

THE PARCEL POST AND THE FARMER

As Yet They Have Not Been Able to Work Together Profitably.

THE P. M.'S EXPERIENCE.

He Has Found, As Has the Postmaster at Washington City, That the Farmer Asks For His Produce Prices That Are Too High.

CHICAGO.—Extreme optimism, no less than excessive pessimism, is to be deprecated. A little sanity will offset the over-optimism of the farmer, and a little realism will offset the over-pessimism of the postmaster. The farmer is a crusader to the end, in spite of the loss of a battle. These persons who expected the parcel post to solve the problem of the high cost of living by eliminating the middleman are now disappointed because experience has brought to light some factors that did not appear in the theories. The days of cheap produce are past. Foodstuffs within reach of shipping facilities command a price. And the cold storage warehouses in their eagerness to get hold of butter, chickens and eggs during the plentiful season, to sell when they are scarce, have forced up the prices on the farm, until the difference in the price from producer to consumer is no more than a reasonable return for the labor of handling the goods.

But there are other factors in this problem that have caused disappointment. Postmaster Campbell, of Chicago, who has been trying to establish some sort of parcel post produce exchange by listing the names of farmers who would sell, and of consumers who would buy, has been discouraged at the prices quoted. A woman in Iowa offers to send butter at fifty cents a pound; eggs, 40 cents a dozen; chili sauce, 40 cents a jar; and dressed hens, 35 cents a pound. As all these prices are higher than the Chicago retail market, a few of the disappointed friends of the produce exchange have been disposed to think some of the naively middlemen have "fixed" these prices.

But, according to Charles J. Brand, Chief of the Office of Markets, Agricultural Department, in an article in Farmers' Bulletin 611, the postmaster at Washington, D. C., has had a similar experience. A New Jersey farmer offers eggs at 10 cents a dozen the year around; a Pennsylvania farmer offers in June "fresh, white, sanitary eggs" at \$1 for two dozen; while a Virginia farmer offers eggs at Washington quotations plus 10 cents. Mr. Brand adds: "It is difficult to see how a user of eggs could afford to pay such prices when fresh country eggs are being sold by farmers to country grocers at this moment for prices ranging above and below 20 cents a dozen in trade."

The wonder should be, not why the farmer asks so much for a single dozen by mail, but how he can afford to do it at that price. To fill mail orders he must see that each egg is perfect, else he will not get a second order. He must fuss with packing, and in a way to warrant safe delivery. Some packages will go astray; all will require more or less correspondence. The whole process will take so much of his time that he could much better devote it to legitimate farming. At present, when he has gathered a tubful of eggs, he sells them to the storekeeper as they run. The farmer can fill orders for a pound of butter, a dozen eggs, or a dressed chicken, but he cannot do it as cheaply as the regular merchant can. He is an expert in production, not exchange; and when he essays the role of middleman himself he works at the same disadvantage that the merchant would were he to attempt to run a dairy.

The parcel post serves a thousand and one uses, but it may be doubted if it will be extensively used to distribute farm products.

Night Previewer, Badly Hurt, FAIRMONT, W. VA.—Chas. Koon was away from home traveling with a theatrical company. Mrs. Koon, alone with her infant child, saw a face at night looking in through a window of her house. She ran next door to the home of Edward Kelly and sought his assistance. Kelly went to the rear of Mrs. Koon's house, and seeing a man standing there at a window asked him his business. Get him no answer he fired at the man with a revolver. On investigation this man proved to be Marcus Ray Morgan, another actor. The wound was a mortal one; all the parties are well known to each other.

HERE'S BRITAIN'S NEW FIRST SEA LORD



Sir John Fisher.

Sir John Fisher has just been appointed Great Britain's first sea lord of the admiralty to succeed Prince Louis of Battenberg. He has been an admiral of the British fleet since 1905. He was born in 1841 and entered the British naval service when thirteen years old, working his way up through all the grades.

When the British channel fleet was reorganized in 1907 Admiral Fisher had a serious difference with Lord Charles Bessborough over its composition. Both the public and the members of parliament took sides in the controversy, and ultimately Lord Charles Bessborough was forced out of the fleet.

NO BELLS RING FOR PHIL.

Big American Dollars Almost Captured; Then—Alack, Alas!

NEW YORK.—Unhappy Prince Philippe Louis, Marie de Bourbon Braganza—there'll be no wedding bells sounding for him—at least not with the daughter of the Butte, Mont., copper magnate, on whom he hoped to enrich his titles.

