

"—for all the Farmers of Michigan!"

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

The Only Independent Farmer's Weekly Owned and Edited in Michigan

Vol. VI - No. 18

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1919

\$1 PER YEAR—No Premiums
Free List or Clubbing Offer

U. S. FOOD SURVEY SHOWS A SURPLUS

Surprising Figures Gathered by Dept. of Agr.
Indicates Nearly Half as Much More
Food on Hand Than Year Ago

The department of Agriculture's recent survey of food stocks on hand December 1st, if authentic, will give the farmer food for thought. On the face of it, it shows, in substance, that there is nearly if not quite half as much more food on hand today in the United States than one year ago.

There is over twice as much wheat, a third more corn, a half more rye, not quite so many oats, three-fourths more white flour, two and a half times as much whole wheat and Graham flour, over twice as much rye flour, approximately two and a quarter times as much corn meal, buckwheat and mixed flour, one-half more beans, a fifth more condensed milk, in the hands of the elevators, warehouses, grain mills and wholesale dealers today than a year ago. The only important items of food showing a decrease are potatoes, oats, rice, and evaporated milk.

Analyzed, however, this report does not actually warrant the conclusions that are made off-hand. It is a fact that farmers have marketed all products much more freely this year than a year ago. Particularly is this true of wheat, beans and potatoes. A year ago many farmers were loath to sell their wheat at the fixed price, believing that the president would raise the price, but this year that hope was largely dissipated, and the movement of wheat became so large and rapid that terminal points were congested for long periods and embargoes had to be put on. This year the movement of both beans and potatoes has been remarkably free, and there is no doubt but what there is less stuff remaining in the hands of the farmer today than there has been at the same date for a number of years.

The report follows in detail:

"The commercial stocks of wheat reported in a survey made by the Department of Agriculture for December 1, 1918, amounted to 219,434,832 bushels. These holdings, by 10,669 firms—elevators, warehouses, grain mills and wholesale dealers—were more than twice as large as the stocks held by the same firms a year earlier, the

actual percentage being 206.1 per cent of the 1917 stocks. The figures refer to stocks actually reported and do not represent the commercial stocks of the country, nor do they include stocks on farms.

"The commercial visible supply figures, as published by the Chicago Board of Trade for the nearest date (November 30, 1918) show 121,561,000 bushels of wheat as against 21,031,000 bushels a year ago. Corresponding Bradstreet figures for 1918 show 131,584,000 bushels as against 29,633,000 bushels for 1917. As compared with the same date of last year, these figures, as well as those obtained by the more extensive survey, show a very great relative increase in commercial stocks of wheat on December 1, 1918.

"The commercial stocks of other cereals reported for December 1, 1918, (Cont. on page 7)

HOW CREDIT UNIONS SOLVE LOCAL CAPITAL SHORTAGE

How frequently it happens that a farmer needs \$50 and doesn't like to go to the bank and borrow it. In many cases, particularly in newly settled sections of the country credit facilities are poor and banks charge exorbitant interest on small, short-time loans. We know how some farmers dread to go to a local bank and ask for a thirty or sixty day loan. They don't like the officious manner of many bankers who always act as tho they were doing the applicant a distinct favor by loaning him money, pry into his personal affairs to an humiliating degree and finally make the loan upon a note secured by chattel mortgage and the endorsement of a neighbor, at anywhere from 12 to 20 per cent interest.

These conditions are found in all states, and in all countries and various laws have been passed to remedy them and to afford farmers a source of cheap money without the attendant embarrassments which frequently accompany applications for loans to the established banks.

The most popular co-operative credit arrangement in existence is the "Credit Union," which system was first organized in Germany in the middle of the nineteenth century and has since spread over considerable other areas of Europe, Asia and the United States. Today there are 17,000 credit unions in Germany, alone, and the states of Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, and North and South Carolina all have credit union laws for short-time credit. It is estimated that the co-operative credit societies in the entire world do a business of seven billion dollars a year. (Continued on page 4)

RECOMMENDS CHANGES IN POTATO GRADING

Best Potato Authorities in Country Have
Come to Conclusion That Grades Forced
on Farmers Last Year Need Fixing

It took but a single year to convince the potato dealers and the agricultural professors who forced the U. S. grading rules on the farmers that Michigan Business Farming and its readers were right in their opposition to those grades. Nearly every objection raised by this publication a year ago has been substantiated. Those who criticised us, who called us agitators, because we refused to stand idly by while the farmers were being imposed upon, have quietly faded into the background as the working out of the rules proved conclusively that they were wrong.

In the December issue of the Potato Magazine, Mr. P. E. Clement, assistant county agent leader, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota, contributes a valuable article upon "Recommended Changes in Potato Grading," which would remove the major objections growers have raised to the grades, and would establish three grades of sufficient elasticity to provide for practically all conditions in all potato growing sections. He would have an "extra" grade, of potatoes over two and one-fourth inches in diameter. He would have a "standard" grade, 50 per cent of any lot of which might have a minimum diameter of 1 5/8 inches, but the other 50 per cent of which would have to conform to the requirements for the "extra" grade. He would have a "No. 2" grade, all of any lot of which might be 1 5/8 inches in diameter.

As a matter of fact the majority of Michigan farmers have for years put up a grade that conforms to Mr. Clement's "standard" grade. Even in years of abnormally small potatoes the bulk of this state's crop would conform to the requirements of that grade. Such a grade would be the "commercial" grade of the entire country and ought to satisfy farmers, dealers and consumers alike.

We believe Mr. Clement's recommendations should be taken under advisement by the organized potato interests of the state, and that every possible (Continued on page 7)

Milo Campbell, Accused of Fostering Non-Partisan League, Says: "It isn't true, but---"

SOME TIME AGO the state press contained a statement that Milo Campbell of Coldwater and Jas. Helme of Adrian had been chosen to carry the Non-Partisan League flag in Michigan. The announcement caused a great stir among the politicians, the stand-patters and the worshipers of Wall Street, for with two such eminently respectable champions of farmers' rights preaching the doctrines of non-partisanship there was reason for the "interests" to shiver in their boots. But Mr. Helme denied any connec-

tion, actual or contemplated, with the Non-Partisan League, and along came Milo Campbell the other day with a similar denial. But that doesn't mean, by a long shot, that neither Helme nor Campbell are blind to the potent forces that brought the Non-Partisan League into existence; or to the fact that it is a powerful protest against industrial usurpation; and that it may eventually prove to be the final stamping ground for a misunderstood, maligned, yet mighty class of people.

We are proud to see such men as Milo

Campbell, Jas. Helme and many other agricultural leaders we might name stand unafraid and shoulders squared for the farmers. We need more such men, who know not the meaning of compromise where aught but truth is concerned; who stand by the principle that right is right and nothing this side of eternity can swerve them from that conviction.

Read what Mr. Campbell has to say in a letter to Michigan Business Farming, in refutation of his alleged connection with the Non-Partisan League: (Continued on page 4)

Pass it on to a neighbor!

If you happen to receive an extra copy of this week's M. B. F., hand it to a neighbor and so help to "boost the cause."

MECOSTA FARMER RAPS SITE-VALUE

**Believes Single Tax Proposition, so Successful
in England, Not Adapted to Michigan
Conditions, and Farmer Would
Suffer From it.**

Replying to Judson Grenell in the M. B. F. of Dec. 14, 1918, I will say that we farmers are not all ignorant enough to leave our thinking to be done by strangers who are not of us. So we want to get camouflage off of this question and see what there is of it.

It is the principle of taxation that when some property escapes taxes the rest must pay more. To illustrate, the average tax of our township is now \$7.94 per acre and this is much lower than it would be under the site-value plan, as the cities would be sure to unload a lot of their taxes on the country, making a probable tax of a dollar per acre on farms. Think of poor men on new farms paying such a tax. These men often have incomes less than the common laborer and yet they work from 12 to 14 hours per day, while the city man thinks eight hours is long enough to work, and would not work at all at much of the work these men do. Then think of the Blanchard Bank, incorporated for \$20,000, or paying tax on only \$100.00, and the hardware and universal store is nearly as bad. City sites are dearer, but the business done on them is larger. If it is wrong to tax the products of labor why this discrimination against the hardest worker in the land? Mr. Grenell says land is not a product of labor. But it is; we paid for it by hard work, just as we have done for our personal property.

Mr. Grenell talks of values caused by improvement of surrounding lands. Well, we farmers helped to make these improvements. By our labor we made farms out of the slashings, roads in place of trails, helped pay for public improvements, and helped build the cities and towns by our trade, so that too, is the product largely of our labor.

Eighty-seven per cent of Mecosta county farms are worked by their owners and many of the remaining 13 per cent are owned by worn-out laborers, so that the county is almost entirely in the hands of working folks. How different from England, where the land owners are mainly idle sports who do nothing but spend their rents, and they ought to be taxed heavy. Suppose that some millionaires are opposed to this scheme, some rich men have some conscience left and others have sense enough to know that the home-owners are the saving force of the Nation. Rob them of

their homes and turn them into anarchists by unjust taxation and there would be something doing that would be unpleasant for the rich. Already they are alarmed at the ominous rumblings that they hear, and are trying to "beat them to it," as "Jim" Helme says, by granting some needed reforms.

Mr. Grenell says "taxation of industries makes it harder to do business." Yet business men go right on piling hundreds on hundreds, thousands on thousands, and millions on millions, while many hard-working farmers can hardly make a very poor living and do not think that there is any pity due to the Henry Fords or Morgans, Rockefellers, Armours, etc.

So many burdens have been piled on the farmers that there is a big emigration to the cities to the neglect of the farms, making farm products scarce and high, and yet the farmer is getting no adequate returns for his labor and so the boys keep deserting the farms, making matters worse and worse. If you are looking for a chance to increase business prosperity just get after the grafters, idlers, speculators, etc., and see that men earn what they get and get what they earn, and that will lower taxes as well as increase prosperity, and the taxes will not be a burden to anyone. Income and excessive profits taxation will help out the present taxation system, but should not be a substitute for it as it has its weak points, too.—*Francis G. Smith, Mecosta county.*

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING NOT REMEDY FOR SHORTCOMINGS

"The ideals for which the young men of America offered their lives on the battlefields of France were taught them in the schools and colleges and homes," declared Dean Joseph V. Denney of the Ohio State University in a recent address in Columbus, Ohio, on "Education After the War."

"Youth is the greatest thing in the world and American youth the finest youth in the world. The spirit of generosity and fair play is its chief characteristic. The remedy for its shortcomings is in the ordinary processes of school life under the best people that can be found for teachers, and not in universal military training or the adoption of military discipline.

"Our youth has proven that it can render military obedience when the time calls for it, but the higher form of obedience which our schools inculcate is the kind that is self-imposed and adopted because it is reasonable and right. Rational obedience is the only kind worth having in a democracy.

"The Prussian idea of a completely organized and systematized society, with everybody in it scientifically placed and obediently accepting his position in the industrial and social machine for the benefit of an abstraction called the state is one of the ideas shot to pieces by this war."

RADISH SEED SITUATION IN MICHIGAN; GROWERS NEED JUSTICE

After hearing the many complaints of the radish seed growers of this part of the state, the writer is thoroughly convinced that the growers only protection is in organizing and refusing to raise the seed unless the companies agree to test, weigh and pay for the seed when it is delivered at the shipping station.

We anticipate all manner of excuses from the seed companies, why they cannot do this, but we have always found where there is a will there is a way, and if the seed companies have to do this in order to get the seed, they will find the way.

Some men will say they have raised seed for this company or that company and they have always found them to be square and they are willing to trust them again, but let us see what some of these square companies will do, if by some mistake of theirs, they stand to lose money where there is a chance to shift the blame to the grower. Example: A grower shipped 30 bags of radish seed to a company, on instruction sent him by them. It was received and stored with a lot of seed piled on top of it until it spoiled and the farmer is still looking for his pay. We have heard other men say that this company was square and a good company to deal with. Another grower had the same deal tried on him and after an investigation, found his seed and compelled the company to pay for it. Others have been waiting eight and ten weeks for their money and some find when the check is received they have been docked to the extent of 35 per cent.

When the seed is paid for at the shipping station and is the property of the seed companies, they will see that it receives the proper care, if it does cost them a little extra money, but if it belongs to the farmer they will take a chance, if it goes wrong the judgment is assessed against the farmer.

Space forbids an account of all the troubles, but we find, when the parties can meet face to face and deal before the property has left the hands of the grower, there is always a better feeling and we believe that the companies will find that they can get more and better seed by meeting the grower half way and giving him a square deal.

There is no other body of men in this country, except the farmers, who would ever think of doing the large amount of work which radish seed requires, take the chances on the weather and all of the other hindrances, which sometimes develop, and then turn the goods over to another to do with as he saw fit, and then abide by their judgment as to what he should have.

It is time the farmers take some action to let the business world know that the propose to look after every detail of their business and if others wish to deal with them they must do business as they do with other business men.—*W. C. Cribbs, County Agr. Agent, Antrim county.*

Manager Wis. Potato Marketing Dep't Exhorts Members to be Loyal to Co-Operation

THE path of the Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange has not been strewn with roses. Like all new-born co-operative marketing ventures there have been thorns and disappointments. But the large majority of the membership are taking the bitter with the sweet, convinced that the basic principles of the plan are right, and must eventually succeed.

Over in our sister state of Wisconsin the potato growers have been having their troubles, too, and at a recent meeting of the growers, the manager of the potato department of the Society of Equity made the following speech which had the effect of smoothing out the differences and arousing the utmost enthusiasm among the members. We commend the article to the members of Michigan's new co-operative marketing organization:

"Now I want to tell you, you probably know, that the potato growers of the state of Wisconsin went to gether in convention, I think, September 18th and we formed a potato department of the American Society of Equity and they hired me in Madison as potato manager to manage this department, and this department at first was to be managed from the Madison office. After we got started we found it was impossible to handle the volume of potatoes through the Madison office, so we established an office in the city of Chicago. I have been on the Chicago market eight weeks handling potatoes for the organized farmers, and in these eight weeks handled 71 carloads of potatoes on the Chicago market for you. We take one cent a bushel on these potatoes to pay the expenses of this department.

"You have got at least today, in the City of Chicago, not less than forty men who haven't got one dollar invested only in a little desk and typewriter and a fifteen dollar a week stenographer in his office, who is taking from you gentlemen dol-

lar after dollar, from fifteen to forty dollars a car for handling your potatoes. He isn't only taking fifteen to forty dollars a car for handling your potatoes but the potatoes are converted from Chicago a good many times to where they will bring 20 to 25 cents over the Chicago market, and he holds your money in the conversion until he gets the returns, and he settles with you at the rate of the Chicago market, and puts the 200 or 250 dollars profit in his own pocket. This is what you find in the Chicago market, in the rings.

"They said when I first went there—I never like to be profane before any crowd, but I will use the words they used to me on the Chicago market—they said, 'There is no damned little farm organization that can send a farmer down on the Chicago market to sell potatoes; we will drive him off in less than two weeks.' But I want to tell you gentlemen that I went down on the Chicago market to sell potatoes, and I will be on the Chicago market next spring when the sun shines, selling potatoes for the paltry farmers of the State of Wisconsin.

"I want to say right here, gentlemen, that in forming a business department here in the State of Wisconsin or any other state in the Union, if you want a farm business department and to make an absolute success of it, that you as members of this organization must get behind that department and give it full co-operation. You can't take your departments, don't care what business department it may be and use that business department as a leverage over the other man's head to get the other nickel out of him and have me help to cut your throat while you are getting the nickel. I know through this business department, the potato department, you have never had the demand on the track for potatoes in Wisconsin that you have had since you formed this depart-

ment. Why is it? Simply because they want to cut the throat of the Wisconsin Potato department and drive your representatives off the Chicago market. And just as long as you will use the leverage and allow those fellows to send buyers and pick your stuff up at the warehouses and not ship your stuff to me just so soon you are going to kill your potato department. You must get behind this department and give your managers your full co-operation regardless of the prices you are offered at home.

"Now, at the present time I have been on the Chicago market long enough that I have gotten acquainted with the buyers, with the good, legitimate buyers that handle from four to five and up to six carloads apiece a day, and at any time now. I am situated to handle any amount of potatoes you want to consign onto the Chicago market; and you will get a statement back for every car you ship to me of the exact amount this car sold for, the freight on the car, the war tax and the car rental, and the commission deducted. I will make a true statement of every carload of potatoes shipped to the Wisconsin potato department, and I make them to every man that has shipped to me so far, and I think you have men in your audience today that I have sold potatoes for down there. And furthermore, this potato department is in a position to handle any amount from ten cars to a hundred cars a week, if you want to ship them there; and if you want to allow these commission men that are absolutely blood-suckers on the producer to continue to suck 15 to 45 dollars a car out of the producer and maintain him in his little office down there and let him glean from six to seven and eight thousand dollars a year off of your hard earnings for God's ship to the commission man and kill your potato department.—*Geo. Barnhart in the Equity News.*

What will These Grangers and Gleaners do Next; Think of it--they want Farmers on Board of Agriculture

Michigan's leading farm organizations have got an idea into their heads that the Board of Agriculture ought to be dominated by honest-to-God farmers, instead of bankers, lawyers, merchants and manufacturers. Two years ago the Gleaners boosted for farmer candidates, and the Grange in executive session just closed, announces that it "wants a working farmer and a working farmerette to take the place of Messrs. A. J. Doherty, merchant and manufacturer; and Robert D. Graham, banker, whose terms are soon to expire. To this the Gleaners say "amen," and the Farmers' Clubs, "amen," "amen."

The present personnel of the Board of Agriculture is as follows: Robert D. Graham, banker, chairman; Alfred J. Doherty, merchant; I. Roy Waterbury, editor; Wm. H. Wallace, banker and sugar manufacturer; John W. Beaumont, lawyer; Jason Woodman, ex-farmer. Only two out of these six members can be said to even remotely actually represent the sentiment of the farmers of the state. In fact any number of situations might be conceived in which the majority of the board, because of their financial interest in other industries might vote directly opposite to the wishes of the farmers, and it goes without saying that progress along marketing and rural credits lines, in which the board should take an active interest, is necessarily slow because of the naturally unsympathetic attitude of the board.

We are reminded that in this connection that it was Mr. Doherty who, while on a visit in Washington last spring solemnly assured the Bureau of Markets that the Potato grading rules were all right and ought to be enforced. And this despite the fact that every farmer within a radius of 100 miles of Mr. Doherty's home town, Clare, was raising a mighty howl against the grades, and that Mr. Jason Woodman got up before a farmers' meeting, with blood in his eye, and said, "Let them keep their hands off our business." Oh, yes, Mr. Doherty is about as close to the farmers of Michigan as he is to the Alaskan Esquimo, and is about as well qualified to sit on the board of agriculture.

