The Queenstown News.

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR, IN ADVANCE

M. W. AKER, Proprietor.

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Saturday, April 9, 1927

Topics of conversation come and go: people will even quit talking about prohibition some of these days. But there is one topic which has held its place on the conversation program ever since conversation was invented—and that is the weather.

We are far enough out of 1926 and far enough into 1927 to point out the errors of a favorites pastime with a lot of people to call attention to every error they find in papers—why isn't it just as fair for the paper to show that the weather sharks can also make mistakes? Our readers will recall than more than a year ago a Chicago weather prohet predicated that 1926 would be a year without a summer but we saw enough panting and sweating around Queenstown last summer to know that the prophet missed it. That he came back last fall with a predication that the winter of 1926-27 would be one of the hardest within the memory of the present generation. And here we are about out of it and taking the country as a whole it has been the mildest winter for twenty years.

Long distance weather prophency may some day be placed on a a scientific basis, but right now it is a hit-or-miss proposition and one man's guess is as good as another's. Unusual weather is always to be expected but take it year in and year out and old Mother Nature just about evens things up. So with this in mind and the weather as chief topic of conversation we'd like to inquire if you have done anything yet toward planning a better garden than you had last year.

There [illegible] Mother Nature has [illegible] her long winter sleep, and this year she is a littler than usual in setting a good examination for her children. She has already started in a brighten up trees and grass plots and is already sending enough warm sunshine and light rain to make a perfect job of it.

There is really no necessity for telling our readers their duty at this season of the year. They know with out being told that every hour lost now cleaning up and brightening their premises means a loss that cannot be made up later in the season

There is plowing and planting to do, of course and gardens have been made But even with these tasks to look after there is still time, if you start at once to give the house and surroundings the attention needed to protect them from the elements and make them comfortable and attractive. Not only that, but there is no time to be lost in ridding the community of the rubbish and ashes and junk that has accumulated during the winter months and that is sure to, breed disease and possibly start a serious epidemic in the neighborhood if not disposed of.

A clean [illegible] helps to make a clean town, and a clean town is a joy to behold. So clean up if for no other reason than to brighten and beautiful your home town, though your greatest reward will come in the protection that such work affords from spring and summer epidemics, with a possible loss of life

Don't wait for your neighbor to start—you set the example this year.

Of the numerous "weeks" observed in the United States, "American Forest Week, is the only one which receives the official stamp of government approval. This should emphasize its importance if there are those who feel only a remote interest in the subject.

President Harding issued the first proclamation for the observance of sucha week in 1921 which brought the federal government behind the movement. Following the example of his predecessor, President Coolidge has annually issued a proclamation for Forest Week. This year the week of April 24-30 has been designated.

The president proclaimed the 1927 American Forest Week "in the belief that other of our internal problems is of greater moment than the rehabilitation of our forests, now so hopefully begun but needing the strong support of our collective will and intelligence.'

People not living in regions where large forests grow are apt not to catch the significance of this national policy For this reason Forest Week seems eminently worth while as a means of calling the attention of everyone to the importance of conserving and reproducing our timber.

A really serious national misfortune was the chestnut blight which first appeared nearly 25 years ago on chestnut trees on Long Island, and rapidly spread over the rest of the country, doing great damage to one of the finest and most lightly of American forest trees.

The blight came from chestnut trees imported from Europe by nursery men and previous to that time had not been known on the North American continent. The blight soon spread to the forests of New York. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent in attempting to check the disease in New York but with little success and scientists finally concluded that it was a vain effort to try to halt its progress and that the chestnut tree was doomed.

The blight is said to be making rapid progress in the southern states at the present time.

But from Maryland comes good news On South Mountain in that state every chestnut tree has been destroyed by the blight It is reported that a new stand of chestnuts, from the seeds, is springing up all over the mountain and these appear to be immune from the disease. It may be concluded that in some way nature has provided a remedy the scientists failed to discover and that in the course of time chestnuts will again be abundant. If it proves true that the new seedlings are immune the efforts of foresters will be devoted to restocking the forests with young [illegible]

[illegible] amount of valuable chestnut timber has been destroyed by the blight, which similar to the locust blight, was a highly undesirable European immigrant. Fortunately the Department of Agriculture is now awake to the need for careful examination of all seedstock of plants and trees that is imported from abroad.

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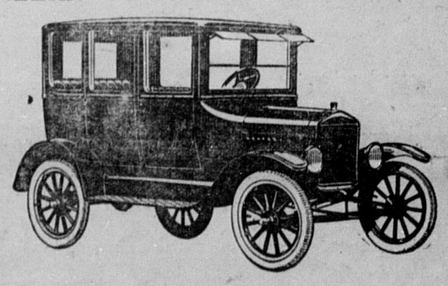

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