NEW YORK NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF.

Paragraphs of Interest to Readers of Empire State.

Interesting News of All Kind Gathered From Various Points in the State and So Reduced in Size That It Will Appeal to All Classes of Readers.

Dansville has 13 gold stars in its service flag

Fred Robinson is the new master of Avoca grange

Dealers want only one grade of milk sold in Buffalo

Corning learns that the state Guard will be demobilized.

Ransomville is fighting a second outbreak of influenza

Herring catches off Dunkirk average 3½ tons to the boat

Erie officials are planning a new freight station for Wellsville

Whitman's majority in Erie county was reduced by the soldier vote.

Soldier and sailor votes average less than four to a district in Buffalo.

Olean has exceeded its war stamp quota with a per capita sale of $21 12

Discharged soldiers will be given a chance to work in the Rochester post office.

Chautauqua supervisors are talking of dividing the town of Harmony into two parts.

Howard S Fullager of Milo is the new president of the Steuben county farm bureau.

North Tonawanda wants the 1919 convention of the Western New York Firemen's association.

Governor-elect Smith announces that he will decline all dinner invitations during his first two months in office

Marshal Lynn of Rochester proposes another campaign to prevent the use of Liberty bonds as currency.

According to reports from several Batavia coal dealers there is an abundance of anthracite coal in that city.

Albion has sold fire equipment, in use over 30 years, to the village of Lewiston and will buy up-to-date apparatus.

Judson S. Wright of Falconer a district school superintendent has been elected president of the State Teachers' association

Executive committeemen of the New York State Rural Carriers' association have been holding a meeting in Rochester

Howard D Aldrich of Sharon [illegible], the new Ontario county clerk, is expected to [illegible] up the [illegible] in Canandaigua [illegible].

Batavia and Genesee county [illegible] producers are [illegible] over the milk situation and the affairs of the State Dairymen's league

More than 700 stores in New York city agreed not to sell German made goods and are displaying "No German Made Goods Sold Here" signs

The South Shore Gas company has struck a well on the Miller farm in the town of Sheridan [illegible] 400,000 cubic feet a day at present

Buffalo's Society of Natural Sciences is to buy a buffalo [illegible] and place the mounted skin at the entrance to the new building on [illegible] avenue

On account of the Spanish influenza situation it has been decided by the board of education to keep the [illegible] schools closed until the day after Christmas

Mayor Hylan of New York notified the police department to look carefully into the record of every person arrested in connection with [illegible] propaganda

The beekeepers of Niagara county have organized the Niagara County Beekeepers' association. [illegible] of Sanborn was elected president of the organization

Only a small force is employed in picking beans in the [illegible] warehouse at Mt. Morris this year. Usually 50 or 60 are employed but the crop this year was a failure

W. L. Shepard, 54 years old, assistant treasurer of the Northern New York Trust company, committed suicide by shooting at a hotel in Watertown. Ill health was the cause

Orleans supervisors have designated the Medina Tribune to publish the session laws and the Orleans American to print concurrent resolutions and constitutional amendments

New York state game protectors, some of whom operated in the guise of sportsmen, found more than 200 violaters of the law during the last open season on deer in the Adirondacks, according to a report of the conservation commission

Charles H. Betts, editor of the Lyons Republican, and secretary of the New York State Food commission, has tendered his resignation as secretary [illegible] to take effect on [illegible]

Officer [illegible] at Bath [illegible] White in [illegible] ty of a warrant of search and seizure removed from the premises nine barrels of cider. Samples of the cider have been sent to Elmira for analysis, it being charged that the cider contains from 6 to 7 per cent alcohol, which under the law is forbidden. No arrests have been made yet

[illegible] waters in Rochester. They were replanted in safer waters

Governor-elect Alfred E. Smith has appointed George R Van Namee of Watertown as his secretary. Mr Van Namee, who is 40 years old, served four years as secretary of the Democratic state committee, and was clerk of the assembly in 1911 and 1913

Beef cattle production may be profitably carried on in many sections of New York state, although this state can never hope to rival the Middle West or Far West in the beef raising industry, according to the workers in animal husbandry at the New York State College of Agriculture

Dr. F. S. Honsinger of Syracuse representing the state board of health delivered the first of a series of lectures on Moral Health at Troy, behind which is the $1,000,000 appropriation of the federal government. Dr Honsinger established state headquarters for this locality at the Samaritan hospital at Troy

The proposed new public school teachers' pension bill was approved in principle by the State Teachers' association in convention at Albany but was referred back to a committee for additional actuarial details. Judson S Wright of Falconer was elected president and H C De Groat of Cortland vice president.

