile, member of the automobile club of Cleveland, O., said to the American Automobile Association, at its annual banquet last night, that it was the only organization which stood between 500,000 owners of automobiles and a capitalization of $350,000,000 on the part of manufacturers, on the one side, and the menace of bad and improper legislation, on the other.

"I went up to your New York offices some time ago," he said, "and talked to Mr. Batchelder while he was dictating to three stenographers and talking at the same time, and riddled your by-laws, and we in Ohio, if we haven't done anything else, have made it d—d interesting for the association. We want you to fight for the interest of the owners of automobiles, and you've got to evince the fighting spirit. You've got to take up the legislative fights, and help us in the protest against iniquitous legislation. You are all that we have between us and that, and you've got to stand by us."

He said that the organization should be made more democratic; that it should be representative of every section of the country. "And when I say democracy," he said, "I mean it in the generic sense."

His speech, made in serious vein, was regarded as upholding the charge that the association has been manipulated as the tool of manufacturing interests rather than in the interest of owners of automobiles, and of good roads per se.

All in "Inner Ring."

There were many speakers at the banquet. President William H. Adams, of the Board of Aldermen, acting Mayor, represented Richmond at the feast, and was well applauded. President Wilson presided, and there were speeches from the three former presidents—Enos, Speare and Hooper. Mr. Hooper threw taunts into the insurgent camp, and said that he was glad that he was a member of the "inner ring," as only good fellows could get in, and that those who were not good fellows stood no more chance than the proverbial snowdrop in the warm place of traditional fame. "And we have put Harry Vaile and Harry Gordon, of Ohio, into the 'inner ring,' for they are good fellows," he said.

Dr. A. B. Heyl, whose article in the Commercial Tribune of Cincinnati provoked the storm of Monday afternoon's session, sat at a table in the middle of the room. He listened in smiling attention to the taunts of the one and the note of insurgency of the other. He and Messrs. Gordon and Vaile are members of the same automobile club.

Among the other speakers were President Batkins, of the Richmond Automobile Club; Horace F. Smith, Preston Belvin, of Richmond; Harry Gordon, of Cleveland; George C. Drehl and A. G. Batchelder. Frequent complimentary references were made to Mr. Batchelder, who, it had been charged, ran the three A's. A gift had been purchased for him, but was not ready for presentation last night.

Visiting at Pinehurst.

Pinehurst, N. C., December 2.—Dr. J. Lloyd Derby and his bride, formerly Miss Ethel Roosevelt, arrived here to-day to spend a few days at the Carolina. Later they will visit Dr. Derby's brother, Roger A. Derby, at his big plantation near Pinehurst.

Marriage Licenses.

Licenses to marry were issued yesterday by the clerk of the Hustings Court to Floyd Johnson and Blanche Clarke; Richard Furnival and Mary Lamb Waddill, John H. Beery and Annie Epes, and Levy Maitland Kay to Alma Maud Kay.

Barbers to Hold Meeting.

A meeting of the Journeymen barkers' local, No. 39, will be held at Smithdeal Hall to-night.

Arrested on Car.

W. L. Stallings was arrested yesterday for being drunk and disorderly while on a car of the Virginia Railway and Power Company. He was turned over to Traffic Officer Bradley at Seventh and Broad Streets.

Arrested for Cruelty.

James Graves, colored, was arrested yesterday by Patrolman Wyatt on the charge of cruelly working a diseased horse.

Rev. Cochran Preston Installed.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Eureka Mills, Va., December 2.—A commission of Roanoke Presbytery installed Rev. Cockran Preston as pastor of the Drakes Branch Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning and at the village church in the afternoon.

Rev. W. W. Groner presided and preached. Rev. B. F. Bedinger propounded the constitutional questions to the pastor and people, and Rev. J. A. Armstrong charged the pastor. Rev. Mr. Bedinger delivered the charge to the people.

CHARTERS ISSUED

Charters were issued by the State Corporation Commission yesterday as follows:

Fourth Ward Social and Athletic Club, Portsmouth. No capital stock. W. E. Calvert, president; E. H. Wright, secretary—both of Portsmouth.

Industrial Loan Corporation, Portsmouth. Capital: Maximum, $20,000; minimum, $15,000. C. R. Welton, president; A. B. Jarvis, secretary and treasurer—both of Portsmouth. Object: Building and loan association.

