

MODIFY POLICY

Russia Meets Views of Britain and America.

BIG VICTORY FOR LAMSDORFF

Nation Will Hold Commanders of Ships in Error to Preserve the Country's Dignity.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 19.—Russia has given her answer to the American and British notes on the subject of contraband of war. Her answer as communicated to Ambassador Harding this afternoon verbally by Foreign Minister Lamsdorff, and bears out the predictions made on the subject by the Associated Press. The Ambassador was informed in effect that, according to the decision of the commission which has investigated the subject, the government has agreed to view as conditionally contraband in character foodstuffs and fuel, and that supplementary instruction had been issued to the Russian naval commanders and prize courts calling their attention to the misinterpretation which had been placed upon the prize regulations.

These instructions, Sir Charles Hardie was informed, make a clear distinction between the articles enumerated in article 6 of the Russian prize regulations which are susceptible to dual use, like fuel and foodstuffs, the assumption being that if they are addressed to private persons or firms in an enemy's port they are not intended for warlike uses; but their innocent character may be subject to suspicion if the ship's papers and the circumstances are irregular. In effect, the new instructions will place the burden of proof that the foodstuffs, etc., are designed for belligerent purposes upon the captor.

Russia, in Count Lamsdorff's response to Ambassador Harding, in principle meets the views of the American and the British governments regarding foodstuffs and coal and other fuel as being conditional contraband of war, distinctly placing them in the category of articles susceptible of uses both in war and peace, and as such only confiscable when consigned to blockaded ports, or destined for military or naval forces of the enemy. Shipments in the ordinary course of trade by private persons or firms, even to enemy's port, may be regarded as prima facie not contraband, but on this point distinct reservation is made.

URGE LAND-LAW REFORMS.

Commission Will Soon Meet to Report to the President.

Washington, Sept. 19.—The public lands commission, consisting of Land Commissioner Richards, Gifford Pinchot and F. H. Newell, will hold an early meeting and outline the report which it will submit to the president recommending changes in the various public land laws. The members of the commission have spent the summer in the West observing the operation of the land laws, and will soon be supplied with reports from their field representatives pointing out the weaknesses of the present laws. After going over all the data collected, the commission will draft its report and submit it to the president in time to permit him to incorporate the various recommendations in his annual message to congress. The commission may not be able to make a final report, but will make the one presented as comprehensive as possible, and will point out the changes most needed in the public land statutes, including the necessity for modification, if not actual repeal, of the lien land law.

President Roosevelt is depending upon this commission for a strong report, and the indications are that he will get it, though in some instances the commission, while showing the weak spots of the present laws, may not recommend any definite remedy, but submit various plans for the consideration of congress. The probability, however, is that there will be no important land legislation next winter, as it is a short session and there is considerable opposition to changing the existing laws, especially the lien land law.

Boston Goes Out to Look for Ships.

San Francisco, Sept. 19.—The United States cruiser Boston left this port today, no intimation of her destination being given out. It is surmised that she may have been sent to discover if any Russian or Japanese vessels are near this harbor, as has been rumored from various sources. One report received yesterday stated that the Russian auxiliary cruiser Korea might soon be expected to call at an American port on the Pacific, and another story stated that Japanese cruisers are pursuing the Lena.

Slip of the Emperor's Pen.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 19.—Considerable amusement has been caused by a slip of Emperor Nicholas' pen in accepting the offers of several companies of Siberian militia who volunteered for service at the front. The petition reads: "We humbly lay at your majesty's feet our desire to be permitted to fight and die for the fatherland." The emperor, in accepting, wrote: "I thank you sincerely, and hope that your wishes may be fully realized."

Large Lumber Mill Destroyed.

Chicago, Sept. 19.—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Pine Bluff, Ark., says that fire has destroyed the Sawyer & Austin plant, one of the largest lumber mills in Arkansas. The loss is estimated at between \$400,000 and \$500,000, fully covered by insurance.

CLASH IN PANAMA.

Officials Cannot Agree as to Their Rights.

