

WILLING TO BE GOOD

Railroads Hold Out Olive Branch to Commerce Commission.

ALL BIG ROADS OF ONE MIND

Death Knell to Illegal Practices Will Be Sounded at St. Paul Meeting Within Few Days.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The railroad interests of the entire country have decided to hold out the olive branch to the government and join hands with the Interstate Commerce commission to secure a rigid enforcement of law. To this end two moves have been begun, one embracing all the railroads east of Chicago and St. Louis, and the other taking in all railroads west of the same points.

The Eastern movement was begun several weeks ago, and the commission has been asked to meet a committee of railway men in a conference regarding the situation in the East. The Western movement is of more recent date and J. C. Stubbs, traffic manager of the Harriman lines, is in charge of it. Yesterday Mr. Stubbs wired the Interstate Commerce commission asking for an early conference between that body and a committee representing every Western railroad, to discuss plans for a joint effort to prevent further violations of the laws governing transportation. It is expected a date will be set before the close of the year, and the conference is likely to take place in St. Paul next Friday, when the commission has a hearing in that city.

The railroads insist they are in earnest and that, if the commission is in sympathy with the move, it means the death knell of the freight rebate, the secret rate or "midnight tariff" of preferential rates, of arrangements with industrial railroads, of the payment of unlawful commissions, and, in short, the end of everything which comes within the purview of the interstate commerce act or the Elkins amendment.

ALL RAILROAD BIDS REJECTED.

Government Will Again Offer Concessions in Philippines.

Washington, Dec. 23.—All the bids for concessionary contracts or grants for the construction of railroads in the Philippine islands, recently submitted to the bureau of insular affairs, were today rejected because of the departures from the terms of the circular calling for proposals. Secretary Taft, after a number of conferences with Governor Wright and Mr. Forbes, of the Philippine commission, and Colonel Edwards, chief of the insular bureau, today decided to re-advertise the proposals, and January 20, at 10 a. m., has been fixed as the date for the opening of new bids. The terms will be modified in some particulars.

Where bidders propose to construct the road without guarantee they will be limited in their bids only by the terms of the Philippine government railroads acts of 1902 and 1903. But where bidders wish to take advantage of a guarantee of a certain interest on their investment, they can vary from the original invitation to bid only at the point of time or on the cost of construction per mile as affected by contractors' profits.

ALL RUSSIA PARALYZED.

Empire Tied Up by General Strike and Food is Scarce.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 23.—With the strike in force throughout the entire empire, conditions are again becoming more and more alarming. While it is certain that the strike leaders are absolutely opposed to violence, it begins to look as though they would be unable to control the forces. Famine is the one thing to be feared, inasmuch as the supplies of food within the city have been heavily drawn upon during the last 30 days, and now that all the output of the foodstuffs is at an end, prices are beginning to advance and the common people must certainly suffer.

French Ship on Voyage.

Paris, Dec. 23.—A cruiser detached from the French squadron at Saigon, French Indo-China, is now proceeding to Shanghai. The officials here say this is a measure of precaution, as no French interests have as yet been disturbed. The recent disturbances occurred in the international concession, which is separated from the French concession. An official dispatch from Peking today says an imperial edict just issued, following energetic protests on the part of foreign ministers, promises to end the trouble.

Carnegie Gives \$5,000,000 More.

New York, Dec. 23.—It was announced from Boston yesterday, says the Herald, that the "Carnegie foundation," a sum of \$10,000,000 given by Andrew Carnegie to provide relief for needy teachers and professors in universities, colleges and technical schools, is to be forthwith increased by the addition of \$5,000,000. At the same time the restrictions which prohibited aid from being extended to members of the faculties of sectarian and state aided institutions are to be removed, the statement declared.

Not a Wheel Turns in Moscow.

Moscow, Dec. 23.—The town is in darkness and the theaters and clubs are closed. The employees of the municipality have abandoned their work. Fifty thousand factory hands are idle. The troops are confined to the barracks and every possible precaution for eventualities has been taken. The strikers' pickets are all over the city menacing or threatening those who are reluctant to join the strike for freedom.

Troops to Suppress Revolt.

Paris, Dec. 23.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Petit Parisien, in a dispatch dated yesterday, says that the government is preparing to suppress the revolt along the Baltic.

CZAR IS WARNED.

Revolutionists Will Not Be Responsible for His Safety.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—There is a persistent rumor in circulation here, a well known revolutionary leader being the authority, that the czar has been warned to leave Russia. This communication was sent to the ruler in three different ways in order to guarantee its reaching him. The czar was notified that the limit of patience had been reached and that he had ceased to be ruler of Russia, save in name only. The czar was advised, for his own sake as well as for his family's, to leave the country at once.

