

The Farmington Enterprise

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EDITORIALS

Saskatchewan (Special to the Christian Science Monitor)

A remarkable discovery has enabled Saskatchewan to become a great center of the alfalfa-growing industry. A very few years ago—as recently as 1931—the Province had no alfalfa crop worth recording, but since 1935 alfalfa has become the backbone of the cultural production in the eastern section of the Province. The change is due to the discovery of an alfalfa seed known as the Grimm variety.

When the northern districts were opened for settlement, the gray soils of the area were found unsuitable for grain growing. The Federal Department of Agriculture introduced alfalfa in the hopes that the district would produce forage crops.

But the gray soils proved unsuitable even for growing forage, and the alfalfa went to seed. And in the way to the new industry, it was found that the alfalfa produced an excellent seed and at a rate of as high as 1,000 pounds to the acre.

Since then began growing alfalfa for its seed and as a feed in the Grimm variety. As it was noted for its hardy qualities, indicative of the rapid growth of production, in 1935 only 55,000 pounds were marketed. In 1936, this figure rose to 160,000 pounds. In 1937, it ran to 500,000 pounds, and in the past year, the unprecedented production of 2,000,000 resulted. With the discovery of this unexpected asset, the Provincial Government by law decreed that the area in which the alfalfa prospered be closed to any other variety. The idea was to keep the Grimm variety absolutely pure, as alfalfa pollinates by cross-fertilization, and the introduction of another variety would have soon caused the purity of the Grimm seed.

An outgrowth of the alfalfa production was the organization of the White Fox Alfalfa Seed Growers' Cooperative Marketing Association. This cooperative grew rapidly. In 1935 it had only 98 members; by 1938 it has 1,000.

This year, for the first time Saskatchewan alfalfa seed found a European market, with the sale of 1,000,000 pounds to Germany.

Despite the great expansion of production, the price has dropped comparatively little. For their first crop, exporters got 25 cents a pound. For the 1938 crop, they expect to get about 20 cents.

Chief credit for the development of the Grimm variety goes to the co-operation between the Dominion experimental farm officials and the University of Saskatchewan.

In the State Legislatures (Christian Science Monitor)

In the United States this week nearly 2,000 legislators in forty-four states will begin consideration of upwards of 50,000 proposals for new enactments. By dint of much discussion, much committee work, and much lobbying, some 12,000 of these proposals may ultimately win passage. Most of the state sessions will end in about ninety days, some may last six months, a few even longer. In Massachusetts, the 1938 Legislature set an "endurance" record in a session lasting 220 days.

It is almost a tradition in America to decry legislators and legislation. Alexander Hamilton pointed out the danger of such bodies being led by emotionalism rather than intelligence; and Thomas Jefferson, speaking of the Legislature of Virginia, remarked that 173 tyrants could be as oppressive as one. Advances in governmental research and administration usually reach the legislative branch last. Nevertheless, much progress has been made in improving the legislative process since the first comprehensive study of American legislatures was begun thirty-three years ago.

Some forty-two states now have legislative reference services of varying effectiveness. It may only include the filing of legislative information in state libraries or it may extend to comparison of bills with other states and actual writing of measures for legislators against this background of experience elsewhere. A more recent device is the legislative research bureau, which keeps a close watch on the effects of new laws, and determines what, if anything, is needed in the way of amendment. Then, too, there is the legislative council idea. This comprises a small group of leaders in both houses who may co-operate with the executive wing in working out new laws and enactments. The constant growth of these agencies

underscores a general desire to improve the intricate processes of democratic government. This of itself is a worthwhile sign.

The Phonograph Again (Exchange)

Many are the signs indicating a new era for the phonograph. When radio became popular the phonograph was dropped, except by a very few loyal devotees. Twisting the dial and getting a new variety of free program, with the romance of distance—listening thrown in, proved irresistible.

Then came the commercialization of radio. Reaction slowly but surely set in. "Music without pay" was paid for, often dearly, with distasteful advertising. "Plug" records came to be regarded as a disgrace. The record companies began to spread the formula, "The Music You Want When You Want it." Record sales started to pick up. Today, lessons learned from radio technique are producing records of superlative quality. Frequently sounding better when played through most radio sets than the radio programs themselves.

Record changers, permitting forty minutes of uninterrupted music, are sweeping into the market; so much so that even an imported British affair, of long-proven ability in that country where interest in records never seems to have flagged, is being absorbed in quantities along with American units.