Washington Sept. 20.—The Times tonight prints the following: "There have arisen serious misunderstandings between John Barrett, American minister at Panama, and the isthmian commission. Admiral Walker, head of the isthmian canal commission, prefers to deal with questions that have arisen between this government and Panama in his own way, desiring not to 'waste time' with diplomacy."

"Minister John Barrett holds that there are questions bearing on relations between the canal zone government and the government of the republic of Panama that should be submitted to diplomatic adjustment. 'The pinch has come in determining whose authority shall be uppermost in settling a number of questions which might as readily come under Governor Davis' jurisdiction as under that of Minister Barrett. So serious has the differences between the Panama officials become that Minister John Barrett has decided to come to Washington personally to present his case to the president."

This story cannot be confirmed, but probably grows out of the fact that Minister Barrett is soon to return home on leave of absence, which the president promised he should have this fall.

TRAIN IN A WRECK.

Chicago Passenger Train Piled Up at a Crossing.

Chicago, Sept. 20.—A passenger train on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern road was wrecked this afternoon at the crossing of the tracks at Root street. Accounts of the cause differ, some of the railroad people alleging that the train ran into an open switch and others saying the locomotive jumped the track because of a broken flange. Twelve persons were injured and some of them may die.

The train was going at a high rate of speed to make up lost time. The tracks are elevated, and the accident happened just before the train reached the viaduct over Root street. The engine plunged to the far side of the viaduct, where a rail torn from its fastenings rose up on end and transfixed the rear of the engine cab and the fore part of the baggage car. It held the wreckage so firmly that several hours' work with cold chisels was necessary before the baggage car could be removed. The four cars behind the baggage car were piled in a heap at the north end of the viaduct, and all of them badly smashed. An overturned stove in the rear car set fire to the wreckage, but it was extinguished by the fire department before it had gained much headway.

OREGON GETS PRIZE.

Shorthorn Cow First in the Aged Class at St. Louis.

St. Louis, Sept. 20.—Orange Blossom, of Fairview, a red beauty of a shorthorn cow, splendidly typical of the breed belonging to the Ladd estate, of Portland, Or., has won first award in the class for aged cows, the feature event of the world's fair cattle show.

Roberta, belonging to the herd of the Tobo Land & Cattle company, of Clinton, Mo., beaten but once since she was a yearling, and winner at the last international at Chicago, who was thought to have a mortgage on this event, was unable to compete on account of calving a beautiful white heifer shortly before the event was called. Choice Goods, which won the first event for aged bulls in the shorthorn class, is the sire of the little white heifer that is valued by its owners at \$1,000. Roberta and Choice Goods are two of the trio of shorthorns for which, along with Cicely, the Tobo Land & Cattle company is said to have paid the Ladd estate \$15,000.

Japanese are Advancing.

Mukden, Sept. 20.—The Japanese are reported to be advancing on both flanks from the east, southeast and southwest. The outposts are closely engaged 20 miles southerlyward, there being almost constant skirmishing. Indications point to another great battle in the vicinity of Mukden. Russian troops occupy all the surrounding villages. Refugees are flocking in to the city. Chinese among them complain of severity on the part of the Japanese.

New Packing House for Chicago.

Chicago, Sept. 20.—Chicago is to have a new packing house plant, capitalized at \$2,500,000, and with a daily capacity of 1,000 head of cattle, 2,000 hogs and 5,000 sheep. The company has been incorporated under the laws of New York and negotiations for a site at the union stockyards are under way. The plant is expected to be erected and in working order by May 19, 1905. New York capital is said to be back of the new enterprise.

Loubet Will Retire.

Paris, Sept. 20.—President Loubet, in the course of a speech to the provincial mayors today, said he looked forward with satisfaction to the serenity of private life after the close of his term. The statement is taken as a definite statement of the president not to seek a second term. His present term expires at the end of next year.

TOWN GUTTED

Business Section of St. Helens Practically Wiped Out.

FEW HAVE ANY INSURANCE

Property Destroyed Is Valued at About \$50,000—Modern City Will Arise From Ashes.