The communication is also said to have stated:

"We do not want to harm any member of the imperial family, but we will not be responsible for their safety in the present critical time."

It is stated on high authority that one copy of the warning was taken to the czar's private apartments at Tsar-koe-Selo a few days ago.

The czar is heavily guarded in the palace, which is surrounded by a formidable array of troops, while dozens of maxims and large supplies of ammunition are stored away. Few of the officials have access to the czar.

MOSCOW REDS RAISE SIEGE.

Escape From Meeting Hall by Breaking Through Railings.

Moscow, Dec. 25.—The 12,000 persons who were besieged in the Aquarium since last night forced the railings surrounding the building at 9 o'clock this morning and escaped through an adjacent schoolhouse. A few were wounded in their attempts to escape the military cord.

Seventy of those attending the meeting were arrested, but they were subsequently released. A few revolutionaries were left behind in the garden surrounding the schoolhouse.

Demonstrations of the strikers were continued all day, but in every case they were dispersed by Cossacks and dragons. Several persons were injured, but no one was killed. During the day wholesale arrests were made.

All business has been stopped. Several of the bakery shops have been plundered.

The strikers are using the strongest measures to enforce the complete cessation of business, but notwithstanding these measures the postal operations continue.

At a meeting of bankers today it was decided to open the banks tomorrow.

BLAZE ON CROWDED FERRY.

Thousand Passengers Nearly Jump Into Hudson in Terror.

New York, Dec. 25.—While the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western ferryboat Montclair was crowded from end to end on a trip tonight from the foot of Christopher street to Hoboken, fire burst out beneath the midst of the inner row of seats in the men's cabin on the starboard side. So sudden was the outbreak of flames that those sitting on the seats had narrow escapes from burning.

The shouts of fire sent the passengers in a rush to the open ends of the boat, men almost pushing one another into the water. The panic spread to the women's cabin, which was also crowded, there being 1,000 passengers on the boat. The Montclair was in midstream. As quickly as they could make their way to the fire extinguishers, the deckhands took them down and played on the fire, which quickly became only a smudge of stifling smoke.

The boat was driven full speed, with whistle shrieking, to the Hoboken slip. The passengers rushed ashore and the fire department put out what remained of the blaze. It is supposed that a smoldering cigar stub communicated fire to rubbish and started the blaze.

Canada Quarantines American Hog.

Ottawa, Dec. 25.—An order in council has been passed providing that "all swine imported must be accompanied by a certificate signed by veterinarians of the United States bureau of animal industry, stating that neither swine plague nor hog cholera has existed within a radius of five miles of the premises in which they have been kept for a period of six months immediately preceding the date of shipment, but such swine shall nevertheless be inspected, and shall be subject to a quarantine of 30 days."

Honor for Choate.

Washington, Dec. 25.—The Post tomorrow will say: Joseph H. Choate, who recently was succeeded at the Court of St. James as United States ambassador by Whitehead Reid, in all likelihood will be named by President Roosevelt as chairman of the American delegation to the second Hague peace conference. This selection virtually is decided on by the president. It is understood that he desired that ex-President Cleveland should head the delegation, but Mr. Cleveland expressed a disinclination to undertake the work.

Hayburn Loaded for Bear.

Washington, Dec. 25.—When the senate reconvenes after the holidays, Senator Hayburn intends to make a speech on his forest reserve bills. He will air his difference with the president and Gifford Pinchot, and urge curtailment of the president's power to create reserves. His bill has not been reported. A severe arraignment of the administration is expected. The senator will also speak in advocacy of his national board of corporations bill.

Traffic of Soo Canal.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Dec. 25.—The government report places the total freight tonnage of the Soo canal for the year at 44,270,860 tons, an increase over last year of 40 per cent.

Martial Law for Poland.

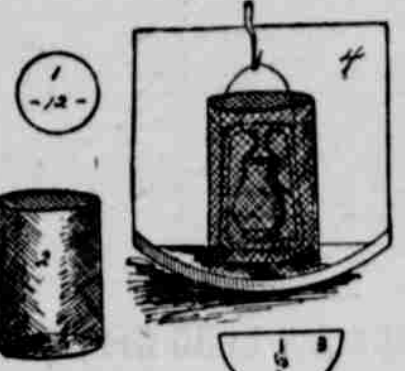
Warsaw, Dec. 25.—A proclamation of the governor general was gassetted here today, establishing martial law in all the 10 governments of Russian Poland and appointing ten temporary military governors general.