Amendment was issued to the charter of McKee Surgical Instrument Company (Inc.), Alexandria, increasing its capital stock from $15,000 to $50,000.

Amendment was issued to the charter of the Merchants' Bakery (Inc.), Norfolk, increasing capital stock from $5,000 to $100,000.

Ambulance Driver Injured.

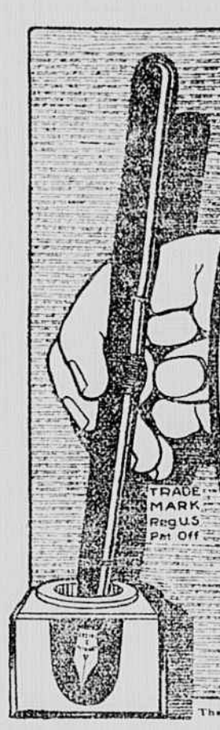
Roy Ford, driver of the City Hospital ambulance, had a narrow escape from serious injury yesterday afternoon while removing a punctured tire from the vehicle. He had a rear wheel "jacked" up, when John Drake, another chauffeur, started the car ahead. Ford's right hand was caught between the wheel and jack, but he managed to jerk it out before it was badly injured. Dr. M. F. Torregrosa, ambulance surgeon, found that Ford's hand had been severely bruised.

Negro Badly Cut.

Henry Harris, colored, was badly cut on the head and hand with a razor last night by a negro said to be John Bagby, who escaped. Harris was taken to the First Police Station with the blood streaming from his wounds. It was necessary for Dr. M. F. Torregrosa, City Hospital ambulance surgeon, to take several stitches in his scalp and hand. Harris, who swore out a warrant for Bagby, said the latter cut him because he struck at, but did not hit, his sister.

Mayor in Washington.

Mayor Ainslie, accompanied by a delegation from the City Council, left at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Washington to attend the National Rivers and Harbors Congress. In his absence President W. H. Adams, of the Board of Aldermen, will be acting Mayor.



It Fills Itself

And just one simple thumb-pressure does it, too.

There's no fountain pen like a Conklin for simplicity. Merely a pressure on the "Crescent-Filler" and it *fills itself* at any inkwell.

Conklin's Self-Filling Fountain Pen

Cleans itself while it fills itself. That's the reason it never clogs or "balks."

$2.50, $3.00, $3.50, $4.00, $5.00 and up. For sale by

Bell Book and Stationery Co.
Southern Stamp and Stationery Co.
Miller & Rhoads.
D. Buchanan & Son.
J. J. Spilling.

The Conklin Pen Mfg. Co. Toledo, Ohio

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

In Your Home

Give your hair and scalp a real treat—a treat that will mean nourishment and invigoration to them. You will find nothing so beneficial—so cooling, healing, soothing and refreshing—nothing that will banish dandruff and relieve scalp itch quite so well as

IMPERIAL HAIR TONIC

"A Blessing on Your Head"

Imperial Hair Tonic promotes hair growth and adds lustre to the hair. It is a high grade, effective preparation, and should be used regularly. A bottle should be on every dressing table—and you should insist that your barber or hairdresser use no other.

50c and $1.00 per bottle everywhere.

Buy it at drug or department stores. Ask for it at hairdressing or barber shops.

UNION SUPPLY CO.,
BALTIMORE, MD.

Manufacturers also of Luxury Face Lotion, Lilas Toilet Water and Elite Hair Pomade.

Shop Early

Give us your orders for holiday delicacies at once, and enjoy the satisfaction of best selections and prompt delivery.

504-508 East Broad.
Tel. Monroe 101-106.

Hermann Schmidt

Wedding Decorations
OUR SPECIALTY

We Grow the Flowers We Sell.

Ratcliffe & Tanner, Inc.

25 West Broad Street.
Telephone Madison 6081.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY EXCURSION TO
Havana, Cuba, and Return
VIA ATLANTIC COAST LINE.

Rate from Richmond, Va. $50.35

Including meals and berth on steamship.

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD FOR ALL TRAINS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1913.

Limited, returning, to reach original starting point not later than January 6, 1914.

Proportionately low rates will be made from other points in Virginia, North and South Carolina.

For full information apply to

W. W. ROBERTSON, Soliciting Agent,
838 E. Main Street, city.

Phone Mad. 487.

Hollybrook Laying Food

Now is the Time to Feed Your Poultry for High Priced Eggs.

