

WASHINGTON SIDELIGHTS

Light on Late Committee on Public Information

WASHINGTON.—Congress or at least the senate apparently would like to know something about the actual operations of the late lamented committee on public information and the present condition of its affairs. Anyway, Senator Smoot of Utah, introduced a resolution the other day, which was read, considered by unanimous consent and agreed to in part as follows:

Resolved, That the director of the council of national defense is hereby directed to report to the senate as soon as practicable: A statement showing all the expenditures of the committee on public information by principal classes, such as salaries; traveling; printing done at the government printing office; printing done elsewhere than at the government printing office; advertisements, photographs, and films; telephone, telegraph, and cable; office furniture; rents; and automobiles. In this statement set forth in detail the name, address, position, business, or occupation of each payee, together with an explanation of the purpose for which such expenditures were made. If the expenditures were for traveling, including subsistence, state fully the purpose of such traveling, whether the expenditure therefor included persons other than the payee; if so, the names and addresses of such person, together with general statement as to the extent and purpose of the traveling.

A statement of the unpaid accounts of the committee on public information in the same form as the foregoing statement.

A statement of the funds and property in the possession of the committee on public information, its employees, agents, or representatives, and the location of the same at the time the council of national defense was placed in charge of its affairs.

The resolution also calls for a statement of funds and property recovered, and disposition of files and mailing lists and all other pertinent facts in connection with the auditing and closing of the accounts and affairs of the committee.

Apparently, also, the senate is in a hurry, since if the information is not ready a preliminary and partial statement is requested.

18,000 Ex-Convicts Organize "Gray Brotherhood"

A MYSTERIOUS organization of ex-convicts, known as the Gray Brotherhood, has a membership which is believed to exceed 18,000. It is stated that its aims are to humanize the prisons and develop the ambitions of the inmates toward cleaner and better lives. Its officers and leaders are unnamed, but the head, who is known as the Gray Brother, is said to be a man of much capacity and influence. He is on terms of friendly intimacy with several United States senators and is said to be not unknown at the White House. The Gray Brotherhood is responsible for several prison investigations—brought with the desire to improve conditions and not merely to play politics or satisfy a grudge. It is also claimed on behalf of the Gray Brotherhood that it is thoroughly patriotic and American.

A statement of the program of the new organization is substantially as follows:

The Gray Brotherhood will attempt to help individual prisoners during their incarceration, and especially on their release.

The Brotherhood will provide jobs for released prisoners and try to educate the public to a more intelligent attitude toward the man who has committed a breach of the law.

An attempt will be made to clean up the prisons, morally, hygienically, and politically. A fight will be made on the grafts said to be rampant in all prisons.

The Brotherhood will fight the political control of prisons by entering the political field itself. It will try to force the wardenship and other prison offices out of the hands of politicians and into those of penological experts and students.

The Brotherhood will be organized in every state to force advanced prison-reform measures through the legislatures. It is the purpose to wipe out utterly the present penal system.

Shortage of School Teachers Threatens Nation

THE country is faced with a serious shortage of school teachers, chiefly through failure to provide adequate salaries, according to reports to the United States bureau of education. Conditions are becoming slightly better, however, the report states, in some sections, compared with those of last October, when the National Education association conducted an inquiry into the situation.

Based on returns from state school officials, the reports show that on February 13 last there were 18,279 schools closed because of lack of teachers and 41,000 were being taught by teachers characterized as "below standard, but taken on temporarily in the emergency." Greater shortages are shown to exist in southern states.

Salaries paid teachers in 1918, statistics show, were on an average of \$606 for elementary teachers and \$1,031 for those teaching in high schools. From salary schedules collected from various states, giving salaries received by individual teachers in three counties in each state, it is shown that wages paid rural teachers fell far below the foregoing average in many states, many localities showing salaries paid as low as \$150 and \$200 a year.

In 190 state, city and private normal schools, representing 60 per cent of the total normal schools in the country, there were 11,500 fewer students enrolled November 1, 1919, than during the prewar period. A similar falling off is shown in teacher-training departments in colleges, while other departments show great increases in enrollment.

America Rapidly Becoming Most Befurred Nation

FURS in a temperate climate have always been a sign of wealth. As we are the richest nation of the earth, we are rapidly becoming the most befurried nation. The last five years have seen the largest amount of furs sold in this country in its history at steadily increasing prices and at the moment the United States, next to Russia, is probably the greatest consumer of fur garments in the world.