The Barn Lantern.

Lanterns are undoubtedly the safest things to use in the barn, and if they are hung properly and protected as indicated here there will be little or no danger from fire. Take a piece of inch board and from it cut a circle twelve inches in diameter; then buy a piece of galvanized wire netting fifteen inches wide and four feet long. Then a piece of bright new tin eighteen inches square, a hook with a flat end, so it can be screwed to the wall. Then build a shelf fifteen inches wide and twenty inches long. Nail the shelf in a convenient location in the barn, then on the wall back of the shelf nail the piece of tin which acts as a reflector as well as protects the wall.

Fasten the hook on the wall above the tin. Then make a cylinder by nailing the wire to the edge of the circular



GOOD BARN LANTERN.

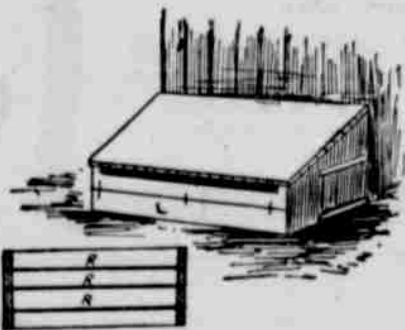
piece of board, lacing the ends of the wire together with stout twine. Set this on the shelf and slip the lantern inside of it, hanging the bale of the lantern on the hook. The wire cylinder protects the lantern yet does not shut off much light, and by having the hook curved there will be little danger of the lantern falling, even under quite a hard blow. The illustration shows all of the details for constructing this arrangement.—Indianapolis News.

Buying Mixed Feeds.

Why any feeder of farm stock should buy mixed grains is more than one can understand, unless he is too lazy to do the mixing himself. Time was when screenings were just what was claimed for them, the smaller grains which dropped through the sieves when screening was done for the first grade of grains. Now screenings are quite likely to be the sweepings from the mill floors and contain anything from nails to tobacco quids. Any of the grains used for feeding stock of any kind can be bought without mixture and one can tell by examination if they be reasonably pure. They cost more than the mixed feeds, to be sure, but they are cheaper in the end, for less has to be fed. Of all the bad mixed feeds the ground feeds are the worst, for it is practically impossible to know what is in the mixture, that is, for the ordinary poultry server to ascertain. In feeding poultry it has been demonstrated time and again that it pays to pay 25 per cent more for the grains by themselves than to feed the mixtures bought in that form.

Finishing Of Coops.

One of the economies in the poultry business is to have coops which may be used for any desired purpose without making it necessary in any way to subdivide the main poultry house. Coops for sick fowls, coops for the roosters, coops for the broody hen and coops to finish off the birds which are to go to market later. One of the best designs for the latter purpose can be built on the sunny side of the barn or



A COOP ANNEX.

the poultry house proper, thus saving the expense for lumber. This coop is three feet in width, and any length desired, but figured so that the lumber will not cut to waste.

Make the frame of rough lumber, using any odds and ends one may have around the place; cover roof and sides and ends with tarred paper. For ventilation, a six-inch space is left the entire length of the house at the lower end and this is covered with wire netting. For further ventilation holes are bored in one end at the high side near the top. At the lower part of the house under the ventilating space the boards are arranged so that the one nearest the ground is hinged to the one above it for ease in cleaning the coop. The door in one end is made of any size desired, although the smaller the better, twenty inches square being a good size.—Exchange.

Poultry Notes.

It is pretty hard to feed the hen too much if the food is of the right sort. Improper feeding does more harm than excessive feeding.

Some people keep hens at a profit of 50 cents or less per year. Others get as high a profit as \$3 per hen. It is partly a difference in the hens, but it is much more a difference in the man or woman behind the hen.

Very large size is not desirable in any variety of fowls. According to the new standard, when "two birds are equal in other respects, the one nearer the weight called for will have the preference, and not the heavier bird, as formerly. Of course, this rule is against under size as much as against over size.

Have you tried the dry feeding system, now practiced by most of the well known poultrymen of the country?

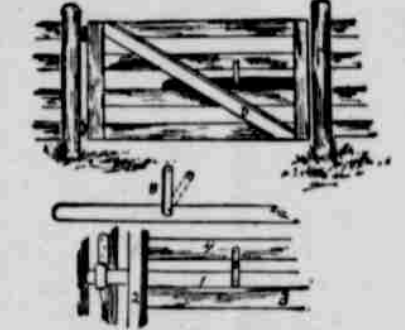
Eggs are the basis of the poultry industry. Egg farming is the most profitable branch of poultry culture. But in order to get eggs we have to keep hens as a sort of necessary incubation.

