

in the onward march of the German sugar industry. *Ibid.*

A German exchange sings the song of melancholy over the German sugar situation, with the great decline in production. It says in part: "The reasons for this regrettable decline are manifold; taken all together, however, one could classify them as war effects. One of the reasons was the complete failure of the official price policy, a policy that met principally the demands of the consumer but neglected the beet sugar farmer and his justified demands completely, thus making the cultivation of beets a most unprofitable and unjustifiable business. In connection with this shortage the rising price of fertilizers, particularly nitrogen fertilizers, must be borne in mind." The exchange then tells how West Prussia (East Prussia is evidently meant) had to yield its largest factory to the Poles and from this section came large quantities of potatoes, corn and other products, and this has vitally affected the sugar situation in northern Germany. In the southern part of Germany the people were cut off from communication with the rest of Germany and the four large factories at Frankenthal, Waghausel, Stuttgart and Heilbronn have united their interests and pool their profits according to capital involved. —*Ibid.*

BATS IN JAMAICA

Bats throughout the West Indies belong to different races as regards their foods, some being fruit eating and others being insects eating species. The insect eating varieties are for the most part smaller than those which live on fruit. Their value as insect destroyers is considerable; they feed on mosquitos and many other insects which fly at night.

In an article in the *Jamaica Gleaner*, June 19, 1920, on the bats found in Jamaica, there is an interesting account of the numbers which inhabit the caves of the limestone districts. The writer states that as the island is composed largely of limestone, caves are of frequent occurrence, and these caves are the abode of by far the greater part of the bat population. Many caves are small, but not infrequently caves are found which are several miles in length. Some such have great subterranean chambers through which rivers run passing complete under some small mountain chain; others have a series of intercommunicating chambers through which a person may walk for hours without retracing his steps. It is in such places that innumerable hosts of these peculiar animals may be found, and it is no exaggeration to estimate their numbers in a single cave as 10,000 or 15,000 individuals.

In the caves are great piles of guano deposited by the bats. These deposits

sometimes are fifteen or twenty feet thick, and are valuable as a fertilizer. *Agricultural News.*

It is stated that some large tobacco plantations in Java have turned their land into cane fields and are growing cane which is to be sold to sugar factories in the vicinity. Although owing to the regulations, a large extension of cane plantings on new land is impossible, the use of tobacco lands is quite possible, and this may contribute to a rather good increase of the Java cane sugar production, and a combatment of the sugar scarcity. —*Louisiana Planter. —Ibid.*

During the past few years interest has been shown in the cultivation of sisal hemp or henequen in Peru, where the plant thrives under many of the desert conditions of the waste lands. Although only of from 3 to 4 per cent of the leaves is available for fibre, there is no agricultural product of commercial value which can be produced at less expense, or in such barren ground. The Peruvian fibre, which is light cream in colour, straight, clean, and smooth, is used for the manufacture of cordage and binder twine, and is also used for bags, hammocks, and various other articles. The Chamber of Commerce Journal. —*Ibid.*

Seeds of water melon are being distributed free by Mr. Leschoupe in Port-of-Spain Trinidad. It appears that there is demand in New York for the ripe fruit, which he is prepared to buy from growers. There seems to be a chance for some people to make a little money if they wish by growing this fruit, says the *Port of Spain Gazette. —Ibid.*

Para grass has proved a greater success in Hawaii than Guinea grass; it is found naturalized and grown for forage in several localities making very luxuriant growth. Another grass which is said to have naturalized itself very successfully in certain parts of Hawaii is the Natal or red top grass. —*Tricholena rosea. —The Philippine Agricultural Review. —Ibid.*

The *South African Sugar Journal*, May 1920, states that the British Royal Commission of Sugar Supplies has offered 90s. f. o. b. for 90 per cent of the total output of crystallized sugar in Mauritius which means that the British Government Royal Commission is offering £90 per long ton for almost the whole of the Mauritius crop of first grade sugars. It is said, however that the planters are asking for £100 per ton. —*Ibid.*

The *Nassau Tribune*, June 19, 1920, states that the canning factory wharves were then stacked high with 3,500 cases of pine-apples ready for shipment. The company had then sufficient pine-apples

on hand to keep the factory busy until further supplies were received. The company had also disposed of all the tomatoes canned by them last season. The quantity was altogether too small to supply the large demand, and it is hoped to increase the output to meet the trade. —*Ibid.*

Ground nuts are by far the most important agricultural product of Gambia. They are the colonies sole export of any importance, and therefore the source of its prosperity. The nuts are planted at the beginning of the rainy season in June and July; and reaped in November after the rains are over. The Government is obliged to purchase for distribution to the native planters for seed purposes a certain quantity of the best of the crop (*Colonial Reports, —Annual No. 1034. —Ibid.*)

I love to watch a rooster crow—
He's like so many men I know,
Who brag and bluster, ramp and shout,
And beat their manly chests without
The first dam' thing to crow about.—
Porto Rico Progress.

"And God" said the six-year-old in finishing his evening prayers, "please make little sister weigh thirty pounds." —*Ibid.*

WHAT'S THE USE?

(A Lazy Man's Excuse)

What's the use of worrying
Because we are not free?
What's the use of struggling
Against fate's decree?
What's the use of arguing
If we can't agree?
What's the use of anything
In this world of woe?
At the finish 'tis either Heaven
Or the place below.

—J. P. LOHMAN

in Songs From the Cells. —*Ibid.*

REVENGEFUL MAUD.

"Ferdie jilted Maud and married another girl, but Maud had her revenge."

"How?"

"She sent the bride a book to read on their honeymoon—Stevenson's 'Travels with a Donkey.'"—*Boston Transcript. —Ibid.*

Bekendtgørelse

Ekstraordinær Generalforsamling afholdes i Dansk Vestindisk Elektricitetsaktieselskab paa Direktørens Kontor Søndagen den 14 November 1920 Klokken 11 Formiddag.