Prince Phil, who is first cousin to the Crown Princess of Austria, cousin to Czar Ferdinand of Bulgaria, etc., is a genuine royal and imperial highness. His patent of nobility, although extending back 1500 years, has never expired.

The Prince wanted to marry a "wealthy and exclusive" American girl. His first step was to advertise in the personal columns of a local newspaper. The Butte, Mont., copper king saw the ad. He had bought his daughter many things, but the titles offered by the Prince were unique. He decided to buy them.

Letters were exchanged and everything settled. The inquiry was made in Italy as to Prince Phil's age. The American father learned the Prince is 67. That ended it.

IN TROUBLE AGAIN.

Jack Johnson Refused to Move and Was Held for Bad Language.

LONDON.—Jack Johnson, the colored pugilist who now claims American citizenship, is in trouble again and as usual an automobile is primarily the cause.

Because he used language which a London policeman describes as obscene, Johnson was brought before the magistrate in the Bow Street Police Court on a warrant and held on his own recognizance, pending a further hearing.

The fight was originally started with a summons which he disregarded, whereupon a bench warrant was issued. Learning of that move Johnson returned from Liverpool to face his accusers.

The trouble began when Johnson's automobile standing outside a Leicester Square barbers' shop, where its owner was being shaved, caused a crowd to collect, interfering with traffic. A policeman directed the negro to move his car along, which Johnson refused to do until the shaving was finished, accompanying the refusal with a flow of words derogatory to the ancestors of the bobby.

THE MOST FUTILE THING IN THE WORLD.



WEBSTER, in the New York Globe.

THERE IS PLenty TO INTEREST EVERYONE

AT THE OHIO AND MICHIGAN LAND SHOW AT TOLEDO, NOVEMBER 23 TO DECEMBER 5.

EVERY PHASE OF FARM LIFE TO BE SHOWN AT THE GREAT AGRICULTURAL DISPLAY.

Bulletin just issued by the management of the Ohio-Michigan Land Show in the form of a 4-page newspaper contains striking evidence of the extent to which manufacturers of farm implements and all those interested in any way in supplying rural needs, are co-operating to make the show an unprecedented success. The biggest and most representative concerns in every line have taken a liberal amount of space, realizing the advantages of displaying their products under the conditions afforded at the Land Show. It is stated also that Secretary Sandles, of the Ohio Agricultural Commission, and various other members of the Commission, have recently visited Toledo to look over the ground personally, and perfect arrangements for the show and Ohio exhibit. Some noted speakers are being invited and addresses will be given every afternoon and evening during the show.

Foot and Mouth Disease Information. A timely item in connection with the Show is the news that experts will be on hand to discuss the foot and mouth disease and to give information to breeders and farmers generally on this troublesome disease which has been creating such havoc. This one feature alone will well repay attendance on the part of any who have stock.

Open Thanksgiving Day.

The report having been spread that the Show will not be open Thanksgiving Day, the management authorizes a denial of this rumor, stating that special features have been arranged for Thanksgiving afternoon and evening and that the Show will be open during the regular hours from 10:30 A. M. to 10:00 P. M.

Good Roads Exhibit a Big Feature.

One of the most important features of the Land Show will be the exhibit of good roads by the United States Government. This exhibit has been shown in other States to advantage, but never in Ohio. It consists of road models showing all the different kinds of materials now being advocated and also road rollers, models, enlargement of photographs of roads and a large collection of data on the subject. This exhibit has already arrived in Toledo and is now being arranged. It will be in the answer all questions on the subject of good roads.

ACT QUICKLY

Delay Has Been Dangerous in Many Cases.

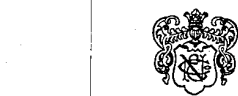
Do the right thing at the right time. Act quickly in time of danger. In time of kidney danger Doan's Kidney Pills are most effective. Plenty of evidence of their worth. H. F. Marsh, Ellen St., Fenton, Mich., says: "I can still recommend Doan's Kidney Pills. I have found them to be the best kidney and backache remedy that I have ever tried. My first experience with the medicine was several years ago. I have used them on several occasions during the last few years when my kidneys had been acting just right or my back has ached and troubled me and they have never failed to give relief. The statement I gave ten years ago in their praise still holds good."

Price 50c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Marsh had. Foster-McClellan Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.—Adv.

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