

Indiana News Tersely Told

The board of Pike county commissioners ordered the erection of a new courthouse to be built in Petersburg to take the place of the old courthouse built in 1868.

The state board of tax commissioners approved a bond issue by the trustee of Washington township, Putnam county, of \$11,000 for the construction of the Manhattan school.

A special session of the Indiana legislature will probably be held in the early part of October to vote on the Susan B. Anthony suffrage amendment to the federal Constitution.

Joseph Toolen of Anderson and Howard F. Taylor of Peru have been authorized to submit certificates for entrance to West Point in lieu of the usual entrance examination.

The summer session in the school of liberal arts at Indiana university has closed. The summer terms of the schools of education, law and medicine will not close until August 22.

State food and drug inspectors have been instructed to give attention to the operation and sanitary conditions of refreshment stands at county fairs and race meets during the present season.

Dr. J. H. Kinsey, secretary of the Richmond board of health, says there are at least 50 cases of influenza in that city at the present time. The disease is mild in form and only one case of pneumonia has developed. There also are 40 cases of diphtheria.

Heads of Indiana state institutions and members of the Indiana state purchasing board have agreed that the fixing of prices for the interchange of manufactured products from the various state institutions among themselves shall be in the hands of the joint purchasing board.

Benjamin Bosse, mayor of Evansville and president of a furniture company, announced that several of the large manufacturing concerns of that city will bring suit in the courts to test the new state tax law. He says the corporations feel like they have been assessed beyond reason.

A state federation of social welfare agencies, to act as a clearing house and to apply a "social workers' geography of Indiana," was proposed at a conference of social welfare workers held in the statehouse, which was called to consider ways to prevent the waste of money and energy in duplication and to bring about co-operation.

Advantages Summarized.

The United Public Service company of Rochester has asked the public service commission to investigate its affairs for the purpose of determining its profits in connection with the city water pumping contract at Rochester. The company believes that such an investigation will show a basis for raising the price of pumping to 3½ cents a kWh, meter measurement.

Seventy per cent of the gasoline vending machines in Indiana are running short from a pint to a pint and a half on every five gallons which the purchaser pays for, according to Richard White, weights and measures inspector of the food and drugs division of the state board of health. Mr. White said that very rarely does a purchaser get more gasoline than is paid for, but usually considerably less.

Relatives of Michael O'Neill, son of Charles O'Neill of Jeffersonville have not heard the particulars of his services for which it is announced he has received the Distinguished Service Cross, as a member of the American expeditionary army in France. He enlisted in the regular army as soon as the United States declared war and went overseas. A brother has been in the army 15 years and a third member of the family also is in service. Michael O'Neill was wounded shortly before the armistice was signed.

A survey will be necessary to determine the amount of work yet to be done on the Eel river ditch in Clay, Greene and Owen counties, according to a report submitted to Jesse E. Eschbach, chief examiner of the state board of accounts, by A. L. Donaldson, field examiner. Much litigation has surrounded the excavation work. The expert reports that the contractor, Fred C. Morgan, has received \$148,583.77 and that \$2,085.50 is due him. Mr. Morgan's report shows that he found a net error in favor of the contractor of \$5,695.36. Copies of the report have been submitted to the county commissioners interested in the matter.

Chemistry and machine shop work will be added to the curriculum of Columbus high school. A chemistry laboratory will be placed in the basement of the central building, and lathes and other machinery will be provided in the industrial building. Miss Grace Martin of Corydon has been chosen as teacher of French for the next term. The mathematical department of the high school, formerly in charge of T. B. Calvert, who resigned, will be in charge of H. C. Delst and Gilbert Blackwood. F. L. Buseberg will be assistant principal in place of T. B. Calvert. The school board, reorganized recently, now includes Meredith Leinberger, John Jewell and Mrs. Franz Best.

Many small packers in the state sent requests to Stanley Wyckoff for a few barrels of sugar in order that they may continue operation. Mr. Wyckoff decided to divide a car of sugar among the smaller canners, who represent their cases as desperate.

The board of directors of Franklin college has offered Prof. Harriett C. Palmer, who was dismissed as head of the history and political science department June 20, by a committee of the board, a hearing on the condition that she abide by the decision of the board at this hearing, and refrain from taking her case into court.

USE OF TRACTOR IS NO SINECURE

Offers Problems That Do Not Bother the Farmer Who Uses Horse-Drawn Implements.

ELIMINATE WASTE OF TIME

Necessary to Lay Out Fields So That High-Class Job Can Be Done—Short Turns Are Awkward—Advantages Summarized.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Plowing with tractors presents some problems that never bother the man who uses horse-drawn implements. It is necessary to lay out fields, so that a high-class job of plowing can be done over the entire area with the minimum use of a horse-drawn plow in starting and finishing the work. The methods in general use are divided into two classes—those in which the plows are elevated and no plowing is done across the ends, and those in which the plows are left in the ground continuously. In most cases better plowing can be done when the plows are idle across the ends of the fields, and for this reason the methods of this class are more popular, but many farmers prefer the other methods, as they eliminate waste of time and labor.

