

## Problem of Distribution of Foodstuffs One Long Neglected by the Government

By GEORGE W. PERKINS



We have millions upon millions of dollars in elaborate and conveniently arranged railway terminals for the accommodation of passengers; we have established public-service commissions—all that people may travel more conveniently and have their rights while traveling better protected, both as to safety and the cost of transportation. Yet while all this has been done for passenger travel, scarcely any money has been spent and practically no thought given or planning done in connection with the great question of how to get into the cities and distribute within the cities the food which we consume. The more one looks into the problem the more amazed he is that such neglect should have existed.

While the average person spends from 40 to 50 per cent of his income for food, he spends only about 10 per cent of his income for transportation; yet private transportation companies and the city governments have been spending millions of dollars to look after the people's transportation interests while giving little or no time or money to their welfare in the matter of food. The same old cutthroat, ruthless competitive methods exist today that have always existed—a policy of every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost.

Only recently has any attention whatever been given in our educational system to the all-important question of how to buy food, how to care for it, how to cook it, the nutritive value of various foods, and all that sort of thing. In fact, the whole question has been well-nigh neglected. This is true of practically every state in the Union, with the exception of California.

It is high time we realized that we face an entirely new condition and prepare ourselves to meet it intelligently and resolutely. Europe has been up against this problem for a long time. She knows what co-operation and conservation are; she knows the necessity for saving the waste in order to effect economies; she has found out that evils are bound to exist in co-operative effort because of the selfishness and the greedy tendencies of many men to take advantage of any opportunity that offers; but through governmental regulation and supervision she has found it possible to eradicate many of these evils while preserving much of the good that comes through co-operative undertakings.

This is our problem. If we are ready for it, then with our ability and resourcefulness we can unquestionably solve it. If we are not ready for it, then we will have to go on stumbling blindly along a rough road that will get rougher and rougher. The problem is intensely fascinating, decidedly practical.

## Co-operative Combinations Necessary for Development of Foreign Commerce

By JOHN CLAUSEN  
Manager Foreign Department Crocker National Bank, San Francisco

Just now we are living in an epoch of great prosperity, in a way artificially stimulated by the demand for materials from the nations at war. Whether the advantages thus gained will be upheld depends largely on the skill and acumen of our bankers to wisely use their money power, and in the farsightedness of our merchants to strive for great diversification of exports and imports.

It is apparent that it will take something more than the offering of goods to build up and hold the trade which we are now in position to control. We should look ahead to future conditions—be prepared to meet aggressive European trade combinations and keep pace with the world's industrial advancement.

Co-operative combinations such as may be deemed expedient to develop our foreign relations in normal times, are essential, and should in no sense be considered a contractual restraint of free trading. A recognition of this principle in overseas trade development is, in my opinion, most necessary to our economic progress. Such privileges very naturally should only be accorded American-owned concerns, and co-operative organizations must obviously be prosecuted.

If the claims for superiority of American goods are made aggressive realities—and careful, direct and persistent efforts exercised by American manufacturers in their introduction and exploitation, it should not be difficult to make permanent our present pre-eminent position in world commerce.

It appears that to advantageously maintain our place in the international relations, we need not only an efficient banking system and a well-equipped merchant marine, but, more especially, scientific commercial education. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that these problems must be seriously taken under advisement, as a plain matter of modern development, requiring attention along feasible and intelligent lines.

## Visionary Conservation Plans are as Dangerous to Public as Present Waste

By DR. HENRY STURGIS DRINKER  
President of Lehigh University

A greater danger today to the public interests is threatened by the untrained, spasmodic, emotional, semi-political and careless presentation and handling of conservation matters before the public by men and women upon whom the importance of the subject has suddenly dawned, than even by the continuance of the wasteful methods of the past.

It is absolute folly for a man untrained in engineering to venture opinions on questions like the conservation, development and economic utilization of our minerals and our water powers, which require the judgment and experience of engineers. The trouble with many of the plans for coal and water-power conservation proposed by men untrained and inexperienced in engineering and in business methods is that their plans are ideal rather than real; their dicta negative rather than positive, and their remedies theoretical rather than practical. The fear uppermost with such men is often rather that our public resources will pass into the control of what they term the "monopolistic interests of the few," than the crucial question of what is best for the interests of the public. These industrial questions should be looked at in a wholly cold-blooded, business way, without any obsession or oppression of undefined hysterical fear of the results or dangers of a so-called corporate monopoly, that are often as visionary as the nursery tales of bogies told to frighten children.