By all means, let us have a working farmer and if you choose, a working farmerette, on the board of agriculture. Let's pick a man and a woman whose deeds are so well and favorably known that all farm organizations in the state can unite

in their support. Perhaps the state's industrial interests are entitled to some representation on the board of agriculture, tho there is some doubt as to that; but certainly agriculture should have the control. It is high time for the state's electorate to open up the doors of the board of agriculture and let in some men who know farmers' problems and can heal up the ever widening breach between the college and the farmers.

REESE FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N DOING INCREASED BUSINESS

We opened our new elevator to receive grain Nov. 4th, and have had a very successful two months' business. Grain has moved freely up to the present time, and beans are coming in now. The beans have come rather slow on account of the bad roads in the country, which hampered the movement of threshers; but since the freezing weather has come things have picked up in this line and growers are hauling the bean crop to market as fast as they can be threshed. There seems to be very little inclination to hold the crop for any advance among our growers here, on account of the conditions which prevailed in Michigan last year at the end of the season when beans became a drug on the market.

We are paying \$8 basis for beans, and when we cannot hold the price at this figure or more to the grower, we will stop receiving them until things adjust themselves, for in our opinion he should have this price or better as he cannot afford to grow them any cheaper.

Our paying prices for grain last week were as follows: Wheat, \$2.08 to \$2.10; oats, 68; barley, \$1.85; rye, \$1.45; shelled corn, \$1.30.—*Manager Reese Farmers' Co-Operative Ass'n.*

FOOD DEMAND WILL GOVERN THE NUMBER OF FARMERS

Discussing the problem of land settlement the Secretary of Agriculture, in his annual report, says that with wise foresight and increased employment of scientific practices, under the stimulation of intelligent agencies, America can take care of and provide for a very much larger population under even more favorable circumstances and in greater prosperity.

"Interest in land for homes and farms increases in the Nation as the population grows. It has become more marked as the area of public land suitable and available for agriculture has diminished," says the Secretary. "It is intensified at the present time by reason of the suggestion and desire that returned soldiers and others who may wish to secure farms shall have an opportunity to do so under suitable conditions."

"That there is still room in the Nation for many more people on farms is clear. The United States proper contains about 1,900,000,000 acres of land, of which an area of 1,140,000,000 acres, or 60 per cent is tillable. Approximately 367,000,000 acres, or 32 per cent of this was planted in crops in 1918. In other words, for every 100 acres now tilled 300 acres may be utilized when the country is fully settled. Of course, much of the best land, especially that most easily brought under cultivation and in reasonably easy reach of large consuming centers, is in use, though much of it possibly 85 per cent, is not yielding full returns. Extension of the farmed area will consequently be made with greater expense for clearing, preparation, drainage, and irrigation, and for profitable operation will involve marketing arrangements of a high degree of perfection."

"Increased production can therefore be secured in two ways, namely, through the use of more land and through the adoption of improved processes of cultivation of all land and marketing. The latter involves the general application of the best methods used by the most skillful farmers and urged by experienced, practical, and scientific experts. It will necessitate seed selection and improvement, plant and animal breeding, soil development through rotation, the discriminating use of fertilizers the control and eradication of plant and animal diseases, good business practice and thrift, and many other things. It means that farming must be profitable and that society must be willing to pay the price. Under no other condition can farming expand. It means, too, that only as many will or need stay on farms as may be necessary to supply what the consumers will take at prices which will justify production. Many people speak as if they thought there should be no limit to the number engaged in agriculture or to production of crops. The farmer must consider his balance just as any other business man. The number of individuals remaining in the farming industry will, in the long run, continue to adjust itself roughly to the economic demand and will increase as it expands or as relative economies are effected."



OUR ARTIST, Milon Grinnell, lives in one of the principal bean growing counties of the state, and has had a chance to observe close-up the numerous difficulties in which the bean growers have found themselves the past two years. He knows what the farmers are thinking and talking, and in his cartoon shown here suggests the possibility of the bean farmers turning to

wheat for a couple of years to give the bean market a chance to right itself. He has labeled one of the legs of his horse, "where the pinto bit," and let it go at that. He might have labeled the other leg to read "unfavorable growing weather," "unfair picking practices," "unprofitable prices," and then he would have had a fairly accurate picture of the bean situation. Fortunately, the old

"hoss" isn't in such a bad way as he used to be; he is slowly recovering from his "wounds," and if the bean jobbers continue to give the animal a little encouragement now and then, he may entirely recover. But if not,—well, beans aren't the only crop that can be grown in Michigan, not by a long shot.

M. A. C. OFFERS TRUCK AND TRACTOR COURSE

Splendid Opportunity Open to Owners of Motor Power Machines to Learn Construction and Operation in Four Weeks' Course

H. H. Musselman, professor of Farm Mechanics of the M. A. C., advises us that his department will offer two four-weeks' courses in truck and tractor operation. The first course will extend from Jan. 20th to February 14th and the second from Feb. 17 to March 14th. They will be similar and are arranged at different times to accommodate the convenience of the student and the facilities of the department giving the courses.

The course is designed to train operators of farm tractors, gas engines and trucks. The requirements of farm conditions has guided in outlining the courses and will govern largely in their presentation. The work will be thorough enough to give a good understanding of the principles and mechanism of the machines studied and should enable the operator to make adjustments and ordinary repairs with intelligence and confidence. No attempt will be made, however, to develop expert repair and service men in these courses. These courses, however, would be of value to the man who wants a good foundation on which to build his mechanical training for expert work.

Outline of four weeks' course in Automobiles, truck and tractor work. (The work is divided into four groups, each of which is completed in one week.)

The farm tractor and gas engine—One hour on the gas engine and one hour lecture on power application and power machinery. The remaining time will be spent in practice work in correcting troubles on the gas engine, assembling, repair work, and in the study and operation of the tractor. Examination Saturday morning.

M. E. 66.—Truck engines and carburetors.—One hour lecture and seven hours shop each day for five days. Written examination Saturday a. m. This work will consist of a study of several types of engines, both with and without carburetors. Practical work will be given in adjusting carburetors and finding trouble.

M. E. 67.—Electric ignition systems.—One hour lecture and 7 hours each day. Examination Saturday a. m. This work will consist of a study of several types of magnetos and electrical systems. Practical work will be given in wiring up several systems and finding trouble.

M. E. 68.—General Repairs.—The time will be all spent in doing practical repair work 8 hours per day and 4 hours Saturday a. m. Half time will be devoted to making adjustments and repairs of autos and trucks. The remaining time will be devoted to making repairs requiring the use of the forge.

Equipment.—Excellent equipment for all departments of the work is provided, which is the same equipment as that used in the Army school. A number of new and used autos and trucks, engines and parts, carburetors and other accessories, magnetos, batteries and ignition apparatus, farm gas engines, used and new tractors and complete forge equipment make up a part of the facilities which are available.

Instructors.—This year we are fortunate in having instructors, nearly all of whom are retained from the Army school. These men are experts in their line and many of them have had years of practical experience back of their teaching.

Expenses.—A fee of \$10 will be charged for the complete course. Other expenses will include railway fare, board, room rent, books and work clothes. Board can be had at from five to six dollars per week and rooms can be rented from one dollar and a half per week up. Some opportunity may be had to do outside work to help defray expenses, but time for this will be limited.

Why take the course?—How long does it take to learn to harness, drive and properly care for a horse? This knowledge is absorbed almost unconsciously in years of living on the farm where this knowledge becomes a second nature. Then should the green operator be expected to operate, repair and maintain a tractor with no previous experience or training? An inexperienced driver can render a valuable horse worthless in an hour on a hot day. An ignorant operator may allow damages to occur to the tractor, the cost of which alone may equal the cost of our course in the tractor and truck school.

Applications.—Applications for enrollment in this course should be made to director of winter courses, East Lansing, Michigan.

HOW CREDIT UNIONS SOLVE LOCAL CAPITAL SHORTAGE

(Continued from page 1)

What is a credit union? It is a co-operative organization composed of resident farmers of a community and it may both lend and borrow money. Its original capital is secured from deposits made by the members, on which four per cent interest is paid. Both well-to-do and poor farmers are members, the well-to-do farmer because he gets four per cent on his money and likes to help his neighbor; the poor farmer because he may often be in need of finances and finds the credit union a safe depository for his meagre savings. A credit union may borrow money from any source to the aggregate amount of the sum of its capital, surplus and reserve fund. It may loan to any member any sum not exceeding \$50, without security, but all sums loaned over that amount must be secured by the endorsement of one or more neighbors.

There are many other provisions, of course, in the laws that provide for the Credit Unions, but the above are the most important and gives to the reader an idea of what the plan is. We believe that it would solve many a perplexing money problem for struggling farmers in this state, and after investigation, it may be found that Michigan offers a field for such a system of credits, we shall ask the legislature to take it under consideration. Additional information upon co-operative credit unions will appear in later issues.

FINE DEMAND FOR AMERICAN APPLES IN EUROPE NOW

The exports of apples last week from all ports including Nova Scotia was between 30,000 and



"Here's how we are helping to raise food to win the war," writes A. A. Lambertson of Kent County. 40,000 barrels, counting the boxes three to the barrel.

There is an exceptionally heavy demand for apples in Europe and they cannot get enough of the American fruit. The fruit is selling over there at good prices and both barrels and boxes are netting back a nice profit to the shippers. Cables showed that all kinds of barrelled apples—made no difference what variety or grade—netted back here this week \$14 to \$14.75 per barrel. The ocean freight which is about \$5 must be taken off of that. The average net to the shipper is around \$9. The steamship companies are refunding 75c per box of the freight rate on the first shipments that went across. The rate was first established at \$2 per box, but after the exporters showed where they could not do business except at a loss even if they made the maximum price in Europe, the steamship companies made the rate \$1.25 per box. There is no indication that the foreign demand for American fruit is going to let up this season.

AN ADVANTAGE TO SUBSCRIBE FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR

In response to many requests we have had to quote long term subscription prices, we have with this issue made a price of

Three Years, 156 issues\$2.00

Five Years, 260 issues\$3.00

as you will note from regular terms quoted under the title on the editorial page. We agree with one correspondent and ardent friend of our weekly who writes: "Your weekly is worth more than a dollar a year to me and I never want to be without its friendly help and up-to-date news and views as long as I am farming in Michigan, but I do not want to experience again what happened this year when my subscription expired and I missed several issues before my name was safely back on the list. If you would make it a slight advantage for one to subscribe for three or five years, I'm sure that most of the good business men on the farms whom M. B. F. is designed to reach, would rather pay for it well in advance and know that they would not be troubled with a renewal each year and the chance of missing some important issues."

DAIRY HEAD DENIES LEAGUE SUPPORT

Milo Campbell Reviews Farming Situation and Points Out Wherein Agriculture Has Been Discriminated Against and Denied Voice in National Affairs

(Continued from page 1)

"To the Editor: I must confess that I am beginning to be a little annoyed with the inquiries about my connection with the Non-Partisan League of North Dakota.

"It was an Irishman who said that 'he could stand a joke,' but when they came up and hitched a horse to him 'that was no joke.'

"I supposed my political affiliations were too well known and too secure to be seriously questioned.

"I have had no correspondence with the national headquarters of the league, nor with anyone else about the matter, and know nothing of the same. I am not in favor of such a movement, and do not believe conditions call for such action in this state. The only mention I have made of the Non-Partisan League has been in a couple of addresses recently, one in New York and the other in Chicago. I deplored the conditions that gave rise to the organization of the league. In North Dakota the oppression of the farmers in the marketing of their grain and other produce became such that relief seemed only possible through such means. I called attention to some of the daily happenings, that seemed to hold within them economic changes of great consequence. At the time there was a meeting in the city of Bloomington, Ill., a labor convention with delegates from all of Illinois. The convention declared for an independent party. The chief plank of their platform was 'The democratization of all industry.' I called attention to the National Chamber of Commerce then meeting at Atlantic City with 4,000 delegates in attendance, asking for a place at the peace conference for the manufacturing and business interests of the country. I cited the demand of Mr. Gompers, representing the Federation of Labor, asking a place at the peace conference, and saying that labor must not be reduced in wage, nor hours lengthened. I cited the meeting of the Non-Partisan League, at St. Paul, Minn., and the resolution to offer a union of political forces with federated labor. I then referred to the indictment of the Chicago milk producers, the farmers who at a little meeting talked over what would be a fair price for their milk, and finally thought \$3.42 a cwt. would be fair.

"Then to show the influences at work with the officialdom of the great city of Chicago, I called attention to the five packers, and the report of the Federal Trade Commission, showing how these men stay off the market when it is flooded with meat, until late in the day, and then get it at the low price. How they control a great portion of the food products of the nation, but go unmolested by the courts or officers. Those farmers who were caught in the city were indicted and are to be shortly tried for having the temerity to openly talk over asking 50 cents per hundred less than it cost them to produce the milk, while a billion dollars of combined food concerns to go scott free, with perfect immunity.

"Not a farmer was at Atlantic City, not a farmer was at Bloomington, not a farmer is asking to be present at the peace conference. This was the statement from which I shall not recede until I am shown my error:

"That the industrial properties, the business properties, the manufactories of our great cities would not continue in the hands of their owners 10 years were it not for the stabilizing vote and influence of the farmers outside.

"The farmers never have carried and never will carry a red flag. They are 50 per cent of the population of the country. It is true they are beginning to have a class consciousness and demand the right to do collective bargaining, the same as all other industries.

"They are the stabilizers, the gyroscope of democracy in this country, and it will be a sorry day when that fact is disregarded. They do not want a political party of their own.

"They do not expect to have half the members of congress from the farm (they have but 11 now). What they want is equality of opportunity with other industries.

"No, I am bitterly opposed to radical socialism in whatever form, nor do I want to see any class or industrial political parties. These are days for some good sober thinking."—Milo D. Campbell, Coldwater, Mich., Dec. 27, 1918.

The Publisher's Desk

HURRY THE BOYS HOME!—A week ago today (this is Monday) I was in Camp Barry, the outgoing detention camp, through which all men are mustered out of the United States Navy, at Great Lakes, Illinois. There were fifty men in Barracks No. 1440, consisting of what is known as "two blocks," a block representing twenty-five men who go through the 72 hours detention together. For several weeks every man in that camp had been anxiously awaiting the call to Camp Barry, which meant the first step back to wife, child or mother, for so far, the navy is releasing only men with dependents. We had come into the camp on Friday, passed a medical examination Saturday morning and from that time on had "stood bye," which is the approved navy term for "killing time," and if you ever had to wait for a train or for a friend who never kept an appointment you know how each minute became an hour when you were trying to idle away the time. It was Monday afternoon, a messenger came into the barracks, he had a list of names, he started reading them and we clustered about him until he had to fight for air. As he read the name of the lucky one, that individual leaped in the air, let out a war-whoop and lunged for his baggage—remember now, we were all grown men, all with wives, mothers or children dependent on us for support; but be considerate, please, for remember this was just two days before Christmas and if ever you want to appreciate what that one day of the year means to you, just be threatened with having to spend it in an army or navy camp! How about it, buddies?

Well, he had finished reading the list, my name had not been called, neither had several others, we pleaded with him to read it over again, but in vain, for time is precious in the navy when it comes to doing something for the other fellow. If your "S. O. L." which means "sailor out'a-luck," you're just s.o.l. and that's all there is to it! There were eight of us in the same boat, so we soon discovered after the rest had beaten it for their transportation. One poor fellow, to whom my heart went out, was a school teacher from Montana. He had a wife, but wonder of wonders, a seven-months-old baby, that he had never seen;

his name hadn't been called and yet unless he left Chicago at 8 o'clock on Monday evening he could not reach home Christmas day!

So here we were shut up as securely from the world as if we were in Jackson prison, yet our crime alone was that we wanted to get out, back to our families, and back to the place where from an honest day's toil we could earn an honest dollar or two.

Now, I am not reciting this incident to prove anything more than the fact that I know whereof speak when I say, "Uncle Sam you've made

a world-famous record bringing an army together—now, better that record by hurrying the boys home! Nothing can be gained by keeping men against their will in idle camps here at home or on useless missions abroad. I've been one of them, I was away only a short time as compared with millions of other boys whose home ties and loved ones are just as precious to them as mine are to me, but I know, Uncle Sam, that these boys will come back to you more quickly in time of need, that they will more quickly grasp the problems of reconstruction which are worrying your gray heads now, if you will let them out, let them get out of their khaki and blue and back into their suits and overalls. It isn't fair to these men, to keep them one unnecessary 24 hours. If there are among them, as there doubtless are, hundreds of thousands who like the military regime and are willing to come back as part of your necessary army, sign them up, give them a furlough and bring them back to guard your camps and warehouses, but don't enmesh the boys who are chafing to get out with the red tape of needless sys-

Ballade Upon the New Year

TIME turns his hour-glass down again;
The world goes rolling on its way
Down paths unknown to mortal ken
Through all the leagues of night and day.
Another year—but fast and pray,
Or win or lose in life's great game;
Or if we go, or if we stay,
Brother, the sand flows back the same.

Time has no heed for things of men;
The hours may be for work or play;
The songs of linnets and of wrens—
The law that governs all obey;
The hands of fate and fortune sway
The dice that add or take from fame;
Although your face be grave or gay,
Brother, the sand flows back the same.

King, slave or courtly citizen
Alike will find the debt to pay;
The rust will eat the idle pen
And sheathe the sword dropped in the fray;
Snows of December, blooms of May
Will mark the paths of pride or shame;
And if we save, or if we slay,
Brother, the sand flows back the same.

tem or handicap them so that the slacker who stayed out of uniform will get a head-start on them for their jobs!

At Great Lakes, the only camp with which I am personally familiar, there were, according to reports, some 35,000 men, at Camp Barry, they were issuing releases at the rate of 250 per day—on the Wednesday preceding the day of my arrival there they had released only eighteen! The approximate cost of keeping an enlisted man, fed, warm and officered, must be approximately \$5 per day—figure out for yourself how much of a saving Uncle Sam can make by speeding up his process of mustering out.

Of the seventy-two hours we spent in detention, not to mention the weeks we waited to get in there, the actual time for the physical examination could not have been over three minutes per man, the other details might have taken fifteen minutes more. They say that a man cannot have his release or discharge until his pay-account is adjusted, and yet there are thousands who would willingly sign a bond or make some other form of a deposit to cover any possible amount they were owing the government. While as a matter of fact, in nine cases out of ten the government is owing the man, who would in this case willingly have his pay voucher mailed to his home.

If there is an excuse for the needless waste in keeping the millions of men in the army and navy camps who want to get out, I would gladly have it pointed out to me, but I cannot see wherein it lies, and because I have just "gone thru the mill" I believe I have caught a glimpse of what real agony some of the boys who have been in over a year must be going through.

Let it be understood that I appreciate the fact that bringing the boys home from France is limited by the available ocean tonnage procurable and every man over there is willing to wait his turn, under these conditions, but it is the boy over here in an idle camp, where idleness, true to its eternal reputation, breeds an unrest which you might be quick to label as "Bolshevism," for whom my heart goes out.

Show some speed, Uncle Sam, hurry the boys home!

The man who works hard usually plays hard. But he always remembers that the working hard comes first.