Steps were taken at a meeting of the Rochester Newswriters' club looking toward a raising of the standard of the profession in Rochester and a bettering of the various conditions which surround the work of men in the editorial departments of the city dailies. The club also voted to open its membership rolls to women

Announcement is made that the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor corporation in Buffalo will confine its airplane building in the future to the Churchill street plant. The North Elmwood factory, the largest airplane plant in the world, will be abandoned, for aircraft production purposes at least, soon after the first of the year.

State troopers during the past year made 1,786 arrests for violation of the motor vehicle law, and only 83 of the persons arrested were discharged, states a report made to Secretary of State Hugo. The most common offense was the use of improper license plates although driving without proper lights and reckless driving were frequent.

Approximately $3,600,000 was paid last week as the state's share of the interest on canal and highway funded debt, aggregating at present $[illegible] 660. Comptroller Travis announced. These payments represent the interest for the last six months accruing [illegible] upon these obligations which [illegible] by the vote of the people during the [illegible] 12 years

[illegible]

An annual tax on mortgages, in [illegible] record [illegible] State Comptroller Travis [illegible] [illegible] nothing more than an ex[illegible]

State legislation to supervise and regulate the production and sale of milk, meat and grain (including vegetables) is recommended in the report of the milk committee of the [illegible] county food administration made to Charles E. Treman, state food chief. The report urges that these things be considered as public utilities and treated in the same spirit as trolleys, lighting companies and the like

William H Burr of Rochester was elected New York state Prohibition chairman to succeed Olin S. Bishop of Utica at a meeting of the state committee in Utica. It was decided to move the state headquarters to Rochester just as soon as the transfer can be made. Neal Dow Cranmer of Elmira was chosen secretary, [illegible] Hoag of Binghamton treasurer and Mrs. [illegible] of New York director of women's work.

The state authorities will need the services of some of the homecoming military aviators it was disclosed in a letter received by the Aero Club of America from George D Pratt, conservation commissioner. The reclamation of certain swamp lands is under consideration, Mr Pratt wrote, and the state is preparing to arrange with aviators "to visit the different sections and take such photographs as would give us an idea of the outline of the areas and the vegetation thereon"

Several troopers of the state constabulary have arrived in Mt. Morris [illegible] [illegible] sheep [illegible] by dogs is never as promising there after

Cornell plans to boom all intercollegiate sports

"Acting Up"

By LINCOLN ROTHBLUM

(Copyright, 1918, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate)

Mirandy Jenkins folded her checked gingham apron triangle fashion, and, tucking the corner in at the belt, rested her arms on the fence railing

It was summer time in the outlying farm districts of the town of Carrollton and the air was redolent with the green odor of alfalfa. Mirandy distended her nostrils to get the diffusing fragrance. On the crest of the hill, topping the road which led past the house, appeared a none too strong horse. It dragged with lagging feet a rig of doubtful origin. It would have been difficult to tell the occupation of the driver who sat beneath the ragged and sagging top if not for the sack which lay at his feet labeled in letters of warning size, "U. S. Mail." As the outfit started down grade the man raised his crushed hat and made an effort to brush the upstanding hairs into place. A "ribbon" tie was next adjusted and to its already numerous stains were added a few more from the dusty hands. When these offices had been performed he shifted the reins from his right to left hand and waved in recognition of Mirandy's fluttering handkerchief.

"Mornin', Mandy," was his greeting, as he drew up before the gate

"Mornin', Seth. Any mail for me?"

"Nothin', 'cept the county newspaper. How's y'r grandpaw?"

"Poorly, poorly, Seth. The doc says he won't last much longer."

"Then we'll get married, Mandy, and no puttin' it off again. Eh?"

Mirandy blushed as if this were the first time the subject had been broached to her. "La, Seth, how you do talk," was the flirtatious response; "but it just seems like we'll never get there. First it was grandmaw who kept us from getting married, what with being so sick and cantankerous, and then you lost y'r job—and of course we couldn't get married 'til you was appointed this route, and now it be my grandpaw sick and ailin' and eatin' up the revenue"

Seth spat out a generous quid of tobacco and after replacing it with a fresh supply, shook his head resignedly. "Well, I'll be round tomorrow, Mandy—so long"

"So long, Seth. I'll be expectin' you."

