

THE BELDING BANNER TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR

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The Banner is read in more homes than all other local weekly papers combined in its territory.

FARM WAGES IN JAPAN From the Fifteenth Financial and Economic Annual of Japan, for 1915, issued by the Japanese Department of Finance, shows that male laborers on the farm are paid \$51.86 a year, and female labor is paid \$31.51 a year.

The equivalent of the yen in American money is 49 cents; but, as the yen is a silver coin, it will be seen that the yearly wage of a male farm worker in Japan is less than \$25.92 and the yearly wage of a female farm worker less than \$15.75. As a matter of fact, the male farm worker gets about \$2 a month and the female farm worker about \$1.25 a month. What would American men and women who work on American farms think of such wages as these?

NEED MORE SOLDIERS Uncle Sam is having a difficult time says the Traverse City Record, in getting together fifteen thousand soldiers to handle the Mexican situation, and this being the case it is evident that a greater degree of efficiency is needed in the United States army. Millions are spent every year in maintaining a force that upon paper is supposed to be over one hundred thousand men, but now that the services of an army of small proportions is needed it is hard work to get enough together to make a showing as



Soft, graceful, easy clothes--trim, shapely, colorful clothes. Such are real young men's clothes. Such are the young men's clothes we've just received from

Michaels Stern

Goods sold at the same old prices Be sure to call for Automobile tickets.

The METROPOLITAN A. FRIEDMAN, Prop.

a small expeditionary force. If a state of actual war existed between the United States and Mexico it is easy to figure out where this country would be with its expensive regular army. United States soldiers are the best in the world, but a mere handful of them is not enough for a nation of this size, even if the cost of keeping them fit is beyond that paid by any other nation.

TO HANDLE IT RIGHT Election being over and the paving proposition so far as the people at large were concerned in its adoption or regulation settled, the matter is now up to the city council to handle it in a wise and judicious manner.

The work of completing the job which covers Bridge street from the Ellis school on the north, to the Catholic church on the south, will require the expenditure of a large sum of money and not a penny of it should be wasted in poor material or poor construction.

Undoubtedly the city fathers and the committees into whose hands the oversight of the work will be given will give it their best thought and judgment and carefully safeguard the improvement in the interests of every taxpayer.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES

Items of Interest to Friends and Patrons of our Schools.

Standards of Scholarship

Two views are held among school teachers and superintendents, as to what shall be done with pupils who fail to keep up. The old-time teacher was rather inclined to pass them along. The student, it was argued, would lose interest if compelled to drop back into another class. He had probably got about all that can be had out of that grade or stage of his work. He will get more to let him grind over the same work again.

A few years ago there was a widespread impression that a good athlete could slip along through almost any college. Of recent years, both in colleges and high schools, there seems to be a stricter feeling about scholarship requirements for athletes.

That many of the colleges are now imposing severe tests was suggested by the news reports of the past week, to the effect that at Cornell University, 14 men have dropped as the result of the mid-year "exams." Also 169 others were placed on probation and denied many privileges.

Probably some students do lose heart on being dropped back. Also the better portion of the class, who are allowed to go on, make a distinct gain by parting company with the sluggards. An indolent pupil is mere baggage. Explaining things to him, which he should have worked out for himself robs the rest of the class of valuable time. They all tend to drop to this low standard. Bright pupils compare their work with his, and are satisfied with a mediocre performance. The experience of slipping along easily by the tests of school or college must demoralize a student. It will not be thus when he gets into business. There competition will have its effect, his efficiency will quickly be eliminated, and he will drop into the back eddies of life. He needs in the seclusion of school, a taste of the same sharp jolts that he will get when he ventures out into the cold world.

Too Good to Be True

If the highways and avenues always were clean, What a beautiful town this would be! If only things decent and pure could be seen, What a beautiful town this would be!

If gamblers and crooks could be banished forever, If robbers and burglars could ply their trades never, If theaters would stage only plays that are clever, What a beautiful town this would be!

If each so-called statesman was upright and true, What a beautiful land this would be! If all office holders would honest work do, What a beautiful land this would be!

If all forms of grafting were promptly ejected, If bad politicians could not be protected, If only the worthy ones could be elected, What a beautiful land this would be!

If over each home there presided a dove, What a beautiful world this would be! If every young couple would marry for love, What a beautiful world this would be!

If all would fulfill the fond prayers of their mothers, If each had regard for the feelings of others, If everyone treated his fellows like brothers, What a beautiful world this would be!

