

## STEEL INDUSTRY AGAIN NORMAL

Business Barometer Rising Rapidly Throughout East.

New Lines Resume Work—Tin Mills Run Full Capacity—New Machinery Being Ordered.

Cleveland, O.—The steel industry is reviving to a marked extent. The quiet it experienced through November and December appears to have been only a breathing spell that has resulted in renewed vigor.

Ever since January 1 scattering reports from iron and steel producing centers have been made to the effect that men who had been laid off were being set to work, that plants running part time had increased to full time and that those which had been idle were reopening or rushing necessary repairs, that they might reopen to take care of the orders being put on their books.

Special reports from the most important iron and steel districts show that these scattering bits of information have given fair indication of what is going on. Business long has looked on iron and steel as the barometer of trade. As it looks today it sees the barometer rising. There is little to indicate boom times, but there is evidenced a healthy growth, a return to normal.

In the Pittsburg district, where late in 1913 few plants were running anywhere near capacity and some of those usually making large products, fell as low as 10 per cent, there is a general revival. For the week ended January 10 the steel output of the district is estimated at 100,000 tons, whereas for the last three or four months of 1913 the average weekly production was 60,000 to 65,000 tons.

Youngstown, O., considered apart from the Pittsburg district, reports mills working normally for this season and each day has brought announcement of resumption in all lines of iron and steel making.

The Mahoning Valley's industrial payroll for 1913, as announced by Youngstown banks, was \$33,533,815, against \$21,787,096 for 1912, and \$17,046,556 for 1911. The December payroll was almost up to the average monthly figure for 1913, which shows there could have been little material decrease in operations.

Newcastle, Pa., has three of its five blast furnaces in operation, the Shenango valley steel plant is running to 75 per cent of capacity and three of four Carnegie furnaces are making full production.

The tin mills at Newcastle, one of them the largest in the world, have been at capacity since January 1, after going on two-thirds time for the last six weeks of 1913.

Lorain, O., which takes its cue directly from Pittsburg, is running full blast in every department. The shape mill of the National Tube company reopened last Wednesday. This put the last of the 7500 employees of the plant back at work after a shutdown that began just before Christmas and lasted in all departments about two weeks.

Eastern Pennsylvania operations show varying conditions. In some instances plants are running to capacity, in others business is only moderate, but nowhere are orders coming so slowly as to promise a decrease in activity. The Bethlehem Steel company is proceeding at full speed, with installation of equipment begun last year to take care of what 1914 is expected to bring forth.

The big plants at Phoenixville, Pa., are running at practically boom time speed and preparing for more business.

The Phoenix Iron company is rushing to completion a huge furnace it expects to set in operation in a few weeks. The Phoenix Bridge company, already busy, has obtained a contract for elevated railroad construction in Brooklyn that alone will keep its shops busy six months.

The Fairfield, Alabama, plant of the American Steel & Wire company is expected to open within a few days, giving employment to 3000 men. The rail mill at Ensley, the Tennessee company's largest plant, which was shut down through the holidays, has resumed on double time and the new pipe plant of the National Castiron Pipe company, at Bayles, will open this month.

### African Strikes Ending.

Cape Town, South Africa.—The railway strike is practically ended, with the decision of the operating force to resume work immediately. The strike of the miners also is rapidly nearing its end. It is estimated that the mobilization of the Burghers will cost the government between \$1,250,000 and \$2,500,000. A proclamation was issued at Pretoria demobilizing all the commandos and regiments except those in the Rand and Pretoria and Fauresmith districts. This means that 30,000 men will be kept in the field.

### Schools to Try Movies.

New York—Moving pictures with 3 cents as the price of admission are to be given in the East Side public schools, it was announced by Dr. William H. Maxwell, city superintendent of schools. Pictures of an instructive and educational character will be interspersed with innocent and diverting photoplays.

## Mexican Refugee Army Reaches Railway Station

Marfa, Tex.—Footsore, ragged, almost famished from their three-day march on foot of 67 miles over a windswept mountain road, the 3300 Mexican federal soldiers and generals routed from Ojinaga, Mex., by the rebels, arrived within a few miles of Marfa, whence they are to be transported by train to Fort Bliss, at El Paso. With them are 1067 women and 300 children.

The ragged remnant of the Huerta army, which sought asylum in this country rather than face possible extermination by the rebels, will be formally interned at Fort Bliss, as wards of the government. They are to be held indefinitely on the footing of prisoners of war. It will be the first time the American army has been called on to shelter, feed, and clothe an entire division of a foreign army, which includes six disabled generals.

