

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Sorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

The Manitoba Legislature has proposed.

Galt contemplates purchasing its waterworks plant.

Montreal has reduced the tax on bicycles from \$2 to \$1.

A rich gold find is reported from the vicinity of Rat Portage.

French-Canadians in Massachusetts are returning to Quebec.

Montreal refineries advanced the price of sugar by one-sixteenth cent per pound.

Montreal contemplates purchasing a farm near the city as a home for paupers and beggars.

The Railway Committee gave assent to the bill chartering the Toronto & Hudson Bay Railway.

The H. G. & B. Railway shareholders at Hamilton have decided to issue debentures for \$20,000.

The Dominion line steamship Scotsman is the first ocean vessel to reach Montreal this season.

The falling off of the Klondike rush has caused a material reduction in the cost of packing over the passes.

Several London young ladies were badly injured in a runaway, the bus in which they were riding colliding with a pole.

Galt councillors have asked the Government to investigate the manner in which licenses are issued there.

The Council of the Toronto Board of Trade has passed a resolution favoring an export duty on nickel-copper ores and matte.

James Lawson, collector of customs at Fort Erie, has been appointed special officer to enforce the alien labour law there.

Gunners Boucher and Paget deserted from "A" Battery, Kingston, and went to the States to take service in the American army.

The report that Mr. Harris, general traffic manager of the Government system of railways, has resigned, is denied at Ottawa.

It is reported at Montreal that the G. T. R. has commenced the construction at their Point St. Charles works of 25 new locomotives.

A number of Italians in Toronto have appealed to the Italian Consul for information as to what route they should take in order to join the Spanish Army.

Councillor Martin, of Woodstock, claims to have been bribed for his vote in the purchase of a steam roller. He has given the money to the Mayor.

Mr. Bicknell, a Napanee cattle buyer, injured at the Lansdowne wreck on the G. T. R., has recovered a judgment for \$5,000 damages against the company.

The steamship Andrew Carnegie, Chicago, brought 230,000 bushels of corn to Owen Sound. This is said to be the largest cargo of corn ever floated on fresh water.

Charles N. Daly, United States Consul at Guelph, has served The Guelph Herald with notice of a libel action. The alleged libel was contained in a dramatic criticism.

The Fire Underwriters' Association have presented Hamilton with an ultimatum calling on the city to improve the water service or pay increased insurance rates after June 1.

The MacLeod Gazette says: An Indian named Carrier died suddenly at the Bullhead of heart disease this week. Some \$20,000 in bonds and mortgages are reported to have been found on his person.

While the members of the Stratford Congregational Church were passing a sympathetic war resolution the pastor of Knox Church in the same city was denouncing such acts as being contrary to the neutrality laws.

The Manitoba & North-western Railway Company are seeking to be relieved of their liability to the Manitoba Government, and purpose to hand over sufficient of their land grant to cover the amount due the province.

Hamilton has purchased a Pitts roller for \$3,300, said to be no better than one sold to Galt for \$2,700. The transaction threatens to prevent the passing of the permanent roadways by-law for the expenditure of \$150,000.

The Kingston City Council has declined to consider the request of the Dominion Cotton Mills Co. asking for a bonus of \$50,000. The amount was considered too large.

The St. John, N. B., City Council has granted the Canadian Pacific railway all the land required for the enlargement of the grain elevator to one million bushels capacity, with conveyors to five steamship berths.

The Grand Trunk authorities have decided that all advertisements of patent medicines and other notices must be cleared out of the railway stations and only railway announcements and time tables must adorn the walls.

In view of the war between Spain and the United States, and the possibility of interruption to shipping at United States ports, the Quebec Board of Trade have issued a circular to the shipping world explaining the advantages of Quebec harbor.

About forty United States families have arrived in Toronto during the last few days in consequence of the outbreak of war. Most of them are

from the Eastern States, and several are from Boston. They expect to reside in Toronto or other parts of Ontario during the war.

C. W. Graves, Canadian agent of the Wis. Central Railway, has been appointed traveling freight and passenger agent of the Great Northern Railway, with headquarters at Toronto, a position formerly held by H. McMicken, now of the London, England, office of the Great Northern.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Germany threatens to retaliate because of Great Britain's denouncement, at Canada's request, of the Anglo-German treaty.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain announced that the Alaskan boundary dispute would be referred to arbitration. He added that in the meantime a modus vivendi may be agreed upon.

