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## THE FARMER GETS IT—IN THE NECK

According to government reports the season is unusually favorable for winter wheat, and that a greater area than ever before is being sown. This of course means that under average conditions the wheat crop next year will be the largest the country ever produced.

It is claimed conditions in Europe are such that a smaller area than usual will be planted to wheat there, and that the demand next year will be greater than ever.

This on the face of it would indicate a prosperous year for the wheat grower, but does it? This year the increased price due to the war has benefited the farmer practically not at all. As the price in Europe advanced the shipping trust shoved the carrying price up to forty cents a bushel more than during normal times. Recently, we understand, charters have been advanced to 120, or 125 shillings, or about 87 cents a bushel, while under natural conditions the average charter was about 30 cents a bushel. In other words charters have advanced about 200 per cent.

It might be a good scheme to hold the wheat and let ships lie idle, until the shipping trust is at least willing to divide the profits from war prices with the farmer.

It looks as though the farmer got it square in the neck in every deal. If prices go up on any of his products, someone else gets the benefit of the increase, and he does not. Sometime the farmers may get together and change all this, but there are so many obstacles to his doing so that it seems improbable. So many of them are in debt, due to the conditions mentioned that they are forced to sell.

The farmer, however, never has to bother about anything only raising his crops; for he is the one manufacturer who has his prices fixed for him. When he goes to market with his product he asks: "What will you give me for it?" And for everything that he buys he asks: "What do you charge for it?" With other people fixing the price of everything he sells as well as everything he buys, he is between the millstones and that he is ground exceedingly fine necessarily follows.

## SHOWS GERMANY'S STRENGTH

Now comes Brigadier General Sir Erick Swayae, and says England must recruit 3,000,000 more men by Spring, and adds that unless this is done the military will not be responsible for the war.

He states that Germany has between nine million and ten million men between the ages of 18 and 45 available for service, and that therefore it was useless to talk about wearing her out. He thinks if Great Britain will raise three million more men Germany will see the fruitlessness of holding out longer.

It is impossible at this distance to understand just what England is trying to do. It was claimed only a few days ago that England had two million men in her army at home that could be drawn upon for aiding Serbia. It is difficult to see why she should want more men, when this two million is not sent to the front. Three million more men or for that matter thirty million will not have any effect on the war, so long as they are kept in England.

However, General Swayae's statement is enlightening as to Germany's strength.

Even with the addition of half a million dollars worth of counterfeit gold five dollar pieces, the supply does not seem to have swamped the demand. Besides if the counterfeit fives are so good that only an expert can detect them, and if everybody takes them, do they not perform all the functions of money, and are they not just as good as their full weight brethren?

England now has a campaign on to prevent waste in food stuffs. This may be bad news for the shipping trust, which gathers in all the profits from enhanced prices, but it will not affect the American farmer, the price of whose wheat is fixed for him by said trust.

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## IT'S COMING TO THE STOCK GAMBLERS

At first glance it is impossible to understand why some people will invest in, so called, war stocks, or stocks in manufacturing companies engaged in making war munitions. Any sensible person must be able to see that when the war ends, and the demand for these products ceases, that the stocks will tumble, and be perhaps of little value.

The explanation is that the purchaser is a speculator, putting his money in not as an investment but for the purpose of selling soon at an increased price.

When the war ends, there is going to be a tumbling in all this kind of stocks that will crush thousands and may start a panic that will be felt by the entire country.

As an example of the fictitious values of these stocks Bethlehem steel has increased in value about 700 per cent, and Schwab's interest worth at the beginning of the war about \$7,000,000 are now said to be worth about \$50,000,000. The last fellow who holds the sack, who owns the stock when the war ends, "is going to hear something drop with a dull, sickening thud."

An exchange speaks of "the idiot who shot the ex-mayor of Grants Pass, mistaking him for a deer." It strikes us that the biggest "idiot" these days is the man who will trust himself in the woods while the open season for deer hunters is running.

No one can ever guess what those wireless fellows will do next. Now comes a couple of Californians who have done away with the tall tower used in receiving and sending messages, and accomplish this by stringing a wire along the ground.