None of those in this unique caravan which struggled for miles along the road was more visibly affected on coming within sight of Marfa than General Salvador Mercado, Huerta's former military chief, who ordered the evacuation of Ojinaga in face of the rebels' fire.

General Mercado, riding on a horse, his uniform covered with dust, was confessedly humiliated, not only at the defeat of his army and the necessity for his flight to foreign soil, but also because of a report from Mexico City that he would be court-martialed should he return to his native country. Besides General Mercado, who mingled with the United States cavalrymen who acted as guards, were the federal generals Castro, Aduna, Landas, Orpinal and Romero, all of them shorn of their swords, but some still retaining on their uniforms bits of gold braid which had not been torn off or blown away in the flight from Ojinaga.

The picturesque march afoot through American territory of so many foreign soldiers and women with their baggage abandoned with incident. The birth of a child, the death of several wounded soldiers, the search for water in the desert, the constant straggling away from the line of march, and the rounding up again of scores of the refugees were some of the difficulties with which the United States cavalrymen, commanded by Major McNamee, had to contend. The Mexicans, guarded virtually as prisoners, outnumbered the escorting American cavalrymen ten to one.

Since they were routed from Ojinaga by General Villa's rebel forces and compelled to cross the border into the United States at Presidio, Tex., ten days ago, the Mexican soldiers had had only scant food supplies. Their march of 67 miles to the nearest railway station after they had been disarmed and held prisoners by the American troops was made possible by the establishment of the three camps provided en route. These camps were supplied with limited rations because all foodstuffs and water had to be carried by wagon from Marfa. Many of the marchers were poorly clad and without blankets, so that their suffering at night was intense.

Hence the hopeful look that appeared in the faces of the dirt-begrimed men and women when they were told that the march was almost over. It was particularly remarked by the American officers that of all the marchers the Mexican women were the best. There were instances of women yielding their places on horseback or on burros to men who found themselves tired out with the walk.

The marching column was stretched over a great distance to prevent confusion and to reduce as much as possible the suffering from the dust that rose in great clouds from the well-traveled road. All semblance of the uniform ranks of an army was gone. It was a curious mingling of people and animals, while in places the women with their red dresses and shawls gave a touch of brilliant color to the scene.

Rations for the refugees who are to be interned at El Paso have been ordered. The soldiers, generals and other officers of the defeated Huerta army will be sheltered in 1200 tents spread out on the reservation of Fort Bliss on a spur of the railroad. The monthly food supplies required for the self-invited guests will be 33,000 pounds of beef, 20,000 pounds of beans, 135,000 loaves of bread and several tons of coffee.

The women will do the cooking.

### Men Ask Lower Salary.

New York—Three city employees gave Mayor Mitchell a surprise by applying for reductions in salary. They were John R. Freeman, William H. Burr and Alfred H. Noble, each a consulting engineer to the board of water supply. The engineers suggested that their salaries be fixed at \$3000 a year instead of \$6000, as at present. They explained that with the completion of the Catskill aqueduct the board needed their service not more than half the time they had previously devoted to city work.

### Submarine Is Not Found.

Plymouth, England.—A dozen torpedo boat destroyers and mine sweepers cruising up and down Whitesand bay for the past three days have failed to locate the submarine "A 7," which sank in the course of the recent maneuvers.

### \$50 Stolen; \$30,000 Is Left.

Berkeley, Cal.—Six old Roman coins, valued by the University of California at \$5000 apiece, were overlooked by thieves who broke into the coincases at the university library. Other coins having a value of about \$50 were stolen.

## ELEVEN PERISH IN SUBMARINE

English Warcraft Fails to Rise From Depth of Bay.

Companion Ships Drag Bottom for Half Day Without Result—Hope for Craft Abandoned.

Record of Lives Lost in British Submarines. A 1, lost in 1904, 12 deaths; No. 4, lost in 1905; A 5, lost in 1905, 4 deaths; A 8, lost in 1906, 15 deaths; C 8, lost in 1907, 4 deaths; C 11, lost in 1909, 13 deaths; A 3, lost in 1912, 11 deaths; B 2, lost in 1912, 15 deaths; total, 74 deaths.

Plymouth, England.—Two officers and nine men, the crew of the British submarine "A 7," are trapped in their craft beneath the waters of Whitesand bay, about five miles southwest of Plymouth.

Whether the men are dead or alive has not been established to a certainty, but navy officials expressed the opinion that all have perished.