—Addison Fletcher Andrews in Michigan Tradesman.

Death of Last American Soldier before the Capitol at Washington



Scene from "Battle Cry of Peace"

The modern methods of taking care of this situation in the grades is by the institution of the ungraded room. In the ungraded rooms pupils are advanced just as they are fitted to advance individually.

"The Little Mademoiselle" It doesn't take such a vivid imagination to grasp the generalities of the situation which confronts a young girl suddenly set down in a New England village, when the girl speaks no English and the villagers speak none but their own language. But, to grasp the details and to realize the scores of both pathetic and humorous adventures that beset the girl before she finds some one who can understand her and who can make her understand, one must see the World Film Corporation's feature in which Miss Vivian Martin is starred.

Card of Thanks—Miss Maude Wyckoff, who has been confined to her home for the past week on account of sickness, wishes to thank the employees of the winding room of the Richardson Silk Mill for the beautiful bouquet of carnations sent her. Miss Maude Wyckoff.

SCHOOL LIFE

VOL. III. NO. 30. BELDING, MICHIGAN APRIL 5, 1916

Editor-in-Chief—Stanley Glass. Athletic Editor—Ruth Buck. Society Editor—Marvel Klock. Reporters: High School—Charles Wheeler. Grammar Grades—Doris Mulholland. First Ward—Leone Hoyt. Second Ward—Ben Longan. Third Ward—Eledia Jenks. State Editorials—Margie Carpenter.

ATHLETIC NOTES

About twenty men reported for baseball practice Monday after school. Base of enthusiasm was displayed at the first practice and if the boys keep it up Belding high school will be on the long end of the score this spring.

Curtain to Stop Leaks in Ships

In the days when sailing vessels were common a favorite method for stopping leaks consisted in dropping a tarpaulin over the bow and then, by means of lines attached to it, working it into position over the hole in the hull. A recent invention that apparently is an outgrowth of this idea consists of curtains which are suspended on each side of a vessel, extending along her full length. Lines running up to drums on the deck are attached to each curtain. If a leak develops all that is necessary is to release the lines of the curtain on the leaky side and allow it to unroll. If the weight of the stiffening beam should not be sufficient to hold the curtain in place lines could be run from it under the vessel and made fast to the opposite side.

Gas in Trees

Experienced woodmen frequently tell of finding in the hollows of trees a combustible gas, evidently a product of the decomposition of the wood. In the Ozark mountains has been found scores of trees containing gas. The gas, appears to exist in various species of trees, but to be more abundant in the oak. It is stored in the hollows of the trees under considerable pressure, and when the saw or ax opens a vent for it it issues forth with great force.

While assisting in felling a large oak on one occasion, a woodman says: the saw cut into a hollow and gas began to blow out with extraordinary force. He obtained a match but by the time he got it lighted the gas had permeated the air for quite a distance about the tree and there was an instantaneous flash which left him a badly burned face and his hair singed. The gas continued to burn for 10 or 15 minutes he said, and sometimes the flame would rise to a height of eight or 10 feet.

Another woodman reports similar experiences. It is by no means uncommon, he says, to find gas in hollow trees, especially white oaks, in cutting timber in Ohio Co., Ky. The gas is stored up under pressure and when the ax or saw first penetrates the hollow it rushes out with a hissing sound; also he discovered at the ex-

perience of singed hair and a burned skin that the gas is highly inflammable. While helping to fell a large white oak which was found to have a hollow 15 inches in diameter, gas began to escape with a hissing sound from the cut made by the saw. The hissing subsided before the tree fell but after it came down waves similar to heat waves were noted, issuing from the hollow. From a safe distance a lighted match was tossed toward the end of the log and the gas instantly ignited with an explosive roar that could be heard for quite a distance. The gas continued to burn for about five minutes.

An Extremely Light Wood

Balso wood which is said to be the lightest known wood is only a little more than half as heavy as cork and about 1-10 as heavy as black ironwood. Until recently Missouri corkwood has been considered the lightest wood in existence but it weighs 18 pounds per cubic foot, while also weighs only seven. Balsos is now being extensively used as a packing material in the walls of refrigerators, for, owing to its extremely porous nature, it acts as an excellent insulator against heat and cold.

