

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

UNCLE SAM'S MEAT TRADE.

Over Ten Billion Dollars Represented in Industry in America.

Washington, Oct. 25.—A capital of \$10,625,000,000 is directly concerned in the raising of meat animals and their slaughtering and packing, according to a report on meat supply issued by the department of agriculture. This amount is five-sixths as large as all capital invested in manufacturing in 1904. Seven-eighths of the meat and meat products are consumed within this country. The stock of meat animals has increased since 1840, but has not kept pace with the increased population. The report adds: "That meat consumption per capita has declined in this country since 1840 is plainly indicated. How important meat is in the diet of the different countries is shown in the following meat consumption per capita in 1904, in dressed weight: "United States, 185 pounds; United Kingdom, 121 pounds; Australia, 263 pounds; New Zealand, 212 pounds; Cuba, 124 pounds; France, 79 pounds; Belgium, 70 pounds; Denmark, 76 pounds; Sweden, 62 pounds; Italy, 56 pounds."

LITTLE COKE ON COAST.

Washington Only State Which Produces Any Amount.

Washington, Oct. 26.—Washington is the only one of the Pacific coast states which produces coal of quality suitable for the manufacture of coke. The coking operations of Washington are not of special importance when compared with the output of other coking states, but they are of interest as establishing the fact that it is possible to produce metallurgical coke from Pacific coast coal.

There are five coke establishments in the state, three of which made coke in 1906. Two plants, having a total of 31 ovens, have been idle during the last two years. The production in 1906 amounted to 45,642 short tons, valued at \$226,977, against 53,137 short tons, valued at \$281,717, in 1905. All of the coal used in coking making in Washington in 1906 was washed. Two of the plants used washed run-of-mine, and one plant used washed slack. The washed run-of-mine coal amounted to 70,685 tons and the washed slack to 6,211 tons. The coking industry of Washington began in 1884, when 400 tons of coke were produced.

Williamson Case Goes Over.

Washington, Oct. 24.—Argument in the case of ex-representative J. N. Williamson was today indefinitely postponed by the United States Supreme court in order to afford the attorney general an opportunity to prepare his argument. The motion to postpone made by the government was resisted by the attorneys for Williamson, who were anxious to push the case to immediate hearing, it having been originally set for argument today. As customary in such cases, the court granted a postponement.

Ware Is Denied Appeal.

Washington, Oct. 23.—The Supreme court of United States today denied the petition for certiorari to bring before it the case of Rev. George G. Ware, convicted of complicity in land frauds in Nebraska and sentenced to one year in prison and to pay a \$1,000 fine. Ware induced one McKibben to make entry on 160 acres of land on the U. B. I. cattle ranch in Nebraska and furnished the finances for the undertaking under an agreement whereby he was to pasture his cattle on the land until title was obtained.

Northwest Postal Affairs.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Washington postmaster appointed: Christopher Maurice W. Thompson, vice J. A. Shuff, resigned; Eagleton, John E. Bonker, vice Niel Anderson, resigned; O'Brien, Anna K. Burke, vice F. S. Warner, resigned; Richmond, Ralph P. St. John, vice S. E. Holloway, resigned. Elmer E. Hales has been appointed regular, A. H. Kirby, substitute, rural carrier, routes 1 and 2, at Adams, Oregon.

Will Modify Greeley Order.

Washington, Oct. 22.—The War department will probably amend the orders issued by General Greeley, governing the practice ride of officers of the department of the Columbia, so as to make them conform to orders observed elsewhere. The department will only require officers to be examined by service surgeons before and after the ride.

Wall Loses Rich Mine.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The Supreme court today decided the case of Leonidas M. Lawson and others versus the United States Mining company favorably to the company. The case involves a question as to the right to follow mineral veins from the apex in the Jordan extension, Northern Light and other mines in the West Mountain district, near Brigham, Utah.

Commissioners Hear Complaints.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The members of the Interstate Commerce commission go this week to various parts of the country to hear hundreds of complaints. Chairman Knapp goes to Buffalo, St. Louis, Kansas City and Denver, and Commissioner Clarke to Kansas City. All told, 2,700 complaints will be heard.