St. Helens, Or., Sept. 15.—A fire which wiped out the greater portion of the business section of this city started in the Taylor Hotel, at the corner of Cowitt street and the Strand, at about 2:40 yesterday morning, when everything in the village was in peace and sleep. The fire is supposed to have been incendiary in its origin, though there is no clue either to the perpetrator or the motive. It was at first thought by those awakened from their slumbers that some evil-minded person had fired the courthouse, and all knew that this meant the destruction of the entire town.

The town has a gravity system of waterworks and a pumping system that forces water from the Columbia river, and two streams were soon playing upon the flames, but owing to the extremely inflammable condition of the wooden buildings, they were of no avail in preventing the work of destruction, and nothing could be done to save anything in the path of the conflagration, although the citizens worked like seasoned fire fighters, taking every possible risk in endeavoring to save their neighbors' property.

The buildings destroyed were: The Taylor hotel, the general merchandise store of M. C. Gray, the residence of W. H. Dolman, the Oriental hotel, the Cruiser saloon, the St. Helens hotel, the abstract office of E. E. Quick, the law office of W. H. Powell, the residence of Jack McKie, "Tammany Hall," three dwelling houses belonging to Muckle Bros., a blacksmith shop and lodge hall, and the residence of Lope Bros., the sawmill and dock of Muckle Bros.

There were no lives lost, but there were several very narrow escapes. Two young men, rooming in what was known as Tammany Hall, were cut off by the fire from the staircase, and were compelled to jump out of a window. A new building, just erected by Dr. Ross for a pharmacy and lodge room, was saved by the most heroic work of the volunteer firemen. The entire front of it was scorched black. It is now being used as a temporary post-office by M. C. Gray, the merchant who sustained the heaviest single loss.

It is the general opinion here that a new and modern city will arise from the historic ashes of the old town that once rivalled Portland as the seat of commerce on the Columbia river.

The entire loss will probably amount to \$45,000, with comparatively no insurance.

PANAMA PROTESTS IN VAIN.

Walker Says America Will Keep Two Open Ports in Canal Zone.

New York, Sept. 16.—Rear Admiral Walker, the head of the Panama commission, declared today on his arrival from Colon that the United States intends to keep two open ports in the canal zone, in spite of any protests which might be made by the Panama government. He added that he did not anticipate any trouble over the making of Ancon, on the Panama side of the isthmus, and Cristobal, near Colon, free ports of entry.

"The unfortunate part of the affair," he said, "is that it has got into local politics. Of course, the 'outs' have to protest against what has been done by the 'ins.' I do not think that the establishment of free ports will mean that the Panama government will have to patrol both sides of the canal strip with customs officials. I think an agreement will be made with them so that we will help them out. Goods brought into the strip will not be allowed to enter Panama territory."

Rear Admiral Walker said that the work of excavating is now proceeding twice as fast and with fewer men and at half of the cost as under the French administration.

Ousted From Office.

Oyster Bay, L. I., Sept. 16.—Robert M. McWade, United States consul general at Canton, China, was removed from office by President Roosevelt today. Charges made against him recently were investigated by Assistant Secretary Pierce, who went to the Orient to make an investigation of several of the United States consulates in China and Japan. Secretary Pierce in his report to the president, strongly sustains the charges made against Consul General McWade. The order went forward this afternoon.

Part of Cargo Confiscated.

Vladivostok, Sept. 16.—The prize court has decided to release the British steamer Calchas (captured while bound from Puget sound ports to Japan by the Vladivostok squadron) and also the neutral portions of the vessel's cargo. That part of the cargo consigned to Japan consisting of flour, cotton and timber is confiscated. The Calchas will be detained three months in order to allow its owners time for an appeal from the prize court's decision.

Nearly Certain She Must Be Dismantled.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Sept. 16.—It seems reasonably certain that the Russian vessel Lena will be dismantled and ordered to remain where she is now until the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese war. Final decision on that point, however, may not be reached for a day or two.

BIG RUIN BY WIND.

Atlantic Coast Is Swept by a Terrible Tornado.

