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Entered at the Postoffice Bennington, Vt., Dec. 11, 1908, as Second Class Matter.

FRANK E. HOWE, Editor and Pub.

Wednesday, June 28, 1916.

There is just as much war news from Europe as at any other time during the past two years, but not so much is printed because the newspapers believe that American affairs in Mexico are of greater interest to readers.

Rutland is to have a preparedness parade on July 4 and invites its neighbors to be present and participate. A good sized delegation will go from Bennington. Rutland is a live town and grows steadily in strength and spirit.

Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut and New Jersey troops have started for the front and the press reports indicate that they have gone in poor old railroad coaches of other days. The luxury loving people, who ride in Pullmans and sleeping cars might well have given up their comfort for a few days to provide easier transportation for the soldier boys.

With Col. Ira L. Reeves, president of Norwich university, gone to the front as colonel of the Vermont regiment and President John M. Thomas of Middlebury as regimental chaplain the people of Vermont have reason to feel gratified at the patriotic activity of their college presidents. President Benton of the University of Vermont has commenced on his hands this week, but in case of need we doubt not he would go to the front just as promptly as Col. Reeves and Chaplain Thomas.

We hear much talk about how difficult it is going to be to get recruits for the army in case of war. Some say it is the battle pictures of war shown in the motion picture theatres, others think it is the widespread printed stories of the horrors of war; still others feel sure that it is the socialist and other agitation against war as an economic proposition. Of course there is no way of telling without an actual test, but The Banner does not take any stock whatever in any of these theories and is confident that in case of real need the young men of the United States would come forward by the million to serve their country. All during the first year and a half of the European war there were dire tales of the failure in Great Britain to get men to enlist voluntarily. It appeared later that this talk was largely merely the British way of doing business for when the figures finally were made public it was found that Great Britain had enlisted nearly five million men before it was found necessary to use conscription. Since the population of Great Britain is only about half that of the United States this country might, and we confidently believe, would provide fully ten million recruits should the need of the nation prove urgent. No country in the world exceeds ours in patriotism. People so far are inclined to look at this Mexican affair as a small matter. In case it proves more serious the soldiers will be ready.

The Bahamas.

The Bahamas make up their 4,400 square miles with 29 islands, 694 cays and 2,387 rocks. They have the distinction of being the first point of land in the western hemisphere discovered by Columbus, who sighted Cat Island on Oct. 12, 1492, and christened it San Salvador in acknowledgment of his preservation. The islands were taken possession of by Sir Humphrey Gilbert in 1578, but no settlement was made till 1629. After changing hands once or twice the islands finally became British in 1783.—Westminster Gazette.

Why is the alphabet

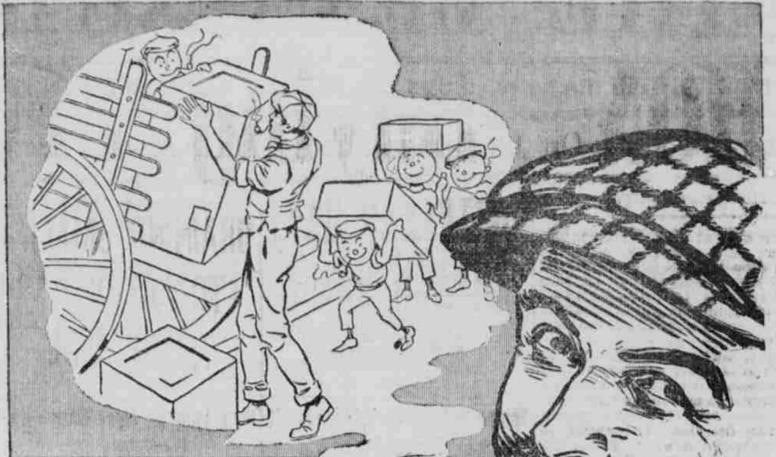
like a smart business man? Because it has a Capital I for Insurance? We offer information on the subject of Life Insurance. National Life Ins. Co. of Vt. (Mutual) Earle S. Kinsley, General Agent, Mead Building, Rutland, Vt. Adv.

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has been New England's favorite pipe-smoke for so long that the oldest inhabitant can't remember any other brand that ever came knee-high to it.

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Money in Vermont Farming.

A farmer in Vermont last year cleared up \$5000 on a small farm from just two crops in which he specialized—string beans and potatoes. A good many other similar cases could probably be given. All of which indicates profit in Vermont farming done on business principles.

This is a time of year when the hearts of many men in city and town life turn back to the farm. The idea of buying some little place out in the country and earning a living from the soil is cherished in many minds. If one has an independent income, he can perhaps conform to the definition of a gentleman farmer, as a man who can stand the expense. If one has no very large savings, the question whether a man can turn his back on the city and without farm experience support a family from the soil, becomes a vital one.

If a man has a lot of gumption and a practical sense of management, it may not be so difficult. But for the average man from an office, more familiar with ledgers and billbooks than with soil and fertilizers, it is not an easy proposition. Of course he gets no end of help from bulletins, experiment stations, college extension services, etc. But these helps can't cover everything.

In the course of raising every crop, there come exigencies not covered by any literature within his reach. The traditions of the neighborhood tell the farmer's boy what to do. But minus that experience, and with his scientific advice many miles away, the amateur is more or less helpless.

Half of the men from city life who try farm work give up because the physical labor is beyond their strength. They can't afford to hire sufficient help, and can't plough and pitch hay themselves. The time when their muscles could have been developed has passed.

Still it is foolish to say the thing can't be done. The many women who have made a success at farming without doing hard labor themselves, prove the thing is possible. The Back to the Soil man must be content with small returns for the first few years. Profits for a few seasons may not come in cash at all, but may simply exist in improved land, and the building of a foundation for the future. Eventually, the money will be made if the man displays good business sense and the same devotion to work that the successful merchant, lawyer or manufacturer gives.—Rutland News.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

GOLD MEDAL FLOUR

Time to Make a Change.

Sir William Phips was appointed governor in chief of the province of Massachusetts Bay in 1692. During his administration the terrible war against witchcraft raged for some sixteen months. When his own wife, Lady Phips, was named as having exercised the powers of witchcraft Sir William began to view this whole terrible madness in a new light, and he put a stop to all trials and discharged the prisoners then awaiting trial.

To Fatten the Goat.

"Where are you going with that goat, little boy?"
"Down to the lake. Come along if you want to see some fun. This here goat has just ate a crate of sponges, and I'm going down an' let him drink!"—Exchange.

When the Window Sticks.

Take each window cord in hand at the same time and pull them out until the weights are up at the top. Let go suddenly and they will drop in place with sufficient force to start the window open, when no amount of pushing will do it.

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