Barred from Use of Mails.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The postmaster general issued an order denying the right of the Health Appliance company, of Seattle, to heretofore use the mails. This is a reputed quack medical concern of unavowed character.

Plans to Receive Warships.

Washington, Oct. 24.—Secretary McCall today received a communication from San Francisco setting forth plans for the reception of the battleship fleet upon its arrival there.

TOO VALUABLE TO BE SOLD.

Japanese Say Philippines Thrive Under American Rule.

Washington, Oct. 23.—Mail advices from Manila report that Akasa Teuka, the Japanese consul for the Philippines, has recently concluded his first visit to the southern islands. Upon his return to Manila, the consul said that the great natural wealth of the Southern Philippines astonished him and that he can readily see that the United States will never desire to sell the islands.

He was very much impressed also with the military government of the Moro provinces. He considers it one of the most effective and practical systems that could be devised for the Moros. "The Moro," he said "seems to be bright and honest, and will, under the present system of government, develop into a fine citizen some day, as have the natives of the mountains of Formosa under the Japanese government. "Everybody in the southern islands seems to be taking hemp and opium and leaving politics to shift for themselves, and there seems to be no question of race, or anything except the development of the country. This and bettering the worst conditions seem to occupy Americans, Japanese and Filipinos, and I think that this account for the present prosperity," said Mr. Akasa Teuka.

ARE GOING BEYOND.

Civil War Pensioners Decrease Rapidly During 1907.

Washington, Oct. 29.—The decrease of 18,600 in the number of pensioners on the rolls at the end of the fiscal year 1907, as compared with the year previous, is the feature of the annual report of Pension Commissioner Warner just issued. This is the greatest decrease in the history of the pension bureau. The total number of pensioners June 30, 1907, was 967,371, and the total value of the pension roll at that date was \$140,850,880. This is greater by \$4,613,131 than the value of the roll for the year previous and is accounted for by the higher rates of pensions provided for by the act of February, 1907, under which act there had been enrolled June 30 of the present year 116,239 pensioners.

The total number of pensioners on the roll on account of the war with Spain was 24,077.

Army Activity in Philippines.

Washington, Oct. 29.—There are strong surface indications that important military developments are looked for in the Philippine islands in the near future. Chief among the things pointing to that conclusion is the fact that General Leonard Wood, commanding the military division, and Brigadier General Tasker H. Bliss, commanding the department of Mindanao, have asked for further service in the archipelago. General Wood will start for the United States next month by way of Europe to take command of the department of the east at New York. After a brief stay in the United States, General Wood plans to return to the islands and resume command. General Bliss also has asked that he be continued in command of the Philippines for another two years, following his present term of service in the islands.

Report on Land Grants.

Washington, Oct. 24.—A. McD. McBlair, special assistant to the attorney general, who has been assisting B. D. Townsend in the investigation of the Oregon and California land grant case in Oregon, will report soon. When Mr. Townsend's report is received, steps will be taken by the department looking to the preparation of a bill, special counsel will be engaged and the case will be taken into court in the hope of compelling the railroad company to dispose of its surplus land in accordance with the terms of the grant.

Industrial Peace Fund.

Washington, Oct. 23.—Seth Low, of New York, the treasurer of the Industrial Peace fund, has reported to Secretary of Commerce and Labor Strauss that contributions are being received to the fund. Mr. Strauss says the trustees hope that this fund will be increased by contributions from laborers and capitalists. The fund is about \$40,000 and it is hoped that it will grow to at least a million, as the interest on this amount will be required to effectively carry out the purpose of the foundation.

Takes Up Meat Packers' Case.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The Supreme court of the United States today took jurisdiction of the meat packers' case wherein the Armour, Swift, Morris and Cudahy packing companies were fined \$15,000 for accepting a preferential rate from the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, on shipments of meat for export from Mississippi river points to the Atlantic seaboard. The case involves the application of the Elkins act to export shipments.