Dissipation

Long about the holiday season your uncle Rube gets wild an' reckless 'cause there's a dum lot of things that he tries to forget at this time, an' in order to do it an' try to make himself think he's about the saddest old lunatic that walks atop of the earth, he just plunges into all sorts of wild antics and dissipates jest something awful. This year has been no exception—only we've went it a little stronger than common owin' to the fact probly that we've had more opportunity, bein' in a place where we could go the limit, an' we've gone it, believe me.

Gosh! We've jest wallered in hot dogs—eat 'em day an' night putty near, an' drunk buttermilk, whole gobs of it, two or three times a day sometimes, an' went to Charlie Chaplin shows, an' rode in street cars an' things to numerous to mention, an' seen Theda Bara an' Fatty Arbuckle—oh, we have lost all sense of shame, dum near, an' ate turkey for our Christmas dinner; however, we didn't have to buy the turkey or we wouldn't a done that—wouldn't a went quite so far as that—but we done it an' that turkey dinner was the end of our wild and reckless career. It gives us food for thought, so to speak, altho the doctor said we'd over-eaten an' it was indigestion or somethin' like that that made us ache so under where our vest would a been if we'd had one to put on.

Well, no matter what caused the awful feelin' as we lay on our bed moanin' an' sighin' we was brot face to face with the fact that a man could make a fool of himself without half tryin' an' by gosh I jest got to thinkin' of the nice letters I've been gettin' lately, of the kind things folks have said to me an' how good my friends have been, an' everything like that, an' I sez to myself, you poor old cootie, what you got to be sad about? You've got good health, you're not so old as you will be if you keep on livin', you have plenty to eat; in fact, Rube, I sez, this old world is jest what you want it to be, an' jest what you make it. Well, now, that thot sort o' braced me up right smart an' I decided right there an' then that if I survived that turkey dinner I'd never try to be sad any more, cause it's the hardest kind of a job to try to be what you ain't an' it don't pay either.

Well, with this determination firmly fixed in the place where my mind would natcherly be if I had such a thing, I have decided to cut out some of the wild an' wooly ways an' have lopped off Charley Chaplin an' may drop Theda Bara an' some of the buttermilk, an' mebbe a hot dog or two—course hot dogs without the Charlie ain't so awful bad, so I'm not so sure about droppin' 'em, but anyway from now on I'm jest goin' to confine myself rite to work an' shall commence by answerin' the A. K.'s question about the sex of geese.

A. K., I don't know who you are, but I am glad you ain't an old maid; an' I don't know where Ashley, Mich., is as I never took geography much but I'm glad you asked me the question 'cause that's where I'm putty strong—on geese.

Now the female of geese is goose. The female does all the work towards raising the children, the goslings, rather, as we are talkin' of geese now. She hatches 'em, runs with 'em an' has all the care of 'em, an' says nothin'. That's why she's a goose. The male has no care of the children, or goslings (confinin' ourselves to geese) but he does all the squawkin' (about expenses) an' trouble an' things like that, an' when the children—the goslings—are growin', if they turn out well he takes all the credit an' he's a gander, and that's the way you tell the sex of 'em—the one that does the most an' sez the least is the goose an' the one that does the least an' sez the most is the gander, see?

Well, now that Christmas is over with an' a new year is right with us, let's all buckle down to business again an' this year let's make a record for M. B. F.—Make it a welcome visitor in every farm home in Michigan. An' I know of lots of city folks that are takin' it, too, 'cause it tells 'em things they don't get in any other way. M. B. F. is sure a friend to the farmer and puts up a fight for him and his interests such as has never before been attempted by any other paper in existence. Cordially yours, Uncle Rube.

Don't be pessimistic! Get into the fight and do a man's part. There never were so many opportunities as there are today. You hear a heap of fool talk about there being no chance for young men today. Nothing is farther from the truth. Better chances forty years ago? Nonsense! Believe in yourself. Have something definite to do, and do it. That's all there to success in life.

One Star Dropped From Our Service Flag



Altho few, if any, of you knew it, our business manager, George M. Slocum, was in the Officers' Material School of the United States Navy, stationed at Camp Dewey, Great Lakes, Ill., when the Kaiser found it out and beat his hasty exit into Holland. When George decided along in June that he was fit-to-fight and proved it by enlisting in the Navy, things were looking pretty black on the other side and we knew that much as M. B. F. needed every man at his post, there was a greater call coming from Civilization, bl'ing on Flanders fields. The day before Christmas he came back, looking somewhat, if not more "salty" than he does in the above likeness. So, with glad hearts, we've taken one star off our service flag just as thousands will be removed from the windows of farm homes all over Michigan during the next few months, but the memory of what these stars signified will grow more precious with the years.

FARMERS SERVICE BUREAU

(A clearing department for farmers' everyday troubles. Prompt and careful attention given to all complaints or requests for information addressed to this department. We are here to serve you. Call upon us.)

WHERE'S ALL THE SMOKELESS COAL GONE TO?

As I have been one of your subscribers for a long time and think I can get a square answer thru your valuable paper, I would like to ask a few questions. First, when, if ever, do the farmers get the balance of the pay for wool sold last spring for government use? We sold with an advance of 65c per lb. with the understanding we would get the balance when the government graded it.

Second, what has become of all the soft coal, such as Howard White Ash, Yellow Jacket, Ashless, Pocahontas, and a dozen other kinds that we used to get at \$2 to \$3 a ton, less than we pay now for nothing but steam coal? The main dealer here claims to be selling all these kinds except Pocahontas, but it is not, and we pay as high as \$6.97 for coal that is absolutely rotten.

Also, why do we have to pay 20c per pound for crackers when flour is retailing for 6c?—W. H. D., *Eaton Rapids*.

Your first question has already been answered in last week's M. B. F. If we had the wisdom of both a Solomon and a Dr. Garfield we might be able to answer that second question. We don't suppose Solomon burned coal in his furnace and Dr. Garfield has resigned, so the only two authorities who might have given us some life on this subject are no longer available.

The coal situation that has prevailed the past two winters has never yet been satisfactorily explained to the American people, and those who have sought information upon the subject have invariably given up in despair. We know that during the summer and fall of 1917 millions of tons of American smokeless and anthracite coal were shipped to Italy and other European allies; that certain grades of the better coal theretofore used as fuel for homes was diverted to the ocean-going supply and war-ships. Unquestionably the great demand for coal has had something to do with the greatly increased price, as it is unbelievable that coal mining costs have advanced in the same proportions as the price to the consumer. Of course, the Fuel Administration set the price on coal, and regulated jobbers' and dealers' profits, but we all have a suspicion that the mine owners reaped fortunes out of war's demand for their product. We hope some day to see cheaper coal, and if the present winter continues mild, a surplus of mined coal is not out of the question, and this might have a tendency to lower prices. Another winter and better grades of coal should again be obtainable, but not at the old-time prices.

The following regulations recently issued by the Fuel Administration may be of interest to you:

"With changed conditions within the state of Michigan, the state fuel administrator hereby withdraws all restrictions relative to the delivery of anthracite and bituminous coal and coke, within the State of Michigan, for domestic use, except the following:

- "1. All chestnut size anthracite coal must be reserved for strictly hard coal base burner use.
- "2. Coal dealers are required to make deliveries to hard coal base burner consumers of chestnut coal for their additional requirements not exceeding two tons each.
- "3. Each coal dealer is required to take care of the same hard coal base burner consumers to whom the first two-ton delivery was made by him prior to this date.
- "4. Consumers having heating equipment other than hard coal base burners, are permitted to purchase and have delivered to them an amount which added to coal delivered since April 1, 1918, shall not be in excess of fifty per cent of their usual normal yearly requirements of anthracite coal, viz., stove and egg size.
- "5. A consumer with any kind of heating equipment may have his full requirements delivered of any kind of anthracite coal except chestnut, stove and egg.
- "6. There are no restrictions whatever on the amount of bituminous coal, or coke, either gas or by-product, which a consumer may desire up to his normal requirements.
- "7. Consumers are required to make application on the usual government blank as heretofore for anthracite coal.
- "8. Communities where the receipts of anthracite coal seem to be insufficient to take care of base-burner orders, the county chairman may require stove size anthracite to be reserved for base burners.

The intention of this order is to assure hard coal base burner consumers to obtain as early as possible, their normal requirements of anthracite coal, not exceeding four tons, and to allow all other users of anthracite to obtain at this time up to one-half of their normal requirements."—W. K. Prudden, *Federal Fuel Administrator*.

If your dealer wants to charge you 20 cents a pound for crackers, we know of no way to stop him. The Food Administration control came to an end Dec. 31st. We are writing the Food Administrator, however, to ascertain if dealers are to be permitted to profiteer as they please and as many of them are undoubtedly doing.

FARMER DOESN'T LIKE BEAN PICK. DO YOU BLAME HIM?

I want to ask if there is any price set on beans for the picker, that is, how much the elevator should charge the farmer per pound. I sold my beans here at Romeo and they charge me 15c per pound for the culls and keep the culls and sell them at \$1 per bushel. All they pay the bean pickers is 6c per pound, so that leaves 9c for the elevator, and I demanded to know why they keep that 9c, but they would not tell me, would only say it was customary for the elevator to charge and I can see why they should get so much. Now if there is any rule in regard to that let me hear from you. I understand that the other elevator was charging 12c per pound for the picker. If I understand right along the first of December. The bean jobbers set the price of beans at \$8 per hundred. That was the standard price all over. I was also told at the elevator after that that was what they would pay me for my beans, but when I was sent to the office the following week when I took my beans all he would pay me was \$7.50. On December 7 they paid \$8 per hundred and on the 12th they only paid \$7.50. I did not ask any questions because I was led to believe that \$8 per hundred was the standard price. One load of 45 bushels, 40 lbs. were 14 lb. pickers, so that left me \$3.24 per bu., and No. 2, 31.20 lbs. were 16 lb. pickers, and were \$3.06 per bu., and 20c per bu. for threshing. So what does the farmer get for his beans. You will find enclosed a stamp for reply. Now if there can be something done in regard to this it would do lots of good to have the elevator I sold my beans to, the Romeo elevator, looked after, because I believe they have gone too far with them and it's time they should be stopped.—J. P. V., *Romeo*.

The bean pick proposition has been pretty well discussed in these columns, and there is nothing new to add to the subject. At the annual meeting of the bean growers last November, a resolution was passed asking the Food Administration to investigate bean picking practices among the elevators of this state and ascertain if the elevators were making an excessive charge for this service. We have never learned the fate of this resolution, but are trying to find out if the Food Administration took any steps in the matter.

The elevators claim with a great show of sincerity that they would much prefer to have nothing at all to do with the picking of the beans; that the expense of picking is greater than the combined charges they make for picking and the amount they get for the cull beans. We have frequently accused the elevators of profiteering in their picking practices, but they only smile, and say "prove it." And what if we do prove it? There are no means at our command to compel the elevators to desist from such practices. For in most localities they control the outlet of the bean crop, and whatever they desire to charge for picking those beans is beyond either our or the farmer's power to prevent. "Well," we say, "return the culls to the farmer." "Sure," they agree, "but if we do we'll have to charge more for the picking." And we throw up our hands and quit. What else is there to do? Don't know? Well, you just round up the neighbors, organize a co-operative elevator and handle your own beans; then you can pick the beans any old way you please.

We are reporting the elevator you mention to the Bean Jobbers' Ass'n, who have promised us to investigate all cases where elevators accept beans at less than \$8 per hundred, and help to punish them for profiteering.

LAW PROTECTS FARMERS FROM TRESPASS BY NEIGHBOR'S CATTLE

I have a neighbor whose farm joins mine and he has a line fence but hasn't any fence on either end of his farm and his stock can come over into mine from either end, as he just turns them loose and lets them go. I don't have my farm fenced, as I do not keep any stock on it. If I should shut them up and take care of them how much could I charge him? I have taken them home and asked him to take care of them several times, and have tried every way I know of to have him take care of them. Now I would like your advice in the matter.—Subscriber.

The supreme court made the following decision which from the statement given disposes of the trespass by cattle question submitted. "Adjoining proprietors are at liberty, if they see fit to dispense with partition fences altogether, and if such fences are erected, no particular portion thereof belongs to either to be kept in repair by him, until in some legal mode the partition is made. Until one or the other has taken the necessary steps to effectuate such division, it is to be presumed he is satisfied to trust his property to such securities as the rules of the common law can give him, and to respond in damages under those rules, if his beasts commit injury on the lands of other persons; that until an apportionment and division, neither occupant is required to keep any fence on any part of the line between them, but each is liable in trespass if his cattle go upon the land of the other, whether there be any partition fence or not. So where the cattle of C went on the lands of A and from thence to the adjoining premises of B, there being no fence between the lands of A and B, nor any apportionment of the respective parts of the partition fence to be maintained by each, held, that no matter whether C's cattle were lawfully on the land of A or not, he is liable to trespass to B. It would seem from the above that a proprietor is not required under any circumstances to fence against the beasts of any person whose premises do not adjoin his."

Sec. 14783, O. L. 1915, provides for impounding beasts doing damage and leaving with pound keeper a memorandum of the claim for damage done. The following sections provide for keeping the beasts if there is no public pound and for settling the amount of damage if the owner is dissatisfied with the claim for damages. They also provide for giving notice and selling the animals if the damage is not paid. Each step must be complied with unless waived by the owner.—W. E. Brown, *Legal Editor*.

DON'T BLAME YOU FOR KICKIN'; WE'RE YELLING LOUD AS WE CAN

For some time I have been county crop correspondent for the Government, and the Agricultural Department has been sending out posters and bulletins urging the farmers to grow more hogs and keep more milch cows on account of their being a shortage of fats, etc. Monday I drove to our local mill for a half ton of mill feed, and to my surprise the miller informed me that he had just received a telegram from Washington allowing him to boost the price of mill feed \$20 per ton. I protested vigorously but it availed me nothing. The half ton cost me just \$10 more than it would had I gone after it Saturday. Now what I would like to know is this: Did not the government fix the price of mill feed, giving the miller a reasonable profit; and if the old price was reasonable what would you call this new one? And how does the government expect farmers to grow hogs at \$16 and pay \$55 for feed? I grew a bunch of hogs last winter on this feed and sold them for \$16. They cost me \$25, and if this hold-up game of the millers continues we farmers will go out of the hog business. Why does the government fix the price of our wheat and then let the miller charge what he pleases for flour and feed? Any information that you can give us will be thankfully received.—U. G. S., *Owosso, Michigan*.

U. S. BULLETINS OF VALUE TO POULTRY RAISERS

The following Farmers Bulletins may be obtained free of charge by addressing the Division of Publications, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

- No. 355, "A Successful Poultry and Dairy Farm."
- No. 528, "Hints to Poultry Raisers."
- No. 574, "Poultry House Construction."
- No. 585, "Natural and Artificial Incubation of Hens' Eggs."
- No. 624, "Natural and Artificial Brooding of Chickens."
- No. 656, "Community Egg Circle."
- No. 682, "Simple Trap Nest for Poultry."
- No. 684, "Squab Raising."
- No. 697, "Duck Raising."
- No. 767, "Goose Raising."
- No. 791, "Turkey Raising."
- No. 801, "Mites and Lice on Poultry."
- No. 806, "Standard Varieties of Chickens."
- I. "The American Class."
- No. 898, "Standard Varieties of Chickens."
- II. "The Mediterranean and Continental Classes."
- No. 849, "Capon and Caponizing."
- No. 889, "Back-Yard Poultry Keeping."
- No. 957, "Important Poultry Diseases."

According to the Census Bureau estimates, 34,832,385,676 cigarettes—over 300 for every man, woman and child—were manufactured in this country last year. This does not include the thousands of cigarettes rolled by the smokers from loose tobacco. In addition to this we have an estimate of 9,050,960,224 cigars.

Changes Recommended in U. S. Potato Grades

(Continued from page 1) influence be brought to bear upon the Bureau of Markets to change its grading rules to conform. This is a subject that will undoubtedly be taken up at the annual meeting of the Michigan Potato Growers' Ass'n and definitely decided one way or another. Perhaps Mr. Clements' recommendations are open for criticism; minor changes may have to be made, but it is our conviction that he has come the nearest to solution of the grading matter than any others that have been presented. We hope our readers will go over the following article very carefully and advise us of their opinions on the proposed changes:

"In response to the agitation regarding market grading of potatoes, the Bureau of Markets, U. S. Department of Agriculture, has, during the past two years, recommended a system of grading which has been enforced by the Food Administration during the present market season.

Objections to Present Grades

GRADE No. 2 BRINGS LESS THAN REAL VALUE

"The principal objection by the grower to these grades is that he gets less for his grade No. 2 than he thinks is fair. The minimum diameter of No. 1 is placed so high that a large proportion of the ordinary crop is screened out and must be graded No. 2. No general market has been developed for No. 2 potatoes, at prices at all attractive to the grower. It is difficult to market any product of relatively low value per pound like potatoes, unless it can be handled in full carloads. The handling of No. 2 potatoes is very difficult, especially from sections where the potato industry is not well developed. Usually in such sections from two to several different varieties of potatoes are grown. A number of cars of No. 1 potatoes must be marketed to accumulate a full car of No. 2. If early potatoes, Rurals and Burbanks, are all being shipped from one point, lots of No. 2's of each sort must be accumulated and kept separate. This requires extra handling and several separate bins.

DEALERS HESITATE TO HANDLE No. 2

"These difficulties have caused dealers generally to hesitate to handle No. 2's. As a consequence growers have had to keep their No. 2 stock for feed, sell for starch, or sell at a price that has been unsatisfactory. This means that a great many potatoes of edible size must be sold as grade No. 2 at the buyer's price. In the year of short production there would be a narrower spread in the price paid for the two grades, naturally, but in a year of good production like 1918, it is doubtful whether these grades will help the farmer.

"The growers feel that the minimum diameter of U. S. Grade No. 1 should be lowered so as to save a larger proportion of the edible sized potatoes, or that the price of Grade No. 2 should be more nearly that of No. 1 and the buyer compelled to handle both grades. During the present season the market for Grade No. 2 has been unsatisfactory.

NO PROVISION FOR SEED STOCK

"Another objection is that there is no provision for seed stock. It is generally recognized that a potato of good type of 1½ inches in diameter makes as good seed as the larger tubers, provided other conditions are good. Some districts, like the Red River Valley, market their crop, very generally, for seed. The present system establishes no grades for this class. Such stock, when including the No. 2's, cannot be sold as graded stock and in case of controversy the shipper has no recourse.

"Under the same objection it is observed that the Federal Reserve Bank has ruled that potatoes properly graded, packed, stored, and insured 'constitute a readily marketable, nonperishable staple within the meaning of the regulations,' and a member bank may make a loan against such warehouse receipts, which paper may be rediscouted with the Federal Reserve Bank. Under the present system, warehouse receipts on seed potatoes stored, ungraded, would not be received by the Federal Reserve Banks as security.