Plowmen using tractors wish to reduce to a minimum the time spent in running with plows out of the ground. While it is necessary to do some traveling while the plows are idle, care should be taken not to do too much of it, as it reduces the number of acres which can be plowed in a day, making the tractor that much less efficient. Short turns, however, are awkward for most tractors, and where such turns are necessary the operator often has more or less difficulty in getting the outfit in the correct position for starting into the new furrow at the right point. Some tractors turn more easily in one direction than others, and this should be taken into consideration in laying out the fields.

Advantages Summarized.

The advantages of plowing by the methods in which the plows are idle across the ends of the fields are that the short, awkward turns are eliminated, except in some cases at the beginning and ends of the lands, and usually less spaces will be left at the corners to be plowed with horses. The advantage of the other methods are that little or no time is lost in trav-



Plowing With Tractors Presents Problems That Never Trouble Man Who Uses Horse-Drawn Implements.

eling with the plows out of the ground, and that ordinarily the number of dead furrows and back furrows will be considerably less.

In using the first-named methods it is necessary to measure the lands in the center of the field accurately, leaving an equal area on all sides of the field in which to turn the outfit, and which can be plowed last by running the tractor completely around the field several times. If one end of the field is unfenced the outfit can be pulled out into a road or lane, or an adjoining field, for turning. It may be preferable to plow up to the fence on the two sides as the body of the field is being plowed, and leave the headland only across the end of the field which is fenced. The width of the headland will depend largely on the turning radius of the tractor. With easily handled outfits it is not necessary to leave more than 15 or 20 feet.

Careful Plowing Saves Time.

If the field is to be finished up in the best manner, with no irregular, unplowed strips between the land or at the edges, it is essential that care be taken to have the headland of the same width clear around the field, to have the distances measured exactly when starting new lands, and to have the first furrows as nearly straight as possible. A little extra time taken in measuring off the necessary distances and setting plenty of stakes for guidance will nearly always be more than returned in saving time at the finish. If the tractor pulls three or more plows, cutting a total width of three or more feet, some effort should be made to have the width of the headlands an exact multiple of the total width of the plow, so that the last strip across the field will exactly cut out the land or finish it to the fence. This will do away with the necessity of making a trip across the field, probably over the plowed ground, to turn a narrow strip which has been left unplowed.

Average Farmer Does Not Realize Tremendous Amount of Work He is Making Himself.

Labor spent by the farmer in sharpening his tools and implements earns a thousand per cent interest, declares Prof. H. H. Musselman of the Michigan agricultural college. The average farmer is inclined to go along with dull edges, little realizing the tremendous amount of extra labor he is making himself.

DESTROYING PRAIRIE DOGS TO SAVE CROPS

Organized Operations Conducted in New Mexico.

Nearly 5,000 Land Owners Took Active Part in Work—Cost for Treatment of Range Land Less Than 4 Cents an Acre.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Organized poisoning operations were extended over 1,231,297 prairie-dog-infested acres in New Mexico last year under the co-operative war measure work of the biological survey of the United States department of agriculture, the New Mexico state council of defense, and the extension service of the New Mexico college of agriculture. This included the protection of 212,992 acres of crops in all parts of the state, nearly 5,000 land owners taking active part in the work. The expenditures of the federal and state governments and of co-operators totaled less than \$60,000. The actual cost for the treatment of range land was less than 4 cents an acre. If average crop returns in New Mexico be placed as low as \$20 an acre, the saving in crops alone for this one season is approximately \$500,000. To this should be



New Mexico Practiced Poison Control on 1,231,297 Acres Against Prairie Dogs Last Year.

added the benefit from the destruction of prairie dogs on over a million acres of range and the consequent increased value in crops and forage for seasons to come. Better organization will result from the experiences of last year, and the biological survey and the authorities in New Mexico are in a position to push much more vigorously the work of clearing the state of prairie dogs. Economic and effectiveness have been increased through recent improvements in poisoning methods and, with the help of legislative measures and the hearty co-operation of all ranchmen, it is hoped that the prairie dog will be entirely eradicated before many years.

SELECT POTATOES FOR SEED

Grower Cannot Expect to Get Maximum Yields From Inferior Stock—Best Time at Harvest.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The custom of using as seed potatoes left from the previous season's crop, after having disposed of the best, must be discontinued if the present quality and yield of the crop is to be materially improved, say specialists of the United States department of agriculture. The grower cannot expect to get maximum yields from inferior seed stock any more than the dairymen can expect to get maximum milk yields from scrub cows. The best time to select seed potatoes, according to the specialists, is in the fall when the crop is being harvested. Then the yield of the individual plant and the quality of the tubers can be considered.