And Mirandy's [illegible] figure [illegible]

But in this [illegible] to which she had given herself [illegible] [illegible] delayed his wedding to Mirandy had lessened his felicity

Mirandy crept into bed where she [illegible] She arose unrested. The [illegible] scarcely awake suggested another round of toilsome tasks. Perhaps every morning it was the thought of Seth which hastened the always [illegible] dressing and the chores were well completed as she retreated to her bed [illegible] to "fuss up" before waiting at the fence

But this morning Seth was destined to wait himself into impatience for [illegible] aproned figure leaned against the gate as he drew up. So he walked to meet her

"Mornin', Mandy"

"Mornin', Seth. Any mail for me?"

"Nothin' 'cept the county newspaper. But I got a letter an' seein' as you might as well get used to openin' my mail now, I brought it to you"

Mirandy smiled at the subtle compliment in a style Seth dubbed "pritty"

"Why it's from the government," Mirandy exclaimed as she took the envelope with its franking privilege stamp. Anything official frightened her but perhaps it was woman's intuitive premonition which foretold the bad news her face so patently reflected. "It says, Seth," she muttered, "it says you got to get—you got to get an auto if you want to keep y'r job."

And so to meet the government's [illegible] Seth's en[illegible] [illegible]

"M[illegible] M[illegible]"

"M[illegible] Seth. Any mail for me?"

"Nothin' 'cept the county newspaper," and then with a mock air of surprise, "I declare, why here's a letter for you," just as if he had not nearly yielded to the temptation to open it ever since it had been placed in his mail sack at six o'clock that morning.

"A letter for me!" echoed Mirandy. But Mirandy's astonishment at getting a letter did not equal her amazement as she read its contents. On the letterhead of an attorney, it ran:

"Your uncle, Ezekiel Barrett, has died intestate. As sole surviving heir, you are entitled to the $500 he has left. Our solicitor will visit you shortly to secure the necessary signature."

Then Mirandy did a thing unheard of. She kissed Seth. "We can get married right off now," she gurgled, "get married, Seth, don't you hear?"

For Seth was already chugchugging down the road. Mirandy stared at the letter.

The next morning the customary exchange of greetings was omitted as Mirandy abruptly asked, "Now we got the money, won't you want to be gettin' married?"

Seth looked up as he rolled a stone with the toe of his boot. His answer came hesitatingly. "Can't you see, Mandy, if I was to marry you now, without a cent of my own, folks'll be sayin' I was marryin' you for y'r money."

"Have you got a mind?" Mirandy asked sarcastically. Seth stood aghast. This was their final quarrel.

Then one morning Seth did not find Mirandy at the gate. She was sick. The doctor had ordered an alarming array of pills and medicines and although Seth faithfully sat at her bedside every evening, Mirandy refused to get well. Seth went about like a shadow of his former self. Never before had he realized just how very much Mirandy meant in his life. And then came the relapse! Mirandy was dying. The doctor confessed he could do nothing. Seth sat by the bed and held the worn hands in his own warty, calloused ones. What could he do? Oh, if he could save her!

"Mandy," he called suddenly "let's get married."

Mirandy stirred. "I heard the doc tellin' you," came in a weak, faraway voice, "that I be dyin'."

Tears unchecked traced grimy routes down Seth's tanned cheeks. Mirandy went on. "Folks'll think if you married me now you'll be wantin' to inherit my money"

"Oh, Mandy," Seth choked, "what do we care 'bout folks 'round here? I want to 'tend you like a husband while y'r're here."

Mirandy turned over at the unusual sentimentality of Seth's speech. "All right, Seth, then we'll get married," she answered with a smile

And Mirandy seemed to improve at once. Perhaps it was Seth's husbandly care, or perhaps it was just something else, but Mirandy got well with surprising rapidity.

It was after the wedding. Mirandy, seated on the arm of Seth's chair, nervously [illegible] [illegible]

"I got a confession to make," she said

[illegible]

"[illegible] I was just actin' up, Seth.