For Barb Wire Cuts.

When a horse has been injured on wire the first thing to do is stop the flow of blood; this may be a rule by doing so frequently by tight. It may also frequently be best to apply powdered alum or common saleratus, both of which will generally be found effective. In a few hours, considerable swelling will set in; this should be reduced either by applying cold water frequently, or what is really better, applying pure kerosene oil, not only to the wound, but also to the swollen parts. No bandage should be kept on where kerosene is used, as it will then cause the hair to fall off temporarily, and as soon as it is safe to do so, the sore should be carefully washed with soft water and castile soap. This ought to be repeated daily until the sore heals. One of the best healing medicines for horses' feet that I have ever used can be put up at any drug store, as follows: One-half pint of alcohol; one-half pint of spirits of turpentine; 1 ounce of pure glycerine; mix all together in a large bottle and shake well before using. Apply only with a feather at morning and night. The sore should never be bandaged. By daily washing it will in this way heal up very rapidly. I can personally testify to the effectiveness of this simple remedy, as we have made use of it in numerous cases, with the best results, where every other remedy we tried failed to heal up the sore on the horse.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Practical Gate Fastener.

A swing gate is somewhat of a nuisance, unless it is arranged with a fastener that will act as desired. The idea illustrated is a simple one, as will be seen. Take a strip of one by four material and cut it of convenient length, as shown at figure 1. It must, however, be long enough to extend beyond the cross bar D and the upright piece at figure 2, both of which pieces are double—that is, one on either side of the gate. Two iron pieces (b) are bolted to the boards 1 and 4, as shown. The fastener works in this manner: To unfasten, pull the board 1 to the left, which raises the end opposite 1 on account of the placing of b, and when



SWING GATE FASTENER.

released drops toward 1 and finally rests on the board marked 3. A close study of the illustration will show how simple the plan is, and how readily it may be put in operation on any swing gate, provided always the gate is properly hung and works smoothly.—Indianapolis News.

Cut Bone and Animal Food.

Just the day the fowls are brought into the house and confined to the run of a small yard they begin to pine for animal food which they had in abundance on the range. It is this lack that is at the bottom of the egg falling off rather than any other cause, as will be discovered, if one will take the trouble to look into the matter. It must be understood, however, that animal food does not mean anything in the shape of meat one can get. There are plenty of meat scraps on the market that are good enough for fertilizer, but decidedly not of value for feeding poultry. If one can arrange with the local butcher to supply what meat is wanted for the fowls he will have no trouble provided he buys meat that is not tainted and does not lay in a supply too large. Green bone answers the same purpose to some extent, but it is hard to grind and must be ground fresh to be of value. With a small supply of animal food, green bone and green food of some kind one ought to have a good production of eggs throughout the winter, following any plan of feeding that has a reasonable amount of variety.

Seed Potatoes.

Every one knows that when seed potatoes are allowed to sprout and the sprouts are broken off, as they often are when the potatoes are kept in a dark cellar, the tuber is perceptibly weakened, the yield lessened and the ripening retarded. The best way to keep seed potatoes is in cold storage. It is important that the temperature should never fall below 35 degrees, nor should it rise much above 40 degrees. In a press circular sent out by the Ohio station it is advised that the seed potatoes should be shoveled over frequently, as this prevents sprouting to a certain extent where cold storage is not available. Planters are reminded, however, that under certain conditions this sprouting process may be used to advance the early ripening of the crop. If the tubers are placed stem end down in single layers in shallow trays in a slight and moderately warm room, they will send out short, stubby green sprouts, which will remain in that condition for weeks, and if the potatoes are then planted without breaking the sprouts, they will start immediately.

How Warmth Economizes Food.

Temperature has a great effect on fattening animals. Where farm stock are kept in cold houses it becomes necessary to increase the quantity of food in order to maintain the warmth of the body. In many cases pig feeders pay little attention to this matter, and rather than go to the expense of providing warm stys for the accommodation of their animals in winter they often adopt the ultimately more expensive plan of giving additional food to keep up the normal heat of the body.

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A nine-room cottage, one in, including bath and wash rooms. The house has three porches, stone pillars under it, good wood house, saw-dust lined, fruit house, good barn with wagon and buggy sheds, grain bins, haymow and room for four horses, together with two and one-half acres of land within two blocks of the business part of the city. Clear title given. Price \$2,000, one half down, balance in convenient payments. Call on or address this office.

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