

U. S. WASTING WHITE PAPER.

And Thus Making the Article Scarcer and Higher.

At a time when there is almost a famine of white paper in the country, and when the school children of Washington and other cities are being organized to save old newspapers, periodicals and rags to help the paper mills contend with the situation, the abuse of the "leave-to-print" and franking privilege in congress, in connection with the national campaign, has been greater than ever before in the country's history.

The number of documents that have been going out of the folding room of the house of representatives under the franks of members—which means that they go through the mails free—that is at public expense—has averaged 3,500,000 a month since the first of January, 1916. There has been a similar, though somewhat smaller, flood from the senate side of the Capitol.

No less than a quarter of a million documents and speeches have been mailed from the house document rooms under Democratic franks for the past month or six weeks, and about the same number under Republican franks. If the Democrats have the margin in number, it is not sufficient to affect the principle that this abuse is a thoroughly non-partisan one, in which each side in politics seems to give the other carte blanche—go as far as you like—don't worry about the expense of this thing, etc.

The 500,000 documents and speeches a day which have been pouring under political franks into the postoffice of the house since the adjournment of congress are matched by a large number on the senate side; a total estimate of 750,000 for the whole of congress per diem ought to be fair. That signifies a cataract of some 20,000,000 of these documents—some of which are bulky—cluttering the mails in a month. They have been printed at public expense, anyhow, including the cost of the white paper; and the mailing at public expense is merely a completion of the process.

A part—a small part—of the cost of the franked stuff might be defrayed if the government would sell the millions of useless documents now lying in the basement of the Capitol. At the first session of the present congress there was a sale of useless documents, which brought the government \$30,000; and as the price of paper has risen materially since then, a similar auction should be more profitable. Old paper is said to be bringing about ten cents per 100 pounds.

To get back to the original remark, however, it seems rather inconsistent for Uncle Sam to be using white paper so recklessly in the distribution of political polemical matter at the expense of the public, when Secretary of Commerce Redfield has been pleading with the public for months, and very laudably, to save old newspapers and the like to help stave off the threatened paper famine.—News and Courier.

Negro Labor Invited.

It is interesting to note that the demand of the North for labor is attracting negroes from the South, and that this movement promises to be an important factor in changing the conditions of industrial and rural life in some of the States that have not previously proved attractive to large numbers of the Southern colored men. The assertion is made that half a million negro laborers have moved North in the past six months, and it is further stated that at least two millions could be used now in New York and Pennsylvania.

To expect this movement to solve the labor shortage would be perhaps unreasonable; besides it might easily be at the expense of the Southern section of the country, which needs a large amount of unskilled labor in the cotton fields; but at all events there is nothing strange or unusual in a rapid shifting of labor from one section to another in accordance with the well known law of supply and demand.

When farm laborers and sheepherders think nothing of traveling from Northern Spain to North Dakota and other parts of our Northwest every year, it would be much less surprising to see colored men from the South jumping over the Mason and Dixon line.—Boston Journal.

Joseph Knew.

Joseph's father had given him a ten-cent piece and a quarter, telling him that he might put one or the other in the church contribution plate. At dinner the father asked which coin Joe had put on.

"Well, father," responded the lad, "at first it seemed to me that I ought to put the quarter in the plate, but just in time I remembered the text, 'The Lord loveth a cheerful giver,' and I knew that I could give the ten-cent piece with a great deal more cheerfulness. So I put that in."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Wilt and Anthracnose, or Boll Rot.

Cotton wilt is also known as "blight," "renching," "black heart," and "blackroot." Plants attacked by the disease may suddenly wilt and die; in other cases, only one side of the plant may be affected, the rest of the plant remaining green. Sometimes plants may partly recover, though generally plants affected either die outright or are so severely injured that very few perfect bolls are produced.

The cause of the disease is a fungus that attacks the roots and penetrates upward into the stem, cutting off the water supply and causing death. This fungus grows only on cotton and okra. Watermelons, cowpeas, and other crops are also attacked by wilt fungi, though these do not cause cotton wilt. The cotton wilt fungus, while living on no plants other than cotton and okra, is very tenacious of life, and is able to live for a number of years on decaying vegetable matter in the soil, then attacking cotton when it is planted on such infected lands. This fact is of importance in considering crop rotations as a method of wilt control.

While appearing locally in most sections of the cotton belt, cotton wilt is very destructive only in the coastal plain country extending from eastern North Carolina southwestward to south central Alabama. It is interesting to note that this belt is only 100 to 150 miles wide, and that it embraces the very sandy and sandy loam soils of the cotton belt. Farther inland, on the heavier loams and clay lands, wilt has never become destructively prevalent. Though not definitely proved, there is strong evidence to indicate that cotton wilt finds most favorable conditions for its development only on light sandy soils, and that on the heavier loams and clays it will never be very destructive.

Cotton wilt has a very effective ally in the eel-worm or nematode, a tiny worm one-twentieth to one-sixtieth of an inch in length, which bores into the cotton roots, causing an enlarged, knotty condition of the roots known as "root-knot." Now, just as a cut or scratched place on a boy's foot may become infected with germs that cause inflammation and even lockjaw, so the knotted, diseased roots caused by the nematode are easily attacked by the cotton wilt fungus.