NO INCENTIVE FOR PRODUCING GOOD STOCK

"A third objection raised by those who wish to see the standards of potato growing improved, is that there is no incentive offered for producing extra good stock. The grower who brings to market potatoes of extra good quality receives the same price for them that is given the grower whose potatoes barely grade No. 1. It is argued that competition will regulate this matter but it is not certain that the grower will be benefited. It is quite possible for a buyer to contract for extra good stock and on receiving them declare them

to be No. 1 grade. In this case the shipper has no recourse, there being no grade for extras, and he is compelled to accept the price for Grade No. 1. The wholesaler may grade out the extras and, finding a special market for them, receive an extra price. This premium cannot well be received

Present Potato Grades

"U. S. GRADE No. 1 shall consist of sound potatoes of similar varietal characteristics, which are practically free from dirt or other foreign matter, frost injury, sunburn, second growth, cuts, scab, blight, dry rot and damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means. The minimum diameter of potatoes of the round varieties shall be 1½ inches and potatoes of the long varieties 1¼ inches. In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, 5 per centum by weight of any lot may be under the prescribed size, and in addition, 3 per centum by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade."

"U. S. GRADE No. 2 shall consist of potatoes of similar varietal characteristics, which are practically free from frost injury and decay and which are free from serious damage caused by dirt or other foreign matter, sunburn, second growth, cuts, scab, blight, dry rot or other disease, insects, or mechanical means. The minimum diameter shall be 1¼ inches. In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, 5 per centum by weight of any lot may be under the prescribed size, and in addition, 5 per centum by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade."

* * *

New Grades Proposed

"U. S. GRADE No. 1 EXTRA shall consist of sound tubers of similar varietal characteristics, which are comparatively smooth, practically free from dirt and other foreign matter, frost, injury, sunburn, second growth, cuts, scab, blight, dry rot and damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means. The minimum diameter of potatoes of the round varieties shall be 2¼ inches and of the long varieties 2½ inches, and the maximum diameter shall be 3¼ inches for the round varieties and 3½ inches for the long varieties. In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, 3 per centum by weight of any lot may be outside of the prescribed size, and in addition 3 per centum by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade."

"U. S. GRADE No. 1 STANDARD shall consist of sound potatoes of similar varietal characteristics, which are practically free from dirt or other foreign matter, frost, injury, sunburn, second growth, cuts, scab, blight, dry rot and damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means. The minimum diameter of potatoes of this grade shall be 1½ inches. In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, 5 per centum by weight of any lot may be under the prescribed size, and in addition, 5 per centum by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade. This grade shall contain a minimum of 50% by weight of tubers with a diameter of 2¼ inches for the long varieties and 2½ inches for the round varieties."

"U. S. GRADE No. 2 shall consist of sound potatoes which are reasonably free from dirt and other foreign matter, frost injury, sunburn, second growth, cuts, scab, blight, dry rot and damage caused by disease, insects or mechanical means. The minimum diameter of potatoes of this grade shall be 1¼ inches. In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling 10 per centum by weight of any lot may be under the prescribed size and, in addition, 10 per centum by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade. Potatoes with a 5 per centum admixture of tubers of different varietal characteristics shall be classed as Grade No. 2."

by the grower as he is not in a position to seek a special market for his stock.

OBJECTIONS BOTH REAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL

"There is a certain psychological effect on the mind of the grower in being able to sell the bulk of his stock as Grade No. 1. The objection to the present wheat grades seems to be due to the fact that a large part of the wheat crop will ordinarily be sold as grade No. 2, while under the old

Minnesota grades the bulk of his crop was sold at No. 1 Northern which is somewhat similar to grade No. 2 of the present U. S. System.

"Considering these objections, and in view of the need for grading, the following modifications of the present grades are suggested.

SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS

"First, that there shall be established an extra good grade probably designated as No. 1 Extra. This grade to be run over a comparatively large screen with high standard for disease, injury, etc., and with all coarse, rough stock taken out. A really first-class article. This grade to take care of the product from farmers or communities where potatoes of extra quality are produced and where growers and dealers wish to take particular pains with their product and supply a fancy trade at a price commensurate with the quality of the stock.

"Second, another grade, probably known as No. 1 Standard, shall be established to take care of the general run of potatoes. This grade would be about equal to the present U. S. Grade No. 1, except that a screen of 1½ inches would be used so that all of the good edible potatoes or normally good seed stock would be left. This grade would leave no No. 2 stock of value, only culls for starch or feed.

"Third, the potatoes left from Grade No. 1 Extra, and other inferior stock would be designated as No. 2. These would largely come from sections where potato growing is highly specialized and where facilities for handling would be available. Besides, there would be a much smaller quantity of them than under the present system, and only in years of scant production would it be necessary to use these for food.

"A grower or shipper will not attempt to grade his potatoes No. 1 Extra unless he has an especially fine quality and this grade will give him an opportunity to sell at a price commensurate with the quality of his stock.

"The question which arises regarding the grading of potatoes with the varietal admixtures as No. 2's can be answered by stating that it is unnecessary for the grower to raise that kind of stock, and if he persists in so doing, he should be penalized."

UNITED STATES FOOD SURVEY SHOWS A SURPLUS

(Continued from page 1) according to the department statement, were as follows: Corn, 13,193,789 bushels; oats, 61,670,351 bushels; barley, 74,400,787 bushels; rye, 13,936,010 bushels. These stocks represent the following percentages of the corresponding stocks on December 1, 1917: Corn, 129.0 per cent; oats, 94.6 per cent; barley, 110.8 per cent; rye, 154.2 per cent.

"The commercial stocks of flour and corn meal, as reported for the survey, were: Wheat flour, white, 6,397,490 barrels; whole wheat and graham flour, 133,189 barrels; rye flour, 266,107 barrels; corn flour, 51,676,911 pounds; corn meal, 72,825,916 pounds; buckwheat flour, 13,548,309 lbs.; mixed flour, 26,623,397 pounds. These stocks represent the following percentages of the stocks on hand a year ago: Wheat flour, white, 170.4 per cent; whole wheat and graham flour, 249.1 per cent; rye flour, 245.8 per cent; corn meal, 227.8 per cent; buckwheat flour, 220.4 per cent; mixed flour, 243.5 per cent.

"Elevators, warehouses and wholesale dealers reported stocks of beans amounting to 7,285,713 bushels, while wholesale grocers and warehouses reported the following commodities and in the amounts indicated: Rice, 49,998,810 pounds, rolled oats, 80,489,666 pounds; canned salmon, 96,893,624 pounds; canned tomatoes, 245,489,204 lbs.; canned corn, 111,336,010 pounds; sugar, 164,356,634 pounds. These stocks represent the following percentages of the corresponding stocks on hand December 1, 1917: Beans, 154.5 per cent; rice, 62.6 per cent; rolled oats, 165.7 per cent; canned salmon, 94.3 per cent; canned tomatoes, 140.3 per cent; canned corn, 133.5 per cent; sugar, 125.0 per cent.

"Stocks of condensed and evaporated milk were reported by condensaries, cold storages, warehouses and wholesale grocers, as follows: Condensed milk, 49,878,129 pounds; evaporated milk, 146,757,968 pounds. The holdings of condensed milk reported for December 1, 1918, represented 119.7 per cent of the stocks held by the same firms a year earlier, while the holdings of evaporated milk represented 72.8 per cent of the December, 1917 stock."

BUSINESS FARMERS' PRODUCTION PROBLEMS

(EDITOR'S NOTE: There is no business that is entirely free from production problems. In many instances, the biggest obstacles that lie in the way of success have to do with producing the commodity that is to be sold. This is not true of the farming business, for as State Market Director McBride has pointed out and has been repeatedly emphasized in these columns, the removal of all production problems in farming and the increasing of efficiency in production to the very maximum may not necessarily mean greater profits. On the other hand, it is essential that farmers produce as cheaply as possible, just like men engaged in other lines of business, and every proven method of lowering production costs should be carefully considered and adopted wherever feasible. From now on, we hope to publish an entire page devoted to general problems of production. On this page we will present the methods used by the best authorities, including both actual farmers and men professionally engaged in studying production problems. Letters upon any problem in any branch of agriculture, will receive careful attention.)

FARMER EXPLAINS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SPRING AND FALL RYE

In reply to J. R. B., Alma, Mich., in regard to spring rye and fall rye, there is just as much difference in spring and fall rye as there is in spring and fall wheat. The fall rye if sown in the spring will never grow a crop the same year, but it will grow all over the ground and can be pastured all summer and if not killed by drouth will raise a good crop the following year. Spring rye can be sown in the fall if sown very late so that it will just come up, or not come up at all before snow or frosty weather. Spring rye is grown in this neighborhood for the reason that it is too late to sow fall rye or fall wheat after corn, beans and potatoes are taken care of, and it bears more per acre then. Some farmer who wants to put in oat seed can buy it of the Argo Milling Co. of East Jordan, or I have some for sale, but not tested yet. Spring rye is very good to seed with if sown in spring.—J. T., East Jordan, Mich.

FIND MARL VERY USEFUL IN AIDING THE CLOVER CROP

Wider use of marl, found so commonly in many parts of the state, will help much to remedy acidity of the soil, declares Dr. M. M. McCool of the department of soils at M. A. C.

On one farm in Ingham county, where analysis by the college of samples of soil showed it to be of a depleted sandy type, use of marl increased the income from the land as much as \$15 an acre. The soil on this farm was in such condition that it had been impossible for a number of years to secure a good stand of clover from it. Where no marl was applied, the first cutting gave 1648 pounds to the acre, a large share of which consisted of weeds. On that part of the farm where marl was used, 2764 pounds of clover were secured from each acre. The second growth was allowed to mature seed, yielding about one bushel to the acre. The profit on this farm from the use of marl to remedy an acid condition of the soil, was 515 an acre.

WHY NOT MAKE THIS "DREAM OF ALFALFA" COME TRUE?

M. G. Braden, manager of Adrian Community Market and editor of the *Community Bulletin* has an eye for both the practical and beautiful, and in the following article makes some suggestions that may well receive the serious attention of all rural communities:

"It appears to us offhand that our many roadsides thruout Lenawee county could be cultivated and that in a manner which would not inconvenience traffic, neither would it be detrimental from an artistic standpoint, and in fact we believe that with all the thoroughfares throughout the country bordered with alfalfa we would be adding attractiveness to the roads, as well as advancing a move that might develop into a true example of economics, thus in a measure co-operating with the larger crop movement of our food administration.

"Looking at it from a standpoint of attractiveness we are positive that a roadside adorned with alfalfa would be far more pleasant to the eye than iron weed, wild briars and burdock.

"We could also apply the same to the sense of smell, for when the question of odors comes up, we would far prefer that sweet smell of alfalfa to that of ragweed, wild mustard and thistle.

"From an economic point of view it is useless to argue, as anyone who has traveled our highways fully appreciates the great amount of terra firma

that is being left idle each season as far as a profitable production is concerned. There evidently is each season an over-abundance of weeds, and whether the season is wet or dry, hot or cold, the crop of weeds is always without exception, superfluous. And it matters not how diligently the road supervisor attends the cutting and burning of this "sure pop" crop, there remains a sufficient amount to infest the adjoining farms and sooner or later we find along the roadsides weeds of the noxious character, supplanting, wheat, barley, oats, corn, etc.

"We might add also that the blossom of the alfalfa is far more pleasing to the busy bee, and also offers a fountain of sweets, such as weeds cannot supply, and it would mean a great deal to this

How Straw Protects

BY APPLYING straw to wheat as a top-dressing, winterkilling is reduced probably in the following ways: The straw catches and holds snow, prevents soilblowing to some extent, and reduces the losses from freezing and heaving of the ground, which uproots the plants. Straw can be applied with a fork or by means of a spreader, especially designed for the purpose. The principal thing to consider is that distribution be made evenly and not so thick that it smothers the plants. It is best to spread it soon after sowing, so that the plants will grow up through it and hold it in place. Aside from this, much later spreading is as effective, but is more likely to be hindered by freezing of the straw and by unfavorable weather.

county in honey alone, were our roadsides cultivated into this same-mentioned alfalfa, that might prove a source of supply to even the bee.

"And we believe it would mean better roads also—by the cultivation of alfalfa on this idle soil.

A Farmer with a Small Herd of Cows Tells How Cream Separator Helped Him Make More Money

The following is from the conversation of a man who has recently gone into the dairy business. He is a believer in the cream separator.

"For several years we have been keeping three or four cows, raising a calf each year, but letting the calves suck the cows until they were from four to six months old, and not trying to milk them until after the calf was quite large; and then after we did wean them the cows did not seem to do well and giving milk, and it also seemed that the cows were making a very small amount of money this way.

"Three years ago I chanced to be at a place where a cream separator was being exhibited, and, seeing its workings and getting a few figures about making butter and selling cream, and also feeding the skim milk to the hogs, it appears to me that I should like to have a good separator. So when I returned home, wife and I talked it over, and it seemed as though we were not financially able to buy the machine; but at that time we had four cows, two of which were fresh and the other two would be fresh soon. After talking the matter over considerably we decided to try the machine anyway.

"Following our decision we bought what we thought was a good separator. Before we bought the separator the most butter we had ever made any one week was only eight pounds, a very small amount, of course. But with the help of the separator we made twelve pounds the first week from the same cows, apparently giving the same amount of milk on the same feed.

"For the year beginning and ending with the time we bought the separator we sold butter and cream to the amount of \$225.50; the amount, minus \$137.50, the value of our outlay for the years before, leaves \$88 for the cream and butter, to which may be added the sale of the calves, which was \$45, which makes a total of \$133 for the first year with the separator. This sum is not large, of course, but it is at least twice what we were getting from the same cows by letting the calves have the milk.

"The number of cows milked during this time one of them proved to be a failure by holding up her milk, and I replaced her, buying one that was about dry, but to freshen soon, and selling the worthless one later on for beef.

It is much more work to milk than to turn the calves to the cows twice a day; but the extra amount of milk for the pigs and also the skim milk for the calves pays good wages for the time

Take for example that part of your road that has been cut through a small, or even large hill. The embankments are susceptible to the wear and tear of rains and storms, thus forming ravines that carry dirt, gravel and sand into the ditch along the roadside proper. It is these places that become clogged, especially in the wet season, causing the roads to become overflowed, and eventually forming a quagmire, where perhaps the "flivver" is apt to cease "flivvering" for a while at least and in this connection we might say that a few plants or an armful of dry alfalfa placed beneath the tires would oftentimes obviate the necessity of a team to haul you out, and also prove much better for the roads afterwards than excavation, the filling in with rocks or tree branches, which are often resorted to when one is caught in this predicament. Were the embankments spoken of planted with alfalfa, they would be protected, and within a year or so they would cease to deposit any loose dirt in the ditch below, and also leave a more artistic touch for these mere slopes than sand or clay.—Adrian Community Bulletin.

WEIGHTS OF MILK AND CREAM AS DETERMINED BY THE AGR. DEP'T

Investigations by the U. S. Department of Agriculture show that the weights of milk and cream containing various amounts of fat are approximately as follows, at a temperature of 68 degrees:

Skimmed milk of a fat content of .025 per cent weighs 8.63 pounds per gallon, while milk which tests 3 per cent butterfat weighs 8.06 pounds per gallon; while 4 per cent milk weighs 8.58 pounds; 5 per cent milk weighs 8.53 pounds; and 6 per cent milk weighs 8.57 pounds per gallon. Mixed milk and cream of a 10 per cent fat content weighs 8.53 pounds, while a similar mixture of 15 per cent fat content weighs 8.47 pounds per gallon. Twenty per cent cream weighs 8.43 pounds, 25 per cent cream weighs 8.39 pounds, 30 per cent cream weighs 8.35 pounds, 35 per cent cream weighs 8.31 pounds and 40 per cent cream 8.28 pounds to the gallon. For all practical purposes the weight of milk testing from 3 to 5 per cent butterfat may be figured at 8.6 pounds per gallon.

spent in milking. The experience we have had has proven to me that a good cream separator is a most paying investment on the farm. It is also a great labor-saving device, being much easier to wash and handle than crocks or cans. But what is more astonishing to me is the difference in returns between the use of the separator and letting the calves have the milk.

"My income is fully doubled, and I believe that it will be higher in the future; and the labor is not great anyway. It is also a much more sanitary way of handling the milk than the old way, as the separator removes many impurities that otherwise remain in the cream or milk. If anyone can make good butter without a separator, he will certainly make better butter with one, and besides, get all the cream, instead of just a part. A small size separator will pay for itself in one year with the same milk from but just two or three cows.

"I have already learned that good cows, properly housed, fed and milked, and a good cream separator with which to separate the cream from the milk are a continued source of income."

I am always glad to meet such men and talk with them. It makes me feel good down deep in my heart. I know they are doing business in a business-like manner and success always comes under such conditions, and the farmer and his family are made happier, as nearly always is the case when they get out of the old rut and get to making money so that they can have some of the good times of life. If there is a person on earth who should have an enjoyable life, it certainly must be the farmer, who must toil from early morn till late at night to produce stuff to feed and clothe the world, and when he gets to making money enough so that himself and family can live comfortable, they are much better satisfied, and the young folks of the farm will be much better satisfied to stay with "dad" and help him about the cows. Really, I don't blame any ambitious young man to want to leave the farm where nothing but the old-fashioned ways of doing things are followed.

Now, come on, boys, and let's get in the band wagon and put in ways to handle the farm easier, and you will find that John and Jane will not tarry long in town when they go to take the cream in the new car. They will come back home and associate themselves with mother 'round the fireside or reading table, if you are up-to-date enough to supply them with the best of reading about the farm.—R. B. Rushing, Ills.



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL DIGEST



LIVESTOCK AND CEREAL POSSIBILITIES FOR THE COMING YEAR

Since the United States Food Administration ends with the proclamation of peace by the president, it appears that a brief statement of facts as they now appear in regard to livestock and cereal possibilities for the United States in the future may be of interest as a basis for such deductions on your part on behalf of agricultural and livestock interests as present evidence warrants.

In peace time Europe, excluding Russia and Turkey, consumed twenty-five billion pounds of meat per year. As comprehensive a survey as it is possible to make with the prevailing chaotic European conditions indicates that in the coming year the meat supply of the European countries from home sources will total about seven and one-half billion pounds—at the most not more than ten billion pounds.

Surplus meat supplies throughout the world indicate that a total of seven and one-half billion pounds can be supplied to Europe from outside sources, of which about four and one-fourth billion pounds can be sent from the United States. There is not pork enough in the world to nearly supply the demand.

Of course it is not safe to assume that meat consumption in Europe in the coming year will be normal, even if normal supplies could be furnished. However, 20 per cent reduction in consumption demand would still leave a 25 per cent deficit.

The future of cereal demand is in some degree dependent upon the machinery which will be set up in Europe for food distribution. If finances can be arranged and equality of distribution prevails it seems safe to assume that the surplus stocks accumulated in various points of the world will be almost entirely consumed this year, and safely out of the way when the next harvest comes in. An increase in food production is to be expected for the coming year. However, it seems improbable that the entire increase will more than equal the surpluses which were released when the armistice was signed. Therefore, the total amount of food from the coming world harvest will probably only about equal that of the best harvest, plus the accumulated food supplies released in India, Australia and the Argentine.

