

## The Farmington Enterprise

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## GUN PACKERS

William McAdoo, chief magistrate of New York City, speaking before the international conference, recently stated that the carrying of pistols was "the curse of America."

The speaker pointed out that there are more firearms carried by the people of New York and Chicago than by the whole of Europe.

For years the matter of "pistol totin'" had concerned New York City. The Sullivan law, which was designed to prevent this carrying of concealed weapons, merely restricted the use of pistols to the average law abiding citizen while it gave the holdup man and the thug a free bill of health. In other words, the yegg was pretty safe in the feeling that he would not be opposed when he pulled a gun. Chicago, always noted as a "bad town," has wrestled ineffectually with the problem of pistol carrying, but out of all the legislation and all the efforts on the part of the police and citizens' committees the practice continues.

The trouble with trying to legislate the pistol out of existence is that the preventive measures begin at the wrong end. If the

pistol is to be put on a restricted list it would be wise to put all forms of pistols on the restricted list. If the adult is not to carry a revolver, he should not be taught to play with one when he is a child. If the concealed weapon is bad for the man then the toy pistol is equally bad for the child.

There is a great temptation presented to the average young man when he picks up a magazine and sees where he can buy an automatic pistol for a comparatively small amount. He has no need of the gun, but he cannot resist the lure of the mail order appeal and the desire to own it. And that is where the trouble begins. If the pistol could be framed and hung on the wall, all well and good, but it can't. Unless the pistol functions in its natural manner, unless it performs the duty for which it was originally intended, it has no value whatsoever. The original intention of the pistol is to kill. Some may say the pistol is a defensive weapon and that the presence of it tends to reduce killings, but the purpose of the weapon is killing, and although it may defend, it does so even by killing the defender.

Give a child a toy pistol, a pistol made of wood or paper, if you will—something absolutely harmless—and his first idea is to point it at someone. The pistol is no good unless it can be pointed at someone or something, because for that purpose it was intended. Give a young man a pistol and he fairly itches until he can point it at something and fire it. The spirit of bravado enters into his desire to carry the pistol. And that is where the trouble culminates. A flash of temper and the

pistol is brought into play. If the country would eventually rid the nation of pistols and the practice of carrying pistols, it should begin now by depriving the young children of their toy pistols and extend the restrictions clear on up to the adult, for a nation that has never learned to play with the things will not be so apt to crave the ownership of one later on.—Grand Rapids Chronicle.

## STUMP CAMPAIGN ON IN UPPER COUNTIES

A special land clearing train, carrying full equipment for demonstration of all practical means of stump removal and manned by the same staff of Michigan Agricultural special agents who handled a successful train in the Upper Peninsula last spring, is swinging down through the northeast counties of the lower peninsula during the last two weeks of September. Early in October the train will circle back north along the east edge of the state.

During the first week of the campaign, which opened at Cheboygan on Sept. 18, crowds averaging more than 100 gathered for the land clearing schools and demonstrations which were held along the route, and it is expected that attendance will be even larger than this as the train reaches more southern counties.

Blasting and removal of stumps, handling of explosives, and all other features of land clearing are demonstrated by the train "crew," which is headed by L. F. Livingston, of the M. A. C. staff. Many phases of the program are of a sensational nature, as well as giving the solid information needed by those who are to clear the new country, and as a result crowds

have shown unusual interest in the schools.

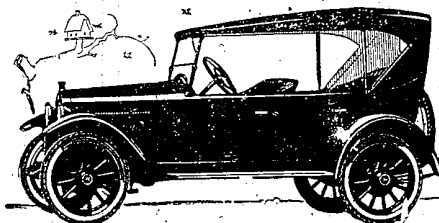
One stunt, which was pulled on Monday, Sept. 25, at Saigo Lake, was a ditch blasting demonstration to drain mosquito infested areas in the territory. Another outstanding feature of the campaign will be an extensive ditch blasting demonstration on the T. F. Marston farm at Bay City on Sept. 30. Dr. Marston, as secretary of the Northeastern Michigan Development bureau, has been active in assisting the college staff in lining up the library for the schools.

The Michigan Central railroad, over which the train is being run on its southern swing, and the Detroit and Mackinac road, over which it will work back north, are cooperating in the campaign by furnishing transportation for their lines.

**"Eskimo Not Dainty Feeder."**  
The Eskimo is not particular about the cut of his meat. He eats everything physically possible. A reindeer or fish or polar bear and what he does not eat he wears. He makes into houses or tools. Particularly does he seem to relish the frozen stomach of the reindeer. This stomach, full of finely chewed reindeer moss, he freezes solid and stores away, according to Doctor Marquis, till he is vitamin-hungry, when a slice is sliced off, thawed out and eaten as a rare delicacy.

**"Haberdasher."**  
One of the most puzzling words is haberdasher. This was formerly a peddler who went from door to door selling ribbons, buttons, and other small articles, which he carried in a sack. His name comes from two old words—hafter, meaning oats, and tasche, a sack.

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**Fine Trees in Calaveras Grove.**  
At the entrance to the Calaveras (Cal.) grove were, until 1919, two trees called the Sentinels. Only one is now standing, the other having been blown down in the great windstorm of 1919. South of the Sentinels and to the right of the road on the hillside stands a tree over 14 feet in diameter, which has been named Old Dowd, in honor of the discoverer of the grove, whose discovery was made in 1852. The south grove extends three and one-half miles and contains 1,380 large trees. Any tree there under 18 feet in circumference is not considered a large tree.

**Many Varieties of Single Dablis.**  
The 5,000 varieties of dablis now on the market have developed since the wild single dablis was introduced into Europe from Mexico a little more than 100 years ago.

**Birches in Europe.**  
The birch figures largely in the life and legends of the European races as well. The faces of the Roman magistrates was a bundle of birch rods, the symbol of authority. Through this use it may have come down to the schoolmaster. Indeed the birch seems to have been, in primitive times, in many countries the symbol of authority and of power.