With the above facts in mind, we are ready to consider the methods of controlling cotton wilt and of making cotton in spite of it.

Farmers and State and United States investigators early noticed that no matter how bad wilt might be in a certain field, there were always a few stalks that survived and produced good crops. Of course it was very natural to conclude that these stalks that lived while those all around them died possessed especial resistance to the disease, and that seed selected from such stalks would likewise prove resistant. This theory proved correct, and has resulted in the development of the wilt-resistant strains of cotton, one of which every farmer with wilt-infected land should plant.

Two wilt-resistant varieties developed by the United States department of Agriculture are Dixie and Dillon, though they are not early maturing and thus are at a disadvantage in boll weevil territory, which at an early date will probably include a large part of the wilt-infected areas. The Covington-Toole, a wilt-resistant strain of the Toole developed in Alabama, has been very promising in tests made by the Alabama experiment station, and is apparently early enough to be suited to boll weevil conditions. The Sam Wood is a variety that has been popular in the wilt areas in southeast Alabama, and we understand that the Georgia State entomologist, Atlanta, Ga., has developed a variety that is both wilt-resistant and early enough to be adapted to boll weevil conditions.

Since the nematodes above referred to make the roots of the cotton more subject to attacks of wilt, it is highly important that these parasites be kept under control. This is best done by planting on the land crops which they do not feed upon, thus starving them. Among the legume crops that are not attacked by the nematode and are thus safe to plant on wilt-infected land are the Iron and Brabham varieties of cowpeas, all the varieties of velvet beans, peanuts and beggarweed. Non-legume crops that are not subject to nematode attack and hence are safe to plant in a rotation with cotton on wilt-infected land are corn, oats, rye and wheat. Practically all other farm crops, legume and non-legume, are subject to nematode attack and hence should not be planted on wilt-infected land that is later to be planted to cotton.

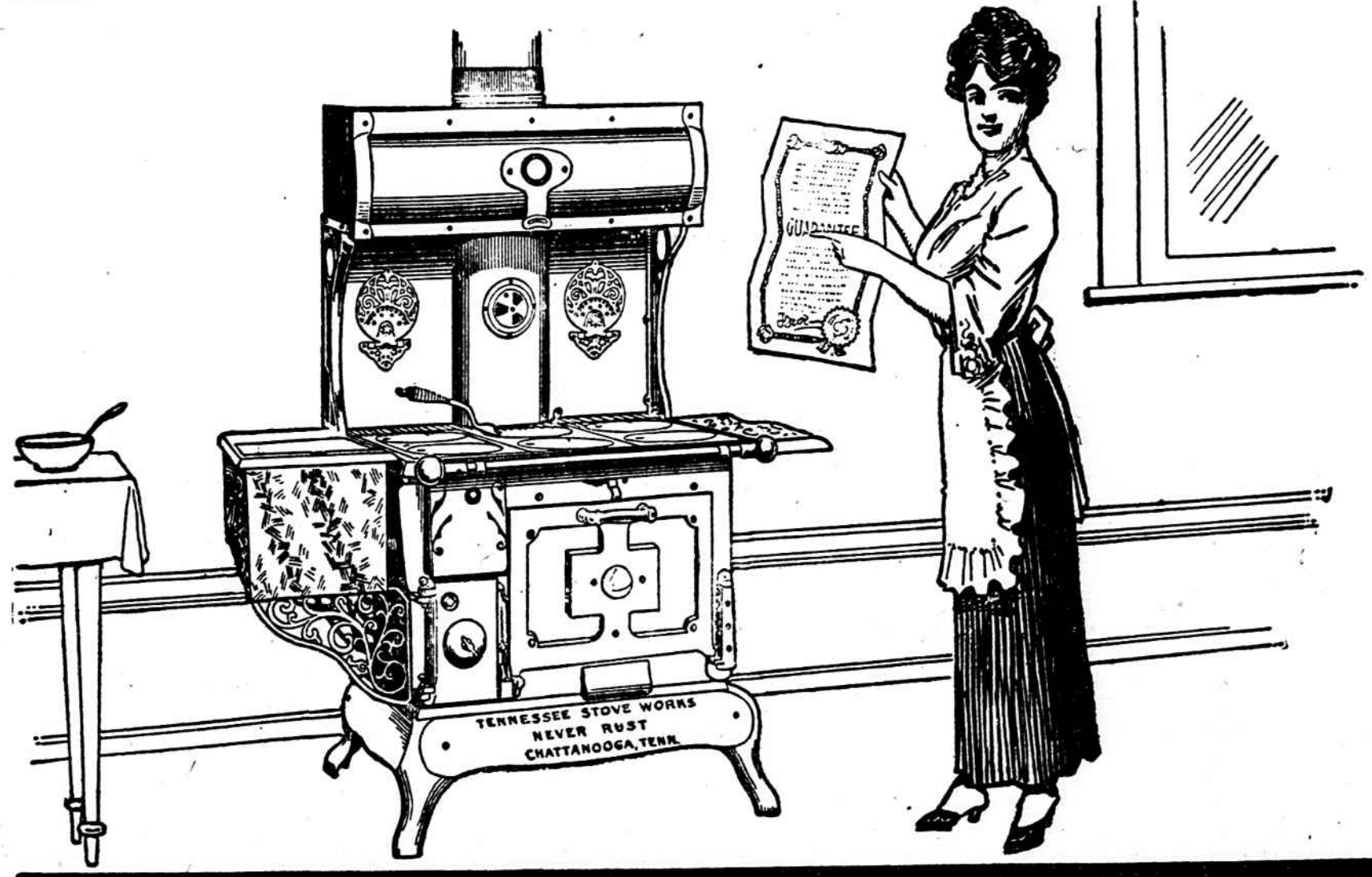
Summarizing, then, the two chief means of controlling cotton wilt are: (1) planting only wilt-resistant varieties; and (2) rotation only with such crops as are known to be immune to nematode attack.