And then Seth did a thing unheard of. He kissed Mirandy

Bagpipes Are English

It was actually a Scotsman, and no less a one than the last advocate of the [illegible] [illegible]

"To Chaucer and Spenser also they are English. James IV [illegible] Henry VIII [illegible] pipes. The [illegible] used the pipes in war before the fourteenth century, the harp was Scotland's instrument

Oldest Chinese Holiday

What is probably the oldest "living" anniversary still is celebrated in China. It is that of the birth of Confucius, and falls on the day known to occidentals as Oct. [illegible] 1. The Canton Times of that date says

"Canton streets are in their holiday attire today in honor of the anniversary of the birth of Confucius. Shops of Tehtung street, Cham Mook lane and Sup Sam Hong present the best appearances. The Chinese schools will have a holiday, holding the ceremony of worship in the morning and feasts in the evening. Wang Ying college in Honam, under Principal Chan Chung Kai, will have a whole day of celebration, beginning early in the morning, when they will march to the Confucian temple together."

Floyd Gibbons' Story

Floyd Gibbons, the famous correspondent of the Chicago Tribune who lost an eye at the front, tells a good story of an American

"I met a Kansas boy," said Mr. Gibbons, "[illegible]

[illegible]

The Kansan in khaki laughed and said

"Storm troops hell. We come from Kansas. We're cyclones."

IMPROVING ON OLD MOTIONS

One's Accustomed Ways of Doing Things Need Not Be Accepted as Necessarily the Best.

The idea that a wooden leg or a false hand can be clapped onto a wounded man and the case dismissed with a blessing is a thing of the distant past. A wooden hand is good for very little except to look respectable in the street. The thing for which the doctors are striving is to give back to the injured man not a hand but the work of a hand.

And this opens possibilities. The work of a hand may be done in an extraordinary number of ways. Sometimes it is managed by a steel rod with tools clamped to it; sometimes by a strong iron claw. Some of the most eager thinkers are asking:

"If we are to differ from Nature at all why not differ altogether? Why not replace one arm by two steel rods, or even three, so long as they can be useful?"

Men learn that the old motions by which they have been accustomed to get things done are not necessarily the only ones. A farmer with one arm can use a shovel; he simply has an implement with a longer handle, which goes through a strap at his waist. Then the one arm does nothing but press down on the handle and the shovelful of earth is lifted just as well as by the old method.

If the man wants more power he can use his knee. Large objects can be moved by one arm and the hip. A necktie can be tied by one hand and the chin. The hand can be washed by the foot.

SOCIETY HAD HIGH IDEALS

Order of Fools, Founded in 1381, Was Not by Any Means What Its Name Would Indicate.

On November 12, 1381, the association known as The Order of Fools was said to have been founded by Adolphus, count of Cleves, under the title, "D'Order Van't Geeken Gesellschap." Though bearing a designation savoring too strongly of contempt, the members of this order were composed of noblemen and gentlemen of the highest rank and renown, who in this way formed themselves into a body for humane and charitable purposes. They were in no way connected with the Feast of Fools and similar absurdities of medieval times. They were not dissimilar to the Odd Fellows, Foresters and other similar organizations of the present day which include within their sphere of operations, benevolent and useful as well as convivial and social objects

The insignia borne by the knights of this order consisted of a jester or a fool, embroidered on the left side of their mantles and depicted dressed in red and silver vest, with a cap and bells on his head, yellow stockings, a cup filled with fruits in his right hand, [illegible] key as a symbol of the affection which ought to exist among the members of the society. They met once a year at Cleves on the first Sunday after Michaelmas day (St. Martin's day), when a grand court was held extending over seven days and all matters relating to the welfare and conduct of the order were discussed

Blackbirds Valuable.

One spring while plowing for potatoes I was followed around the lot by a flock of blackbirds, and out of curiosity I watched them to see what they were after and found that they were gathering up every grub in sight, and there were lots of them, writes a correspondent of the Rural New Yorker. A neighbor's boy came over where I was at work, and on seeing the birds started to drive them off. I stopped him and showed him what they were doing. He thought that it would pay me to feed the birds so as to keep them on the job. There were enough grubs in sight to have spoiled a good lot of potatoes. Yesterday (August 29) I pulled up a hill and found a grub and where he had eaten out one quarter of the inside of a potato.

Windsor Castle.

Windsor castle is near the town of Windsor in Berkshire, England, 23 miles from London. Windsor is one of the most ancient towns in England, dating from the early middle ages. The castle was erected by William the Conqueror. It was originally the site of a Roman settlement and has figured in English history in many picturesque and tragic ways. Many of the kings of England are buried beneath the royal chapel at Windsor, including King Edward VII, who was buried there in May, 1910. The castle, surrounded by spacious and magnificent grounds, has been the chief residence of English sovereigns for many centuries.