The Dyestuff Shortage

Since the beginning of the war in Europe many people in this country have wondered why a war that is going on thousands of miles away should so affect conditions here that many needed commodities have increased greatly in price, or are unobtainable at any price. Drugs prices have gone out of sight, dyes are practically unobtainable and many luxuries that we formerly enjoyed must be foregone. Now that the whole nation is brought face to face with real conditions everyone can appreciate to what a great extent we have been and still are dependent on foreign countries to supply our needs.

Necessity is the mother of invention, as the trite adage truthfully says, and since our supplies have been cut off in one direction we are forced to turn to another. We are beginning to look into our own resources and we find that so far as raw materials are concerned we have them in abundance. For example, potash, a necessary fertilizing material, is found in the common rock, feldspar; we have been going to South America for nitrates, despite the fact that nitrogen can be obtained at home from air by an electric process.

An old file with the square end broken off somewhat irregularly makes an excellent substitute glass-cutter for emergency use. It will cut glass about as well as a regular cutter but it gets dull after a little use. To sharpen it, lay an anvil or something else that will provide solid support and with a hammer chip off the end enough to make a sharp corner and a new cutting point will be obtained.

Dr. H. W. Wiley, the food expert, says that sugar is a valuable article

of food. In a recent address on the subject of "scientific and economic diet" he said that several years ago when the Harvard football team was being beaten in every game it played he wrote to the coach, advising him to provide sugar and instruct each man to keep a lump in his mouth throughout the play. This was done and as a result, he said, Harvard has been extremely successful on the football field ever since.

Medical men know that pneumonia is most deadly among those whose vitality has been lowered. For this reason the federal public health service considers that persons who indulge in alcoholic stimulants are particularly susceptible to the disease and fall easy victims to it. The service has issued a statement in which it emphasizes these facts, points out the dangers of the use of alcohol and warns drinkers to give up the habit.

There is some question as to just what extent human life and health are influenced by heredity but the case of a Stanhope, N. J., man, who died the other day at the age of 107, tends to indicate that heredity has considerable to do with longevity. He is survived by six sons, the youngest of whom is 66; his father lived to be 99 and his mother 97. Pneumonia and not any of the diseases usually classed as "incident to old age" caused his death. It is said that he chewed and smoked tobacco for 95 years.

A new type of car wheel designed to be as nearly noiseless as possible, consists of a wheel separated by a layer of rubber which serves to absorb the shocks. Among the advantages claimed for the wheel which is being tried out on a number of railroads are that it is more durable than ordinary wheels, reduces shocks on rolling stock and rails and adds to the comfort of passengers.

The soap-berry tree which grows in the humid parts of Ecuador, attaining a height of about 50 feet, produces large quantities of fruit whose skin and pulp are so saponaceous that they are used instead of soap by many of the people living there. The seeds which are quite hard are polished and used for buttons on men's clothing in England and Spain. They are also used as beads.

To A Young Man's Mustache How like a cobweb hang'st thou o'er his lip, Each tiny hair immaculate in place, Shielded from harm when he his soup doth sip.

The very essence of tonsorial grace! Yet I must dread the time when thou art grown.

All bristly and unkempt and base, Dipped in all beverages ever known, The veritable strainer of his face. Still, as I gaze on thee in anxious throat, I sometimes wonder, are you there or not?

—Stanford Chaparral.

INDUSTRIAL EDITION OF MIDLAND SUN ISSUED

A copy of the Industrial edition of the Midland (Mich.) Sun has just reached our office. The edition, bearing the date, March 9, was issued by the Midland Publishing company as a booster edition, and shows scenes of the many prominent and beautiful business places and residences of that thriving city.

Every page of the big sixteen-page issue is attractively made up and printed and on every page is shown liberality of the advertisers in making the industrial edition possible. Printed on extra quality of snow-white paper and with jet black inks the pa-

per is a lasting monument to the ability of the editor, Neil C. McKay, in giving the people of Midland and vicinity a first-class newspaper. The production is a credit to any city, regardless of size. We have no doubt whatever, but that Midland is a live and hustling city, and that its residents have implicit faith in the future of its progress.

DR. D. K. BLACK OF GREENVILLE DEAD

Dr. D. K. Black of Greenville died Sunday of heart disease, aged 54 years. He came to Michigan March 28, 1890, and married Ada Rogers, July 8,

1890. That year he bought the medical practice and home of Dr. C. M. Martin. The home, 610 South Franklin street he resided in until death.

