

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 Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

Crop reports from northern Manitoba are gratifying.

The price of bread has been reduced to 11 cents a loaf at Ottawa.

The Presbyterian General Assembly will meet in Hamilton next year.

The capital of the Union Bank of Quebec will be increased to \$1,500,000.

Hamilton has closed a contract for coal for its public buildings at \$4 per ton.

Senator MacInnes offers Dundurn Park to Hamilton City Council for \$65,000.

A rich placer gold field has been struck at Two Year Creek, a branch of the Stikine.

Miners in the Klondike district are protesting against the existing trail and transportation facilities.

One death from smallpox has occurred among the immigrants quarantined at Winnipeg.

A missing G. T. R. clerk named Hurst of the audit department, Montreal is accused of forgery.

The Town Council of Louisville, Que., has decided to establish a municipal wine and cider factory.

At Guelph David Irvine, a noted burglar, was sentenced to fourteen years in the Kingston Penitentiary.

Two Hamilton Klondikers have returned home disgusted with their efforts to reach the land of gold.

The Provincial Board of Health of Ontario has been notified of an outbreak of smallpox in New York State.

According to a report that has reached Vancouver, a transfer boat of the C. P. R. has been wrecked on the Skeena river.

Caterpillars are ravaging the fruit trees and berry bushes in the vicinity of Kingston. Whole orchards have been stripped.

Four per cent. 40 year city water bonds of St. John, N.B., sold for 106 1/2, the buyer being the Bank of New Brunswick.

Three men were killed by an explosion and fire at the Asbestos & Asbestic Company works near Danville, Quebec.

The Ontario Government has issued instructions for the seizure of all fruit on which there is any sign of San Jose scale.

At Kingston a vicious Newfoundland dog attacked the youngest son of Lieut. Col. Drury and tore the flesh from his face and jaw.

The absence of Senator Sutherland of Manitoba for two consecutive sessions has caused another vacancy in the Upper Chamber.

Edward Lynes, caretaker of the Berlin postoffice, has been arrested charged with stealing a registered letter containing money.

Lord Strathcona's herd of buffalo from Silver Heights, Winnipeg, has been safely landed at Banff in the Canadian National Park.

In connection with a fatality, the coroner's jury censured the Hull Electric railway for not properly protecting highway crossings.

The body of Fred. Cope, ex-Mayor of Vancouver, B.C., who was drowned last winter on his way to the Klondike has been recovered.

The body of young Patterson of Hamilton, who was drowned on August 31 last en route to the Klondike, has been found near Edmonton.

Mr. Archibald Blue, Director of the Ontario Government Mining Bureau, says that the recent strike of oil in Kent, Co., Ont., is the best made in late years.

Mrs. W. A. Mitchell, of Kingston, partook of some sliced cucumbers which caused such a violent illness that she burst a blood vessel and died of hemorrhage.

Charles Moyan, an old Toronto boy, who is now a gunner on the cruiser New York, writes to a friend in that city: "You will all hear of the end of the war in thirty or forty days."

A proposal is to be made to the City Council at St. John, N. B., to secure legislation to expropriate the property, privileges and franchises of the St. John Street Railway Company, to be conducted by the city in the interest of taxpayers.

The Ontario Government and the lessee of the binder twine plant at the Central Prison have made arrangements to add to the plant, at the lessee's expense, sufficiently to establish a rope walk, and rope will in future be made almost exclusively.

Mrs. Constantines, wife of Dr. Constantines, was stricken with apoplexy while walking in Toronto on Monday, and was taken home in an apparently dying condition. She has materially improved and her condition affords hope of recovery.

GREAT BRITAIN.

John Trodd, the insane Englishman who shot a German Count in London, mistook the latter for Colonel John Hay, the American Minister.

Lord William Seymour, uncle of the Marquis of Hertford, has been gazetted commander of the British troops in Canada to succeed Lieut.-Gen. A. G. Montgomery Moore.

The Marquis of Lansdowne announces that all the officers implicated in the Transvaal raid, with the exception of Col. Rhodes and Major Willoughby, will be reinstated in the army on half-pay.

The owners of the British steamer Roman, which on February 27 last towed the disabled steamer La Champagne of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, into Halifax, have been awarded £15,000 salvage by the British Admiralty Court.

UNITED STATES.

The yellow fever epidemic at McHenry, Miss., is abating.

Five men were killed in a mine disaster at Staats City, Mo.

The Masonic Grand Lodge at Seattle will recognize negro Masonic lodges. This is the first American lodge to do so.