The "Wind Month."

November was styled by the ancient Saxons as wind-month from the gales which are so prevalent at this season of the year, and which made them [illegible] [illegible] November is the eleventh month of the year although its name would indicate that it was the ninth month. This is accounted for by the change from the old calendar, which began in March and not in January, as our present calendar does.

SEEMS TO DEMAND SOLUTION

Mystery Surrounding Green Bottle Found in Cornerstone of Building Puzzles Antiquarians.

Springfield antiquarians are as interested as the weather will permit over the discovery in the cornerstone of one of the armory buildings of "an ancient green bottle," to quote from the printed description of the find. It is said that it closely resembles an oldtime rum bottle, except that its surface is covered with what are alleged to be Masonic characters, says the Hartford Courant. Fragments of a cork were found, but the bottle contained no fluid, not even an odor.

That the bottle was empty when found affords no ground for surprise, but that its surface is completely covered by Masonic characters may give rise to much speculation. Had it been covered or partially covered with characters which indicated that it once contained distilled liquor from the West Indies there would have been little cause for speculation, inasmuch as such bottles and such spirits were common a hundred years ago when the cornerstone was supposed to have been put in place.

That the bottle was put in place while empty suggests a thrifty disposition on the part of the builders.

APES SUFFER IN CAPTIVITY

Gorillas, Taken From Their Native Haunts, Speedily Die From Pure Lack of Companionship.

"Any sympathy that a soft-hearted person has for captive gorillas is not misplaced," says Miss Ellen Velvin in "From Jungle to Zoo."

"Many gorillas have been captives, but in spite of the greatest care few have lived more than a comparatively short time. There seems to be no particular ailment from which they suffer—nothing except intense home or heart sickness. They grieve themselves to death.

"All the anthropoid or manlike apes, such as gorillas, orang-outangs and chimpanzees, are extremely sensitive to surroundings and environments. In order to keep these big apes in good health it is absolutely necessary to give them plenty of company, either of their own kind or of men—anything, in fact, to relieve the tedium of captivity, which they undoubtedly feel. When a chimpanzee gets a new companion he goes into the wildest state of excitement; he thumps the floor and walls, scampers round his cage, and screams with delight."

The Indians' Calendar.

The following account of how the Indians used to keep track of the seasons is told by a veteran chief in Canada. The names corresponding with the names of the months were:

April—Frog moon.

May—Sprouting of green leaves and grass.

June—Egg (duck) moon.

July—Moulting (ducks) moon.

August—Flying (ducks) moon.

September—Running of the deer.

October—Fall moon.

November—Misty moon.

December—Clear frosty moon.

January—Wolf moon.

February—Eagle moon.

March—Goose moon.

Upon being asked how they kept record of the days in each month the chief replied that they always counted [illegible] and that it was an Indian's duty to keep record of them by each morning taking a stick from the days-to-come bundle and adding it to the days-past bundle. These sticks were carefully scraped twigs of the "pussy" willows, which by their silvery catkins show the first sign of the spring season.

One of the Original Jokes.

A writer telling about the outing of the Authors' guild at Florida, Mo., Mark Twain's birthplace, says that the "jumping frog" story was a favorite anecdote among the stories told by Twain's humorous uncle, John A. Quarles, and that Quarles brought it along with him from the backwoods of Tennessee. Some pundit dug the same tale out of ancient Greek literature not many years ago. It is no doubt impossible, but it would be highly interesting to trace the lip-to-lip journey of the story back through the colonies and across the sea to the learned clerk in Oxford or Cambridge who first translated it from classic Greek to homely English and told it over his cake and ale. Maybe it was Ben Jonson and maybe Shakespeare passed it on.

Friendship.

There must be in friendship something to distinguish it from a companion and a countryman, from a schoolfellow or a gossip, from a sweetheart or a fellow traveler. Friendship may look in at any one of these doors, but it stays not anywhere till it comes to be the best thing in the world, and when we consider that one man is not better than another, neither toward God nor toward man, but by doing better and braver things we shall also see that which is most beneficent is also most excellent; and therefore those friendships must needs be most perfect where the friends can be most useful. Jeremy Taylor.

Two Sizes Too Large.

Bix—You lost your head completely at the banquet last night.

Dix—That accounts for it. This head I've got on this morning doesn't seem to be mine, certainly.—Boston Transcript.