

after carload of sugar arrives here and nobody knows what becomes of it", he said, "and if the Council votes the appropriation, I will quickly put an end to the hoarding".

El Paso, May 24th.--A reward of one hundred thousand pesos for the death or capture of Francisco Villa is offered by the Govt. of the State of Chihuahua. This announcement was made here today by the Provisional Govt. General Gameros, who added that 2,000 troops had left Chihuahua City yesterday morning under orders to hunt down the bandit chief.

Delamare Maze, a Frenchman, is said to have invented and sold to the French government a gun which in testing showed a range of from 100 to 120 miles. The muzzle velocity of the shell is approximately 4,158 feet a second. It is known as "the Turbon cannon."—*Signs of the Times*, 11th May.

CULTIVATION OF SUGAR BEETS IN ENGLAND.

An article in the *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture* draws attention to the formation of a company for the purpose of carrying out at Kelham, near Newark, sugar production on commercial lines. The capital of the company is to be nominally £1,000,000, but only half of this is to be issued, and of this half the sum of £250,000 is to be taken up by the Government, and £250,000 by the general public. The dividend upon the public capital will be guaranteed by the Government for ten years at 5 per cent.

It will be seen, therefore, that the Government is taking a very practical share in the work of establishing a sugar industry in England. The home-grown article has a preference of more than 46 4s. per ton over the imported foreign article, and of nearly £1 19s. per ton over the sugar which is imported into the British market from British Dominions and Dependencies.

England is nearly the largest consumer of sugar in the world. Even at the low prices ruling before the war, there was consumed in the United Kingdom £25,000,000 worth of sugar every year. This is an immense market, and it seems a pity that England should so long have dispensed with the economic and industrial benefits of the great and always increasing demand for sugar. *Agricultural News*.

AGRICULTURE IN BARBADOS.

The weather during the past few weeks has been almost as dry as that for the correspondent four weeks of last year, and in Christ Church the total rainfall for March is less than in any year since 1912, last year excepted.

In addition to the absence of rain, the

brisk breezes which have been perpetual have assisted in the drying process, and produced a marked change in the colour of fields and pastures. There is now an earnest desire for a heavy rain to bring about a change, and to refresh the parched fields.

In spite, however, of the deficiency of rain during the past four weeks, the total rainfall for the year to date, both in Christ Church and on the hills, is 4 inches in excess of that at the same date last year.

The young cane crop generally is still holding out well, but in some fields some dry shoots and yellow blades have recently made their appearance. The earth, too, is beginning to crack. It is in weather such as this that proper tillage and liberal manuring tell. Nothing can take the place of good tillage and a well made up basket of farmyard manure in each hole.

The reaping season has been faultless. The factories, of course, where the machinery is going without hitch, are not dependent on the freaks of weather, but, even with them showery or calm weather has a delaying effect. With the windmill and the steam mill, where fuel is dried, it is otherwise; but this year with these processes there has been no hindrance of any kind. It has been found possible to carry out each day's programme to order. The result has been that, in spite of the delay in starting the crop, the close will, at the present rate of progress, arrive at as early a date as usual. It is well that reaping should be as rapid as possible, for the canes are drying and losing their tops.

There has been an extra good return from fields here and there, but the yield in general is not more than moderate. The price, however, more than compensates for the moderate yield.—*Ibid*.

THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE, TRINIDAD.

The destruction by fire of the Victoria Institute, Trinidad, is a serious loss from a scientific and historical point of view, not only to that island, but to the West Indies in general.

The Institute was founded and opened in 1892 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee. It was considerably enlarged in 1901, and contained, in addition to lecture rooms and reading rooms, an extremely interesting museum. It is the loss of the collections in the museum which is irreparable. Lecture rooms and reading rooms can easily be replaced, but the valuable collection of geological, zoological, and archeological specimens which were stored in the museum can hardly be duplicated. Besides these, there have also perished in the flames unique historical documents relating to the early history of the West Indies, especially of Trinidad, which perhaps have not yet even been reprinted.—*Ibid*.

DIAGNOSES PROVE TYPHOID BY THE NEW PROCESS.

A new method of diagnosing typhoid fever, which can be performed in ten minutes at the bedside, aroused interest among physicians attending the meeting of the American Congress of International Medicine. The test was discovered by Professor Bass of the University of New Orleans, who will give a practical demonstration of the method. "The present method of determining typhoid fever" said Dr. F. Smithie, secretary of the Congress, "usually takes 12 to 14 hours. A bacterial culture is made, and a Laboratory examination is required. Dr. Bass performs a blood-test at the bedside which can be done in ten minutes. Such a rapid method would not only permit of earlier treatment, but would serve to check materially the spread of the disease." *Barbados Globe*, 10th May.

GREAT RICHES FROM OCEAN.

Sunken Treasure Worth Millions of pounds.

Sunken treasure worth \$50,000,000, has been raised around the British Isles since the war began.

The *Restoror* and the *Reliant*, two salving vessels that were bought by a British concern from the United States navy, have a new device, an oxyacetylene flame, which is worked under water for cutting holes in the sides of submerged vessels.

Each ship has twenty-five electric pumps capable of pumping 1,000,000 gallons of water an hour, and carries two divers, searchlights, line throwing guns, electric welding plants, rock drills and other accessories. Each diver is equipped with a telephone.

The *Restoror* last year recovered one million pounds in gold from the *Laurentia*, off Laugh Swilly, and both vessels are now operating off New Haven, on the channel coast.—*Ibid*

Received

Ex S. S. Guiana

HAMS,

BACON.

FAMILY BEEF,
CERVELAT SAUSAGE,
AMERICAN-CREAM CHEESE.

A. R. McIntosh.

Christiansted, 20' May 1920.