The mail steamer Ireland, said to have been purchased by the United States, has been forbidden to sail from Kingstown, Ireland.

The London Times says:—"Our sympathies, on the main question, are with the United States, as they are held to be in the right. But, on the matter of form, we are not so clear or unanimous."

The suspension of the firm of Sherwood, Thompson & Company, cotton brokers, of Liverpool, is announced. This firm operated throughout the Southern States under the firm name of John Sherwood & Company.

UNITED STATES.

Fifty thousand Californians have already volunteered for service.

Forty thousand men have already volunteered in Massachusetts.

The Standard National Bank at 23rd and Madison avenue, New York, has closed its doors.

Two murderers, Fred Rockwell and Patrick Banya were hanged at Ridge-way, Pa., on Tuesday.

Moslem Temple, Mystic Shrine, of Detroit has abandoned its proposed visit to Rameses Temple of Toronto, owing to the war.

Chicago Knights of Pythias have organized one thousand strong to go to the front. Sixteen hundred policemen also volunteered in that city.

A United States Government official has made arrangements to purchase 5,600 horses in Canada for war purposes if needed.

The House of Representatives has proposed a bill permitting the purchase of supplies for the army in the open market instead of by contract.

Governor Hastings, of Pennsylvania, will issue a Colonel's commission to John Wanamaker, who has offered to equip a regiment at his own expense.

The application of Rev. Morgan Wood of Toronto, formerly of Detroit, for chaplaincy in the State troops, is on file with Adjutant-General Irsa, of Michigan.

Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn, of United States War Department, has issued a statement that only a limited number of newspaper representatives will be allowed to accompany the army.

Philadelphia was gayly decorated with flags on Saturday, and it was noticeable that in a number of instances the British flag found a place in the display while here and there was the flag of Cuba.

The cruiser Charleston is in bad shape at San Francisco. Her condensing tubes were injured by the recent earthquake, and it will be necessary to secure new ones from the east before she will be ready for service.

Orders have been issued closing Portland harbor from 8 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrol boats will also be on duty outside during the day to guide vessels safely into the harbor.

The vessels St. Louis and St. Paul and Harvard, lately New York, have been fitted with armour protection over all their exposed machinery, and have already received good batteries.

The city almshouse, located three miles west of Oswego, N.Y., and containing 33 male and 19 female inmates, was gutted by fire on Tuesday. The loss is estimated at \$25,000; insured for one half. No one was injured.

All the Bessemer pig iron producers of the Central West have agreed to bank their furnaces for thirty days out of the three months of May, June, and July. A \$25,000 assurance has been given by every interest, about 18 in all.

The American line steamer New York, which has been chartered by the United States Government arrived at New York Sunday morning. As soon as she was moored all hands were paid off. The crew immediately resigned for a period of twelve months at the current mercantile marine rates of wages. Out of the crew of 420 on the St. Louis only seven refused to sign.

GENERAL.

Ecuador is raising a fund to aid Spain in the present war.

Out of 34 storms which reached the French shores in 1896, all but 3 were foretold by the central meteorological office.

Baron Ito, the Japanese Minister of Commerce, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted. Count Kaneko will succeed him.

A Hong Kong cable says the steamer Esmeralda, chartered by the banking companies, has gone to Manila to bring away the specie there, as trouble is apprehended.

Many Greeks are presenting themselves at the United States Consulate at Athens, seeking enlistment in the United States forces.

The French society for the assistance of wounded soldiers has donated \$10,000 and has opened a subscription for the purpose of aiding the American and Spanish Red Cross Societies.

The latest advices from Porto Rico are that the excitement there is increasing, and the prices of food are advancing. Steps are being taken to prevent the flight of refugees. There is talk of a revolution at Mayaguez.

Agricultural

TIMOTHY AND CLOVER HAY.