New York, Sept. 17.—A number of lives were lost, much property damaged and several ships wrecked in the storm which ravaged the Atlantic coast last night and today. It was one of the fiercest September storms on record, thunder and lightning adding terror to a howling gale which carried drenching sheets of rain over sea and land. Telegraphic reports tonight say the storm was swept out into the ocean and from the Canadian coast.

The greatest loss of life was near Wilmington, Del. The tug Israel W. Durham, with a crew of six men and four other men, employees of the American Dredging company, was swamped in the Delaware river early today during the height of the storm. Eight of the ten persons on the little craft were drowned. Great destruction was caused in the city proper. Trees were uprooted, houses flooded and crops ruined. Further down the coast, Jacksonville, comes the report that five men were drowned off Charleston. This report was brought in by one of the coast liners.

New York suffered comparatively little. The wind and rain and thunder and lightning were terrific, but little actual damage was done. Nineteen coal barges went adrift in the bay and tonight wreckage strewn the shore from the Battery to the Narrows, but no lives were lost. Several small vessels also went ashore on various parts of the coast near New York.

At 4 o'clock this morning the wind was blowing 80 miles an hour, and the rain was coming down in sheets. It was then that the trolley cars came to a standstill. Elevated roads stopped and traffic of all kinds was paralyzed. Along the streets through the market sections of the city wagons were overturned and horses hurled from their feet.

Many plate glass windows succumbed to the wind, especially in the downtown section of the city.

Soon after daybreak the rain ceased and the clouds cleared away. There was a decided drop in the temperature.

In Newark, N. J., lightning struck the building of the Prudential Insurance company and ripped out some of the heavy granite blocks from a cupola 264 feet from the ground. Hundreds of pounds of the granite blocks went crashing through roofs of houses, adjoining the skyscraper, causing a panic among the residents.

The storm caused much damage in Brooklyn. In some instances scores of houses were flooded, several blocks of sewer caves in and many trees were uprooted. Miles of telephone wires were blown down in the suburbs, and many of the trolley lines were put out of commission.

KOREA IS ALSO DUE.

Russian Ministry of Marine Asserts She Will Seek Pacific Port.

Paris, Sept. 17.—The correspondent of the Echo de Paris at St. Petersburg has telegraphed his paper as follows:

"The ministry of marine tells us regarding the arrival of the Russian transport Lena at San Francisco, that another vessel, the Korea, is also due at an American port on the Pacific.

Orders have been sent to the Russian ships to conform scrupulously with the American neutrality rules, which are expected to permit them taking on enough coal to reach Vladivostok. I consider the situation very delicate, as there is evidence that the ships were destined to prevent the transport of contraband goods from the United States to Japan, and perhaps capture vessels carrying contraband.

Japanese Rule Manchuria.

Mukden, Sept. 17.—The Japanese are causing a sensation among the natives of Manchuria as they advance by establishing their own system of taxation and administration as though the country were actual Japanese territory. They are paying for supplies with promissory notes on the war fund, a blanket note being given for the payment of each village on the basis of population, leaving the residents to divide pro rata. Few of these notes have yet been collected in cash, but Japanese officials are collecting a cash tax.

1905 Building Plans Ready.

Washington, Sept. 17.—The supervising architect has completed plans and specifications for the government buildings for the Lewis and Clark exposition, and will tomorrow forward to Superintendent Lazarus, at Portland, several sets to be furnished contractors who wish to bid. The plans can be had either from Superintendent Lazarus, or from the supervising architect of the treasury. Bids will be advertised for in the Portland papers for a month.

Philippine Force to Be Reduced.

Manila, Sept. 17.—It has been recommended that the force of American soldiers in the Philippine islands be reduced from its present standing of four regiments of cavalry and nine of infantry to three regiments of cavalry and seven of infantry.