The exact spot where the little vessel sank could not be definitely fixed. The "A 7," in company with the "A 8" and "A 9," made a plunge about noon while engaged in maneuvers. Her sister ships came to the surface, but nothing has been seen of the "A 7" since she opened her valve and dived. It was believed at first by the men on the other submarines that the "A 7" was merely overstaying her allotted time beneath the water, but when the officers realized that their sister boat was in distress they sent out signals for aid.

Rescue boats were immediately rushed to the vicinity where the "A 7" went down. They threw out grappling irons and dragged the bay until darkness set in. Their efforts were fruitless, however, for never once was there a tug at a chain to indicate that the iron sides of the plunger had been struck.

The oxygen supply on board the submarine would last about 12 hours.

## "Kodak Trust" Latest Conquest of Government

Washington, D. C.—The "Kodak trust" is the latest of the great corporations sued under the Sherman anti-trust act to seek a peaceful settlement of its troubles with the department of Justice. Negotiations between representatives of the so-called trust and the department have progressed so rapidly that an agreement probably will be reached within a short time.

Two Eastman concerns, the Eastman Kodak company of New Jersey and the Eastman Kodak company of New York, were charged with controlling 72 per cent of the trade of the United States in photographic supplies, and with fixing the resale price of cameras, films and other patented supplies. It was the first suit instituted by Attorney General McReynolds applying the principle announced by the Supreme court denying the right to patentees to fix resale prices for retailers.

## Earthquake Shocks Still Trouble Japan

Kagoshima, Japan.—Although the volcano Sakurajima is no longer active, severe earthquake shocks are being felt in the towns of Tarumizu and Ushine, in the province of Ozumi, which lies across Kagoshima bay to the east.

The inhabitants fled these towns in terror. There were many casualties. Numerous houses were destroyed. In various places the movement of the earth caused large crevasses.

The large quantities of lava and rock thrown out by Sakurajima have formed a neck which connects the island on which it is situated with the Province of Ozumi, a distance of about a mile.

### Carmen's Wages Raised.

Boston—Increased wages for many of the 9470 employees of the Boston Elevated Railway company are provided for in the report of the arbitration committee which had under consideration for six months the grievances presented by the Carmen's union. This report was made at a meeting of the union. The advance awarded varied from a fraction of a cent an hour to 11 per cent of the weekly wages. Both sides had agreed to abide by the decision for at least one year. The men expressed satisfaction.

### McKinley Relics Do Not Sell Well.

San Francisco.—The last of the President McKinley relics were sold at auction here Saturday and brought small prices. They realized only \$990, which was considerably less than the original value of the gold plate given by the men of the Union Iron Works to President McKinley on the occasion of the launching of the battleship Ohio. This plate cost \$1500 and was sold for \$325, or about the value of the gold.

### Speck of Radium Arrives.

Washington, D. C.—A tiny particle of radium, on which the Federal bureau of standards will base its experiments in an effort to standardize radium in the United States, was received from Paris Saturday. It weighs 20 milligrams and cost \$1500. Only 30 grams of this substance is known to be in existence.

## NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Lord Strathcona, high commissioner for Canada, is critically ill at his home in London.

The Delaware & Hudson railway strike has been settled and all union men are back at work.

English suffragettes declare they will have an audience with the king, or know the reason why.

The Japanese volcano Sakurajima awakens to new activity, and further outbursts seem imminent.

Unusually mild weather and large imports from New Zealand are bringing down the price of butter.

An Illinois man has confessed to murdering his wife, that he might marry his 15-year-old step-daughter.

San Francisco's municipal carline is declared to be paying all expenses and a good interest on every cent invested.

Smallpox has been found among the 1000 or more unemployed men quartered in the Gypsy Smith auditorium in Portland.

In a prison mutiny at McAlester, Okla., four officials and three convicts were killed and several others wounded, but none escaped.

The council of Portland is considering the licensing of all places where foodstuffs are sold, including every kind of hotel or restaurant.

Earthquakes in Japan loosened a wall of rock, at the base of which 300 volcano refugees had taken shelter, and it fell upon them, killing every one.

Captain Francis Inch, who commanded the burned steamer Voltorno, will have command of a larger and better ship, which has just been launched.

In view of the loss of the submarine A 7, the British admiralty board has condemned all submarines of the A class, and they will likely go to the scrap heap.

A noted professor of the Rockefeller Institute has arrived at Pacific City, on the California coast, where he will try to create original animal life by the use of chemicals.

Continued blizzards, cold and deep snows in France amount to a national calamity, and the army is working full force to clear the roads and city streets and restore railway communication.

President Wilson rates trust question and rural credits as of equal importance.

Five members of the army of unemployed in San Francisco must face charges of rioting.

Wilson's position on the tariff was severely criticized by the National Woolgrowers' convention at Salt Lake City.