It is rather surprising that Timothy hay keeps its popularity so well as it does. At its best its nutritive value is much less than clover. But very little Timothy grass is cut early enough to be at its best, because the majority of customers prefer it after it has fully formed its seed and has passed the flowering stage. Timothy then has largely changed the richer juices which the green Timothy possesses into woody fibre that is little better than so much straw. At its best, says American Cultivator, and cut before flowering, Timothy contains, of its dry matter, possibly four or five per cent. of albumenoids. But Timothy grass cut thus young, dries down to less than half the bulk, it will make if cut two or three weeks later. Consequently no farmer is willing to cut it early, particularly as the majority of horsemen like the Timothy hay fully ripened; making up for its deficiency of nutriment by grain feeding, which supplies the animal with food so conducive to strength, and in such concentrated form that there is little distention of stomach to prevent the horse from making its best speed. Where Timothy hay is fed without grain, as it is on most farms, while horses are not working, it is a very poor and uneconomical feed. Horses will grow poor if fed on the dried fiber of fully ripened Timothy hay. We sometimes hear complaints that horses grow poor and show rough, staring coats while they have Timothy hay always in their racks or mangers, though they have nothing to do. These same horses will flesh up and even fatten when set to work in the spring when some of the hay is cut and fed, moistened, with a mixture of corn and oatmeal. This, we think, is a better feed for horses than Timothy, than is cut hay and oat meal. Timothy is very deficient in fattening properties as well as in the nutrition for giving strength. When some clover is mixed with the Timothy, oats are a better grain to grind to be mixed as cut feed, than is corn and oats. If the hay is all clover, horses for farm work will do well on it without any grain, though they will even then be somewhat more efficient if given a small amount of oats with the hay. It is only the careless feeding of clover hay which makes it unpopular with horsemen. It is never disliked by horses and cows. Indeed, the trouble is, that horses like it too well, and if given all they can eat, will gorge themselves so full that in hard working, or fast driving, the gorged stomach will press against the lungs. There is almost always some dust with clover hay, because, being highly nitrogenous, the clover heats too much and some of it is burned, which makes it very dusty. This, with horses whose wind has already been injured by fast driving on an overloaded stomach, produces cough and the disease called "heaves." Yet the worst broken-winded horse we ever knew was used on the farm for work for many years. Care, however, was taken never to feed clover hay without wetting it; in fact, all the clover hay it ate was cut and had meal on it, so that all the broken-winded horse's feed came to it in concentrated form. Clover hay is universally reckoned the best feed for horned cattle, including sheep. For either of these, Timothy hay as it is usually cured, is very poor feed. Cows fed on Timothy hay cannot yield a large amount of milk, and what they do give will not be rich enough, and will make a white and inferior quality of butter. In fact, with a very little clover hay to even up the ration, cows will give more milk and make better butter on corn stalks than on any kind of hay or corn meal diet. If some ears of corn or corn meal are also fed to cows, the yield of milk will be all the greater, taking care, however, to lessen the grain ration if the cows fatten too rapidly under it.

THE PEACH-TREE BORER.

At sundry times and in divers places other insects are temporarily more pernicious to the peach-growing industry, but the country over, year after year, the peach-tree borer does more damage than all others combined. It is always present and at work. Dr. Halstead is reported to have found young trees in the nursery row completely ruined by it, and even in the best orchards, one is apt to find, at sorrowfully frequent intervals, the exuding gum and discolored bark which mark the presence of this unwelcome insect. The peach tree borer is the larva of a small moth which most peach growers know but too well by sight. Every fruit grower ought to be well enough acquainted with his enemies to recognize them anywhere and in any stage. The small moth is nearly black with some yellow bands, and has very much the appearance of a good-sized lazy wasp. The female is larger, darker colored, and has a heavier body, spends the winter there, and, under favorable circumstances, hatches out the next summer in time to become a party to another brood.

Regarding methods of treatment, Prof. Smith makes the ludicrous statement that "newspapers and hydraulic cement, mixed with skim-milk, come

nearest to filling all the requirements of economy and durability." It is plain from the context that only the hydraulic cement is to be mixed with the skim-milk, while the newspapers constitute a separate prescription; but the statement is rather startling as printed.

