

Arrives With Brood of Eleven



Photograph shows Mrs. Otto Zanier who arrived in New York with her brood of 11 children. She is en route to Ohio, where she will join her husband.

Plan Big Corn Crop for 1926

Farmers Reduce Acreage but Slightly—Drop in Spring Wheat.

Washington.—Despite the corn surplus produced last year the farmers of the country apparently are preparing to plant almost as large an acreage to corn in 1926 as they harvested in 1925.

Department of Agriculture figures, based on a census recently conducted, disclose a decrease of only one-tenth of 1 per cent in the intended planting this spring as compared to the harvested acreage of last fall. Spring wheat acreage shows a decline of 1.8 per cent and oats and barley increases of 4.6 per cent and 5.7 per cent, respectively.

As a result of the findings of its experts, the Agriculture department declares that with average yields there seems "little chance for change in the corn situation," but at the same time it warns farmers not to increase their live stock without considering the probable effect on the market.

Department Gives Warning. A jump of 19.6 per cent in intended plantings of sweet potatoes leads the department to warn against a crop of that commodity too large to market at satisfactory prices.

The intended acreage of white potatoes shows an increase of 4.3 per cent over the acreage harvested in 1925; flax, an increase of four-tenths of 1 per cent; grain sorghum, a decrease of 1.7 per cent; tobacco, a decrease of 8 per cent; rice, an increase of 1.4 per cent, and tame hay, an increase of seven-tenths of 1 per cent.

"The intended acreage of corn, with average yields, would allow little chance for change in the corn situation," says the department's statement. "Increases in live stock should not be made without considering the probable effect on the market."

Sees Wheat Most Profitable. "With average yields, hard spring wheat would probably be a more profitable cash crop to grow than any other small grain in the principal hard spring wheat region, even with a slight increase in acreage."

"An oat crop equal to that of last year would probably result in continued unsatisfactory conditions in the market. A barley crop as large as intended would probably allow no improvement in the market unless a short European crop should increase export demand."

"While the outlook for flax is not quite so favorable as for wheat, farmers operating where flax ordinarily supplements wheat on low-priced land will probably find no alternative more desirable than flax."

"The slight increase in potato acreage for the country as a whole seems reasonably safe, but there are marked differences in plans in different sections and overproduction should be guarded against in some localities, particularly in the West. It is highly improbable that an increased crop of sweet potatoes as large as intentions indicate could be marketed at satisfactory prices."

Tobacco Production Reduced. "Increases in acreage of certain types of tobacco such as barley and Maryland export types, with average

yields may result in excessive supplies. Decreases are indicated by growers of cigar types and dark types which would bring the total production of all tobacco slightly below 1925. "The outlook for 1926 indicates that the slight changes contemplated by farmers in acreage are in accord with the prospect that there is little likelihood of a material increase in demand for farm products in either the domestic or foreign markets."

Commenting on the feed crops situation in the North Central states, the department says live stock numbers in those states have decreased each year since 1923, but no corresponding decrease in crop acreage has taken place or is indicated for this year, which makes the adjustment between grain and live stock production a serious problem in this region.

Hogs to Slightly Increase. "Present indications are that the supply of live stock in this region will be no larger next year than it is this," the department continues, "and that the demand for feed grains to feed will be no greater. Hog numbers may be expected to increase somewhat this year because of the present favorable feeding situation, but in view of the reduction in horses and cattle it is doubtful if the increase in the former will more than offset the decrease in the latter. The serious situation facing the farmers of this region is that the potential production of feeds and of live stock to consume them under the present conditions of production is too large for all the production to find a remunerative market."

"The principal problem confronting each farmer in this region is to strive for a good balance between his live stock and feed crops, bearing in mind that any large increase in live stock numbers for the country as a whole would probably result in lower prices. Use of Hay, Pasture Urged. "A general movement toward a greater dependence on pasture and hay as feed for live stock would tend to lower the expense of the farmers and at the same time bring about a better balance between feed production and feed requirements."

"The carry-over of the 1925 corn crop next fall undoubtedly will be above the five-year average, especially in the corn-belt states. While commercial uses for corn may be slightly larger than last year, the large Argentine crop being harvested this year will tend to reduce foreign demand for American corn. Since information available does not indicate that feeding requirements will be much, if any, greater next season than this, if the intended acreage is planted and the average yield obtained, no great change from the present corn situation is expected. The position of the farmer who depends on the sale of corn for any considerable part of his cash income would probably not be greatly improved during the 1926 crop year unless yields generally were much less than usual. If corn and hogs are to be on a satisfactory basis in the North Central states the production of corn must be adjusted to that supply of hogs which will maintain a satisfactory market."

X-Ray Diggers

Capetown, South Africa.—Native diggers in the diamond fields are now being X-rayed to prevent them from concealing diamonds by swallowing them.

Reno's Record

Reno.—Latest divorce statistics: Four hundred ninety wives and three hundred and fifteen husbands obtained decrees here last year.

Whaddye Mean "Learn?"