While London still disputes the fact, American fur dealers say this country has become the center of the fur industry. It is interesting to note the 12,000 Alaska sealskins offered for sale on account of the United States government were dressed, dyed, and machined in this country instead of at London as formerly.

The furs sold in February in St. Louis, came from every corner of the world and included 200,000 China dog mats, used mostly for coats in cold north-west countries; from Siberia, 1,500,000 squirrels, 200,000 ermine, 8,000 white foxes, 70,000 kolinskies, 200,000 marmots, 125,000 fit-h, and 6,000 Russian sables.

Australia sent 1,000,000 pounds of rabbit skins, 500,000 Australian opossum, 40,000 wallaby, 11,000 kangaroo, 100,000 ringtail opossums, and 60,000 red foxes.

From Persia and Turkestan were offered 10,000 Persian lambskins. Europe contributed 80,000 moleskins and many thousand red foxes.

The United States offered 800,000 muskrats, 300,000 skunk, 22,000 beavers, 80,000 wolves, 1,000 silver foxes, 125,000 raccoons, and many other varieties

MAKING WAR ON INSIDIOUS FOES

Cabbage Grower Likely to Be Discouraged at Prospect of Fight.

CUTWORMS MOST INJURIOUS

Larvae of Number of Kinds of Medium-Sized Grayish or Brownish Moths Are Found in Garden Allowed to Grow Up in Weeds.

When the grower enters his well-kept garden, in which a day or two before he has set out a fine lot of cabbage or tomato plants, and finds that a goodly part of them have been cut off near the roots by some invisible and insidious foe, he is likely to become discouraged at the effort to fight the stealthy attacks of these nocturnal marauders, and to wonder whether the game is worth the candle, especially after the plants which he resets are attacked in the same manner.

If he is familiar with the habits of cutworms, however, he will, before replanting, make a search of the soil within a few inches of the base of the damaged plant, and will probably be rewarded by uncovering a smooth, greasy-looking, gray or brownish caterpillar from an inch to an inch and a half in length, the foe for which he is seeking.

Found in Weedy Garden.

Cutworms are the young or larvae of a number of kinds of medium-sized grayish or brownish moths, and are likely to be found wherever a garden has been allowed to grow up in weeds the previous season. They pass the winter as half-grown caterpillars buried in the earth, and in spring come forth with a several-months' appetite which they satisfy with the first edible vegetation that comes to hand, this often being the gardener's choicest transplanted vegetables. As the sea-



As Preventive Measure Scatter Poison Bait Over Garden Before Setting Out Plants.

son goes on, they become mature and enter the ground, there undergoing the transformations which are completed by the issuance of the moth in mid-summer.

If the garden is known to have been weedy last season, the proverbial ounce of prevention may be exercised by scattering thinly over it, just before setting out the plants, a poisoned bait. This is prepared by mixing thoroughly a quart of dry bran with four or five tablespoonsfuls of white arsenic or Paris green. It is then made into a wet mash by the addition of a quart or more of water, into which has been stirred a half cupful of cheap syrup or molasses. It may be scattered thinly over the field a day or two before planting, or will serve as a protection to the newly set plants if a little is sprinkled around the roots after wetting them down. Better results are secured by putting out poison after sunset, since cutworms begin to feed about dusk.

Poison Is Dangerous.

Care should be taken that this bait is scattered thinly, as it might be dangerous to children or domestic animals.

In small gardens, transplanted vegetables may be protected by surrounding their stems when setting them out with somewhat stiff paper band extending from about an inch below the surface to two or three inches above. Tin cans with ends removed afford similar protection.

TREATMENT FOR SICK FOWLS

Weak or Ailing Hens Should Be disposed of at Once, or Separated and Treated.

Any weak or sick hens should be disposed of as soon as discovered, or separated from the flock and treated because they are not only likely to die but they are likely to infect other members of the flock with disease germs.