John Herman Wenzel, late of Tavistock, Ontario, shot himself through the heart in Detroit. He was out of work and despondent.

A general order has been issued to the effect that no native of the Philippines shall be enlisted in the army of the United States.

A despatch from San Francisco announces the death there by suicide of "Sir Hugh W. Williams, Bart., F.G.S., M.L.C.E." No such name appears in the baronetage.

Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador at Washington, has been notified that he will remain there another year to conclude certain matters of importance that he has in hand.

A murderer was lynched on the public square at Great Bend, Kansas, on Monday night by a mob. The victim was John Becker. He killed a girl 16 years of age on April 8.

The New York financial concerns have offered to subscribe for the entire \$200,000,000 of bonds authorized by the United States war revenue bill or such part as may not be subscribed for by the public.

Anton Dreher, the millionaire brewer of Austria, it is stated, has announced that he intends establishing in Milwaukee a \$1,000,000 branch of his business. Dreher owns four big plants in Austria and Bohemia.

The death sentence of Salter D. Worden will be commuted to life imprisonment by the Governor of California. Worden is the man who, during the great railroad strike of 1894 helped to wreck a Southern Pacific train, near Sacramento, killing an engineer and three soldiers. Insanity is the cause of this move.

The engineers, stokers and ordinary seamen who have been in service on the scout ships Yale and Harvard will refuse to go to sea on the vessels when they leave Newport News as auxiliary cruisers. These men were in the employ of the American Line when the steamers were leased by the Government and they signed articles of agreement for one year, but claim they did not enlist in the navy, and therefore cannot be compelled to go into service on a warship, especially as most of them are subjects of foreign powers.

GENERAL.

Thirty lives were lost by the collapse of a building in Biot, France.

An English syndicate will work the iron deposits in Bay de Verde, a Newfoundland fishing settlement.

Horrible tales of starvation come from the French coast of Newfoundland.

Owing to the apparent impossibility of enforcing the prohibitory law the Hawaiian Legislature has licensed the sale of opium.

A revolution which has existed in Venezuela for the past six months is at an end, Hernandez, the leader of the rebels having been captured, and his forces defeated on Sunday night.

An English company with a million dollars capital has been formed to work the iron deposits of Bay de Verde, Newfoundland. These deposits are regarded as the best in the world.

The new German tariff excludes Canada from the most-favored-nation privileges. The inference is that Germany is attempting to revenge herself upon Canada for upsetting the Anglo-German treaty.

THE VALUE OF FRESH AIR.

The Present Mode of Life is Bad for the Health.

The admitted advantage of an outdoor life in many morbid conditions, and notably in consumption, seems to point to the conclusion that there is something definitely injurious in the indoor life which is now the common mode of existence among civilized people. It is a striking and startling thing that the mere removal of a patient into the open air should lower his fever, should remove his night sweats, and take away his hectic, and it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that if these symptoms are removed by the purity of the air outside they must have been largely caused by the impurity of the air within the house. Nor have we any right to assume that it is the consumptive only who suffers. Doubtless the healthy struggle against and overcome evil influences before which those who are tuberculous succumb, but that is not to say that in the struggle we do not suffer, and, indeed, the facts recently brought forward are sufficient to show that the stuffy life of warmth and comfort which civilized man now "enjoys" is bad for the health even of the healthiest. We make our windows fit, we pad our doors, we shiver at a draught we surround ourselves with woollen curtains, dusty carpets, and fluffy luxurious upholstery; we breathe the same air over and over again, and then we wonder that we are not strong and vigorous. The fact is we are daily using up the exuberant vitality with which nature has provided us in struggling against artificial conditions. How powerful for evil, how deteriorating these conditions are, is shown by the fact that their mere removal gives back to the consumptive that vitality which enables him to overcome the seeds of disease within him. Fresh air is not a thing to be taken in little doses once a day, but a thing to live on.

Agricultural

THINNING FRUIT.