Earthquake in Indian Ocean.

Washington, Oct. 23.—The Weather bureau today announced that its instruments registered an earthquake beginning at 11 o'clock last night and lasting until early this morning, and that its origin may have been at a point west of Australia, in the Southern Indian ocean. It is believed to have been of considerable intensity at its origin.

Northwest Postal Affairs.

Washington, Oct. 23.—Charles E. MacLean has been appointed regular, Margaret E. MacLean substitute, rural carrier, route 1, at Georgetown, Wash. Washington postmasters appointed: McCornick, Arthur N. Rogers, vice H. W. McCornick, resigned; Plana, Harvey H. Mott, vice W. J. Nickerson, resigned.

Bourne Stays in Washington.

Washington, Oct. 25.—Senator Bourne will not return to Oregon before the convening of congress. He finds that various matters of importance to the state require his presence in Washington and he believes he can accomplish more by remaining here than by making a brief visit to the state.

WONDERFUL CHANGE RIVER BOAT BURNS

Great Structures Stand Where Earthquake Left Waste. Explosion on J. N. Teal Results in Loss of Two Lives.

SAN FRANCISCO HOLDS RECORD

Since the Great Fire 18 Months Ago Buildings Have Been Begun to Cost \$100,000,000.

San Francisco, Oct. 26.—It is 18 months ago that San Francisco was swept by fire and earthquake. Since then she has been afflicted with industrial strife, civic corruption and bubonic plague. It is no opportune moment to take stock. It does not require an optimist to write the rosy story of the revival. The facts and the figures tell their own story and they are here for everyone to see. Great buildings with their right frames rising across the sky, commercial avenues crowded with pedestrians and a vast industrial army tell a tale that even the casual observer must note.

The San Franciscan may be in truth pardoned if he shows a disposition to place his thumbs in his vest and boast of what he has done. But he hasn't much time for boasting. The terrible pace begun when the first frame structure was started has not abated. The point has been reached where results are beginning to show, and with this has come a new zest for the vast work.

Since the fire buildings have been begun to cost \$100,000,000—the time as much as in any similar period of time before the fire. They range all the way from the small structure to skyscrapers 14 or 15 stories high. It is as though a building were begun every day to cost \$180,000. There is no sign of a decrease, although it is expected that there will be a natural falling off in the winter months. The remarkable feature of the matter, however, is the stability of the savings accounts. Predictions were freely made that San Francisco could be built only upon the savings of its citizens. Although \$100,000,000 in buildings are under way or completed, the savings accounts in the local banks have shown but a small decrease and still stand at the comfortable figure of \$157,000,000.

It has been pointed out that it required two years for Baltimore to erect buildings to cost \$50,000,000 after its fire, but San Francisco has done four times as well in six months less time. Halting in its achievement was commented upon at the time as marvelous.

Burlington Is After Coal.

Helena, Mont., Oct. 26.—A special to the Record from Bridger says that Chief Engineer Ensign, the superintendent of right of way of the Burlington, and George Crosby have arrived there and make the positive announcement that the Burlington has accepted the survey of a proposed route from Frannie, Wyo., to Fromberg, Mont., and that construction will begin at once. This will give the Burlington access to the rich coal fields of Southern Montana, as well as tapping a splendid agricultural and horticultural section. The road will follow the Clark's Fork river.

Grafters Tell Stories.

San Francisco, Oct. 26.—Ex-Supervisors M. McGee, James Kelly and E. J. Walsh yesterday morning testified at the Tiry L. Ford bribery trial. Each retold the story of his bribery in the interest of the United Railroads railway franchise. Their cross examination elicited nothing of importance. Ex-Supervisors Charles Boston, Fred P. Nichols and C. J. Harrington also testified before the noon recess, their evidence being substantially the same as was given at the former trial of Ford. A few discrepancies, however, were developed on cross examination.

Chinese Attack British Tars.