Investigations show the Japanese island recently torn by earthquake, to be thickly coated with melted sulphur and ashes.

## PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—Track prices: Club, 87c; bluestem, 97c; forty-fold, 87c; red Russian, 86c; valley, 87c.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$24.50@25 ton. Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 ton. Barley—Feed, \$24@24.50 per ton; brewing, \$25.50; rolled, \$26.50@27.50.

Hay—No. 1 Eastern Oregon timothy, \$16.50; mixed timothy, \$14; alfalfa, \$14; clover, \$9@10; valley, grain hay, \$11@18.

Millfeed—Bran, \$21@22 per ton; shorts, \$23@24; middlings, \$29@30.

Vegetables—Cabbage, 2@2c per pound; cauliflower, 75c@1.25 dozen; cucumbers, \$1.25@1.50 dozen; eggplant, 15c pound; peppers, 8c pound; head lettuce, \$2.25 per crate; garlic, 12@15c pound; sprouts, 10c pound; artichokes, \$2 dozen; squash, 1@2c; celery, \$3.25@3.50 per crate; hot-house lettuce, 50c@75c per box; spinach, 7@8c crate.

Green Fruit—Apples, 75c@82.25 box; cranberries, \$12@12.50 barrel; pears, \$1.25@1.75.

Potatoes—Oregon, 80c@81 hundred; buying price, 60@90c at shipping points.

Sack Vegetables—Turnips, \$1; carrots, \$1; parsnips, \$1; beets, \$1.

Eggs—Oregon fresh ranch, 33@35c. Poultry—Hens, 16@16c; springs, 16@16c; turkeys, live, 20 @ 22c; dressed, choice, 25@27c; ducks, 14@16c; geese, 12@14c.

Butter—Creamery prints, extras, 30 @ 32c pound; cubes, 27@28c. Pork—Fancy, 10@10c pound.

Veal—Fancy, 14c per pound. Hops—1918 crop, prime and choice, 21@22c pound; contracts, 16c. Pelts—Dry, 10c; dry short wool, 7c; dry shairings, 10c; green shairings, 10c; salted lights, 60@75c; salted heavy, 75@90c.

Wool—Valley, 14@15c pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@15c; mohair, 1913 clip, 26c.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.25@7.60; choice, \$7@7.25; medium, \$6.75@7; choice cows, \$6.25@6.50; medium, \$6 @ 6.25; heifers, \$6@6.75; light calves, \$3@9; heavy, \$6@7.75; bulls, \$4@ 5.75; stags, \$6@6.50.

Hogs—Light, \$7.25@8.05; heavy, \$6@7.

Sheep—Wethers, \$5@5.85; ewes, \$3.50@4.65; lambs, \$5@6.75.

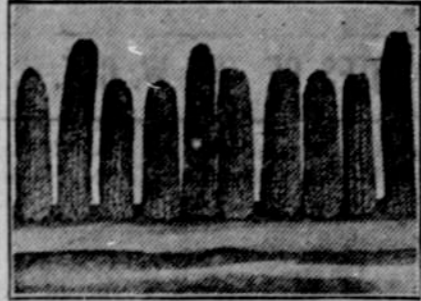
## IMPORTANCE OF SEEDS

No One Subject of Greater Interest to Farmer.

One Reason for General Awakening is That Land Has Increased in Value to Marked Extent—Uniformity of Much Value.

(By A. D. SHAMEL.)

There is no one subject related to farming of greater interest and importance to the farmer than the improvement of his general crops by seed selection and breeding. The study of these plants from the breeding standpoint is not only intensely interesting but it also usually results in awakening a keener interest in all phases of crop production, from the preparation of the soil for the seed-bed and the cultivation of the growing plants to the marketing of the products. This subject is of vital importance, commercially, from the fact that it usually costs no more to grow improved varieties of farm crops than unimproved sorts, while the increase



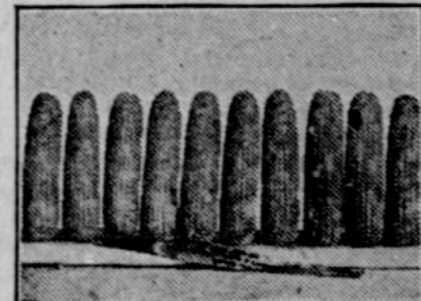
Ten Ears of Corn From the Same Field, Showing Great Variability in Type Resulting From Failure to Select Seed Properly.

in production due to the use of improved seed results in additional profit.