28TH ANNUAL MEETING LIVESTOCK BREEDERS AND FEEDERS ASS'N

The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Michigan Improved Live Stock Breeders' and Feeders' Association has been postponed, owing to prevailing conditions, to February 5, 6 and 7, 1919.

Wednesday, February 5, will be devoted to the meeting of the various allied organizations, including the following:

- Michigan Horse Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Holstein-Friesian Association.
- Michigan Shorthorn Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Aberdeen Angus Breeders' Ass'n.
- Michigan Guernsey Cattle Club.
- Michigan Jersey Cattle Club.
- Michigan Red Polled Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Hereford Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Merino Sheep Breeders' Ass'n.
- Michigan Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Ass'n.
- Michigan Hampshire Sheep Breeders' Ass'n.
- Michigan Oxford Sheep Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Sheep Breeders' and Feeders' Ass'n.
- Michigan Swine Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Poland China Swine Breeders' Ass'n.
- Michigan Duroc-Jersey Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Berkshire Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Chester White Breeders' Association.
- Michigan Hampshire Swine Breeders' Ass'n.

Thursday, February 6, will be taken up by the meeting of the Michigan Improved Live Stock Breeders' and Feeders' Association which includes all of the above organizations.

The annual farmers' Week out at the College will be held from February 3 to February 7, inclusive, and Thursday, however, will be devoted largely to a live stock program of general interest to all.

Additional details of this important gathering will be published in early issues of M. B. F.

FARM BUREAU TAKES ON RADISH GROWERS' PROBLEMS

On account of the many complaints made by growers of radish seed of the unfair dealing of the seed companies for whom they raised radish seed this year, it is the plan of the Farm Bureau

of Antrim County to take this matter up with the growers. The plan is to hold meetings in the different sections of the county where radish seed is grown and place an organized plan before the growers. This plan will constitute the organizing of the growers and their agreement not to raise radish seed for any company that will not receive, test and pay for the radish seed delivered at the grower's station here in Antrim county.

Any seed companies who are dealing fairly with the farmers would not object to settling with the growers for their seed upon delivery at the railroad station. In this way, should there be any dispute as to test or weight, the grower would still have the seed under his control and would be able to make a satisfactory settlement at that time. We believe that this is the only way whereby the farmer can get a square deal.

ANNUAL MEETING MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting and grain show of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association will be held February 4 and 5 in connection with Farmers' Week at the Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing, Michigan.

One of the eight large barracks to be used for the week's display will be devoted to crops and soils. Many instructive and interesting exhibits will be placed in this building together with the corn and grains which the farmers bring in. The Crop Improvement Association has discontinued charging entry fees on any exhibits. The only requirement for entry is that the given grain be shown and grown by a farmer of Michigan.

Some of the best authorities in the country will be present to judge the grains and give talks at the meetings on Farm Crops day, February 5.

The crops exhibit will only be one of seven others along lines of interest to the whole farm family. For premium list of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association show or other information write to J. W. Nicholson, East Lansing, Michigan.



The United States in the first half of 1918 produced 17,576 flasks of quicksilver.

Eggs sold at \$1.00 each in Brussels up until recently.

The quantity of tea imported into the United States in the fiscal year 1918 was 151,000,000 lbs.

In Paris ham costs \$1.80 per pound, bacon \$1.10 and butter \$1.40.

There are 12,000,000 negroes in German colonies and other African states.

Large coal deposits have recently been discovered in Ireland.

There are more than 56,000 post-offices in the United States.

A drop of blood that might be suspended from the point of a needle contains about 1,000,000 red corpuscles.

The present population of Paris is estimated at 5,000,000, compared with 3,000,000 before the war.

Air passenger and parcel post service has been started between larger German cities. Passenger fare is about \$1 a mile.

The Emergency Fleet Corporation will deliver 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 tons of new shipping next year.

It is estimated that from 300 to 750 pounds of coal are consumed in stopping and restarting an ordinary freight train.

About 8,000,000 women contributed to surgical dressings, knitted garments, etc., valued at \$59,000,000 turned out by American Red Cross in past twelve months.

The Ordnance Department has produced 2,014,815,584 cartridges, 1,886,769 rifles, and 82,540 machine guns since the United States entered the war.

Before the war there were less than 600 doctors, 300 nurses and 3,000 enlisted men in the medical department of the American Army. Now the army has over 20,000 physicians and surgeons and 12,000 nurses, in addition to an enlisted personnel of 100,000 doctors.

The Government commandeered 2,200 acres of land at Indian Head, Md., for the purpose of enlarging the naval proving grounds there and the auxiliary proving grounds just across the Potomac river in Virginia. Owners of the land are being compensated.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT ADRIAN COMMUNITY MARKET

The only community market in the state of Michigan.

The second community market organized in the United States.

Within the first seven and a half months of the market, 2,879 checks were written.

Within the first seven and a half months of the market, 4,063 patrons had marketed products with us.

Within the first seven and a half months of the market, over 1,000 different patrons had marketed products with us.

Our office answers over 50 telephone calls daily (notwithstanding the poor service.)

Within the first seven and a half months of the market \$66,825.69 was paid for products and running the business.

Within the first seven and a half months of the market over \$60,000 was paid for produce alone.

Is patronized daily from distances exceeding 25 miles.

Delivers with its own truck, a distance of 70 miles (the longest haul of any produce house in the United States.)

Uses exclusively the Acme Auto truck.

Has a monthly periodical which has a circulation of 6,000.

The only produce house in the United States supporting a monthly paper, for its patrons.

GREENVILLE DECIDES CONCRETE ROADS COST TOO MUCH

Greenville, in Montcalm county, is facing the same road problems as many other sections of the state, as the automobile and truck traffic increases. Pneumatic-tired automobiles are hard enough on gravel and stone roads, to be sure, but it takes iron and solid rubber-tired trucks, carrying one to four tons to grind the gravel highway to pieces. So ruinous has truck traffic proven to gravel roads that many rural districts have been investigating the cost of concrete, but in most instances have found that the cost would be prohibitive and have invariably returned to some adaption of the gravel road.

Concrete roads cannot be built for less than \$20,000 to \$25,000 per mile, and as yet traffic in rural districts is not great enough to warrant so large an expenditure. The Greenville Independent claims that gravel roads if built right, will withstand the ordinary traffic of rural districts. It tells of gravel roads built in Indiana upon a foundation of crushed stone, protected with a strong shoulder to prevent the sides breaking away. Wexford county road commissioners have skirted the gravel roads with coarse stones which prevents motorists from wearing down the edges of the road in passing and has a tendency to curtail fast driving.

The truck is becoming a very popular mode of transporting farm products and the roads of the future must be built to withstand the powerful pounding of these heavily loaded machines. There is absolutely no question but what eventually all main thoroughfares in the most thickly settled rural regions will be constructed of concrete, for the constantly increasing traffic of heavy trucks gravel roads will wear out almost as fast as they can be built.

REPORT ANNUAL MEETING OF ANTRIM COUNTY FARM BUREAU

The annual meeting of the Antrim County farm bureau was held in the court house at Bellaire, Friday, December 20th.

It was decided to put on a campaign for members to the bureau in this county. The cost of becoming a member is fifty cents annual membership dues. Other counties have already begun this movement and Antrim county should be among the lead in number of members. 1,000 members should be secured this winter and then Antrim county will be known as a leading county in this work as well as in the Russett Rural potato and marketing associations.

The election of officers and committeemen resulted in the following men being elected for one year:

President, A. B. Large, Bellaire; Vice-Pres., Frank Lesh, Mancelona; Secretary, R. E. Morrow, Central Lake; Treasurer, A. H. Thomas, Bellaire. The executive committeemen for each township are: Banks, E. R. Harris; Central Lake, Wm. Bowers; Chestonia, Geo. Tobias; Custer, Dan Kauffman; Echo, Edward Hebdon; Elk Rapids, Henry Hannel; Forest Home, Geo. Gorham; Helena, Lewis Harris; Jordan, John Craig; Kearney, Leonard Bush; Mancelona, Frank Hoppins; Milton, Geo. Hockridge; Star, Ed. Olds; Torch Lake, Harry Hull; Warner, Jay Thumm.



MARKET FLASHES



U. S. STUDIES WHEAT PROBLEM

Confronted With Huge Task in
Maintaining its Guaranteed
Price Without Finan-
cial Loss.

One of the biggest after-the-war problems with which the nation has to deal is the fulfillment of its guarantee on the price of 1919, which as Sec'y Houston writes to the House of Representatives must be made effective. Following are extracts from the recommendations made by the department of agriculture for carrying out the guarantee:

Wheat Crop of 1918

The United States Food Administration Grain Corporation has undertaken "to carry out and make effective" the guaranteed price of wheat of the crop of 1918, and with its capital of \$150,000,000, and its credit, combined with the export demand for wheat up to this time, the Grain Corporation has been able so far to maintain, in its integrity, the guaranteed price of wheat of the crop of 1918. The crop of wheat of the harvest of 1918 is estimated to be 917,100,000 bushels, and this resulted from the planting of 42,301,000 acres of winter wheat and 22,406,000 acres of spring wheat, or a total of 64,707,000 acres.

Up to the last day of November 1918 there had been a movement of 530,000,000 bushels from the farms and of this amount there was in storage in elevators, mills, and terminals 287,000,000 bushels, leaving a balance of the crop of about 329,000,000 bushels yet to be moved from the farms, and on the same day there were 254,000,000 bushels in elevators, mills and terminals, so that it will be observed that there is a very large amount of the 1918 crop yet to be moved from the farms, and it will take all the resources of the Grain Corporation and the most careful attention to every detail to carry out the guaranteed price of wheat of the crop of 1918, made by the executive proclamation under the authority of the Act of Congress. In fact, if the export demand for the wheat of the 1918 crop should diminish, it is possible that in order to maintain the guaranteed price it may be necessary that there be a further appropriation by Congress. On the other hand, if the demand for wheat for export should continue, it is hoped that on the first day of June 1919, the Grain Corporation may have been able to carry out the obligations of the United States as to the crop of 1918 without impairing its capital of \$150,000,000.

Wheat Crop of 1919

The carrying out of the guaranteed price of wheat "harvested in the United States during the year 1919" and offered for sale before the 1st day of June 1920, fixed by the President's proclamation of September 2, 1918, in pursuance of the direction of the Act of Congress of August 10, 1917, presents a much more difficult situation, of which Congress should be advised, and such agencies should be created and appropriations made, by Congress as will insure the carrying out of the guaranteed price "to every producer of wheat," in its integrity. We, therefore, deem it advisable to call the attention of Congress to the situation, as it appears at present.

The following table will indicate the possible outcome if we assume the normal abandonment for winter wheat and the five-year average and a planting in the spring of 1919 equal to last

LAST MINUTE WIRE

DETROIT—Potatoes, beans, hay firm. Eggs higher. Poultry firm on good demand.
CHICAGO—Potatoes 15 cents cwt. higher. Hay firm, beans inactive, onions firmer.
NEW YORK—Apples firm, higher prices expected. Bean demand slow. Overabundance of hay with lower prices.
PITTSBURG—Potatoes firm and higher.

year with the average for the last five years:

Winter wheat, bushels — 697,900,000
Spring wheat, bushels — 303,000,000

Total ————— 1,000,900,000
Deduct seed and domestic consumption ————— 640,000,000

360,900,000

It would be unwise not to make provision for the possible maximum quantity to be handled.

In order to meet the competition from Argentina and other countries, it seems apparent that our wheat of the 1919 crop, for export, must be paid for here at the guaranteed price and perhaps sold in competition at a price considerably below the guaranteed price. If we sell export wheat at a price below the guaranteed price there would be difficulty in holding our own people to a price for flour based on the guaranteed price of wheat, even if this were desirable.

The total estimated elevator capacity for carrying wheat is probably at a maximum as follows:

Public terminals, bushels 150,000,000
Country elevators, bushels, 100,000,000
Mill elevators, bushels — 100,000,000

350,000,000

If the crop of 1919 should be to any considerable amount in excess of the 1918 crop, as now seems probable, it will be necessary to provide additional wheat-storage capacity to carry out the guaranteed price of wheat for the 1919 crop. Storage capacity is essential, for the guaranteed price is limited to the first of June, 1920, and producers will certainly rush their wheat to market, in order not to be caught on June 1, 1920, with wheat on hand, and the United States must take the wheat when offered.

In conclusion we submit the following:

(a) The guaranteed price of "every producer" is only effective provided the wheat is "offered for sale before the 1st day of June, 1920." It will be impossible to carry out this guaranty as it is intended by June 1,

1920, and if producers cannot sell their wheat to the United States before that date and are left with wheat on hand it will be felt that the obligation of the United States has not been carried out in good faith. Therefore, Congress will have to extend this date with such provisions and safeguards as may be necessary to protect the government from wheat harvested in 1920 being mixed with wheat of the 1919 crop.

(b) Present agency will have to be continued or a new one created with power to buy, store, and sell such wheat of the 1919 crop as may be offered to it, and sufficient appropriation will have to be made to furnish such agency with ample funds to at all times purchase throughout the United States, at the guaranteed price, such wheat of the 1919 crop as may be offered to it and also to provide storage facilities to take care of the same by lease or purchase of facilities now in existence or by building additional facilities or both. The appropriation will have to be on a basis to enable the guaranteed price to be maintained at all times by purchase of wheat with funds provided by the government and without relying on outside credit.

(c) Provision may have to be made by Congress for the protection of the Government against wheat or flour brought in from other countries during the period when the guaranteed price is effective, and also to protect purchasers of such wheat so long as the same is in the country and not consumed. Such provision was made by Section 14 of the Act of August 10, 1917, but the same expires with the proclamation of peace.



WHEAT

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Red	2.30	2.30 1-2	2.36
No. 3 Red			2.32
No. 2 White	2.26	2.28	2.34 1-2
No. 2 Mixed	2.26	2.27	2.33

There is still a very active demand for wheat, tho the price level that was

reached a couple weeks ago (\$2.30 for No. 2 red on Detroit market) still maintains. The expected drop in flour has not materialized, but the advance in wheat feeds holds without fluctuation.

Winter wheat has advanced about as far as it can with safety. In some sections the growth has become rank and ought to be covered with a blanket of snow to protect it from the severe cold. Unless snow does come in quantities soon, or unless it remains unseasonably warm, we expect to see a lot of winter-killed wheat.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	1.55	1.60	1.81
No. 3 Yellow	1.50	1.52	1.75
No. 4 Yellow			1.70

Corn reached the highest level of the season on the Chicago market Monday, tho demand in Detroit was rather draggy with no price changes. A storm last week in the corn belt tied up some shipments and the fear that additional mid-winter storms would result in short supplies had a very bullish influence on the market. Both dealers and growers now have visions of \$1.75 corn before another six months, but at that most of them are willing to sell when the chance comes. The crop is short, there's no getting around that and the demand for hogs that is almost sure to prevail all next spring and summer ought to keep the price of corn pretty well bolstered up.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Standard	73	71	79 1-2
No. 3 White	72 1-2	70	78
No. 4 White	71 1-2	69	77

Oats are lower on the Detroit market, tho the situation generally is one of firmness. The re-selling by the government has taken care of a large part of the export demand. Reports indicate that there are less oats in dealers' hands today than a year ago despite abnormally large production.



RYE

There is a trifle stronger feeling in the rye market and the grain advanced on the Detroit market one cent Monday, making the Detroit price \$1.62. No one expects any large advance in rye. In fact, it will be surprising if the present level can be maintained. Barley is inactive, little demand, with no change in the price reached several weeks ago of \$1.80 to \$1.95.



HAY

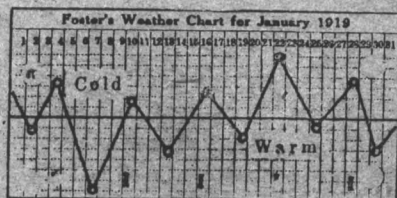
Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	25 50 29 00	27 50 28 00	26 50 27 00
Chicago	30 00 32 00	29 00 30 00	28 00 29 00
Cincinnati	29 00 29 25	28 50 29 00	27 75 28 25
Pittsburgh	30 00 30 50	28 50 29 50	27 50 28 50
New York	32 00 34 00	31 00 33 00	30 00 32 00
Richmond			

Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	27 50 28 00	23 50 24 00	22 50 23 00
Chicago	28 00 30 00	28 00 29 00	16 00 25 00
Cincinnati	26 25 27 25	25 25 26 25	24 25 25 25
Pittsburgh	27 50 28 50	27 50 28 50	26 51 27 50
New York	30 00 32 00	25 00 28 00	26 00 28 00
Richmond			

There is generally a rather weak feeling in hay, with some exceptions. Pittsburg continues to be a good market, with demand somewhat in excess of supplies. The Chicago market is firmer and Detroit's supply and demand just about evens up. Most of the other markets, like New York, Toledo, Cincinnati, etc., are over-supplied, and there is a downward ten-

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

As forecasted by W. T. Foster for MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMER



WASHINGTON, D. C. Jan. 4, 1919.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent Jan. 8 to 12, warm wave 7 to 11, cool wave 10 to 14. This starts in with low temperatures on meridian 90 and, fluctuating up and down, the temperature averages will rise to a high point on meridian 90 about Jan. 22; earlier west of that line, later east of it. Not much precipitation during passage of this storm. Not much force in the storms and therefore not much wind.

Winter grain has grown too rapidly and I expect a long, cold dry winter to damage it. The hogs, with feet in the trough, the big speculator profiteers in grain and cotton, have been depressing prices while they were buying the surplus farm products, and again I advise farmers not to sell when the market appears to be unreasonably low. Better hold your grain and cotton till they go to fair prices. If I

had any grain or cotton I certainly would not sell it now.

Next warm wave will reach Vancouver about Jan. 13 and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. It will cross crest of Rockies by close of Jan. 14, plains sections 15, meridian 90, great lakes, middle Gulf States and Ohio-Tennessee valleys, 16, eastern sections 17, reaching vicinity of Newfoundland about Jan. 18. Storm wave will follow about one day behind warm wave and cool wave about one day behind storm wave.

Moderately low temperatures on meridian 90 near Jan. 13, higher near 14, and near 19, but the average going to higher points till near 22. Not much precipitation; a little rain south and a little snow north. Same for Pacific slope. Precipitation will begin to go to South America, dry weather for North America will come in slowly. This is the beginning of the crop season for South America and they will get sufficient rain, while our winter grain will be short of moisture and the northern part of it short of snow to protect it. Farmers should not lean too heavily on bumper crops of winter grain for 1919.

W. T. Foster

dency in prices. This is exactly as we predicted, and is due to perfectly natural causes, warm weather and freedom of freight movements. Now that farmers are ready to sell their hay, they find little demand, so many of the dealers are being loaded up with supplies. We expect no immediate improvement in the hay market unless the weather should turn much colder and stormy.



BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	9.00	9.25	10.50
Prime	8.00	8.50	9.75
Red Kidney	12.00	12.00	12.75

The department of agriculture's recent food survey shows more than half as many beans in the hands of the dealers on Dec. 1st, 1918, than on the same date a year ago. This may signify much or little. Marketing of beans has been very free this year as compared with a year ago, not only in Michigan, but in all sections, so while there are actually more beans in dealers' hands there may not be as many in the hands of the growers. It is no secret that the elevators of Michigan have ample bean holdings to take care of all current orders, and we cannot see, in view of this situation how prices can advance very much for at least a couple or three months, if at all. The navy bean enthusiasts can say what they may we know that the enormous crop of pinto beans has hurt the navy bean market, and will continue to fill a certain demand. Farmers are still complaining of bean picking practices and we hope to have some authentic information to present along these lines in the near future.



POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Round White Bulk
Detroit	1.90 cwt.	1.80 cwt.
Chicago	1.85	1.80
Cincinnati	2.00	1.90
New York	2.50	2.40
Pittsburgh	2.00	1.90

The Chicago Packer says with reference to the potato market: "Despite all predictions to the contrary, the potato market showed advances in price the days immediately preceding and following Christmas." This was indeed a surprising situation to everybody, somewhat different than usual at that season of the year, and is being taken generally as a sign that the potato market is in good shape and will continue firm. On the Chicago market last week prices were slightly higher. The Detroit market has ranged firm and steady for nearly two weeks. Receipts have dropped way off and buying is limited. The weather is still a bearish factor. Better prices need not be looked for in the immediate future unless the weather gets colder. Reports from Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York and Maine all indicate a strengthening of the potato market, and there is a tendency among farmers to hold for higher prices. Farmers don't like the U. S. grading rules any better this year than they did last. The rule, ought to be changed, and will be, if the organized growers can decide and act together upon the desired changes.



ONIONS

Chicago reports a lightly better tone in onions, but the onion deal elsewhere is about the same as it has been for some time, "deader'n a door nail". January, however, usually ushers in the season's demand for onions and while there may be no immediate advances in prices, a better demand is looked for.



APPLES

Despite the usual bearish influence of the holiday season, the apple market is firm. Holdings by eastern dealers except those in cold storage are pretty well cleaned out; there is a strong demand and neither growers

or dealers are in any hurry to sell. The European demand continues very strong and many thousands of barrels of American fruit are going over. The following prices were being paid local N. Y. dealers last week: Common storage, Baldwins, A grade, 2 1-2 inches up, \$5 to 5.50 per barrel; same, 2 1-4 inches up, \$4.75 to 5.25; same, B grade, 2 1-4 inch up, \$4.25; ungraded, 2 1-2 inch up, \$4; same, ungraded, 2 1-4 inch up, \$3.50; bulk handpicked, culls out, 2 1-4 inch up, \$2.25 to \$2.40 per cwt; Ben Davis, A grade, 2 1-4 inch up, \$3.75 to 4.00 per barrel; same, bulk, handpicked, culls out, \$2.05 to 2.10 per cwt; mixed varieties, warehouse sorts, bulk, \$1.50 to 1.60 per cwt.; cider apples (few moving) 80c per cwt.; cold storage, Greenings, A grade, 2 1-2 inch up, \$5.50 to 6.00 per barrel; Baldwins, A grade, 2 1-2 inch up, \$5.50 to 6.00 per barrel; same 2 1-4 inch up, \$5.25 to 5.50 per barrel; same 2 1-4 inch up, \$5.25 to 5.50 per barrel; Northern Spies, A grade, wide range quality, 2 1-2 inch up, \$6 to 7.50 per barrel; Russets (just beginning to move) A grade, \$5 per barrel; Ben Davis, A grade, \$4.25 per barrel; mixed varieties, bulk, handpicked, culls out, \$2.50 per cwt.



BUTTER

New York Butter Letter

New York, Dec. 28.—As usual during the holiday season the market is rather inactive. There is a marked tendency for all buyers to be conservative and to add very little to their stocks outside of what is actually needed for current supply. However, there has been some out-of-town buying, but it has not been enough to materially affect general conditions. Considerable more butter from the west coast has arrived during the week which has tended to keep the supply a little ahead of demand. There has been the usual nervous feeling which has prevented any great feeling of confidence in the situation and it is difficult to predict what may transpire during the next few days.

Prices of butter took a sharp decline on Monday when quotations on higher grades fell 1½c. Practically no butter moved that day. However, on Tuesday a measure of confidence returned and the market strengthened and quotations advanced a half-cent. On Friday there was no further advance but the market gained strength and could be said to be firm. Demand for unsalted butter is not so strong as it has been for the past few weeks but the usual differential in quotation above that of corresponding grades of salted butter is being maintained. The established quotations at the close Friday were as follows: Extras, 68½c; higher scoring than extras, 69 to 69½; firsts, 68½ to 68; and seconds, 53 to 58c.



EGGS

Eggs are firm and slightly higher. The storage holdings are beginning to show the drain that has been made upon them, and offerings are not plentiful. Fresh candled firsts were bringing in Detroit this week 61 to 62½ cents.



POULTRY

The poultry market is strong. Receipts do not quite keep pace with demand. Prices prevailing the first of the week were as follows: No. 1 springs, 30 to 31c; small springs, 28 to 29c; hens, 30 to 31c; small hens and Leghorns, 27 to 28c; roosters, 20 to 21c; geese, 29 to 30c; ducks, 33 to 34c; turkeys, 38 to 40c per lb.



LIVE STOCK

Detroit Live Stock Market (Bureau of Markets wire)

Michigan Central Stock Yards, Detroit, Dec. 30.—Cattle: Receipts, 766; (Continued on page 18)



Feed That Will Make Hens Lay

THE high prices on poultry and eggs right now are sufficient to encourage poultry raisers to strive for big production. The essential item for big production is the right kind of feed.

Wellman's QUALITEED Poultry Feed

is a ready-made solution of the feeding problem. His Poultry Scratch Feed contains no weed seeds, and is a clean, properly balanced feed that will make mongrel hens lay high priced eggs. Wellman's QUALITEED Chick Feed contains just the right elements to develop chicks at a rapid pace. These feeds are low in price by all standards of comparison. See the guaranteed analysis on bags here illustrated.

ORDER YOUR SUPPLY NOW—Feed will be scarce. Extraordinary demands have caused a shortage. See your dealer and tell him how many tons you will need. Give him time to order a car. We can ship him in the same car QUALITEED Dairy, Hog and Horse feeds. If your dealer cannot supply you, write to us direct.

E. L. WELLMAN, Grand Rapids, Mich.

—have you poultry or hatching eggs to sell?

then read Mr. Woodruff's letter just received:

Melvin, Dec. 27, 1918.

M. B. F.:—Please stop my advertisement as my poultry is all gone and letters are piling up. Dozens come on every mail. We are more than pleased with results. You shall receive more advertising from me later on for hatching eggs. My poultry are taking extra well as I have received orders for as high as 100 pullets, and everyone seems well pleased with them. I sure have got poultry of quality, and at the right price.

Yours very truly,

R. S. WOODRUFF.

this was Mr. Woodruff's ad that cost him just \$7 for 13 insertions in our Breeders Directory:

FOR SALE—Single comb White Leghorn Cockerels and pullets; Barron 300-Egg strain. Also one oat sprouter 300-hen size. Cockerels, \$1.50 each in lots of two if taken at once.

R. S. Woodruff, Melvin, Michigan.

IF YOU have eggs or breeding stock for sale, don't wait another minute! Now is the time to start your advertising and our Breeders' advertising rates are so low that every poultry raiser in Michigan can afford to offer what he has to sell through this department of our weekly. SIMPLY WRITE US WHAT YOU HAVE TO SELL in a letter, we will set your ad in type, tell you how many lines it will fill and how much it will cost, by return mail, so you can get it in next week's issue. The season is opening early, don't wait another minute, write us what you have to sell, we'll be glad to get you up an attractive advertisement that will start results coming as they did to Woodruff, of Melvin, who says "dozens come on every mail."

BREEDERS DEPARTMENT, MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, Mount Clemens, Mich.

This ad. measured just 5 lines, which would cost at 15c per line, 75c per week, or \$7.00 for 13 weeks; larger or smaller ads at proportionately low cost. Send for Breeders' Rates.

for all the farmers of Michigan.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

A Farm, Home and Market Weekly Owned and Edited in Michigan

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1919

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Published every Saturday by the
 RURAL PUBLISHING COMPANY
 MT. CLEMENS, MICH.

Detroit Office: 110 Fort St. Phone, Cherry 4669
 Offices: Chicago, New York, St. Louis, Minneapolis.

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Entered as second-class matter, at Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Is This What You Call Justice?

WE USED to think we had a pretty fair grasp of the English language. But we learned how meagre our vocabulary really was when we attempted to comment upon the removal of price limitations on wheat mill feeds.

Last week we predicted that the taking off of these restrictions meant higher prices on wheat feeds. The article was scarcely in type before bran advanced from \$35.50 to \$47 and middlings from \$37.50 to \$50.

Prices were fixed on wheat feeds long after the first crop of \$2.20 wheat was placed on the market. These prices allowed fair profits to all engaged in the manufacturing and selling of these products. The war over, these prices were removed by the Food Administration, with the result above noted.

By the fixing of a maximum price on wheat and flour, the interests of the consumer were nicely taken care of. The welfare of both millers and dealers was also provided for by the allowance of liberal profits. No guess-work about this at all. From the miller down to the small-town dealer, every individual who had anything to do with the manufacturing and selling of flour was allowed a fair profit. But how about the farmer? Oh, the fellows at Washington made a guess at what the farmer ought to have, and that is what he got.

But the farmer is also a consumer. Oh, to be sure. He not only consumes the finished product of wheat, flour; but he consumes large quantities of the by-products of wheat. Up to the time \$2.20 was fixed as a fair price on farmers' wheat, they had been buying bran and middlings at prices based on \$3.50 wheat. They sold their 1917 crop of wheat at about \$2.05 a bushel, but went right on buying bran and middlings on a \$3.50 wheat basis. After awhile the Food Administration attempted to bring the price of bran and middlings down to a \$2.20 wheat basis, but it was not until the spring of 1918 had come, fully six months after marketing of the 1917 wheat crop began that any farmers in Michigan could buy bran and middlings at a fixed price.

There is a great scarcity of wheat feeds. With the price restrictions off, they naturally respond to the laws of supply and demand. And in so responding they net the lucky dealers who happened to have in a supply of these feeds a handsome little fortune. Is it anything but profiteering in the raw materials that go into the manufacture of the world's most essential food, milk, when dealers boost the prices of these materials which they bought at \$30 and \$32 per ton, to \$47 and \$50 a ton?

The dairymen have had a long and only partially successful fight for profitable milk prices; and now when for the first time in a life-time many of them are breaking even, it

is most discouraging to have to meet these advancing prices on standard feeds.

No, this isn't justice, to bind the farmer with price regulations and permit the dealers in by-products of the wheat raised by the farmer to manipulate the market as they choose. It is simply another case of the discrimination that unsympathetic and uninformed minds have shown against the farmer from the minute the nation entered the war. We farmers get tired of complaining, but there's a cog loose somewhere that ought to be fixed; there are causes for all this discrimination that should and must be removed; and when that is done and farmers get the same kind of deal as other people, they will quit their fault-finding, and not before.

"When the Boys Come Home"

"IF THEY do come home," has been a popular refrain in America. Thousand and of them will never come home for they sleep peacefully in death among the poppies and the charred ruins of No Man's Land. They have fought the good fight and now rest in eternal repose.

But there are something like three million American youths still under arms, in Europe and the United States. Many of these have work yet to do; many of them will probably cast their future lot with Uncle Sam's standing army; but the great majority of them have finished their job and are waiting, waiting, waiting for the order that will free them from their military bonds and send them home rejoicing to the open arms of their dear ones.

How slowly it reverses, this gigantic machine that only a few short months ago reached out its fingers, gathered in the boys and men from all walks of life, from field and factory, farm and office, and fashioned them into a compact, efficient fighting force. To those waiting back home for the return of the father, son or brother whom they willingly gave when the nation called, the dissembling of that great machine seems interminable.

We can easily appreciate the danger of a wholesale discharge of soldiers who must of necessity seek occupations in civil life. The industrial balance would be quickly overthrown were this great army of men to return in the short period of a few weeks and demand reinstatement in civilian positions.

But nevertheless we are constrained to ask whether the demobilizing is taking place as rapidly as it might. Back home there is work to do; industrial centers are still short of help; spring will soon be here and the farmers will need their boys. There are abundant jobs right now for hundreds of thousands of men. Speed up the machine; return at the quickest possible moment the freedom that has been taken away from the soldier boys; keep them no longer chafing in idleness under military discipline. They have fulfilled their duty to you, Uncle Sam; now fulfill your duty to them.

What Will Michigan Do for the Returned Soldiers?

VERY SOON now the soldier boys will be returning home, each seeking the occupation for which his talents are suited. The government would place all men who are unable to secure jobs in their chosen line of work, upon farms. From the government's viewpoint this is an easy solution of a perplexing problem, but it can hardly satisfy the public conscience or repay the nation's debt to the men who have fought its battles. Before state and national governments rush headlong into a half-hatched plan to make farmers out of returning soldiers, the consequences of the act should be carefully considered.

It will not do to put men on farms whose training and habits are of the city. None who have experienced the hardships and uncertainties of pioneer farming would think of doing such a thing. But those who are back of this movement are undoubtedly city-bred themselves and have the erroneous idea of most city-bred people that farming is an easy

and profitable occupation at which any man with ambition and a willingness to work, can succeed. But agricultural history records that a large percentage of men who leave city jobs to become farm owners find their way back to the bench and the lathe within a year or two after they left them.

Few men or women who have grown up in the city and become accustomed to the life and the activity of the city are satisfied with the solitary life of the rural districts. That is one of the reasons why the majority of returning soldiers, unless they went from the farm into the trenches, will fail at farming.

It will be the height of ingratitude if the United States and the state of Michigan gives the returning soldier no choice but a job on a farm or a chance to buy an eighty of cut-over lands. It would be a fine thing for Michigan if its several million acres of unimproved lands could be thus magically peopled and set to work. But be it remembered that there are many practical problems that stand in the way of the successful consummation of that plan. In the first place, no soldier should be expected to make a living on a farm unless he is provided with ample funds at a low rate of interest, with which to clear the land, build himself a home, buy farming implements and pay for his first year's operations. He should neither be expected to make any payments whatever on his land in less than two or three years after he settles on it. So then, any plan, whether fostered by state or national government or both, must be successful and fair to the soldier, provide for these contingencies.

Just Junk, That's All.

NOTHING but an imperative order from the French government saved 150 carloads of explosives that had been sold to the French from being dumped into the ocean, having become a menace to the surroundings in which they stood.

All of the nations that took part in the war have got enough gunpowder and high explosives on hand to blow themselves off the map, and the funny part of it is, they don't know what to do with the blamed stuff. Reminds us of a man with a box of dynamite. He's afraid to carry it on his shoulder lest it blow his head off and he's afraid to sit down on it lest it blow his—pants off.

But the left-over explosives and the costly machines for discharging it are now for the most part, nothing but junk,—just junk. It is dangerous to have around; it ought to be moved so far from the sight of man that he may forget what the stuff looks and acts like. Sure, it's a waste to feed it to the fishes, a terrible waste, probably running up into the billions of dollars, but it's merely the price that war exacts.

Dump it into the ocean, and don't weep any tears over its remains. Pay the price and grin. But kindly erect over its last resting place a tall and slightly spire to which we farmers may point in eloquent silence whenever we are reminded of the "terrible" chances Uncle Sam is taking in paying us \$2.00 for our wheat.

Both Senators Smith and Townsend and nearly all of the Michigan congressmen have assured M. B. F. that they will give that portion of the Gore bill relating to the adulteration of dairy foods their careful consideration and support. This was in response to the petition sent them by this publication asking them to support the measure.

After keeping the price of the farmers wheat down to less than cost of production during the two abnormal war years when the prices of everything else soared sky high, the Food Administration is now reminding him what a lucky dog he is that he won't have to sell his 1919 crop in competition with Australia's \$1.18 wheat.

Commander Newberry has time for brocade and broadcloth, but he is strangely busy when overalls and cow-hides are in session.

EDITORIALS BY OUR READERS

(This is an open forum where our readers may express their views on topics of general interest. Statements appearing in this column will not necessarily indicate our own editorial opinion. Farmers are invited to use this column.)

What Do You Think of it, Readers?

Read an article in the paper which asked thru the state legislature what the farmers of Michigan wanted. Here is one thing we want and ask that M. B. F. take it up for us. It is that all township officers be cut out at once and that we be allowed to pay our taxes to the county treasurer without any percentage for eight months of the year, and that all county officers be put on a salary just the same as the man working for a company or any private person, and his wages the same from the circuit judge down. Make them furnish their own fuel and light, or pay for it, and that all state and county officers after this, commencing at our next presidential election be elected for four years and cut out all this unnecessary expense imposed on the people. Let the state handle all building and repairing, of high wages. The state appoint a man in each township to do the work of that township, his wages not to be more than \$3 a day and he to bear his own expenses, and must get all of his repair work done in 90 days' time, say from the first of June until the 1st of September. Any town work he hires done is not to be paid over four dollars a day, and stand his own expenses, and must work full ten hours for a day's work, go and come on his own time. Four dollars a day for man and team for full 10 hours' work, also the employees of state's wages be cut right in two in the middle, and the house of representatives cut out. Let the judge of the supreme court say if the senate's work is legal or not. Cut out all this red-tape work. There is no use for half of it. Make the taxes of everybody throughout the state 2 per cent on his or her valuation, this to be the outside limit. The state at large make all improvements on highways and pays for them; also ditches and bridges and culverts; the state do the work and pay for it. Abolish and do away with all township officers at once. Don't let them last a month after the first of the year, and give the people until the first of September to pay their taxes without any percent, and hereafter make laws to do away with so much expense on the people. There are too many men living and getting rich on the tax-payers and doing nothing and are causing too much expense on the people. I know of four men in Lee township who are not assessed for as much as they are insured for. That is not right. One man I know is not; he is insured for \$2,500 in the State Mutual and is only assessed \$2,200 and \$450. We kindly ask that you people take this matter up at once and get the township officers abolished at once. Let us pay our taxes to the county treasurer. We kindly ask that you give this your immediate attention and consider it the request of the people and your readers.—*W. H. M., Midland county.*

Good Words From Hillsdale County

I am very much interested in MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING and will do all I can to boost it in this section. I recently tacked up one of your subscription posters on my barn which I got at the Adrian fair and often call attention to the merits of the publication, as compared with an other, so-called farmers' organ, in the state, thru which I have at times made fruitless efforts to bring about progressive measures for the farmers of the state.

I wish you success in your various activities and if I can do anything to increase your influence in Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee counties in whose farmers I am especially interested in every phase of their prosperity and welfare, I shall be glad to do what I can.