San Antonio, Tex., Oct. 26.—A dispatch to the Express from Santa Cruz says: Because 200 of their countrymen were detained on board by the sanitary inspectors of this port, 400 Chinese who had just been landed made a murderous assault last night on the English ship Woolwich and her crew. Many men were seriously injured in the affair and five may die from their wounds. The Chinese would have swept all before them but for the timely aid brought by a large force of Federal troops and gendarmes.

Cleaning Oriental Quarter.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 26.—Dr. A. S. Oliver, appointed special medical inspector of the city on the bubonic plague preventative work, started out with a force of eight sub-inspectors to clean up the Oriental district yesterday. More men will be added to the force if the demand arises. The leading Japanese and Chinese met the board of health and gave every assurance of their support to the work of the board. Notices in Chinese and Japanese will be circulated explaining the measures necessary in the Oriental quarter.

Call Strike Off at Butte.

Helena, Mont., Oct. 26.—The Anaconda Telegraphers' union, with which Butte is affiliated, today decided to call the strike off and return to work tomorrow. There are 10 operators in Butte and Anaconda including the Associated Press operators, who have asked for reinstatement. The Western Union opened its office in Great Falls today and, according to reports received here tonight, Billings will open up tomorrow.

Strikers Go Back to Work.

Chicago, Oct. 26.—Twenty-six striking Western Union telegraph operators reported back for work yesterday and were employed in the Western division. Of these 10 were employed at Helena, Mont., where the strike was called off.

Emperor is Nearly Well.

Vienna, Oct. 26.—The physicians in attendance upon Emperor Francis Joseph yesterday decided not to issue any further bulletins, as they consider that his convalescence is progressing satisfactorily.

ANOTHER BOAT TO PUT ON RUN

Connected With Portage Road at Celilo to Handle Traffic of Upper Columbia.

Portland, Oct. 24.—In a fire that followed an explosion on the Open River Transportation company's steamer J. N. Teal, at the foot of Oak street, at 4:45 o'clock yesterday morning Mrs. Amanda E. Jackson and James Collins were incinerated, Jack Hasley was seriously burned and the vessel's superstructure was totally destroyed. Whether the accident was caused by the explosion of an oil burner or one of the boilers is in doubt. An official investigation will be started by the United States inspectors to determine the facts.

The steamer was practically new, having been launched the latter part of May. On June 20 she was placed in commission between Portland and the state portage road at Celilo, connecting with the steamer Relief, which was operating on the upper stretches of the Columbia. During the 4½ months the craft had been in service she never missed a trip. She completed three round trips a week. It is declared that no other boat on the river ever ran more steadily than she, and this is the first accident the boat ever experienced. Though not regarded as an unusually speedy boat, she succeeded in maintaining an average speed of about 15 miles an hour.

Aside from carrying general freight both up and down, the steamer handled a large number of passengers. Primarily she was built for the purpose of getting an independent steamer line established and to add to it as occasion demanded, with the view of having water transportation facilities as far inland as Lewiston, Idaho. The slogan of the company was an "open river," hence the name chosen for the corporation.

Of late the major portion of her cargoes on the down trips have been made up of wheat. The Relief, running from Celilo, or the upper terminus of the portage road, brought grain on the down trips almost altogether and managed to keep enough of the cereal at the portage to keep the Teal busy in connection with the other line of freight she handled. Joseph N. Teal, secretary of the company, states that the Relief will be kept in service.

EMPRESS OF CHINA SINKS.

Crack Oriental Liner Resting on Mud at Vancouver.

Vancouver, B. C., Oct. 24.—The Canadian Pacific Railway company's crack Oriental liner, Empress of China, sank last evening alongside her dock in this port. Her sea cocks must have been opened, but how, no one can explain.

Her main deck on the port side is awash with several feet of water. She sank and keeled over on her port side, so that the main deck is now at an angle of about 45 degrees. Her engines and dynamos are entirely under water. The only machinery that is above water is the steering gear, which is in a position of being completely submerged.

Just after 6 o'clock the steward noticed that the water was coming in over a lower deck. All day the liner had been loading flour, 500 or 600 tons of which is now being slowly turned into paste in the water.