Wood's Hollybrook Poultry Foods

Are the Best Obtainable.

Special Poultry Supply Catalog Free on request. For full information and prices phone Madison 935.

Wood's Seed Stores

No. 12 South Fourteenth Street,
Corner Sixth and Marshall Streets.
1707 East Franklin Street.

T. W. WOOD & SONS
SEEDSMEN,
Richmond. - - - - Virginia.

The Implement Co.

Are Special Agents for

The Olds Gasoline Engine

The Best and Most Satisfactory Gasoline Engine on the Market.

These engines are low in cost and are great labor savers and money makers; can be used for sawing wood, cutting feed, pumping water, shelling and shredding corn, and for a great variety of uses, saving time, labor and money. Every farmer should have one of these valuable engines. Write for prices and descriptive catalogue.

We are also agents for the celebrated

B. & H. Farmers' Favorite Grain Drills, Ohio Hand and Power Feed Cutters

and we carry at all times full stock of all FARM IMPLEMENTS.

Descriptive circulars free.

The Implement Co.

1302 E. Main St., Richmond, Va.

S. H. Hawes and Company

Richmond, Va.

Phone Madison 57.

Lime, Cement,
Plaster,
Sewer Pipe,
Tile, Coal,
Land Plaster,
Agricultural Lime.

We make a specialty of Right Prices, Prompt Shipments and only one grade of goods. "THE BEST."

Memphis, Tenn., October 21, 1913.

We are advised of late by several of our poultry friends that some of our competitors admit that Aunt Patsy's Poultry Feed is a great egg producer. But they are also making the statement that the reason Aunt Patsy's Poultry Feed produces eggs in such marvelous quantities is that we use either French mustard, red pepper or some strong stimulant or forcing powder of some kind, the result of which will be that in a few months' time the hen will be ruined, producing no eggs at all, and only fit for the butcher.

We are glad that our competitors do us the credit to admit that Aunt Patsy is a great egg producer, but we deny positively that we use in the manufacture of Aunt Patsy's Poultry Feed either French mustard, red pepper or any stimulant or forcing powder whatever. Our Mr. Gentry, the originator of Aunt Patsy's Poultry Feed formula, is too much in love with the hen to impose on her, or be so cruel as to give her anything injurious.

It is true Aunt Patsy is a great egg producer, because it is a thoroughly balanced, scientifically blended ration, containing every ingredient of which the egg is made. In short, our Mr. Gentry is the man who put the egg in the feed, and when the hen takes this into her craw she can't help herself; if in a healthy condition she must lay an egg.

We defy any chemist in the world to find anything in Aunt Patsy's Poultry Feed, the egg producer, but clean, sound, wholesome material, every ounce of which is necessary for the hen's nourishment and to enable her to produce the egg.

TRY A BAG AND CONVINCE YOURSELF.

If your dealer does not carry Aunt Patsy in stock, write AUNT PATSY FEED CO., Memphis, Tenn., and they will see that you get the feed.

For Sale by HARVEY BLAIR CO., Richmond, Va.

IF YOUR SKIN ITCHES, JUST USE RESINOL

The moment that Resinol Ointment touches itching skin, the itching stops and healing begins. That is why doctors have prescribed it successfully for more than eighteen years in even the severest cases of eczema, tetter, ringworm, rashes and other tormenting, unsightly skin eruptions. Aided by warm baths with Resinol Soap, Resinol Ointment restores the skin to perfect health and comfort, quickly, easily and at little cost.

Resinol is also an excellent household remedy for pimples, dandruff, sores, burns, bruises, boils, and for a score of other uses where a soothing, healing application is needed. It contains nothing of a harsh or injurious nature, and can be used with confidence on the tenderest or most irritated surfaces. Practically every druggist sells Resinol Ointment (50c and $1.00) and Resinol Soap (25c). For trial free, write to Dept. 29-R, Resinol, Baltimore, Md. Buy in the original blue package and avoid "substitutes."

(Advertisement.)

Ask to see the Alert Heater! —at Ryan-Smith's

THE REINACH CO., Inc.

107 E. BROAD STREET.

MILLINERY—Women's and Misses' Outer Apparel.

Sydnor & Hundley

are showing the largest collection of

HANDSOME FURNITURE

this season they have ever exhibited.

GIFT PIECES A SPECIALTY.