A new aphorism needle that will play about two years without change. Available at low cost, is ending the bore of needle change. One phonograph company reports a five-fold increase in record sales since 1932, almost 100 per cent a year.

Finally the very active Columbia Broadcasting System, seeking business in both markets, is taking over the famous record brand names of Columbia, Brunswick and Master series, planning a major record production program.

Such are the signs of a renaissance of the phonograph.

Exit the Truant Officer
(Exchange)

Time was when the Truant Officer—more bad than great—was the young—just up and "look out, with scowls and show of righteousness, after boys and girls whose primary sin was that they did not attend school. The Bull, were just suddenly seized with a desire to sit in a field, and smell the flowers, and be happy.

But the Truant Officer is now no more, according to Mrs. Ruth Corryell, of a New Jersey school system. Now, in place of that bogyman—or bogywoman, as the case might have been—there is an "evacuation officer" with neither scowls nor show of righteousness; not interested in catching young recalcitrants at their wicked deficiencies and returning them to the squalls of their unwilling necks to the schoolroom, but rather in finding out causes for the roaming, and working out a co-operative remedial program.

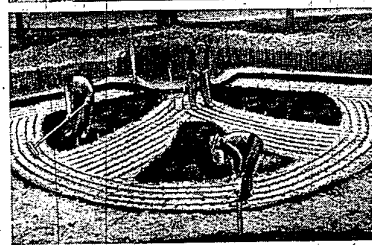
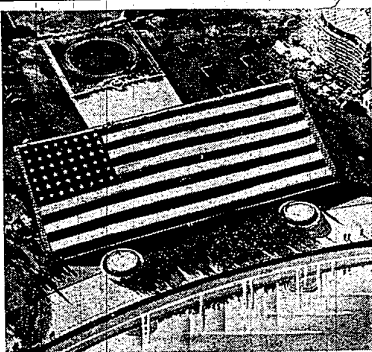
It would be Mrs. Corryell's idea that the impulse to truancy usually comes from one of three causes: maladjustment at school; maladjustment at home; or just sheer exuberance. Mrs. Corryell's further idea would be that these are not causes for legislation but for patient investigation and the exercise of experience and wisdom. She thinks the number of youngsters who would now stipulate that there is a great yawning chasm between school and going fishing is much less than it would have been ten or fifteen years ago, because school, in general, has been made much more interesting than it used to be. Curricula are more flexible and old, dull, stereotyped school activities have been replaced by projects and assignments which tend to compete on a fair level for the interest of the pupil with the flash of a speckled trout in a pool, or a biology unit to be gathered in the fall.

The problems of the school maladjustment may not be completely solved for years to come. But anyway the Truant Officer, with his long, dismal look down the side of his nose, has gone into the dust bin. Hence, Mrs. Corryell thinks, is something.

Amusements of all kinds and of distinctly novel contrivance and interest will be concentrated at the New York World's Fair of 1939 in a zone reaching for a mile along the shore of an ornamental lagoon.

William S. Kauffman did not know a word of English when he reached New York from Denmark to become a better factory riveter.

THE FAIR IN PICTURES



NEW YORK—With the opening date of the New York World's Fair 1939—April 30—coming nearer and nearer, activities on the Fair grounds are increasing daily. At the top you see a giant American flag 90 x 220 feet, being saluted by 1,000 school children in a ceremony marking the dedication of the Court of Peace, around which 62 nations are gathering their exhibits. In the middle appears a modern sculptural group called "Speed," featuring a woman astride a winged horse. At the bottom is one unit of tulip beds. More than 1,000,000 bulbs were imported from Holland to accentuate landscaping.

LOSEY CORNERS

Friday of next week the U. B. Brotherhood will give a cheese supper. About 50 different kinds will be on hand to choose from with the proverbial pie to go with it. There will also be motion pictures for entertainment. Come and learn to know your cheese.

Mr. and Mrs. Noble entertained Rev. and Mrs. Lomas and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Dixon with a New Year's dinner of roast goose with all the fixings Monday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Hunter and Mr. and Mrs. Spencer of Euclid avenue were visitors for the evening service Sunday.