New York.—Coeds at New York university will learn to fight. Thirty have organized a boxing class.

The TALE of KIDDIE KATYDID by Arthur Scott Bailey

KIDDIE KEEPS PROMISE

OLD MR. CROW flew into a terrible rage when he found, the next morning, that his committee had not called on Kiddie Katydid during the night. And when Chirpy Cricket told him that the weather was too cold for anybody to stay out late, Mr. Crow said, "Nonsense! What about Mr. Frog?" That was a hard question to answer. And Chirpy Cricket was so afraid of angry Mr. Crow that he promptly hid himself among the roots of a clump of grass.

Now, the fact that Mr. Frog had been away from his shop the night before set Mr. Crow worrying. "That slippery tailor has been up to some mischief," Mr. Crow declared.



Kiddie Told Him He Couldn't Join the Orchestra.

"And if he has played a trick on me I'll never hear the last of it."

The old gentleman was so disturbed that he quite lost his appetite during the rest of the day. And he moped and groaned about, hoping for the best, but fearing the worst. One thing that made him especially uneasy was the fact that when he called on Mr. Frog he found the tailor in a gayer mood than he had ever known him to be in.

Mr. Frog bounded about his shop like a rubber ball. And the worst of it was, he would sing, although Mr. Crow begged him, with tears in his eyes, to stop.

"What's the matter?" Mr. Frog asked him. "Don't you like my voice? Or is it the songs I sing? I've a new

one that I'd like to sing for you. It's about one of the Katydid family; and I'm sure you'll enjoy hearing it."

But Mr. Crow wouldn't stay there any longer. With a loud squawk of rage he scurried away. He was sure, then, that Mr. Frog had tricked him.

That night Mr. Crow's committee called on Kiddie Katydid. It was a fine, warm, moonlight night. And as they drew near Farmer Green's place, they could hear Kiddie's shrill music, even while they were still a quarter of a mile away.

"He plays better than ever," said Freddie Firefly. "I wish Mr. Crow could hear him." And they hurried on, believing that everything was going to turn out all right, in the end.

"Mr. Crow will be sorry, tomorrow, that he scolded us," said Chirpy Cricket.

But the committee met with a sad disappointment. When they invited Kiddie Katydid to join the Pleasant Valley orchestra he told them that he couldn't.

"Why not?" Freddie Firefly asked. "I've promised somebody that I wouldn't," Kiddie said.

And though they pressed him for an explanation he wouldn't give them any. He wouldn't say another word.

It was a downcast company that left Farmer Green's front yard. And they quarreled among themselves, too, before they parted. For there wasn't one of them that was willing to tell Mr. Crow that Kiddie had declined his invitation.

But they finally hit upon a plan that suited everybody. They agreed to get Mr. Crow's cousin, Jasper Joy, to break the news gently to the old gentleman.

It turned out that Jasper was delighted to undertake the task. He hoped that Mr. Crow would fly into a passion when he heard the sad tale. And Jasper was not disappointed. For old Mr. Crow was furious.

"It's the work of that sly rascal, Mr. Frog!" he scolded. "He must have called on Kiddie Katydid and hoodwinked him somehow. . . . I'd like to know what he said."

But Mr. Crow never found that out. So Kiddie Katydid had another secret, which was known only to himself and Mr. Frog.

And Mr. Frog wouldn't tell anybody, because he preferred to tease Mr. Crow.

And Kiddie Katydid wouldn't tell anybody, because he liked secrets. So when people tried to pry into the affair, he just folded his wings tightly over himself—and said nothing.

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Florence Gilbert



This popular leading lady in the "movies" was born in Chicago in 1904. She won a beauty contest when a child and doubled for Mary Pickford. Later she worked in comedies in which she scored a hit. She is a blonde with blue eyes, is five feet two inches tall and weighs 114 pounds.

The Hotel Stenographer



"KELLY," said the Hotel Stenographer, "there is a place in the Great Perhaps that was mighty well press-agented by a guy named Dante.

"Some real estate game?" asked the House Detective.

"Well, I would hardly call it that," answered the girl. "All people call it differently, depending on their religion, but its real name is what you say when you drive out in the rough. It is the ultimate abiding place of the people who preface the dirt they are going to scatter with five words.

"Those five words are, 'A certain party told me.'"

"Kelly, I have not been alive long enough to duck telling my age, but I have worn roll tops and hidden my ears long enough to find out that 'a certain party' is always and forever a liar.

"Any time a guy comes to me with that 'certain party' I know he is ascribing a dirty book to an anonymous author because he is ashamed to acknowledge 'a certain party' is a snake in the grass, ready to stick poisoned fangs of scandal into some innocent person and then slide away without getting caught.

"Nobody has any business to spread gossip for which they are not willing to give the authority. Nobody has any business telling a thing they are not willing to back up with their fists, teeth and finger nails.

"A certain party' is on a par with an anonymous letter, a message over the phone from a talker who will not give his name or a rock thrown through a window in the dark. If they can't tell me who told 'em I will not let 'em tell me who was told. There is enough well-authenticated scandal in the world without listening to home-manufactured pictures of sin with no name painted on the corner of the canvas."