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Supervisors on Stand. San Francisco, Oct. 24.—Two of the prosecution's most important witnesses, Ex-Supervisors Jennings J. Phillips and James L. Gallagher, occupied the stand yesterday in the bribery trial of General Counsel Tiry L. Ford, of the United Railroads.

Chopped to Pieces by Murderer. Helena, Oct. 24.—A special to the Record from Livingston, Mont., says that T. O. Oram, employed on an extension of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, has been found fully murdered near Willow creek tunnel. His throat was slashed in five places and there was a dozen ugly stabs in his chest, while his head was badly bruised, as if with a blunt instrument. The identity of the murderer is not known, nor is there any trace.

Will Pound to Bits.

Crecent City, Cal., Oct. 24.—The stranded British steamer Queen Croftina lies in the same position she took when she ran aground last week. The sea continues running smooth and the upper deck has been dry ever since the accident. It is the opinion of local seafaring men that the first heavy storm will pound the vessel to pieces. There is no chance to salvage the heavy articles aboard from seaward, as it is too late in the season and because there are too many sunken rocks around the steamer.

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Refuge Sentence Postponed.

San Francisco, Oct. 24.—Judge Dunne yesterday postponed the trial of Abe Ruef on the four charges of extortion for two weeks. Ruef was also given two weeks' respite before being sentenced on the extortion charge, to which he confessed.

OUTSIDE THE FENCE.

A Garden Makes Many Friends for the Gardener.

"The violet is a modest flower, ain't it?" The lady kneeling on the grass started and rose, and dividing the freshly gathered bunch of violets in her hand, offered half to the small girl, whose longing eyes begged for them. "And I hope teacher will be pleased," she said.

"Why-ee!" marveled the child. "How'd you know I wanted 'em for teacher?"

"Oh, I just guessed," said the lady, laughing. "But it was easy," she told a friend afterward; "it often is. Teacher's influence on the infant mind and vocabulary is specially in evidence since the day of nature study and school gardens came in; and then, there always have been the poets, and 'speaking pieces' in school. Only the other day a little freckle-faced boy was fascinated by my long row of crimson tulips. He hung on the gate a long while in fascinated silence, and then:

"Gee! Them are flowers!" he broke out adding pensively, "Spring brings all things beautiful!"

"Spring certainly does, and the violet really is a modest flower; but the trail of teacher is not difficult to follow. Another little chap was interested in the same gay tulips from a different standpoint.

"All them grew up out'n a teeny seed," he informed me, importantly, over the fence.

"Most flowers do, I agreed, but not these. These came out of a bulb."

"Nope. They got ter come out'n a seed. Teacher said so," he insisted. There was one stray tulip out of line, and with a scoop of my trowel I lifted it, bulb and all.

"Take that to teacher, and she'll explain," I told him.

"He did, and she did; for next day he sang out as he passed: "You was right, but teacher was too! You kin raise tulips outer seeds, only you don't."

"The children pass my garden in troops—there are two schools out far away. Keen eyes watch and praise my succession of bloom, and shy little visitors have learned that when they ask for flowers for nature study or the drawing class, I will not begrudge my best; and bunches of my simpler, more abundant blossoms go often, clutched in eager hands, carrying—I hope she knows—a double message of friendly greeting to 'teacher.' A garden is a great maker of friends—even outside the fence."—Youth's Companion.

THEN CAME THE SHARK.

Hard Luck of a Fisherman Who Had Caught Thirty-Three Weakfish.

Weakfish have been plentiful late in the waters hereabouts and fishermen have had fine sport catching them, but hard luck came the other day to one angler in Gravesend Bay after he had caught thirty-three, says the New York Sun. He was fishing from a small boat, and as fast as he drew the weakfish in he would string them through the gills on a line which he kept hanging over the side of the boat down in about six feet of water, where the water was cool and the fish would keep well. It was certainly good fishing, but just after he had let the thirty-third weakfish slide down to the bunch and made the line fast he boarded and started fishing again he felt the boat settle on that side over which the bunch was hanging.