When fruit growers generally recognize the fact that thinning fruit is as important as cultivation, pruning, etc., there will be not only more and better fruit grown, but there will not be so many "off years." All varieties that have a tendency to overbear should be thinned, and this is especially true of fruits that set in clusters. A tree, vine or shrub has only so much vital force, and if it expends it upon a limited amount of work, the work will be well done, whereas if the power is scattered over a great deal of surface, none of the work will be more than half done. No tree, says Wisconsin Farmer, should be permitted to be so loaded as to require propping or to cause the branches to bend materially, or the growth of the fruit will be checked and its quality injured. With the grape the desired result is reached by pruning back severely, and no one expects to have good grapes without it, but with fruit trees this is not practicable, and resort must be had to thinning. Every time a tree is permitted to overbear, its vitality is reduced to such a degree that it must rest for two or three years, or worse still, its growth is checked and it is permanently injured. Moreover, an overcrop requires the tree to mature, or at least try to mature, a much larger number of seeds, and seed production is the most exhausting work that vegetation has to perform. The seeds that a propped apple tree makes are a greater tax upon its vitality than it is to make the fruit. There have not been many extended experiments at experiment stations to ascertain precisely how great the advantage of severe thinning is, but there have been enough to make the fact that it is profitable, apparent. Such experiments have been tried in a limited way on a number of kinds of fruit trees, such as plums, apples, peaches, etc., and even currants are improved in quality when the tips of the fruit clusters are clipped off. In the case of currants it is not regarded as profitable to do the work, but the fact that it has been experimentally done with the results stated, is valuable because it proves the universality of the principle. In a great many commercial orchards, particularly in peach orchards, thinning is practiced as regularly as any other detail in management and is always found profitable. The advantages resulting from thinning are many. In the first place the size of the fruit is increased, it has a higher color and better flavor. In other words, the tree does better work when it is not overtaxed. Next, it reduces the amount of inferior fruit and windfalls. We often have a good deal of complaint about trees dropping their fruit, but the evil would be greatly diminished if thinning were regularly practiced. It is especially necessary in the case of all varieties that have short stems and grow in clusters, and on which, on this account, the individual fruits so crowd each other as they increase in size that they actually "pull each other," so to speak. Thinning also decreases the amount of rot, particularly in the case of peaches and plums, because the disease can spread less easily when the fruits do not touch each other. If the thinning is done by hand, those fruits that have been attacked by insects can be removed, and insect injuries are thus reduced. The vitality of the tree is spared by thinning, it is longer lived and is a more regular bearer. The better development of the fruit allowed to remain on the tree generally makes a larger total yield in bushes, and the better quality makes it bring a higher price per bushel. The Missouri Horticultural Society announced a couple of years ago its belief that if from a heavily loaded tree, a half or even three-fourths of the fruit were removed, the product in bushels would be greater than if all were permitted to remain, besides being of better quality. As to the time when the thinning should be done, the purpose being to prevent the tree from wasting its vital force, the earlier the fruit be taken off the better, provided it be delayed until the danger of dropping through lack of pollination, frost, etc., is past. Plums are usually thinned when about half grown and before the pits harden; peaches at about the same stage and apples when they are about the size of hickory nuts. It should be thorough enough to leave the individual fruits not less than four inches apart. If the reader doubts the advantages of thinning or thinks he has not time to attend to it, let him select a couple of trees and do a little experimenting. Let the trees selected be of the same variety and such as have set a large amount of fruit. Thin one of them quite severely, leaving not less than four inches between each fruit, and leave the other untouched as a check tree, and then watch the results. The results he may expect, are more and better fruit from the thinned tree, with a good crop next year as well as this year, when the unthinned tree will probably be resting.

WRAPPING CHOICE FRUIT.

In this age of strong competition the farmer and fruit grower must be up-to-date and take advantage of each and everything that promises to give him a better price for his product than the average market price for an average crop. If the grower has a crop of extra fine fruit or vegetables it will certainly pay to spend some time and money in putting them on the market in the most attractive form. Take early tomatoes, peaches and plums for example; the choicest specimens can be wrapped carefully in tissue paper, put up in small packages and sold for a fancy price. Extra fine specimens of strawberries and other small fruits could be attractively packed in the ordinary wooden butter plate, for a novelty, after first covering the plate with tissue paper, or they could be packed in the ordinary basket or box, which should be new or clean, and by being made attractive bring a high price. In this day of large shipments of the ordinary grades of fruit and vegetables it will not pay to put a choice lot of stuff on the market in the ordinary way, for nine times out of ten it would only serve to bring up the price of the medium grades rather than gain for itself the extra price it deserved. On the other hand, the care and small expense necessary to put this extra fruit on the market so attractively packed that it will attract the attention it deserves, will be paid for many times over.

SPRAYING FRUIT TREES.