I enclose one dollar for my own subscription and hope you will get a lot more in these counties. You may get something from the enclosed items which I am now sending to the press. I have wanted to write you some special articles as you requested and may get time to do so.—*Geo. B. Smith, Hillsdale county.*

Here is Another Man's View on Square Silo

I see in the Dec. 14th M. B. F. that a Mr. W. P. H. of Walkerville is asking about a square silo being a perfect silo. I have been acquainted with a number of square silos and they do not give perfect satisfaction as the silage will not pack thoroly in the corners. There is nothing any better than the round wood silo, according to my judgment. I have two round silos; I feed the year 'round from them, and the best is none too good for the Irish. You will realize I think a good deal of the M. B. F. and also find enclosed \$1 to renew my subscription after the present subscription runs out.—*W. R. H., Beulah, Mich.*

A Republican Who Agrees With Our Defense of the President

I admire the first editorial in the sample copy of your paper which you sent me. Though a republican, there is nothing which so aroused my ire

as the petty, unpatriotic, scurrilous attacks on President Wilson, now that the war is over, which so many partisan periodicals seem to feel impelled to print. They reflect both upon the republican party and the intelligence of thinking farmers.—*S. H. L., Oakland county.*

Bay County Farm Values Have Declined Twenty Per Cent

In regard to the prices of farms in this part of the county would say I believe in my best and most careful estimate the values have declined about 20 per cent in the last four years, or since 1914, there are very few buyers and very few can sell though there are many places for sale.—*J. C. Armour, Merritt, Bay county.*

War to End War

(Printed by request)

That is what we are fighting for. We joined the Allies to put an end to military autocracy and personal ambition of an insane ruler. We have no right to conclude peace until there is unconditional surrender. There must be complete annihilation of the Kaiser's world-power ambitions, and of all his war equipment. There must then be formed a league of nations to enforce peace. This being accomplished, we have "fought a good fight," as Paul said. In such a war there is honor.

What then will be the excuse for the maintenance of our National training camps? There are those who will endeavor to fix upon us the German

A Clinton County Subscriber Says:

Have kept four different farm papers, but found that the M. B. F. is a mile ahead. It comes out with the goods. Enclosed find order for two years.—*Paul W. Zell, Clinton county.*

plan of training every man for war. The "preparedness" crowd will want to call every able-bodied man into camp every year for military training.

Grant that the training has done a wonderful amount of good to our younger manhood. Out of it has come fine physique, splendid health, broader sympathies through travel and a general mixing of our population. That alone is worth while. But we have trained men under the stress of war. We have fortunately had a man as secretary of war, also a secretary of the navy, who have seen beyond the mere battle-line. They have safeguarded the health and morals of the men in a remarkable degree. The whole forces of the civilian population especially of the good women, have been spent to keep our soldiers and sailors in these training camps clean for a return into civil life as companions and as future husbands of the girls of today.

Remove the spirit of intense patriotism stimulated by an unselfish war. Remove all these restraints by the government and civil population. What then? Just as sure as military training becomes an annual event as a fixed policy just so surely will the people in the training camp cities cease to give heed to the so-called soldiers—the men in camp for physical training. Merchants will profiteer on them without restraint. Officers will come from the rich and those who will have a pull. There will be no weeding out in conflict. All the evils and none of the good of army life will run riot if we adopt a preparedness policy after winning the victory for which we fight—abolition of war.

Worst of all, it will be in direct contradiction to our world-known national policy—a democracy without a great trained army—a national hatred for military autocracy. Can we fight German militarism and straightway turn our country over to the same folly? If universal military training lowered the morals of Germany dare we think it will not do the same for us?—*Successful Farming.*



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Nerve!

—Murphy in the Chicago Herald and Examiner.



SENSE AND NONSENSE



TILL NIGHTFALL

Today's burdens will last only through today. They may be removed before tomorrow; but if they should be renewed tomorrow, strength to bear them will also be renewed. Today is all that we need to think about during today, and one day is not very long. Here is a message of rare comfort that someone has spoken: "Anyone can carry his burden, however heavy, until nightfall. Anyone can do his work, however hard, for one day. Anyone can live sweetly, patiently, till the sun goes down. And this is all that life ever really means." But it means one thing more, that even between now and nightfall we do not have to bear the burden alone.

WHAT PART OF HIS ANATOMY?

"Ma! ma!" sobbed Willie, "do my ears belong to my neck or face?"
"Why, what is the matter?" was the temporary reply.
"Well, you told Mary to wash my face, and she's washing my ears, too."

Indeed I would, if I were you,
Indeed I would.

I'd have the best that life can give,

If I were you;

And use it hourly while I live,

If I were you.

I'd glean joy from waning years,

I'd cull laughter from my tears,

And a courage build on fears,

If I were you.

HUMBLE PIE

"You don't appear to object to these food restrictions."

"I don't see any restrictions worth mentioning," replied Mrs. Cumrox. "I have been for years wishing I could sit down in the best restaurant and order corn bread and cabbage and potatoes right out loud."

THOROUGHNESS

Do it better!

Letting well enough alone never raised a salary or declared an extra dividend.

And what was well enough for yesterday is poor enough today—do it better.

Rescue that little task from the maw of dull routine—do it better.

Seek out that automatic act of habit—do it better.

Put another hour on the task well done—and do it better.

Strive not to equal—strive to surpass.

Do it better.

SUIT YOURSELF

Old Mrs. Donahue managed to get along in the world in spite of her educational deficiencies. One day she was called upon by a lawyer to sign her name to a rather important paper.

"You sign it yourself, young man, an' I'll make me mark," said the old woman. "Since me eyes gave out I'm not able to write a wurrd."

"How do you spell it?" he asked, his pen poised above the proper place.

"Spell it whatever way ye plaze," said Mrs. Donahue promptly. "Since I lost me teeth there's not a wurrd in the wurrd I can spell."

OUGHT TO BE CURED

Doctor: "Sore throat, eh? Have you tried gargling with salt water?"

Naval Patient: "Good heavens! I've been tormented six times!"

If you are afraid you will fail you are half-way to the land of the Has Beens. Stop thinking you can't succeed, and you've turned your back on Failure.

AS TO THINKING RIGHT

If a man thinks everyone is against him he will treat them so they will be. If he thinks everyone is a friend he will treat them nice and they will be friends. If a man is suspicious of everyone they will be suspicious of him. You get just what is coming to you, good or bad, that's sure. If you keep on fighting, you'll get licked sometime, good and plenty.

TACTFUL

Head of the house (roaring with rage): "Who told you to put that paper on the wall?"

Decorator: "Your wife, sir."

Head of the house (subsiding): "Pretty, isn't it?"

Drudging is the gray angel of success: Look at the leaders in the profession, the solid men of business, the master-workmen who begin as poor boys and end by building a town to house their factory hands; they are drudges of the single aim—"One thing I do." Mr. Maydell, the hammer-maker of Central New York, was an artist. "Yes," said he, "I have made hammers for twenty-eight years." "Well, then, you ought to be able to make a pretty good hammer by this time." "No, sir," was the answer, "I never made a pretty good hammer. I make the best hammer made in the United States."



THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



Raise Our Standards

DEAR PENELOPE: I have often thought I would like to add my mite to your valuable department. As you have asked us to express ourselves on subjects of interest, I am writing, wondering if what I have to say will merit the waste basket. The beauties about us and the commonplace things have a way of getting mixed up so that often breaks the monotony of farm life.

As I looked out upon the hoar frost decorations this morning it started a train of thought. As I see the ash tree in the barnyard looking like a giant white fern, and the tiniest twig on the plum trees wore ermine to dear for an earl, and the commonest weeds were decorated like a beautiful fairy flower, then the remembrance of the promise in the Good Book that all our sins should be covered and this mortal put on immortality, I wondered if the transformation could be anywhere near as beautiful as the hoarfrost decorations. Then coming down to commonplace things, I thought how far short many of us come to measuring up to a standard of quality.

We take cream and make an article we name butter, and take it to market and tell the purchaser it is good butter, and demand the price of good butter, and oftentimes it can only be used for frying. Dear farmers' wives, let us raise the quality of our butter, and make it so good that it will measure up to a high standard; take extra pains with the cream; keep it where it will not become tainted, and churn as often as possible, washing out the buttermilk, salting with pure dairy salt, and as soon as salt is dissolved work and pack, covering packages with butter paper, and cover to exclude air, as nothing becomes affected sooner than exposed butter. But I do not think that we are altogether to blame for the quantity of tainted butter there is. When butter is taken to the store the clerk or merchant will remove every bit of butter paper and allow it to stand exposed to the smoke and smells common there, no matter how choice an article; or it will

Communications for this page should be addressed to Penelope, Farm Home Department, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

be dumped in a rancid receptacle, or among nondescript collection, and soon all has the same flavor. We believe we ought to make a protest against such work. Yours for more and better butter.—M. A. M.

I am well pleased to receive your kind letter,

A Good Night

"He giveth his beloved sleep."
—Psalm cxxvii., 2.

"SLEEP dwell upon thine eyes, peace in thy breast!"

The stars drift slowly down into the west,
The drowsing breeze sighs faintly on the hill;
Save for its song the wide, wide world is still.

Night has one cure for Day's one thousand cares,
One healing balm within her clasp she bears,
The blessed sleep that makes our frowns grow smooth,
The blessed sleep to comfort and to soothe.

The battles of the day have left their scars;
There is no warfare now; the marching stars
Wheel patiently and surely from the east,
And all Day's trumpet challenges have ceased.

From the illimitable depths of night
There breathes a lullaby no pen can write,
A melody that lives through ages long—
The half-hushed, mystic, wistful slumber song.

There are no wounds that ache, no stings that smart
Once sleep has flung her spell about the heart.
Forget the weary road, the endless quest—
"Sleep dwell upon thine eyes, peace in thy breast."

A Cheerful Face

NEXT to the sunlight of heaven is the cheerful face. There is no mistaking it—the bright eye, the unclouded brow, the sunny smile, all tell of that which dwells within. Who has not felt its electrifying influence? One glance at this face lifts us out of the mists and shadows, into the beautiful realm of hope. One cheerful face in the household will keep everything warm and light within.

It may be a very plain face, but there is something in it we feel, yet cannot express, and its cheery smile sends the blood dancing through the veins for very joy. Ah! there is a world of magic in the plain, cheerful face, and we would not exchange it for all the soulless beauty that ever graced the fairest form on earth. It may be a very little face, but somehow this cheery face ever shines, and the shining is so bright the shadows can not remain, and silently they creep away into the dark corners. It may be a wrinkled face, but all the dearer for that, and none the less cheerful. We linger near it and gaze tenderly upon it, and say: "God bless this dear, happy face! We must keep it with us as long as we can, for home will lose much of its brightness when this sweet face is gone." And ever after it is gone, how the remembrance of a cheerful face softens our way!

Lace Collar

This block pattern is for a pretty and dainty lace collar, which can be quickly crocheted owing to the simplicity of the design. The work is commenced at the back and crocheted up to the neck and then to one side and thread broken. The second side is made last. At A the sides may be increased in length if a longer collar is desired. Crochet cotton No. 70 is used. The cuffs of this set will be given in a succeeding issue.

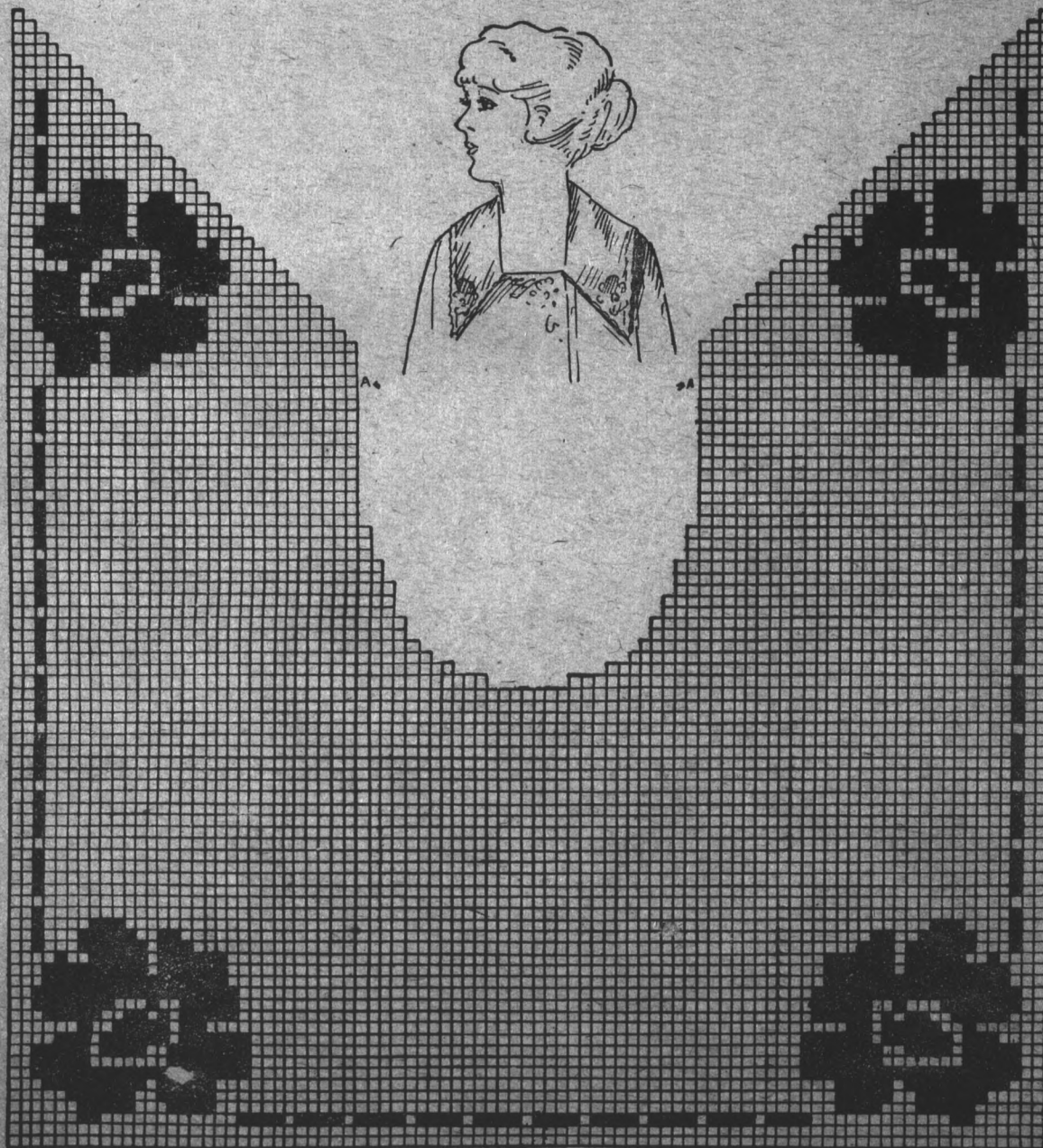
Where Can I Sell Children's Stories?

DEAR PENELOPE: For the past few months I have been writing short stories for children. I have never had any published as I did not know where to send them or the form in which to send them. Will you tell me where I can send these stories, and what price I could expect? Would they have to be typewritten or just written by hand. Will you please consider my letter and any help will be greatly appreciated.

Wishing you a happy New Year, I remain—
R. C., Marion, Mich.

I am glad to give you whatever information I can as to possible purchasers of your stories.

Submit stories of interest to boys to *Youth's Companion*, Boston, Mass.; *American Boy*, Detroit; *Boys' Magazine*, Smithport, Pa. Submit stories of interest to very young children to *Little Folks' Magazine*, Salem, Mass.; *The Child's Magazine*, Garden City, N. Y.; *St. Nicholas*, New York City. There are a number of syndicates which also buy children's stories. Write to King Feature Syndicate, 35 West 39th street, New York City; also International Syndicate, Baltimore. Publishers much prefer manuscript written on the typewriter; in fact, I would suggest that if you have a machine available that you use it. You write a good legible hand, however, and I think a story written by hand would receive favorable attention. Whenever submitting manuscript, always enclose postage for return, and I want to warn you not to be too greatly disappointed if publishers do not at first accept your stories. Many of the most famous story writers of the day have gone through a long period of disappointment and trial, only to brilliantly succeed after perseverance. I should be very much pleased, indeed, if you would advise me in the event of your selling any stories to the above publishers. Thanking you for your kind wishes, and assuring you that I most heartily reciprocate them, I am, cordially your friend, PENELOPE.



LATEST STYLES and New York Patterns

No. 2686.—Ladies' house dress. Cut in 7 sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 6 yards of 36-inch material. Width at lower edge is 2½ yards, with plaits drawn out.

No. 2682.—Girls' dress. Cut in sizes 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. Size 10 will require 4 yards of 36-inch material.

No. 2339.—Ladies' dress. Cut in 7 sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 7½ yds. of 36-inch material. The skirt measures about 3 yards at the foot, with plaits drawn out.

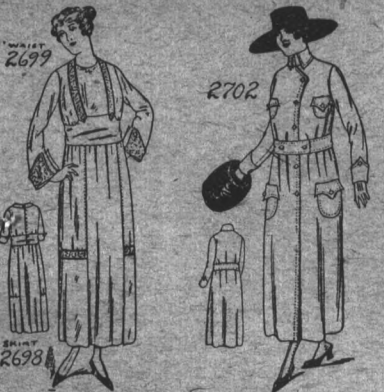
No. 2567.—Girls' Dress. Cut in four sizes, 10, 12, 14 and 16 years. Size 12 will require 3 yards of 36-inch material for the foundation. The overblouse will require 2½ yards.

No. 2699-2698.—Ladies' costume. Waist 2699, cut in 7 sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Skirt 2698, cut in 7 sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. To make the dress of one material will require 5½ yards of 40 inches wide, for a medium size. Width of skirt at lower edge is 2 yards with plaits drawn out. Two separate patterns.

No. 2676.—Ladies' Waist. Cut in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 2½ yards of 36-inch material.

No. 2702.—Ladies' coat. Cut in seven sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 4½ yds. of 54-inch material.

No. 2696.—Ladies' Maternity Skirt. Cut in 7 sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. Size 24 requires 4 yards of 44-inch material. Width of skirt is about 2½ yards at the foot, with plaits drawn out.



Herewith find cents for which send me the following patterns at 10c each:

Pattern No. Size

Pattern No. Size

Be sure to give number and size. Send orders for pattern to Farm Home Dept., Mt. Clemens, Mich. Be sure to sign your

M

CATALOGUE NOTICE

Send 10c in silver or stamps for our Up-to-Date FALL AND WINTER 1918-1919 CATALOGUE, containing 550 designs of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Patterns, a CONCISE and COMPREHENSIVE ARTICLE ON DRESSMAKING, also SOME POINTS FOR THE NEEDLE (illustrating 30 of the various, simple stitches) all valuable hints to the home dressmaker. Address, Farm Home Department, M. B. F., Mt. Clemens, Mich.

What Makes the Potato Scabby

By E. A. Botsford.