It is stated the allies have started troops to the aid of the Serbians. This seems quick action on their part for heretofore it has been their habit to wait until the horse was stolen before they locked the stable door.

Chicago's wrestling with "dry Sundays" is being keenly watched by residents in Oregon's metropolis. It is some further to Tipperary than it is to January first, 1916, and its concomitant drouth.

Henry Ford suggests that the Japs and Chinese be permitted to own all the land they care to. Henry will find a very scant following on the Pacific coast.



## COOL NIGHTS

The summer night's a total loss; we go to bed and kick and toss, and groan and shriek and pray; we wallow on our beds and weep, in vain—we cannot get to sleep until the break of day. And then the milkman comes along and whangs his large and strident gong, the errand newsboys scream, the grocer's man is at the door, and all the wheels of traffic roar, and spoil the morning dream. But in the fall how well we rest! When I've removed my shoes and vest, and to my couch I go, I find myself at once asleep, enjoying rest profound and deep, the kind that children know. For seven hours or so I snooze, refreshing weary gall and thews, from grief and care aloof; if you would wake me in the night, you'd have to bring some dynamite, and blow me through the roof. And in the morn, at half past five, I wake, so glad that I'm alive, that I must sing and dance; I sing and whistle, sound and hale, as I put on my martingale, my shirtwaist and my pance. Take all your potions, dope and pills, and throw them in the babbling rills; they are no use to men; when one can sleep for seven hours, that little nap restores his powers, and makes him young again.

### S. P. SUED FOR \$30,000.

Eugene, Ore., Oct. 18.—A suit for \$30,000 against the Southern Pacific, growing out of the killing of four children near Crosswell a year ago when a train struck an automobile is on file here today.

### EUROPE WANTS WHEAT BADLY

Portland, Ore., Oct. 18.—That Europe is almost famished for wheat was indicated here today when a local exporter is reported to have sold a steamer cargo of bluestem and club on the basis of \$1.00 1/2 per bushel in Portland. Sales of bluestem in the interior at \$1.01 per bushel were also reported.

### THE WOMAN TO BLAME.

Los Angeles, Cal., Oct. 18.—C. R. Welliver, a liveryman of Fresno, was treated at the receiving hospital today for illness caused by drinking toothache drops. He said he drank the toothache balm because the young woman whom he admired refused to wed, although he proposed many times.

### PAPAL FINANCES LOW.

Rome, Oct. 18.—Because of the war the papal finances are undergoing a crisis. "Peters pence," the annual offering devoted to upkeep of the Vatican, is yielding a minimum amount, and it is understood that the Vatican plans to appeal to American Catholics for aid.

### TOM TAGGART GOES FREE

Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 19.—Charges of conspiracy to corrupt the Marion county election, made under indictment against Tom Taggart, democratic national committeeman for this state, were dismissed today on the state's motion in criminal court. Prosecutor Ranker announced that conclusive evidence against him was lacking. This action followed the state's failure to convict Bell of similar charges.

### SEVENTY-ONE DROWNED.

London, Oct. 18.—Seventy-one are reported to have perished when an Austrian submarine sank the French steamship Admiral Ronchini in the Mediterranean without warning. A later Marseille message said 33 of the crew were landed there, but mentioned no casualties, so it is uncertain whether the 33 included all aboard.

### LOANS BIG SUM TO ITALY.

New York, Oct. 18.—America will soon be banker for Italy, as well as for her allies. She has arranged for a \$25,000,000 loan which will be placed through Lee, Higginson and company of New York and Boston in the form of one year notes of \$100, \$500 and \$1,000 denominations.

### BULGARIANS CUT RAILROAD

Paris, Oct. 18.—The Bulgarians have penetrated Serbian Macedonia and cut the Salonika-Nish railroad, according to Austrian reports from Geneva today.



## A Galley o' Fun!



"Are you familiar with Dante, Miss Kittish?" asked Mr. Tredway.  
"No; but I can make pumpkin pie that fairly melts in your mouth."  
"Will you marry-me?" asked the young man, eagerly.