## Armaments Provocative of War.

By RICHARD BARTHOLOTT, Honorary President Interparliamentary Union.

This war would be even a more terrible scourge than it is if, as a result of it, the governments of Europe were not willing to turn a new leaf and failed to come to the conclusion that armaments are provocative of war rather than a guaranty of peace. Hence there should be partial disarmament, uniformly conceded by all belligerents. The neutrals, I am sure, will gladly follow suit.

The cause of all militarism and navalism is mutual fear of neighborly aggressor.

## MEANS MONEY IN FARMER'S POCKET

Efficient Building Helps to Write Figures on the Right Side of the Ledger.

HAVE SILO IN RIGHT PLACE

Better Than Indispensable Adjunct Be Too Large Rather Than Too Small—Here Is Design of Dairy Barn That Makes for Comfort

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1827 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

Efficiency is a word of much prominence and importance at present. It means that you must accomplish the greatest amount of work possible with the least effort and smallest amount of capital.

It is not confined to any one industry, but covers them all, including the farm. In the days past the farmer, who wanted a barn, too often erected the walls and covered them with a roof. Many times the barn was built regardless of how quick it would enable the farmer later to do the work he had to do in this barn.

For example, a silo may be constructed and located where it is convenient to get the silage to one part

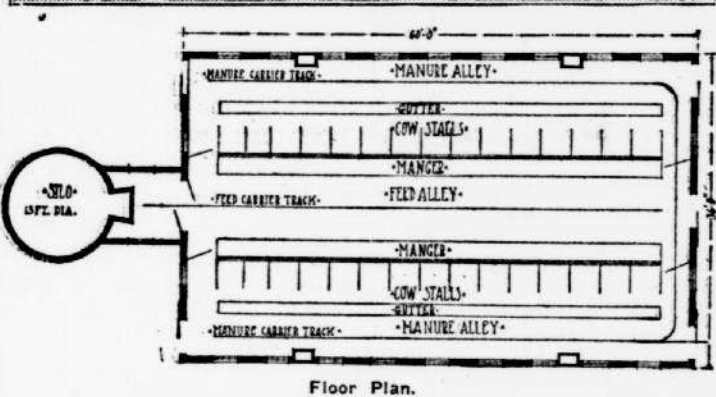
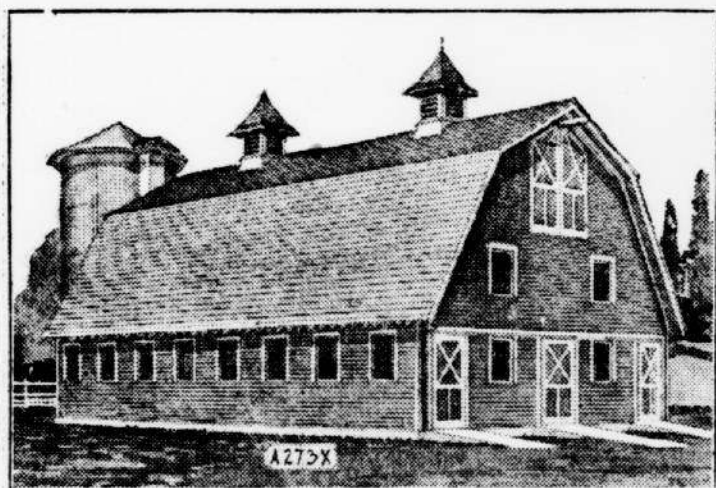
silage to accommodate all the cattle. As shown in this view, the silo is built of wood. Hollow tile, concrete blocks, or re-enforced concrete, however, can be used equally as well. With the idea of making it possible to go quickly from one part of the barn to another sliding doors have been put in at all four corners and in the opposite end from the silo there is a door in the middle besides those on either side of this end.

The ground floor is of concrete, which always makes a barn as sanitary as it possibly can be. It has a gambrel roof, which does away with the rafters and other members of a truss which take up much of the space in the loft of a barn.

The feed alley is conveniently located in the middle of the barn. This permits of easily distributing the silage to the mangers on either side of the alley. Concrete gutters are built in the floor in back of the cow stalls on either side of the barn. In back of these gutters are the manure-carrier tracks, conveniently located so that the refuse in the gutters can be directly picked up and carried out.