During the past 10 or 15 years there has been a great awakening of interest in the subject of seed selection and breeding as applied to our great general farm crops, especially corn, cotton, tobacco, wheat, oats and other crops of wide distribution and cultivation. One reason for this awakening is that the land on which these crops are grown has increased in value to a very marked extent and it is necessary to increase the production per acre and improve the quality of the crops in order to make farming profitable. In high priced land it is necessary to grow more productive crops than formerly if one is to make a reasonable profit on the present investment.

Another reason for the awakened interest in seed selection and breeding lies in the fact that in the sections where crops have been grown for a considerable time the varieties produced on these lands year after year, where no seed selection or breeding has been practiced, have tended to run out and become unprofitable. In addition to the running out of varieties under conditions of continuous propagation without breeding, fungous diseases and insect enemies, frequently develop to such an extent that, unless resistant or immune varieties are secured by seed selection and breeding, the growing of these crops is either carried on with small return to the growers or has to be abandoned.

The most important field for the breeder's work is in the improvement of the established varieties of crops by the production of strains approximating more uniformity to the best types of these varieties. This lack of uniformity in high productive capacity



Ten Ears of Corn From the Same Field, Illustrating the Uniformity in All Desirable Characters Attained by Careful Seed Selection.

is responsible in great measure for the present low average yield of most of our crops.

In the case of corn, this variability of plants is particularly striking. A large majority of the plants produce ears of small size, irregular in shape, and light weight, which are undesirable. Many of the stalks are barren. Only a small proportion of the plants produce the maximum size and weight of ear. If every kernel produced a uniform plant and the plants bore uniform ears weighing one pound each, the average yield per acre would be about 10,668 pounds, or about 155 bushels of shelled corn per acre. The fact that the average yield throughout the corn belt is less than 40 bushels per acre is striking evidence that only a small proportion of the plants bear ears of the maximum weight.

### Overhead Irrigation.

Of 164 users of overhead irrigation in New York state, 67 are located on Long Island, according to H. B. Fullerton, in the Long Island Agronomist. He adds: "The majority of them are what careless folks call foreigners, which boiled down means that these folks have only lived in the United States part of one generation, instead of two or three."

## For the LITTLE ONES

PROGRESSIVE YOUNG FARMER

Southern Boy Cultivates Acre of Land With Extremely Pleasing Results—Member of Corn Club.

The corn club boys are certainly coming to the front, and they are, many of them, in a position now to teach their fathers and grandfathers



Southern Boy's Good Work.

something about raising corn. The illustration shows a southern boy standing in his corn field that produced 140 bushels. This boy selected an acre of ordinary cut-over pine land, prepared it, properly fertilized and cultivated intelligently with the above result.

## HAPPY OLD AGE AND YOUTH

Ambassador Choate Discovers Eighth Decade of Life Was Best of All—Good World to Live In.

Each era of our lives has its peculiar compensations, the Philadelphia Ledger declares. When a young man is in college, or a lad at school, he is often told by his elders that these are the happiest years of his life, and that he should make the best of their brief duration. Old age will creep upon him and life will impose an increasing burden of responsibility, and he must gather the roses while he may before the cruel frost of custom, as Wordsworth called it, has nipped his budding aspiration.

Mr. Choate, while ambassador to England, said he had discovered that the eighth decade of life was the best of all. If an old man does not let himself relapse into egotistical garrulity his recollections of a useful past may be a source of unfeigned pleasure to others as well as to his own retrospective mind. It was the satisfaction of a life well lived to which Sir Walter Scott could bear testimony to Lockhart, when the Wizard of the North knew that the end was near.

Youth starts out on the long road eager and hopeful, buoyant to try conclusions and refusing the thought of failure. It is a fine thing when a man imports into maturity and even into old age the "indomitable soul" that will not surrender to the years and has not been saddened by disillusion or by the loss of faith in human nature. It is a good world to live in at four-score or at the rounded century—an even better place than it was when childhood accepted without questioning an earthly paradise.

### All Gone.

A veteran, talking to his great-grandson, a little lad of eight or nine years, remarked:

"Nearly a generation and a half ago my head was grazed by a bullet at the battle of Chickamauga."

The little boy looked at the old man's head thoughtfully and said:

"There isn't much grazing there now, is there, granddad?"

### Twisted History.

Sunday School Teacher—And now, Johnny Haggood, it's your turn. What did his father do when the Prodigal Son returned?

Johnny (who can't help reading the sporting editions of the daily press)—Please, sir, he jumped on his neck and kissed him.—Puck.

## INSIDE INFORMATION.



Tommy—Willie's got my marbles and he's going to keep them. His Mother—How do you know? Tommy—He's swallowed them.