Anthracnose or pink boll rot of cotton is found nearly everywhere in

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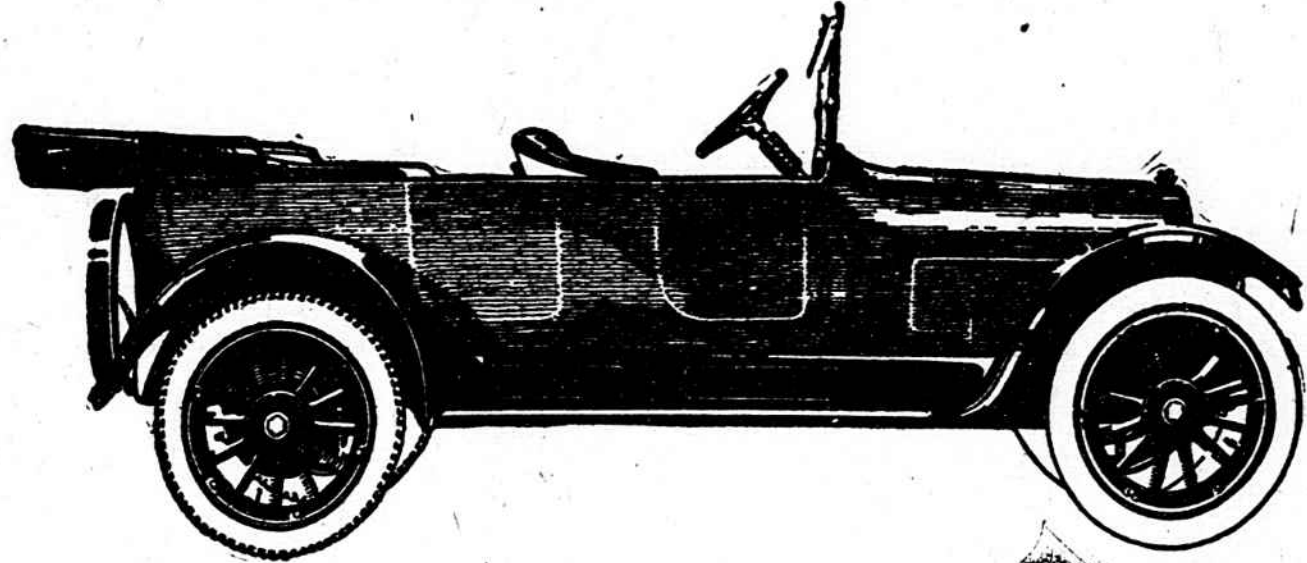
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Cure Didn't Take.

A colored man entered the general store of a small Ohio town and complained to the storekeeper that a ham that he had purchased there a few days before had proved not to be good.

"The ham is all right, Joe," insisted the storekeeper. "No it ain't boss," insisted the other, "Dat ham's sure bad." "How can that be," continued the storekeeper, "when it was cured only last week?" Joe reflected solemnly a moment and then suggested: "Maybe it's done had a relapse."—Ohio State Journal.

Michigan stands first among the States for the production of salt, ranks second for iron and third for copper. stalks free from the disease and plant them on land not in cotton the previous year he will have entirely solved his boll rot problem.—Progressive Farmer.

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| 25 | Charleston, Branchville and intermediate stations 6:25 a. m. | 25 | Augusta and intermediate stations 6:25 a. m. |
| 18 | Augusta and intermediate stations 8:43 a. m. | 18 | Branchville, Charleston and intermediate stations 8:43 a. m. |
| 35 | Charleston and intermediate stations 10:57 a. m. | 35 | Augusta and intermediate stations 10:57 a. m. |
| 22 | Augusta and intermediate stations 6:37 p. m. | 22 | Branchville, Charleston and intermediate stations 6:37 p. m. |
| 7 | Charleston, Branchville, and intermediate stations 8:17 p. m. | 17 | Augusta and intermediate stations 8:17 p. m. |

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