For five weeks agents of the Ontario Department of Agriculture have been giving instruction in the spraying of fruit trees at thirty orchards in different parts of the Province. Reports sent to Dr. Orr, superintendent, in charge of this work, have just been received at the Department, to the effect that fungus is now appearing upon apple and pear trees, and threatens to do extensive injury to these crops unless checked at once by spraying. Insect enemies also are more numerous than usual this year. Apples, with the exception of the Spy, have set well, and where properly cared for, there is promise of a good crop. In spraying apple trees to check or prevent the spot, use the Bordeaux mixture, made as follows: Bordeaux Mixture.—Copper sulphate, 4 lbs.; lime, fresh, 4 lbs.; water, 40 gal. Suspend the copper sulphate in five gallons of water. This may be done by putting in a bag of coarse material, and hanging it so as to be covered by the water. Slack the lime in about the same quantity of water. Then mix the two, and add the remainder of the forty gallons of water. Warm water will dissolve the copper sulphate more readily than cold water. If the lime is at all dirty, strain the lime solution.

A FAIR PHILANTHROPIST.

Miss Helen Gould, of New York, the daughter of the famous millionaire, is fast becoming known as a philanthropist. She is a young woman who takes great interest in the welfare of the children of the poor. She has an estate at a place called Woody Crest in Tarrytown, a couple of miles from her own house in Irvington, which she devotes entirely to charitable purposes. This estate consists of a large building which stands in some thirteen acres of land. It is capable of housing twenty or thirty children comfortably, and it is never empty. Every fortnight a number of little ones from the various mission schools arrive to take the place of others who have just departed. As soon as they reach the house their clothes are taken from them, and after they have been thoroughly washed, they are given new garments. In order to run this house properly the services of a matron, two assistants, as well as six housemaids are necessary. There is also a coachman who takes the children out for long drives every day. As soon as the warm weather ceases and outdoor life becomes impossible for children, Miss Gould turns the house into a sort of convalescent home which is filled during the winter from the various children's hospitals. Her good work, therefore, is never at an end, and she is always devising little pleasures for her charges.

KEEP FENCES GOOD.

One of the most common causes of breachy animals on the farm is poor fences, and we may go further and say that a good part of the injury to stock from barbed wire fences, is due to a poor condition of the fence. The wires

get loose and sag down, and stock get tangled up in them and injure themselves much worse than they would if the fences were kept up properly. Low tumble down fences are a constant temptation to stock to break over, and once they get started it will be much more difficult to restrain. The safest plan in all cases is to keep the fences in a good condition, especially those around the pasture. If the stock are to be changed constantly from one pasture or field to another, provide good gates, as laying the fences part way down and compelling the animals to jump over what is left up, is giving them the first lessons in jumping or becoming breachy. If an animal seems inclined to be breachy, get rid of it as soon as possible, as one mischievous or breachy animal on the farm will soon teach the greater part of the others to be like them. With wire fences properly built, care being taken to have strong corner posts well braced, it is not much work to keep them in good condition. But no matter what kind of fences there may be on the farm it is good plan to go over them every few weeks and see that they are kept in good repair.

CONSTIPATION.

In the summer especially should the bowels be kept free, so that no poisonous material shall remain in the system to ferment and decay and infect the whole body. No remedy has yet been found equal to B.B.B. for curing Constipation, even the most chronic and stubborn cases yield to its influence.

"I cannot say too much in favor of Burdock Blood Bitters, as there is no remedy equal to it for the Cure of Constipation. We always keep it in the house as a general family medicine, and would not be without it." MRS. JACOB MOSHER, Pictou Landing, N.S.

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Medical Directory. JAMESON, Durham. Residence a short distance from McAllister's Hotel, Lambton. Lower Town. Office hours from 10 o'clock.

L. BROWN, Graduate of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, Scotland. Residence, opposite Temperance Hotel.

DENTIST. DR. T. G. HOLT, L. D. S. First door east of the Du Pharmacy, Calder's Block. Office—First door west of the Office, Durham.

Be at the Commercial Hotel, first Wednesday in each month.

Legal Directory. J. P. TELFORD. CRISTER, Solicitor, etc. Office over Grants Store, Lower Town. Amount of money to loan at 5 per cent on property.

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Miscellaneous. JES BROWN, Issuer of Marriage Licenses, Durham, Ont.

W. MacKAY, Durham, Land Valuator and Licensed Auctioneer for City of Grey. Sales promptly attended to. Notes cashed.

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"Chronicle" is the largest Local Newspaper in Ontario.

NOT THE BEST POL. was an honest young man, who was called on one of the young ladies of the town. "I love honesty," she said, "I would give almost anything for a worldly pension in exchange for it." "If you're not honest," she said, "it's much better to be a thief."