Something in the water was pulling on the bunch of weakfish down below. The fisherman grabbed the line and began hauling in promptly, but what with the weight of the fish and that strong added pull on the other end the line broke in his hands, and the next moment he got a glimpse of a five-foot shark making off with his bunch of weakfish.

The shark had seized upon one of the lower fishes in the bunch and now, as it began, with the line broken, to move away, weakfish began to appear on the surface in the shark's wake, fishes that worked loose as the shark swam, and slipped up and off the free end of the line. As with the bunch decreasing and so much less weight in it to haul, the shark made faster progress, the fishes came up farther and farther apart, but still you could trace the shark's course out to sea, with one of the fisherman's weakfish in its teeth, by that irregular line of weakfish slipping off the cord and coming to the surface as it fled.

The American Abroad.

It has for years been brought home to us—by comment more or less complimentary—that we Americans, traveling abroad, are closely scrutinized by the Europeans. But perhaps we have not realized, says the Youth's Companion, that the observing eyes of the younger—in fact, of the youngest—generation are turned upon us.

A Parisian woman, going to her children's playground, discovered her little boy and girl absorbed in a remarkable occupation. The boy stood, motionless and solemn, on a small table in the middle of the room; the girl, arrayed in grown-up hat and coat, walked slowly round him, regarding him thoughtfully, now and then peering abstractedly into a red-covered book in her hand.

"What are you doing, children?" asked the puzzled parent.

"Oh, Paul is the Colum Vendome, mamma," gravely explained the sister, "and I'm a tourist from America—with a book, you know."

"Of course." "It is nonsense to say that a man never has the last word in an argument with his wife."

"Lots of them get the last word." "You admit it, do you?" "Certainly, but I gives hand it to them."—Houston Post.

When a man talks, as a rule, he is representing his prejudice, or his individual trouble. Very few people condemn a thing because it is wrong, or praise it because it is right.

When a girl is 16 years old, she values herself at \$10,000,000, and after that never reduces the estimate.



FARM AND GARDEN

Handy Home-Made Tool.

All growers of blackberries and raspberries know that one of the most disagreeable jobs of the season is the cutting out of the old canes on the plants of these fields. The easiest way of doing this work is to use a sharp tool of some kind so arranged that the operator may stand upright and work. The tool illustrated may be readily made by any handy man, and will do the work required quite as effectively as a more expensive tool.

Take the handle from a worn-out shovel or fork and have the blacksmith attach to it the end of an old scythe blade or, if one has no blade of this kind, the blacksmith can fashion one from old scrap that he may have at small expense. Have this blade fas-



TOOL FOR BERRY GROWER

tened to the handle in the manner shown in the cut, and when working among the canes of the berry bushes use it in the way illustrated.

This tool will be found extremely handy for this sort of pruning anywhere on the farm. It will work quite well for cutting out suckers in the orchard as well as in the berry row. If the canes are quite tall a straight handle may be attached to the blade so that one may have it of any desired length. Such a tool costs but little, and if one has a considerable area in berry plants it will pay to have several tools made.

Beans.

"Beans" is the title of a recent farmers' bulletin, by Professor Corbett, the well-known horticulturist of the United States Department of Agriculture. Beans belong to one of the most important families of economic plants with which man has to deal—that of legumes. The bean furnishes food for both man and beast, and at the same time increases the fertility of the soil. It is, therefore, an important crop, both in farm rotation and in market garden work. The new bulletin treats fairly of its cultivation, care and use.

Professor Wianeka, of Purdue Experiment Station, has just issued an interesting bulletin on soy beans, cow peas and other forage crops. The culture of cow peas and soy beans is becoming important with many farmers, as they make good forage crops and at the same time add fertility to the soil. They belong to the legumes, and the cost of producing is about the same as for corn, while their food value compares very favorably with corn. Several other classes of forage plants are described in the bulletin.

To Pasteurize Milk.