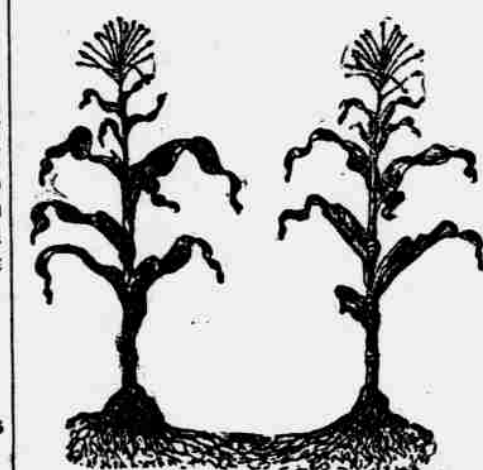
Points in Corn Growing.

The art of raising corn is summed up in Indiana Farmer: The cut of corn plants in a row distance part is shown for the purpose of impressing the reader with the importance of better methods of cultivation than those formerly pursued; in other words, to show the necessity of shallow level cultivation after the corn plant is a few feet high.

This country has the only productive and profitable corn belt in the world. The demand and increasing price of corn in the last five years have raised the annual production to about 2,000,000,000 bushels, and yet the average per acre for the whole country is only 24.2 bushels. It is a rather remarkable fact that on the poor soils of New England the average production per acre is largest. This is doubtless due to the fact that better fertilization, cultivation and seed selection is practiced there. It is very well known that there is great advantage in seed selection. Many instances of this have shown that on the same quality of soils fifteen bushels per acre have been produced, more than where the work of selecting seed was neglected. Again, it has been shown that corn growing on lands the previous year in leguminous crops has greatly increased in production.

The best corn growers now begin cultivation with weeder or harrows before, or by the time, the corn begins to appear above the ground, this both for the purpose of destroying the germinating weeds as well as to put the soil in better condition for corn growth. It is always important that the ground be stirred after rains, where crust forms and starts rapid evaporation of the moisture. It is well settled now that a good dust mulch of two or three inches' depth is one of the things necessary in corn cultivation.

Formerly deep cultivation was practiced, but it is now seen that this was a mistake. When the crop is three or four feet high the ground begins to mat with the fine fibrous roots which extend from row to row, as shown in the cut. When six to eight feet high these fine root feeders of the plant have made a complete mat between the rows. In deep cultivation, reaching down to five or six inches, these fine plant feeders are broken off, and growth toward maturity is checked. Of course, new fibrous roots will form



from those broken, but loss is sustained and never fully recovered. It is the same when a calf or pig has its growth checked by starving for food; it can never fully recover the loss.

Work Horses in Hot Weather.

How many drivers are there who think that a horse would be more comfortable if his harness is taken off when he comes in hot, tired and sweaty from a forenoon's work? Just as man likes to take off his hat, boots and sweaty stockings after a tramp behind the harrow, so the team is refreshed by being unharnessed. A horse is never so hot that a half-pail full of water will injure him, and it is a cruel custom to put the horse in a close stall without a sup of water to cool his parched mouth, while the driver goes to liquidate at the pump. It is considered unwise to allow a horse to drink a large quantity of water just before or immediately after eating.

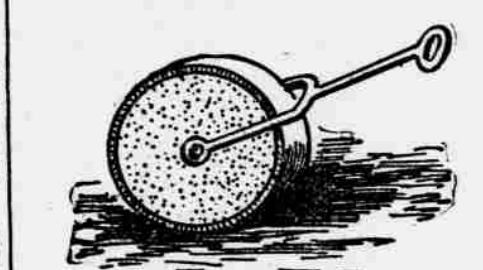
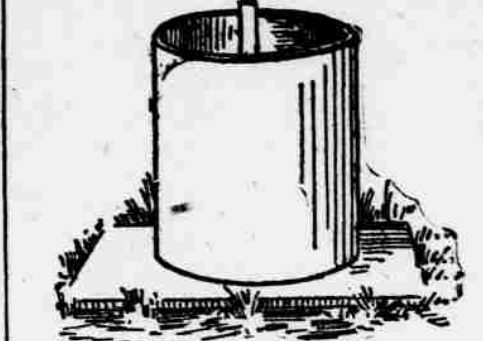
By giving them a pail full of water on coming in from the field the horses will relish their hay, and by the time they are unharnessed another pail full may be given and grain fed. Then, before going to the field, allow them to drink as much as desired. And this will be more nearly the proper quantity than if permitted to fill up when first coming in from the field. A horse is too valuable to neglect, and careful attention not only pays in his increased usefulness, but an animal which stands so high in the scale of intelligence is entitled to humane treatment.—Exchange.