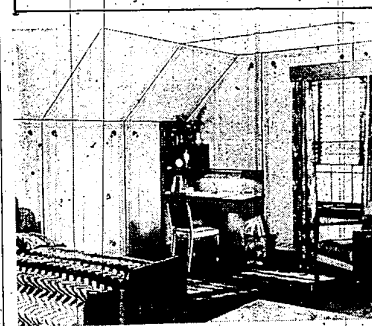
Rev. and Mrs. Lomas were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. William Foster. The U. B. Brotherhood are now negotiating the purchase of an acre of ground on Six Mile Road about 200 feet from the corner of Middle Belt.

Mr. and Mrs. Eastwood from Centerline were guests at the paragonage Monday.

The W. M. A. will hold its regular meeting beginning with pot luck lunch Wednesday at 12:30, no program and business will follow. This will be held at the paragonage, 1839 Maplewood.

REMAKING THE HOME

By JANNETT ALLEN



An extra room or guest room is waiting for you in your own home. In that unutilized attic of yours.

All very well, you say, to have that extra space, but can you afford it? Oddly enough, you not only can afford it, but actually can save money by doing it in the proper way.

There is no mystery about the process. If your attic is properly refinished with a board that insulates as it builds, you will have about 50 per cent of the heat loss through your roof. Too many houses apparently are trying to heat the great outdoors by allowing their heat to leak out. The roof area of the house is the main culprit in this respect.

By turning the attic into a finished room with insulation board walls, you thus obtain an extra room which will pay its own way and provide an annual dividend in fuel economy. The heat leakage which, with cold weather, takes big bites

Excitable Hunter Bags Cottontailed Porker

Hunters have mistaken each other for a variety of game but no error that is slightly different is revealed in the monthly report from Conservation Officer Wines of Kalamazoo county. In this instance, the hunter's imagination stretched to the point where he mistook a hog weighing 125 pounds for a rabbit and shot it. The result was expensive. The hunter was assessed a fine of \$15 and costs of \$5.85 for hunting without a license and was also required to pay the farmer whose hog he shot \$10.

MANY NATIONS AT FAIR

The New York World's Fair of 1939 promises to be the most truly international exposition ever held in the world, as 22 foreign nations, represented by the International Board of Expositions, have voted to participate and it is expected that all the 59 nations invited by President Roosevelt, to participate in it will be fully represented. Great Britain, France, Italy and Russia have already announced their intention to begin at once their plans for extensive exhibits. Nationally, 28 states of the Union have passed measures providing for participation, and fourteen others have similar bills awaiting legislative action.

STRANGE RECOVERY OF NAVY RING

While pulling weeds in a field two yards from the monument erected by the Federal Government in memory of the 14 Navy men who died in the Albatross U.S.S. Shenandoah catastrophe in Ohio, Mrs. Faye Larsson, found the Navy Academy class ring of the late Commander Zachary Landdown. A weed had grown up through the ring, and when the weed was pulled the ring was embedded as a circle about it.

Mrs. Larsson thoughtfully delivered the ring to the bank at Caldwell, Ohio, whose officials forwarded it to the Navy Department and it has been delivered to Commander Landdown's widow.

SUBMARINE GARDENS

At one time, tomato plants were carried on all submarines of the British Navy. A tomato plant is 20 times as sensitive as the human nose and 75 times as sensitive as the canary in detecting the presence of poisonous gas which is one of the main dangers in submarines. These gardens are given up by the storage batteries and are very deadly. Chemical test was not sensitive enough to warn the crew of the presence of the gas, while the leaves of the tomato would drop when exposed. Mice and canaries were formerly carried as detectors.

"Research," says Charles F. Kettling, "is finding out what we're going to do when we can't go on doing what we're doing now."

Oil and Gas Wells Increase in State

For the second consecutive year, a new record in the number of permits issued for oil and gas well drilling in Michigan was established during 1938. For the 12-month period ending Dec. 31, approximately 1,000 permits were issued by the state supervisor of wells of the department of conservation. The previous record was made in 1937 when 973 permits were granted.

Beaver dams were credited by engineers with saving three main highways in New York State from washing out during the hurricane and flood conditions several weeks ago. The shores of the Great Lakes and the area around Chesapeake Bay are among the last places where the American or bald eagle may be seen.

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Connections for Bay City, Flint, Port Huron, Battle Creek

BUSES TO LANSING

Daily

9:05, 11:05 a.m., 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05, 11:25 p.m.
Connections for Jackson

BUSES TO GRAND RAPIDS

Daily

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