

# Home and Farm Magazine Section Editorial Page

Suggestions From Our Associate Editors, Allowing For an Interchange of Views, Written by Men of Experience on Topics With Which They Are Fully Acquainted—Hints Along Lines of Progressive Farm Thought.

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## WAR AND THE TOURIST.

A NEW CLASS of visitors will be entertained by the farmers of the Northwest this coming year, probably in greater numbers than has ever been seen in the West. We refer to the "idle" rich and the hordes of tourists.

This may not be laid entirely at the doors of the P. P. I. Exposition at San Francisco. The war raging in Europe will be responsible for thousands touring the West that did not dream of coming to the Coast for the Exposition. While many of the travelers will come on "de luxe" trains, thousands will probably make the trip in automobiles, stopping at night at the most convenient farm houses. They will be entertained with true western hospitality, and will become most ardent boosters of this fertile country upon their return to the East.

This is what President John A. Wilson, of the American Automobile Association, is quoted as saying last week on his return from Europe:

"It is my guess that in 1915 many Americans who annually motor abroad will become better acquainted with their own country.

"Granted that we need many miles of real highway to get our road travelers to the scenic sections of the country, we are improving our arteries of communication more substantially than is the case even in France, where its network of well-built roads will serve the country in the warfare now raging," he continued.

"That many Americans will take advantage of a year or so to remain in their home country while the war continues in Europe means that they will become better acquainted with America and realize that its scenic wonders more than compare with what can be found abroad; and while they may find difficulty in reaching Yellowstone and getting within its gates, not yet thoroughly comfortable in viewing the snow-clad peaks of Glacier Park; limited in their motor opportunities in the Yosemite, and able to reach the Grand Canyon over the road only after a struggle, the interchange of road travelers by the various parts of the country will accentuate and accelerate the demand for improved roads and a proper participation by the federal government in accomplishing a work of the greatest value to the nation as a whole."

## BLOODED CATTLE FOR NORTHWEST.

FOR THE PURPOSE of improving the breed of cattle in the Pacific Northwest some important purchases of English cattle have been made in England for James J. Hill. One shipment is of 50 dairy Shorthorn bulls, which will be given away to as many counties in that section of the country. Each one of these bulls is born of a cow with a milk record of 10,000 pounds or more a year.

Besides the gift of these blooded animals to the farmers of the Northwest, a herd of 10 cows and a bull of South Devons, the first to be imported to America, will be sent to Hill's Minnesota farm as well as two prize-winning dairy Shorthorns to his North Dakota farm.

The purchases were made by Professor Thomas Shaw, the well-known expert of Minnesota. According to Eugene Grubb, the United States Livestock Commissioner,

now in England, this is the most important shipment of blooded cattle ever made to America from England and will mean a great improvement in breed in the Northwest, both for milk and beef purposes.

## A TWO-MINUTE HORSE.

NEARLY a quarter of a century ago, Nelson, the Northern king, turned the Grand Rapids track in 2:10, and that mile stands today as the best performance of a trotting stallion, pulling a high wheeled sulky over a regulation track.

Over the same oval several weeks ago there was paced a mile by the 4-year-old horse William that will live as long in turf history as the one of Nelson. We have at last a genuine two-minute race horse, the realization of a hope that a generation ago was scoffed at as being only a dream.

When William led Walter Cochato home that second heat in 2:00 he earned for himself undisputed title as king of pacers. That the new champion has greater honors in store is the belief of all who saw him in his matchless feat of a short time ago, for at the finish he was going well within himself.

William gets his name from his driver, William Marvin, who, by the way, is no kin to the famous reinsman whose name is linked with the champions of the house of Electioneer. When first sent to Marvin for training the colt bore the name of Billy Jay. He was not raced as a 2-year-old, and showed only a mile in 2:20. Last season he raced six times without a defeat, taking a record of 2:05, making him the fastest pacer of his age.

SEVERAL HUNDRED strong—or rather weak (from sneezing)—New York City's representation for the annual convention of the United States Hay Fever Association has left for Bethlehem, N. H. It may seem funny to the rest of the world but a hay fever congress is a serious matter to the 200,000 odd sufferers of this peculiar malady which costs the people of New York state annually close to \$5,000,000. The loss, it was explained, is in loss of services and wages, the sufferers being incapacitated for work for from six to eight weeks every year. New York state has the distinction of furnishing one-eighth of the hay fever sufferers of the country.