Keep Up the Milk Flow.

Every dairyman knows that when a cow is allowed, through lack of succulent food, to fall off in her milk, it is impossible to again bring her back to the original flow, no matter how bountifully she is fed. Even if the food costs more than the milk during the summer drought, it is best to keep it up if it is intended to milk the cow through the fall and winter. To allow the milk yield to run down is to court a double loss. The loss of the milk is something, but if the milk is going to a creamery that is co-operative in any phase the lessened supply from all the patrons will increase

proportionately the cost of making butter and thus force a further loss on the patron. Unfortunately on most of our farms it is looked upon as the regular thing to have the cows fall off in their milk at this time of year, and nothing is done to prevent it. This not doing anything is the hardest thing to overcome when we are trying to induce the adoption of methods that will insure the continuation of the flow of milk during early summer through the hot weather. This is a hard period for our creamery men, but the loss always gets back to the farmers in the end. This should be remembered and measures taken to insure different results.—St. Louis Republic.

Making a Garden Roller. Get a piece of two-foot earthenware tiling about fourteen inches in diameter and set it on a board, as shown in the top picture. Place an iron rod exactly in the center, passing down



GOOD GARDEN ROLLER.

through the board about an inch and projecting above the tiling about the same distance—that is, two inches. Now fill in the tiling to the top with cement and broken rocks, the cement being two parts and sand to one of dry cement. Have the ends faced with the clear mixture of sand and cement—that is, with none of the broken rock appearing in view. Now arrange a handle upon the projecting iron bar in the center, as shown in the lower picture, and the roller is complete. Should the outer covering of tiling ever become broken by accident, there will still be left a firm roller of cement that has hardened to rock-like consistency.

Alfalfa in the North.

A bulletin of the Wisconsin station gives directions for the culture of alfalfa, pointing out especially the manner of harvesting the crop, and presents conclusions based on the experience in growing alfalfa at the station and the data obtained from former students throughout the State. These data favor the use of at least twenty pounds of good seed per acre, early spring sowing, fall plowing, and growing with barley or oats as a nurse crop, sowing one bushel per acre. It was observed that the varieties of alfalfa grown at the station showed very little difference in appearance or yielding capacity, and that in the alfalfa fields of seventeen counties of the State the plants developed the root tubercles without special soil inoculation. The crop was found to cure with no greater difficulty than heavy cuttings of clover.—American Cultivator.

"Homogenized" Milk.

The latest thing we have now is "homogenized" milk. It is milk that has been heated to 185 degrees and then forced against a porcelain plate under high pressure. This breaks up the globules of cream until they are so fine they will not rise to the surface. It is said that milk treated in this manner has been kept for six weeks without getting sour or showing any cream on the top of the milk. Science is doing great things if this be true.

Farm Notes.

Close inbreeding is a short cut to temporary success.

A poor appetite in an animal suggests some weakness.

Hogs may be fed corn as soon as the grain begins to harden.

All things considered, early plowing is best for fall wheat.

A fattened old cow has a larger proportion of waste than a young animal.

All animals require a variety in their food in order to make the best gains.

Keep the chickens out of the garden and give them plenty to do on the outside.

Set the milk as quickly as possible after milking to get perfect rising of the cream.

When fed dry, shelled corn is more economical than corn meal to feed to fattening hogs.

If the conditions are favorable, August is the best time to set out strawberry plants.

The temporary gate, or the makeshift fence, will often cause more trouble than making a good one.

The housefly lives about ten days, during which time it can give at least a month of trouble to the housekeeper.

As many as a dozen farmers have found out that it does not pay to keep hogs and poultry in the same enclosure. It is to be hoped that more will learn this fact by another year.

Many a man who does not have any confidence in himself or in God has implicit confidence in an old, warped horseshoe. It is strange how some people who are intelligent will act.