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How It Started

By JEAN NEWTON

"If the Mountain Will Not Come to Mohammed—"

A SAYING that is frequently used in common speech is "If the mountain will not come to Mohammed, Mohammed must go to the mountain!" One friend calling on another whom he has not seen in some time will remark, "It was your turn to come to me, but if the mountain will not come to Mohammed—" The saying is familiar, too, with reference to a hope or an achievement which does not come of itself, but requires effort and exertion to bring it about. The implication being that if the object is worth it, we must make the effort.

The origin of the saying is found in one of the many legends that have come down through the ages with regard to Mohammed, the prophet of Islam. It has been given credence because it is known that with all his sincerity and faith in his divine inspiration, the prophet was forced, on occasions, to use all his cleverness and astute wits to "put over" his messages and gain from the ignorant and doubting populace followers to his faith.

The story is told that a group that he was attempting to convert demanded in proof of his authority that he bring about a miracle. Eager to convince them in the only coin that they would honor, he raised his eyes aloft and commanded a nearby mountain to come to him. When the mountain did not stir, the ingenious prophet, undismayed, declared that Allah was merciful, for had he permitted the mountain to obey his disciple it would have fallen on them and destroyed them all! Therefore, he concluded, he would go to the mountain, instead, and give thanks for their deliverance!

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"What's in a Name?" by MILDRED MARSHALL. Facts about your name; its history; meaning; whence it was derived; significance; your lucky day, lucky jewel.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT by F. A. WALKER.

HENRY III OF FRANCE. Born September 19, 1551.

HENRY III was one of the strangest kings who ever governed—or attempted to govern, the beautiful country of France. He used to dress himself in women's clothes, and he hid in the cellars of the palace when it thundered. His voice and his manner were so effeminate that even the people of those days, taught to reverence kings, quite despised him. His pets were only little dogs.

He was son of Henry II, and succeeded to the throne when he was about twenty-three. His mother had succeeded in making him king of Poland, a place he hated, and he was glad enough to get back to France and to that throne, and also to a princess he was in love with. France was in a wretched state from civil wars, and Henry really tried his best to make a good king of himself. But, though fairly intelligent and cultivated, he was lazy and too ready to neglect his work for pleasure.

To get rid of Henry of Guise, whom the people loved, he ordered his death by assassination. As usual, his methods were all wrong; the people clamored for revenge, and a Dominican friar was introduced to Henry's presence to accomplish this vengeance. The friar stabbed the king with a knife, and Henry died in a few hours.

(© by George Matthew Adams.)

Advertisement for a book titled "HENRY III OF FRANCE" with a cartoon illustration of a man and a woman.

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Use Radio to Find Leaks



A crew of electrical experts in Revere, Mass., have devised a scheme whereby underground cable trouble can be located with the use of a radio outfit. Men are shown here attempting to find a severed cable that feeds lights on the Revere Beach boulevard. By carrying a loop antenna arrangement over the ground the trouble is found through a set built in the coupe.

ANCIENT VIKING KINGS WERE CREMATED IN KILNS

Recent Excavations in Swedish Mounds Shed Light on Unique Funeral Services.

Uppsala, Sweden.—Proof that the Viking kings of Sweden were cremated inside of finely constructed kilns and not on top of ordinary pyres has been unearthed here by Prof. Sune Lindquist during his excavations in one of the famous funeral mounds located near this university city known as the Swedish "Cradle of Culture." Long before Stockholm became the capital, Uppsala was the seat of the Swedish kings and when they died their bodies were solemnly burned as a special homage.

Through observation of the materials uncovered inside a hitherto unopened mound, the archeologist has come to the conclusion that for a king's funeral some 1,500 years ago an elaborate and solid structure of

wood was erected on the traditional site and inside this building the royal remnants and certain weapons and ornaments were placed to accompany him on the journey to Valhalla.

The successive layers of gravel, burnt clay and ashes prove that the funeral kiln was constructed on a pile of loose stones which admitted air from below, and then logs were fitted together to form a small dome with an opening at the top. Then after the king's body had been placed inside, the walls were coated with a thick layer of clay, making them air-tight. When therefore a torch was applied at the base, a strong draft helped to start the conflagration that consumed both logs and contents.

After the combustion of the inner frame the clay coating also collapsed and the entire remains were then covered up with sand and gravel. In this way the mounds grew in height with

each royal funeral and today some of them are as high as 30 feet.

This interpretation of the cremation method which has its counterpart in certain Roman customs, is strikingly confirmed both by passages in the Icelandic sagas and Anglo-Saxon epic about Beowulf. One of the incidents in the Icelandic literature for instance tells of a Swedish king named Frey, who had ruled his people in peace for many years and when he died, he was secretly put inside of a pyre, built with a door and three openings and fearing failure of crops and war, as soon as his spirit departed for Valhalla, his subjects kept him there for three years before they applied the torch.

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