The dimensions of the cow stalls can be made according to the ideas of the builder. In some places it is customary to build all of the stalls 2 feet 6 inches wide, and have 5 feet between the gutter and the manger. In other localities the stalls on one side would be made 4 feet 6 inches long, and on the other 5 feet long. The length of the stalls are made to vary in this way so as to accommodate the different lengths of the cows housed in the barn. There are stanchions made which are adjustable so that they can take from or add to the length of the stall, 6 inches or so. In case these are going to be used, all stalls can be made the same length.

This particular barn was designed for a country where the winters are rather mild and the cows can spend



of the barn, but considerable work is required to get the silage to some other part of the barn where considerable of it is used. This is not efficiency, for though you have perhaps wasted no money in the construction of the silo, you are daily unnecessarily wasting much of your working effort.

The silo may not only be located inconveniently with respect to the places where the silage is used. By neglecting sufficient forethought the design may be decided on, and after the structure is completed it is realized that its capacity is too small. It is just as cheap to build a silo in the right place as in the wrong, and it costs but little more to build it large enough rather than too small. Additions later are much more expensive than the same thing would be if included in the original building.

These are but a few of the many inefficient things which might be done in putting up farm buildings. In order to save on the original cost many things may be left out which are great time, money-savers. Money should wisely be invested in such time-saving devices. The money, represented by work which can be saved in the long run, will show a nice profit on the small extra investment necessary for time-saving installations.

In a dairy barn, as well as all others, the comfort of the cattle, horses and other animals should be given considerable thought. They are just like a man. Under better conditions the cattle thrive more. Sanitation makes them less susceptible to disease. Let us say you lose two nice cows during the year from disease. That represents a loss to you of perhaps \$150 to \$200. Wouldn't it have been better to spend this \$200 for construction in your barn which would make it more sanitary and disease-resisting? During the first year you would make up for this \$200 extra cost by not losing the cows, and during the second and each successive year you would be \$200 ahead per year.

The thing in selecting a design for your barn is this: Forget the first cost and think of the things which will make it convenient for you to work in, and sanitary and comfortable for your cattle. If you cannot get the first-cost idea out of your mind, remember these things. You have perhaps borrowed some of the money for your barn from the bank. You must pay them back and make more besides for yourself. If you include sanitary and convenient things in your design you can pay the bank quicker and make larger profits for yourself.

The dairy barn, of which a ground plan and perspective view are here shown, will accommodate 30 cows. The silo is 13 feet in diameter and will be found to have sufficient capacity for

## TRAINING TODAY'S BOYS AND GIRLS

Every Child Should Be Encouraged to Pursue a Hobby.

GIVE HIM ACTIVE INTEREST

Something Involving Application and Effort and Sacrifice Is Better Than One Calling for His Entertainment and Amusement.

By SIDONIE M. GRUENBERG.

WHEN a person has completed his share of the world's work it is considered proper for him to "retire." And in accordance with this tradition old Mr. Stewart withdrew from active participation in his business when he knew that he had enough money and when his family thought that he "needed a rest." After a few weeks of "resting" the old gentleman became very uneasy and unhappy. He wanted to visit the office, but this was strictly forbidden, and as he could not think of anything else to do he moped around, extending his own misery to those about him. Cases of this kind are common enough, and in a large proportion of them the man does return to his old affairs, there to remain to the end. But in other cases there is too much opposition from those who look upon work as a hardship, and the old man withers away.

Many a business man before reaching this stage is merely tired. But why should the business man be more tired than other people? He does not work any harder than the professional man or the artisan. And the others probably are doing their share of the worrying. It is very likely that the person who is always represented to us in the comic papers and in the theater as being in need of entertainment that calls for no exertion whatever on his part is tired because he does not do enough. That is to say he does not do enough different kinds of things. The tired business man suffers from all the evil consequences of early specialization. We may be sorry for him, but it is difficult to remedy his condition. What we can do is to prevent our children from acquiring this same malady.

We may find the preventive in the lives of men and women who never grow old. The essential difference between one of these people or a healthy child and a "tired business man" lies in the wide range of problems and activities that can interest the former as against the narrow interests and sympathies of the latter. It should be part of our aim in the training of children to keep open for them all the lines of communication with ideas and feelings that may come to them.

This is not a passive affair. Ideas and feelings do not come to us because we sit still. The child must learn to go forth and meet the new experience a little more than half way. We must cultivate the attitude which seeks satisfaction in doing, in overcoming difficulties, in solving problems. We must discourage contentment with passive comfort, always receiving and never giving, with "letting well enough alone." This means retaining the versatility and the aggressiveness of youth as long as possible.