Newspapers are applied to keep the moth from laying her eggs on the tree trunks. In the spring, before egg-laying time, each tree trunk is wrapped in a newspaper from the ground up to the height which an ordinary news sheet will cover. This is tied on with string. It will also be an advantage if the earth is first removed somewhat from the base of the trunk, so that the covering may reach a short distance below the surface of the soil. The earth may be thrown back after the wrapping. This treatment is economical, easy, fairly effective and popular.

Prof. Smith, however, leans toward a preference for the hydraulic cement, especially on moderate-sized trees. This is made by mixing hydraulic cement with skim-milk, to the consistency of stiff paint. It is then applied with a brush, and hardens immediately forming a coating impenetrable to the young larvae and durable enough to withstand all ordinary weather for one season. "It is probable that this cement, added to some of the soap washes in use by fruit-growers, would add to their lasting qualities." When made up with water instead of milk, it proved to be much less durable.

Dendrolene was used experimentally by Prof. C. F. Barker, of Alabama, who reports very unsatisfactory results, in another recent bulletin on the peach-tree borer. It was applied to several mature peach and plum trees and killed about half of them outright.

Of course all the measures suggested above are preventive. When the borers once get into the trees the only way to help the case is to cut them out. This can be expeditiously and successfully accomplished by any one with some natural manual expertness, after a little practice. It is a method strongly to be recommended, especially in connection with such preventive measures as those here outlined.

NEW FORMULA FOR SPRAYING.

P. M. Austin, of Auburn, Me., gives his formula for spraying fruit trees. He uses acetate of lead, 10 ounces, arsenate of soda, 3 ounces, to 150 gallons of water, and about 11-2 quarts of molasses. The advantages of this over Paris green he claims to be that no matter how strong, it does not burn the foliage. It remains in solution, and does not settle to the bottom like Paris green, and sticks well. One thorough application has always been sufficient for the codling moth. It has been used with Bordeaux mixture with good results. Cost of lead 20 cents per pound; soda, 50 cents; cheap molasses is just as good as better.

CARLYLE ON WAR.

What the Sage of Chelsea Had to Say on the Subject.

What, speaking in quite, unofficial language, is the net purport and upshot of war? To my own knowledge, for example, there dwell and toil, in the British village of Dumdrudge, usually some five hundred souls. From these, by certain "natural enemies" of the French, there are successively selected, during the French war, say thirty able-bodied men. Dumdrudge, at her own expense, has suckled and nursed them; she has, not without difficulty and sorrow, fed them up to manhood, and even trained them to crafts, so that one can weave, another build, another hammer, etc. Nevertheless, amid much weeping and swearing, they are selected, all dressed in uniform, and shipped away, at the public charge, some thousand miles away, and fed there until wanted. And now to that same spot are thirty similar French artisans, from a French Drumdrudge, in like manner wending; until at length, after infinite effort, the two come into actual juxtaposition, and thirty stand fronting thirty, each with a gun in his hands. Straightway the word "fire" is given, and they blow the souls out of each other, and in place of sixty brisk, useful craftsmen, the world has sixty dead carcasses, which it must bury, and anon shed tears for. Had these men any quarrel? Busy as the devil is, not the smallest! They lived far enough apart; were total strangers each one to the other. How then? Simpleton! Their governors had fallen out, and instead of shooting each other, had the cunning to make these poor blockheads shoot.—Sartor Resartus.

WHY?

Why isn't a medical glass a sanitary measure?
Why isn't the bookkeeper's lunch the bite of an adder?
Why shouldn't the sailor's accounts be cast up by the sea?
Why shouldn't the man who is a rake succeed as a gardener?
Why does a man always promise to be good when he's too sick to be bad?
Why don't some bad debt agency undertake to collect the living the world owes a man?
Why wouldn't the pink of propriety be an appropriate flower for our national emblem?
Why does the man who is always blowing usually find it difficult to raise the wind?

DIVERSE METHODS.

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The "Chronicle" is a 12-page Local Newspaper published weekly for the Western Ontario.

CLEVER IDEAS

A man one day turned a bottle to hold a cork mortar and pestle, and forthwith a brilliant idea and patent was born. He made a wire stopper-holder, and used annually on several occasions. The accidental help of a woman to prevent the cork from falling out of her hair so she had a name for her hair stopper. She saw the holder and