TWO STEMS OF CLOVER

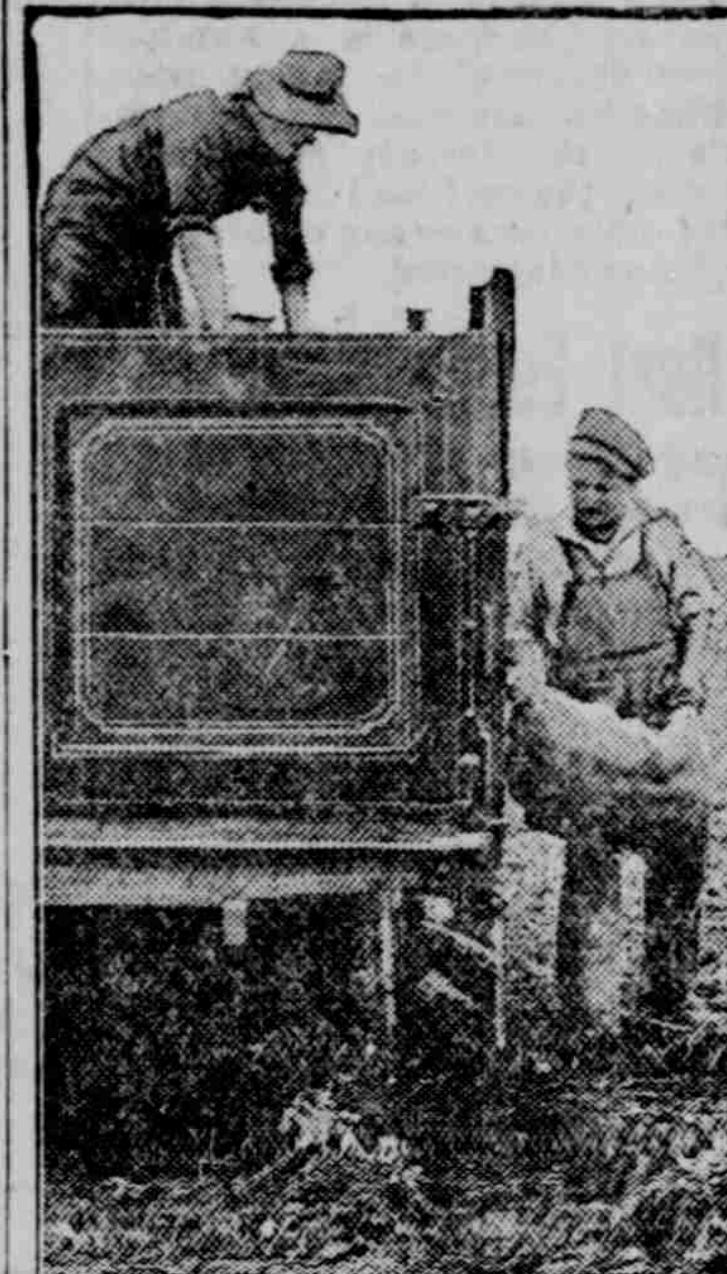
Lime the land for clover. A ton of lime on wheat in the fall will make two stems of clover grow where one grew before.

MOTOR TRUCKS VERY USEFUL

Bought by Farmer Not as Single-Purpose Machine, But for Variety of Uses on Farm.

It is only in the past two or three years that tractors have been used extensively as general-purpose machines. They were bought for and used principally for plowing, and, to quite an extent, for threshing and filling silos. Now they are used for harvesting, preparing the seedbed, drilling, hauling manure spreaders, and so on. The tractor, to be a paying investment on most farms, must be profitable for a variety of work.

So it is with the motor truck. The truck salesman lays special stress on



Truck Gathering Potatoes in Field.

the hauling of crops to market or shipping point. This is a very important use, but it is a long way from covering all the farm needs for a truck. The truck salesman's hauling-to-market argument is comparable to the earlier days of the tractor when it was sold around the plowing idea principally. Both the truck and tractor will be bought by the farmer not as single-purpose machines, but for their application to a variety of uses.

The farmer's hauling requirements may be divided into two general classes: (1) Hauling on the road and (2) hauling on the farm. On most farms where trucks are used the hauling on the farm will constitute by far the greatest number of uses for a truck.—Power Farming.

STRAW ROUGHAGE FOR STOCK

That Obtained in Threshing Soy Beans Has Been Found to Be Satisfactory for Cows.

Soy bean straw which is obtained from threshing out soy beans for seed makes a very good roughage for all kinds of stock. It will not dry up cows, but on the contrary it has been found that it will increase milk production. It is a common practice in sections where the crop is grown extensively for seed to bale the straw after threshing and sell it to dairymen and stock feeders.

ESSENTIAL PIG POINTS

The essential points in the care and feeding of the brood sow and litter are—

1. The provision of comfortable farrowing pens.
2. Individual attention to each sow and litter at the time of farrowing.
3. Plenty of exercise and sunshine for young pigs.
4. Liberal feeding of the pigs on grain in addition to milk of the dam.

GENERAL FARM NOTES

The legumes are our most important crops.

Farming is a profession as much as a business.

Garden, chickens, bees, fruits and other sidelines are worthy of attention.