In practice we shall be annoyed frequently by the intensity with which the girl or boy will pursue a hobby. We realize only too well the folly of setting the heart too firmly upon this or that. But the child in these things often is wiser than his elders. For whatever is worth doing at all is worth



Will Not Be Likely to Fall Into Old Mr. Stewart's Plight.

doing with all the energy and enthusiasm that can be mustered. Nor must we determine for the child what is worth doing. We have learned the folly of air rifles or of reading all the writings of a favorite author, not by suffering any injury from these interests, but by finding things that were better worth while. And the children need not take our preference for etchings or first editions as indicating absolute values. At every stage the child should be encouraged to pursue his hobby as intensively as time and chance permit. Some hobbies will last but a short time; others may last into the ripest years. But in any case these

## HOW HE SOLD INSURANCE

Manager Went About the Business in a Different Way Than the Solicitor Did.

The first day I started out to call in every place of business and try to interest people in life insurance. No one seemed to want it. I found that most folks were too busy to listen to my tables—or even my arguments. Finally, I finished canvassing the merchants on one side of the main street; that is, I thought I had finished, and kept right on out into the residential section, stopping to talk to a few people cutting grass in their front yards. No one showed particular interest; some wouldn't even talk to me. At last I saw a fellow painting a house. I jumped over the fence and was amazed when he came down off the ladder to talk to me. I reckon his arm must have been tired and he was glad for an excuse to rest. But, at any rate, I succeeded in interesting him, and I telephoned to my manager to come out and help close the prospect.

represent interests that carry with them motives for application and effort and sacrifice, and they carry with them stimulation and recreation that are nowhere else to be found.

The selection of a hobby, like the selection of an occupation or a spouse, must always be left to the person most concerned. You may give your children a certain bias, however, that will have a value proportioned to your judgment and insight. As it is legitimate to have a prejudice against your son becoming a bartender or your daughter marrying a gambler, so you may tolerate certain types of hobbies and discourage others. But these influences should not rest on our own tastes; there are more fundamental considerations. Thus you and I are fond of going to the theater, but it is better for Louise to cultivate amateur theatricals than a fascination for a popular actress. It is better for Harold to play baseball until sunset than for him to become a baseball fan. Again, it is for the child to determine whether he will make a study of medieval armor or of orchids, whether he will conduct propaganda for the protection of the native birds or for clean streets.

Parents should realize the advantage of a hobby that calls for some kind of activity over one that involves being entertained or amused. In the same way a hobby that means doing something is more valuable than a collecting hobby, which means having something, although this is better than no hobby at all.

On the physiological side, entertaining a wide range of interests means keeping a large part of the brain surface in action. Or specialization of interests in the narrowing sense means



The Child Must Go Forth to Learn.

allowing a large part of the brain to remain unused, and thus a possible source of ill health.

Boys and girls who are encouraged to look upon as legitimate all appeals to curiosity, to inventiveness, to the impulse to do and to make, will not be likely to fall into old Mr. Stewart's plight when they are some day kindly relieved of their regular occupations.

## South African Asbestos.

Asbestos has been worked in South Africa for 20 years, and, according to the annual reports of the government engineers, there are in the three districts of Kuruman, Hay and Preiskla, what some claim to be by far the largest asbestos-bearing areas in the world. Looking alike at the properties already worked profitably by underground methods, those on which surface work has shown that the seams are likely to continue payable underground and those on which further supplies are still available by cheap surface mining, there is a supply of asbestos assured that is more than adequate to meet any expansion of the market that can reasonably be anticipated for many years to come. In the meantime, fresh discoveries and developments may be relied upon to insure continuity of supply for a further indefinite period.

## Saving the Husband.

Mr. Norton was a very patient man and a long-suffering one. Mrs. Norton provided a continuous flow of conversation and was known as a nag. Finally, the nerves of the poor man gave way and the physician was called. "He must have complete rest and undisturbed sleep," said the doctor, as he looked thoughtfully at the woman. "I will send up some sleeping powders, which must be used exactly as written on the box. Will you promise to do this, madam, or must I order him to the hospital?" "Indeed, I promise," cried Mrs. Norton, cheerfully. "I will give them just as you direct, doctor." When the box came from the druggist's the label read: "Sleeping powders to be taken at night and morning—by Mrs. Norton."