SCIENCE VS. LOVE.  
Not long ago, when swain was mad  
His passion to make known,  
He hired a buggy—or he had  
Conveyance of his own;  
With Lover's zest and manly pride  
He took the dear one out to ride.

How charming was the moment when  
In some green lonely lane  
He dropped the reins, and boldly then  
Spoke out his love and pain;  
Her waist his arm could circle, and  
Her hand was in his other hand.

Well, lovers still may love the same,  
But in an auto? Nay!  
What man dares play the same old game  
In the same brave old way?  
Instead, he's shrinking from her touch  
And wishing she'd not talk so much.

He's speeding up.....he's slowing down.....  
He's watching out.....the while  
He pounds the gong with grin and frown,  
He has not time to smile,  
Much less to sigh, to plead, or kiss—  
What sort of courtship, pray, is this?

Worse still, when aeroplane, so brisk,  
He steers on fitful breath  
Of shifting wind, in constant risk  
Of broken bones or death—  
What man could love's wild depths explain,  
Careering in an aeroplane?

Shall science alter passion's laws?  
And, later, shall there prove  
No need of love-making, because  
There won't be any love?  
By logic's light, it seems to me,  
This must, alas—the upshot be!

COMPLETE EXTINGUISHMENT.  
Rupert—It was a strange case! He left the club one night to go to the opera and was never seen or heard of afterward!

Harold—Disappeared as completely as if the earth had opened and swallowed him up, eh?  
Rupert—More so, if possible. In that case he might have left his hat above ground, or there might have been a crack left to show where he disappeared; but this fellow, mind you, disappeared as completely as if he had married an authoress.



Farmer Honk—"Squire Pashalong started as a poor bound-boy, and now at the age of forty-eight, he's got the biggest farm in the neighborhood, with a fine house on it; he's got good teams, money in the bank, daughter in boardin'-school, son in college, and so forth; and is figgerin' to goin' to the legislature."  
Farmer Bentover—"Gosh! It pays to be prosperous don't it?"

WOMAN AGAINST WOMAN.  
Mrs. Van Flashington (at the Charity Ball, condescendingly)—Do you think you can do proper justice to my gown and my jewels, Miss Wright?  
Woman Reporter (meanly)—I fancy I wasn't a circus press-agent two years for nothing!

NOWADAYS.  
Willis—Bump has an elegant home, hasn't he?  
Gillis—Yes; it has all the comforts of traveling.

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ASK YOUR GROCER FOR

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It costs no more and you Get the Best

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## ROBBERS ATTEMPT TO HOLD UP THE EXPRESS

Much Money On Train—  
Engineer Cracks Robber On Hand With Shovel

New York, Oct. 19.—While revolvers flashed, eyes peered out from behind black masks and the cry of "hands up" rang out, the West Shore freight was held up and robbed in true wild west fashion at Haverstraw, near "45 minutes from Broadway" early today.

The bandits looted one car and escaped in an automobile.

Quick thinking on the part of the engineer of the express following the freight saved a large amount of cash, jewelry and valuables. He saw the robbers on the track ahead, as he slowed down in response to a danger semaphore, but throwing on full steam, he escaped. It was reported that the express carried a large sum of money for the sub-treasury, and it is believed the bandits thought they had stopped the express when they held up the freight.

Frustrated in their plans to make a big haul, they escaped in their automobile.

No trace of the bandits had been found up to noon, and the value of the loot was unknown.

It developed that one bandit grasped the hand grip on the tender of the express, but was felled when Engineer Nolan hit his knuckles with a shovel.

ias and private homes were serving apples prepared in almost every conceivable way.

All stores had special displays of the fruit and reduced prices were in effect.

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## It Is Apple Day The Country Over

Portland, Ore., Oct. 19. — "Apple day" was being observed all over the United States today. The entire nation was eating the delicious fruit which the northwest grows in such perfection and profusion.

In the Pacific northwest all dining cars, hotels, cafes, lunch rooms, cafeterias and private homes were serving apples prepared in almost every conceivable way.

All stores had special displays of the fruit and reduced prices were in effect.

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