"Contrary to general opinion," said Percy F. Jerome, secretary-treasurer of the Empire State organization, as he boarded the train for the hay fever haven, "hay has nothing to do with the hay fever. I am pained to observe that many eminent physicians hold the same foolish belief. The disease is so called because it is after the hay has been cut, baled and gathered into the barn that it grips the sufferers. It is the absence of hay that causes hay fever. The fields, formerly covered with hay, are overrun with goldenrod after the hay is cut. This flower together with its wicked confederates, the ragweed, sweetpea and nasturtium, is responsible for the annual harvest of 200,000 hay fever victims in the United States."

## THE WORLD'S HOPE.

IT IS A GOOD time for Americans to keep constantly in mind Kipling's famous Recessional hymn, "Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget, lest we forget."

There certainly is a great temptation to all of us in America to flatter ourselves greatly over the happy conditions in which we find ourselves. While all Europe is rent with the greatest war ever staged in the world, while thousands of men are being slaughtered there, and while hundreds of thousands, yes millions, find themselves in want of food, profound peace reigns in our country, and plenty covers the continent as universally as waters cover the sea.

Europe must look to us for her food supply, for cotton to keep her spinning machines and looms going, giving her people an opportunity to survive the hardships of

war during the coming winter. And by a peculiarly happy condition, we are harvesting now the most abundant crops ever gathered in the country, while the crops of Europe, scant at the best, are remaining unharvested or trampled into the earth beneath the feet of myriads of men and horses.

Our winter wheat crop, according to the August forecast, will come to 675,000,000 bushels, spring wheat to 236,000,000, giving us a total of 911,000,000 bushels of wheat for the crop. Of corn the crop will come to 2,634,000,000 bushels, of oats 1,153,000,000 bushels, barley 203,000,000 bushels, rye 43,000,000 bushels, buckwheat 17,000,000 bushels. Then there are the two great root crops, white potatoes 370,000,000 bushels and sweet potatoes 50,000,000 bushels. Of raw material for use in factories we shall have 791,000,000 pounds of tobacco and 17,000,000 of flax. To add to the cereal crops there will be 24,000,000 bushels of rice, and of hay 69,000,000 tons.

## LAST OF KILLING MEN.

GENERAL PERCIN of the French army recently compiled some interesting figures on the expense of war, including the cost of killing a man. That is obtained by dividing the total cost of a war to one side by the number of men killed on the other side.

In 1870-1871 France spent \$400,000,000 in the actual expenses of the war with Germany. Repairing materials and giving succor to the victims of the war, expenses that are justly to be added, cost another \$200,000,000. France paid \$1,000,000,000 as war indemnity, plus another \$400,000,000 in interest on the sum, loss of revenue, forced contributions by the enemy and upkeep of the German army of occupation.

On a similar basis here are some facts about other wars:

Russo-Turkish War (1877-1878)—Turkey, \$400,000,000.

Russo-Japanese war (1905)—Russia, \$1,200,000,000.

The number of men killed or who died of wounds in these wars were:

Franco-Prussian War—Germans, 28,600.

Russo-Turkish War—Russians, 16,600.

Russo-Japanese War—Japanese, 58,600.

From which it is figured that the cost of killing each man was as follows:

In 1870-71, \$21,000.

In 1877-1878, \$15,000.

In 1905, \$20,400.

What killed the greatest number and reduced the effective force most is not the rifle or cannon, but fatigue, typhus or cholera.

In 1870, 380,000 Germans entered the hospitals. Although they did not die of their illness, they were none the less made useless for a certain time. In the Crimean War the allied armies lost four times as many men through disease as were killed in battle. This proportion was 3 to 1 among the Russians in 1877-1878; it was only 1 to 2 among the Japanese in Manchuria, thanks to their excellent hygiene.

John's Day was celebrated at Riverside Park, Indiana, last month. Probably never in the history of the country were so many Johns gathered together in one spot. The John's Day idea originated with a group of Eaton residents whose wives call them to breakfast by caroling their name. Last year the Johns and their families numbered 6,000 persons, and this year's crowd was even larger.

From Shanghai, China, comes the news that the egg shipments to the Coast will be greatly reduced as carriers are difficult to find and the European demand is greater. As the shipments average 15,000 cases a week, here is a chance for the Northwest-ern poultryman.

All of this talk about bottling up a fleet here and a squadron there is nothing to the way the war news is bottled up. And England seems to be the best little news bottler in the business.