## "Sisterly" Kiss.

"No," said she, "I—I can only be a sister to you." "Very well," said he. "I must be going. I had expected a different answer from you, but—well, good-night!" "George," she faltered, as he started out into the night, "George!" "What is it?" he asked, very crossly. "Aren't you going to kiss your sister good-night?" He did not go then.

## Good Spellers.

Teacher—Now, boys, I want to see if any of you can make a complete sentence out of two words, both having the same sound to the ear. First Boy—I can, Miss Smith. Teacher—Very well, Robert. Let us hear your sentence. First Boy—Write right. Teacher—Very good. Second Boy—Miss Smith, I can beat that. I can make three words of it—Write, write right. Third Boy (excitedly)—Hear this—Write, write rite right.



THE WOODCHUCKS.

"Mr. Woodchuck had built a very fine home," commenced Daddy, "in a field near a vegetable garden. "Going into the ground was one large room which was Mr. Woodchuck's hallway. Then came the hole where he sat and thought about what he should do next. He had another room which was his dining room, and he had a fine big hole for his sleeping room, or bedroom. In fact Mr. Woodchuck had a regular apartment of a number of rooms."

"Unlike other animals, Mr. Woodchuck would not be satisfied with one hole or with one nest. He must have a choice. And in the winter when he goes to sleep, though he only uses his sleeping room, which is a hole about twice his size, he bunks up his other rooms with mud so nothing can get in and eat him up! Then when spring comes and he is up and about, he pulls down the mud bank and has his other rooms all ready for him."

"Haven't I a fine home?" Mr. Woodchuck asked. "I would be honored if you would be the joint-owner of it. I would like to call you Mrs. Woodchuck and give you a wedding party."

"Thank you, Mr. Woodchuck," she squealed again. "I would be honored likewise to become Mrs. Woodchuck."



"I Would Like to Call You Mrs. Woodchuck."

That would sound far finer than Miss Woodchuck. When can we have the wedding feast?

"I have a fine room for you," said Mr. Woodchuck, who could talk of nothing else besides his new home, "lined with grass and leaves. It will be very delightful, I think."

"I am sure it will be, and I am happy to be Mrs. Woodchuck. But where is that wedding feast we're to have?"

"There will be no guests," said Mr. Woodchuck.

"Mrs. Woodchuck looked quite pleased at that, for she felt hungry enough to eat up her share and the share of all the guests."

"I am glad to see," said Mr. Woodchuck, as they began eating their wedding feast, "that you have such a good appetite, my dear. I think I do not have to worry about you. To eat so much you must be in the best of health."

"I am," said Mrs. Woodchuck, as she swallowed a piece of clover. "This is very nice," she said, as she nibbled a piece of fresh grass. "And what good vegetables you have near your home."

"It isn't," said Mr. Woodchuck, "that I have such nice vegetables near my home. It is that I put my home near a place where nice vegetables are to be had."

"An excellent idea," said Mrs. Woodchuck. "I am glad to see I have such an excellent Woodchuck to look after me."

"Bow-wow, bow-wow," came the sounds from a distance.

"Hurry into the hole," said Mr. Woodchuck. "Get away inside. I will stay in our hallway room, near the entrance, and I'll protect you. Do not be frightened."

"Mr. Woodchuck's voice was rather shaky and his squeal was very shrill, but his words were comforting to Mrs. Woodchuck, who was frightened indeed."

"How glad I am that I have Mr. Woodchuck to protect me," she said to herself. "I don't have to meet that dog all alone. Instead I am looked after. It's splendid!"

"But the bark of the dog came nearer and nearer, and Mrs. Woodchuck trembled all over when she heard the sounds."

"Oh, if Mr. Woodchuck should get hurt," she thought.

"Bow-wow, g-o-o-w-l," came from the dog.

"A sharp squeal and then a long yell came from Mr. Woodchuck."

"Oh, I'm so afraid my dear Mr. Woodchuck is hurt," she said.

"And then followed another growl and snarl from the dog, and another long, piercing yell from Mr. Woodchuck."

"She couldn't bear it any longer. Hide when her splendid Mr. Woodchuck was in danger of his very life!" "I'm coming," she said in Woodchuck talk.

"The dog heard the squeal of another woodchuck, and he had already received a horrid bite from Mr. Woodchuck's sharp teeth."

"Oh, this is too much," thought the dog. "I can't fight two Woodchucks," and as he went hurrying off Mr. and Mrs. Woodchuck rubbed their heads together and said how lucky they were to have each other!"