Some seed and manure might cover up that bare spot in the meadow or pasture field.

Hogs should never have damp sleeping quarters and their bedding should be changed often.

Examine clover and grass seed with a magnifying glass to see whether there are any noxious weed seeds in the lot.

Do not neglect the fences till planting time when it will be a difficult matter to spare the time required to repair them.

A good cellar under the house where it is cool in summer and warm in winter is one of the best places to operate an incubator that can be found.

The farm library goes with the farm office. The bulletins from your experiment stations and state college ought to be handy to the desk where you keep your papers and accounts.

Many School Children are Sickly

and take cold easily, are feverish and constipated, have headaches; stomach or bowel trouble.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN

Used by Mothers for over 30 years

Are pleasant to take and a certain relief. They tend to break up a cold in 24 hours, act on the Stomach, Liver and Bowels and tend to correct intestinal disorders and destroy worms. 10,000 testimonials like the following from mothers and friends of children tell of relief. Originals are on file in our offices:

"I think MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN are grand. They were recommended to my sister by a doctor. I am giving them to my little three year old girl who was very puny, and she is picking up wonderfully."

"We have used MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN at different times for past nine years, and always found them a perfect children's medicine and very satisfactory in every case."

"Do not accept any substitute for MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS."

Thousands of Happy Housewives in WESTERN CANADA

are helping their husbands to prosper—encouraging them to go where they can make a home of their own—save paying rent and reduce cost of living—where they could reach prosperity and independence by buying on easy terms.

Farm Land at \$15 to \$30 an Acre
—land similar to that which through many years has yielded from 20 to 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. Hundreds of farmers in Western Canada have raised crops in a single season where there was no crop of their land. Western Canada crops come prosperity, independence, good health, and all the comforts and conveniences which make for happy living.

Farm Gardens—Poultry—Dairying
are sources of income second only to grain growing and stock raising. Good citizens, good neighbors, churches, schools, rural telephone, all give the opportunities of a new land with the conveniences of old settled districts.

For illustrated literature, maps, description of farm opportunities in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, request free booklet, "Western Canada," Department of Immigration, Ottawa, Can., or J. H. MacLachlan, 215 Traction-Terminal Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.

Canadian Government Agent

DON'T WHINE IN SICK ROOM

Remember to Carry Cheer, Not Sympathy to Those Who Are Temporarily "Shut In."

Every one is called upon now and then to visit the sick room. Conditions surrounding the bedside visitations present a wide variation. There is one rule that holds good under all conditions, and that is to carry cheer and sunshine—not a long face, but a smile. If the patients are able talk to them of what is going on outside. Help them to forget themselves. A man who for over twenty years had been paralyzed, was visited by a friend who was profuse in expressing his sympathy and regret at the sick man's helplessness. As he was about to leave, the afflicted man said, "Come again, won't you, but when you do please forget to tell me that you are sorry for me as every one tells me that I've heard it every day for twenty years. Help me to forget it. Bring me a breath of the outside world."

Flowers are always a gracious help in making the sickroom a place of cheer. A book or a magazine also helps.—Thrift Magazine.

Rare Sugar Found in Honey.

Investigation of certain stores of crystallized honey found in various places in Pennsylvania where the bees had died from starvation led to the discovery of a quantity of rare sugar, known as melezitose, which has been extracted and purified and placed at the disposal of the bureau of chemistry.

The weekly news letter of the department of agriculture says that melezitose is one of the rarest sugars. Minute quantities of it have been available to men of science for many years, but the supply has never been sufficient to permit of extensive experimentation. Now the United States department has several kilograms.

Balked His Desire.

A gentleman and his wife were admiring some college buildings erected by wealthy alumni. Presently they came to a noble hall, over the main entrance of which was a tablet reading, "Erected by John C. Black, as a memorial to his beloved wife."

"Oh," he said with a sigh, "that is what I should like to do for my college." And for the life of him he couldn't understand why his wife suddenly became cold to him.

There would be a very sizable rush of town boys to the farm if town boys had their way.

"Don't see how you make that out, sir."

"Well," replied the stage manager, "when I get near either of them I always look out!"

Much Alike.

The stage manager was hurriedly giving instructions to his property man.

"Did you say you wanted a window or a widow, sir?" asked the latter, somewhat perplexed.

"I said widow," he replied, and added, with a laugh, "but they're both much alike."

The property man scratched his head.

"Don't see how you make that out, sir."

"Well," replied the stage manager, "when I get near either of them I always look out!"

FOOD FORTIFIES

against exhaustion and