Pasteurizing milk is a very simple process, the operator to be careful of the temperature, however, which is very important. When milk is boiled the natural flavor is destroyed, and some persons object to it. Milk is also injured to a certain extent by boiling. To pasteurize milk, procure long-necked bottle, which must be scrupulously clean; pour in the milk and plug the tops with cotton wool, which excludes all germs. Place the bottles in a deep pan or other vessel and heat to a temperature of 155 degrees, using a thermometer. If the temperature reaches 180 degrees the milk will have the odor of being boiled. Keep the milk heated for half an hour. The cotton stoppers need not be removed until the milk is desired for use. The bottles containing the milk may be placed in a refrigerator or some cool receptacle. Milk so prepared can be kept for two or three days. To sterilize milk it must be boiled, hence Pasteurization is a different process.

Poultry.

A careful observer of poultry needs no better sign of its condition than to watch the comb. A bright red comb shows that the hen or male is healthy and vigorous, and if a hen, she will probably be a good layer. After the egg supply has fallen the comb will generally lose its color. In cold weather fowls with large combs must have extra warm quarters, as they are very easily frozen. It is frozen combs more often than anything else that makes Leghorns and Minorcas poor winter layers. As their names imply, they are natives of warm climates, as, indeed, most fowls are. They very rarely get into as warm quarters in winter as they could find anywhere in the countries where they had their original home.

Bee Keeping.

A cellar is a good place to keep bees, but, if sheltered from the winds and exposed to the sun, a strong colony will do well out of doors.

Stubble Fields.

Fields that are left to stubble, or that are covered with weeds, cannot now be benefited by cultivation, where the seeds of the weeds have already been scattered, but as soon as the frost does its work and the weeds are dry, rake over the fields with a horse rake and burn all the refuse. Dead weeds form harboring places for field mice and insects, and during windy days, after the weeds are thoroughly dry, they are blown to other fields. By burning all refuse, there will be fewer weed seeds turned under next spring.

Shredded Stover.

For winter feeding of stock animals this makes one of the finest feeds on the farm. The modern husking and shredding machinery does excellent work, and its man-eating proclivities have been largely eliminated. An ordinary threshing machine can be made to do good shredding, but the grain is not left in the best condition. The greatest drawback in the use of both husker and thrasher is that they require a large force of men and teams, hence the work is quite expensive. Perhaps the cheapest corn husking is done with the little old husking peg. But it is almost impossible to feed long stover without considerable waste, and the refuse stalks are a nuisance when it comes to handling the manure. These difficulties may be overcome by running the handshredded stover through a common cutter and shredder. This work can usually be done without employing much if any outside help. In case everything is hired, the cost of the work, added to that of hand-husking and putting of the corn and stover in crib and mow or stack may equal or even exceed the expense of machine husking and shredding. This is a point for each to decide from his own standpoint.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Composition of Crops.

A bulletin of the Minnesota Experiment Station discusses the composition and characteristics of the more common farm crops, as alfalfa, clover, peas, rape, corn fodder, timothy, millet, etc.

In connection with the composition of some of the crops the protein content of the seed is considered. In the case of clover, alfalfa, peas, beans and rape two distinct types of seed are shown to occur, one of high and the other of low protein content, and the relationship of the physical characteristics of the seeds to the chemical composition is noted. The larger protein content of the seed is considered as a possible factor in the production of forage crops of high nutritive value. The quality of the forage in live-stock feeding is of great importance, because by the use of more concentrated nitrogenous forage rations can be prepared requiring smaller amounts of grains and milled products. The result is a material financial saving of stock.

How to Save Steps.

In spite of the extensive development and use of corn harvesting machinery the fact remains that much corn is still cut by hand. Therefore the accompanying sketch recently sent to the New England Homestead by a reader will prove of interest.

He has figured out that if the plan outlined is followed a sixty-four hill shock, or shock, of corn can be cut at a minimum number of steps. The circles in the center represent the four hills tied together or between which the shock is built. After the foundation of the shock is ready the man goes to No.