Good seed is pure in respect to the variety; is produced by healthy, vigorous, heavy-yielding plants grown under favorable climatic conditions; is somewhat immature; reasonably uniform in size and shape; firm and sound. The first sprouts should begin to develop at planting time.

STERILIZATION IS NECESSARY

Washing of Dairy Utensils by Process Ordinarily Used Is Not Always Sufficient.

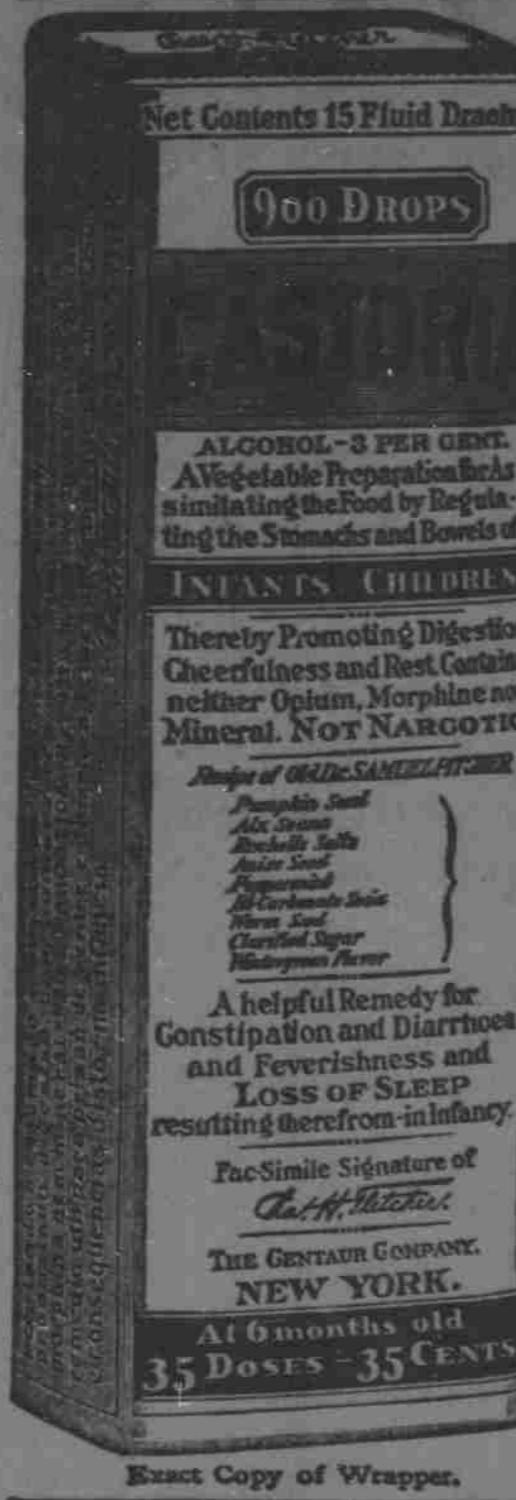
(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Sterilization of dairy utensils is necessary for the production of dairy products of high quality, particularly milk and cream, because the washing of dairy utensils, at least by the process ordinarily used, is not sufficient to insure freedom from infection and contamination.

EXTRA LABOR BY DULL TOOLS

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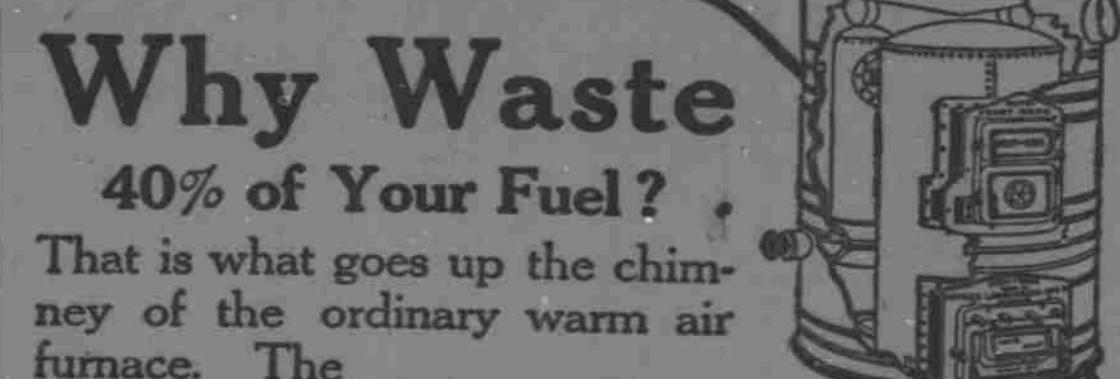
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