His life was a busy one he being a member of Grand Rapids Consistory and Shrine, and also belonging to the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Masons of Greenville, the member of Leroy Lodge, K. of P. and also of the Washington club. In the commercial world he was always active, being vice-president of the Commercial State Savings Bank, director of Moore Plow Implement Co., and for several years on the board of education. He took a great interest in the schools and seeing the need of an athletic field, gave them one, just south of the Central school building in 1915.

Gelrite Grocery Specials

Save 25c on 10 pounds of Sugar by buying \$1.00 worth of Groceries

10 lbs. Sugar With \$1.00 other Groceries 65c

Prices Good for This Week and Next

- Good White Eating Potatoes, per bu. \$1.00
New Perfection, Gold Medal, Marvel or Pansy Blossom Flour. .95c
5 lbs. Corn Meal (fresh). .15c
7 lbs. Rolled Oats (fresh). .25c
10-lb. Sack Graham Flour. .33c
2 lbs. 10c Head Rice. .15c
5 lbs. Broken Rice. .25c
2 lbs. 10c Tapioca. .15c
Dry Beans, 2 lbs. .15c
Good New Pack Bean Pork. .12c
Good Dry Popcorn, lb. .6c
2 lbs. Best Pure Lard. .27c
Cotosuet, per lb. .14c
2 lbs. Lard Compound. .25c
Fancy California Dried Peaches 2 lbs. 15c
Sweet Oranges, dozen. .19c
Seed Peas of all kinds, per quart. .18c
Onion Sets, per quart 10c; 3 quarts. .25c
Fancy Ore. Prunes, per lb. 10c; 3 lbs 25c
Fancy Apricots, per lb. .12c
Swift's Best Bologna or Frankfurts, 2 lbs. for. .25c
1 qt. Dill Pickles, bulk. .6c
1 Pint Bulk Sweet Pickles. .10c
1 qt. Bulk Sauerkraut. .5c
Smoked White Fish, lb. .15c
2 lbs. Holland Oleo. .35c
Fresh Eggs, dozen. .20c
3 Bars Swift's White Soap. .11c
12 lbs. Chicken Feed. .25c
100 lbs. Chicken Feed. \$1.90
2 Bars 10c Palm Olive Soap. .15c
Dixie Bacon, per lb. .17c
Bulk Peanut Butter, per lb. .12 1/2c
5 lbs. 25c Coffee. \$1.00
5 lbs. 30c Coffee. \$1.25
3 Boxes 5c Matches. .10c
Pint Can Cocoa. .15c
3 Cans-Peas or Corn. .25c
15c Can Tomatoes. .10c
3 lbs. Fresh Crackers. .25c
4 lbs. Fresh Ginger Snaps. .25c
3 Cans Sunbrite Cleanser. .10c
Regular 25c Can Calif. Peaches. 12 1/2c
Regular 20c Can Sliced Pineapple. 12 1/2c
2 Bars 5c Toilet Soap. .5c
Best Pink Salmon 10c or per dozen \$1.05
Best Red Salmon 18c; 2 for. .35c
Best Raisins, per pkg. .10c
Codfish, fresh pure, lb. box. .18c
3 Cans Soup for. .25c
Macaroni or Spaghetti, pkg. .8c
WE PAY 18c FOR EGGS

J. De Vlieger & Son Phone 17 Belding

Stop! Look and Listen



Have you heard that auto go by that the business men whose names appear below are going to give away—

June 3rd, 1916 at 4 p. m.

If you haven't, get busy and get your ticket, and you may be the one to drive this auto? Don't say, "Oh, I never drew anything in my life," you know there is always a first time to everything, and this may be yours.

It costs you nothing to try; you are not out one red cent; you have just as good chance as anybody, because only one party can have it. Your chance is just as good to win as the man who has loads of money.

DON'T FORGET THE DATE OR YOUR TICKETS. THEY CAN BE HAD AT THE FOLLOWING FIRMS WITH EVERY 25c CASH PURCHASE.

- WARD & SCHLEGEL, Meats. JENSEN & WHEELER, Dry Goods.
BELDING HARDWARE CO., Hardware. A. FRIEDMAN, Men's Clothing.
MILLER & HARRIS CO., Furniture. H. J. CONNELL, Drugs.
M. L. WILLOUGHBY, Jewelry F. H. HUDSON, Groc. and Baked Goods
SMITH & WHITNEY, Shoes. BELDING LUMBER CO., Lumber.
BELDING HAT SHOPPE, Millinery.