What makes the potato scabby?

I have long tried to find out;

But the more I study the subject

The more I am in doubt.

Yes, I have asked the question of many

The common, the wise and the great

And each one had an opinion

Which he was glad to relate.

The first one of whom I queried

Was a man you would style self-made;

"Why, 'tis plain enough," he answered,

"You plant too much in the shade."

Another told me that sunshine

Upon the seed would bring

The scab in the early autumn,
As sure as there was such a thing.

One said that the soil was the chief factor,

That it should be rich and black.

Another said that such a soil

Was sure in potash to lack.

He said that down in York State

All around his old home,

They raised their best potatoes

On a light, gravelly loam.

Some said too much rain had fallen

After the tubers had set.

Another that they needed all the moisture

That they could possibly get.

"Did you treat your seed to a solution

Of corrosive sublimate?" said one;

"If not, friend, let me tell you

That there's where the mischief was done."

And still there were many others

Whose advice I tried to heed,

Who told me that the only trouble

Was in selecting the right kind of seed.

Have every potato perfect—

Smooth, clean and bright,

And you'll never have any trouble

With either the scab or the blight.

So I have planted early, late, and between times,

In the new, old and full moon,

I have planted seed that was perfect,

At morning, night or noon;

I have used a potato planter,

Dropped seed from a basket or pail,

Covered with hoe, rake and shovel,

And threshed the vines with a flail.

But the more I study the question

The more bewildered I get

And the potatoes I raised this season

Are by far the scabbiest yet.

So I tell the wife and children,

As they gather 'round the table

That we'll eat the pesky, scabby things

As long as we are able.

—Contributed by E. A. BOTSFORD,
Emmet county.

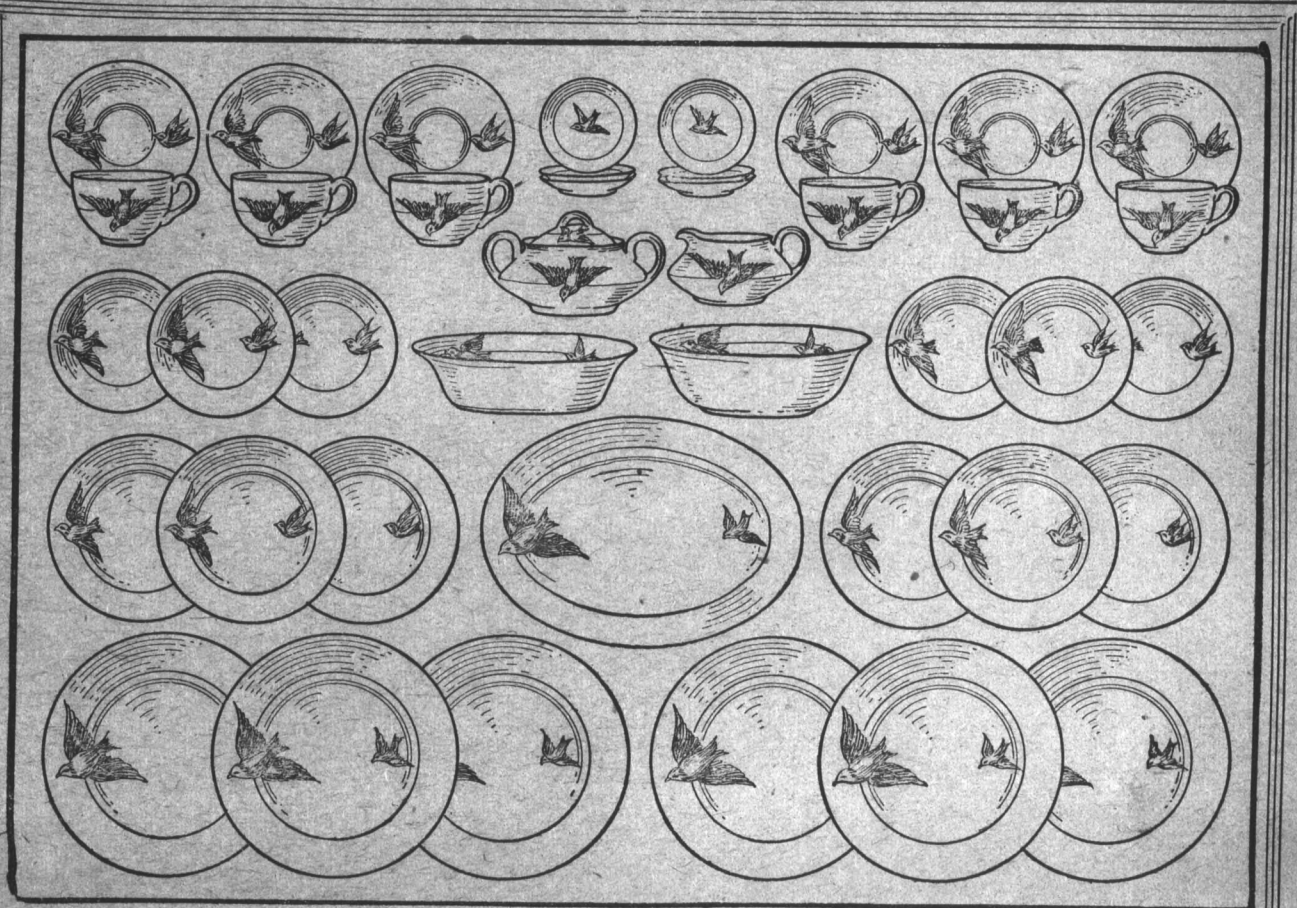
I appreciate your paper and I would not like to be without it.—R. L. Donovan, Washtenaw county.

I think your market reports fine.—Bert P. Welch, Oakland county.

I have received sample copies of the M. B. F. and think it the best paper for the business farmer that I know of.—J.A. Nelson, Montcalm county.

We like the paper fine.—Lewis Teit-sort, Benzie county.

As to the paper, I am much pleased with it and will take it another year.—S. F. Monaghan, Washtenaw county.



The war's close brings good news---now we can offer a beautiful set of dishes to every lady friend of Michigan Business Farming! Don't miss this opportunity!

WHEN WAR CAME, shipments of dishes and china-ware from England and France were cut off. Our army taxed the resources of every American pottery and prices went sky-high! Consequently, few indeed, are the farm homes that have added a beautiful set of new china to their tables during these trying years.

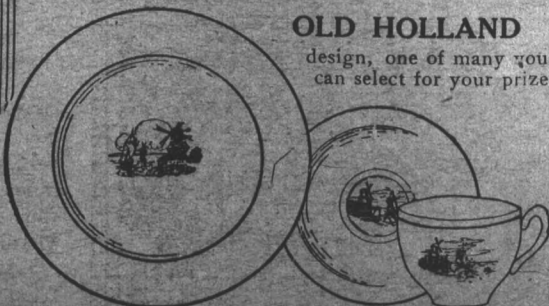
But now peace is here, we have so much to be thankful for, that we all want to brighten up inside and outside our homes. Our boys are coming back and we want to greet them with the wonderful spreads they are dreaming of over-there or over-here, where they are longing for mother's cooking, as only boys can!

Let's dress up our tables—and what, tell me, can add more to the spread than a wonderful set of beautiful dishes, white and glistening with a selected design, embellished in natural colors or gold?

A NEW SET FOR EVERY BUSINESS FARMER'S HOME

So we have scoured the market places where good dishes are sold for the most modern designs and beautiful sets. We will give our lady readers the choice of Blue Bird, Holland Dutch, Colonial, Puritan, Gold Band or Flowered designs, in 30 to 50-piece sets. Any set you choose for passing out a few copies of our weekly, Michigan Business Farming, among your friends and neighbors who are waiting for an opportunity to subscribe. You have no idea how easy it is to get subscribers for this weekly unless you have actually tried it. Surely, you would be willing to give up a few hours time to place a beautiful new set of dishes on your table!

Just mail this coupon for color plates and our offers, Free!



MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING,
Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

I would like to earn a new set of dishes by getting a few new subscribers to our weekly. Send me color plates of the sets you offer and your terms, free, and I'll do my best to win a set.

M

P. O.

R.F.D. No.

County

Michigan.



An Hour With Our Boys and Girls

Address all Letters to Aunt Penelope, care Michigan Business Farming, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS: The New Year is here. When we say that the year 1919 has come what do we mean? Do we mean that only nineteen hundred and nineteen years have passed since God made the world? Oh, no. For no one knows how many years ago God created the earth, the trees, the birds the animals and the first people. Some of the learned men think the world was made hundreds of thousands years ago, but none of them know. We figure time now from the birth of Christ. So when we say the year 1918 has gone, we mean that one thousand, nine hundred and eighteen years have passed since Christ was born. My, that's a long time, isn't it? And yet we know from accounts in the Bible and from our history books that people just like us lived in those days and celebrated the birth of Christ on Christmas day just like we celebrate it today.

Many boys and girls make resolutions on New Year's day. They usually resolve to be better boys and girls during the new year than they were during the old year. That's a splendid thing to do, don't you think? For no matter how good we may be, it is always possible to be better. Only we ought not to wait a whole year before changing our bad habits. Every night of our lives we ought to think over the things we did and the things we said that day, and resolve to do a little better and say nicer things the next day. I know when I was a little girl I used to do things in school to displease the teacher, or I used to talk back to my mother, or annoy my little brother, just like nearly all boys and girls do sometimes. But I knew it wasn't the right thing to do, and I always felt ashamed about it after-

wards and resolved never to do that thing again.

I hope that all the readers of my page have made their New Year's resolutions and will try every day to do some little service for teacher, father, mother, brother or sister or even the playmates. Boys will be boys and girls will be girls, just as they always have been and there will be times when it will be SUCH fun to draw an ugly picture of the teacher; to write forbidden notes; to whisper; and do lots of other things like the boys and girls in my day did; but remember that it's just as much fun to do the right thing, and it always brings more happiness to both you and the people around you. With love, from AUNT PENELOPE.

The Giants of Lilliputania

CHAPTER VI.

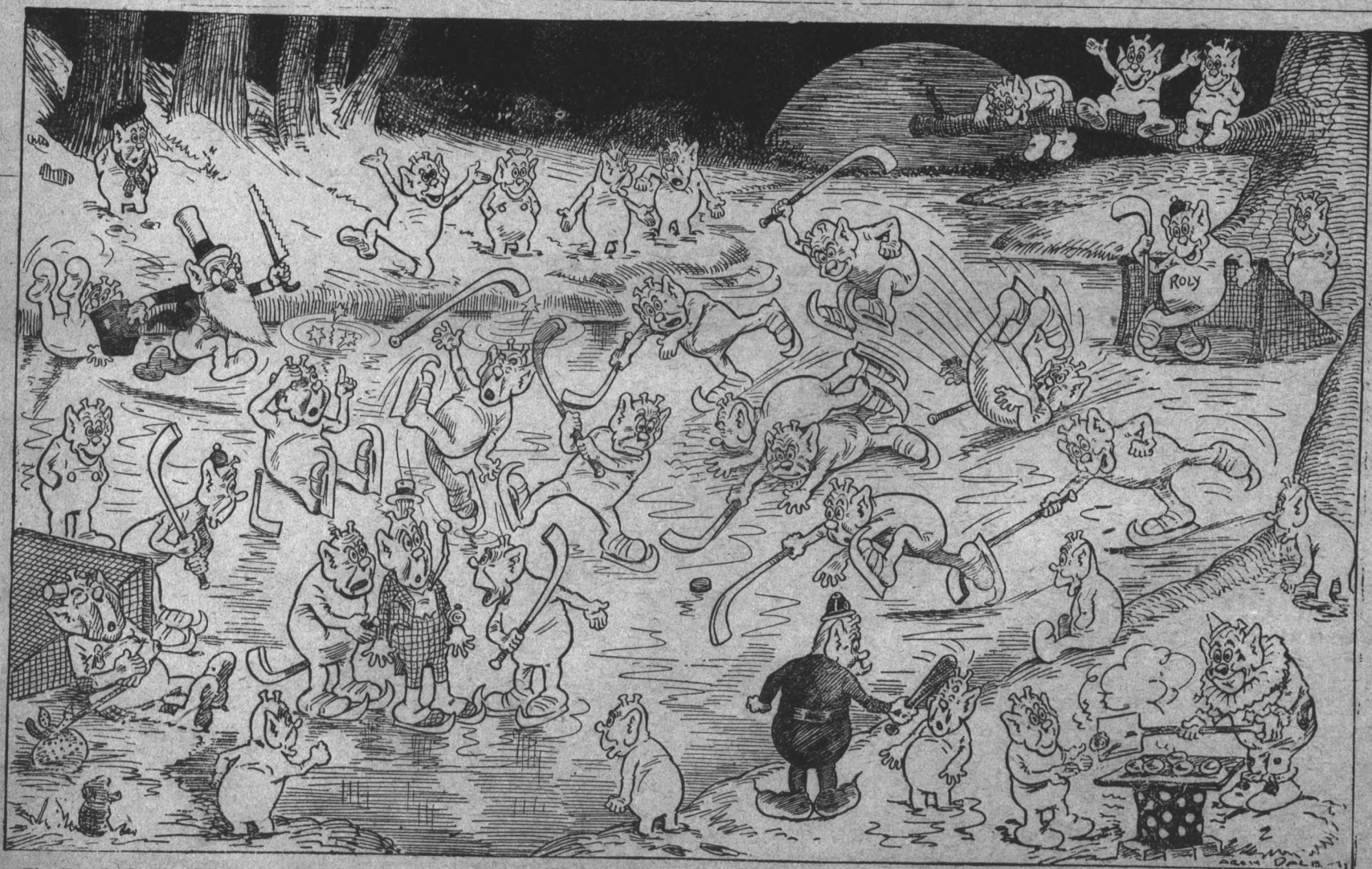
MR. BIG HED, THE GREATEST SHOW-MAN IN LILLIPUTANIA

BEFORE I go any further, I must tell you that Lilliputania boasted of having "The Greatest Show on Earth." Mr. Big Hed, the owner and manager of this immense circus, would lead the parade that always preceded every performance and proclaim in a loud voice, "Ladies and Gentlemen, Snarkenbeck's Zoo-Hippodrome-Circus, the Greatest Show on Earth, will give a gala entertainment in this city this evening at 8 o'clock sharp. The price of admission for adults is only 10c, the tenth part of a dollar. The children, God bless them, will be admitted free," and he would go on and tell the people of the many wonderful things the circus people with his big show could do, and of the strange ani-

mals which he personally had captured and trained in the jungles of Lilliputania. I think you will agree with me that Mr. Big Hed had the right idea in not charging admission for children. Mr. Big Hed's kindness and good nature brought him great success. "For," said he, "it is only by giving that one can have." "Good deeds come back to us double," Snarkenbeck's little circus became "Snarkenbeck's Zoo-Hippodrome-Circus" when Mr. Big Hed bought it. He had been Snarkenbeck's animal trainer and chief clown. The previous winter had been spent in the jungles by Mr. Big Hed with some of his men, where they had captured "Jumbo," an immense mama elephant, and her two children; a Zebra, a snow-white horse for the bare-back rider, a cute little pony, a fine giraffe, two camels, and a wonderfully big hippopotamus. These, added to Snarkenbeck's little circus, made a really great show, and when Mr. Big Hed enlarged the name to "Snarkenbeck's Zoo-Hippodrome Circus," it seemed like it was the proper thing to do. Now on the very night that "Bell Boy" was having such a terrible time, Mr. Big Hed and his great show were speeding to the capital city of Lilliputania on their special train. The "cavass men," as the employees who erected the tent were called, had gone ahead at Mr. Big Hed's direction and put up the Big Tent on Front Street. During the early morning hours "Snarkenbeck's Z-H-C Special" would arrive. Mr. Big Hed figured on giving the Lilliputians of Capitol City a big surprise. He had secretly built the first flying machine—a real air-ship. Tomorrow, at 12 o'clock noon on the dot, "Americus," the giant balloon, would go up in City Hall Square, and after rising to a terrific height the airship,

"General Washington," would fly up and up until it was away above the balloon and then grandly sail round and about, over and under it to show Lilliputians that balloons were a thing of the past. Mr. Big Hed, however, was to be surprised himself. Meanwhile he was peacefully sleeping in the baggage car, dreaming of the morrow's parade.

"Won't I surprise those Capitol City people, though," dreamed Mr. Big Hed. "First, I will send on the two heralds, whose clarion notes will bring everyone to the street; then the chariot racer with those fine prancing white stallions. What a time that Roman driver will have holding them down; then Madame Vieta, the beautiful bare-back rider, will charm the populace with her gracefulness and daring. Next will come Mr. and Mrs. Elegant, in their fine riding habits, both wearing high silk hats and actually dancing their horses in time with the band music. Then will come Arab Wanit and Arab Haset on the fine camels that they captured themselves. Now, right in front of the band wagon I'll put the cow-boy and the champion lady rider of the Wild West, Miss Annette, who can ride a bronco as good as any cowboy can; then the big brass band, which never stops playing—they shall play from the start to the finish, for everyone enjoys fine music—it even makes the animals happy. Roaring Leo, the King of the Jungle, the largest lion in captivity, will follow, and after him Mr. Murphee, the giant hippopotamus—how the people will stare when they see him. He looks as though he fed on elephant's and tiger's bones, yet all he wants is plenty of water and grass and hay. Now will come the wonder of wonders, the immense elephant, Madame Jumbo, and her baby



The Doo Dads are having a hockey match. There is not much winter in the Wonderland of Doo but one night snow fell and the pond froze over. The next day bright and early the Doo Dads chose up sides and went into the game with a will. They are very poor skaters, aren't they? Percy Haw Haw, the Dude, was chosen umpire but they don't think he is

Winter Sports in the Wonderland of Doo

a good one. Two of the players want to know what he knows about hockey. Roly and Poly are the goal keepers. Poor old Sleepy Sam is having a snooze, as usual. Even the excitement of the game isn't

enough to keep him awake. Flannel-feet, the cop, is abusing the little fellow who got too boisterous, while Smiles, the Clown, now all smiles, is serving hot roasted nuts. There is an awful mixup over the puck. Black

eyes, bumped noses and cracked heads are the order of the day. But here comes old Doc Sawbones, ready to repair the damaged crowns. He will have a busy time of it if the Doo Dads keep on playing such a rough and tumble game. Next time they play they will have to get another umpire to keep them in order or there will be no end of trouble.

twins. Here will be sport for the youngsters; all shall have a free ride. What's next? Oh, yes, Mr. Gargle, the Giraffe." Mr. Big Hed actually laughed aloud in his sleep as he dreamed of the name he had given this animal. He dreamed he was telling his friends how he had come to name the giraffe Mr. Gargle. "Why, look at his neck; his throat runs all the way down. Doesn't it make you think of the time when your mother made you gargle? It seems to me that I was all neck when I was a boy, so when I first laid my eyes on this giraffe it brought it all back to me, and so I named him Mr. Gargle."

Well, let's see, this is going to be a big parade. The two zebras in their fine striped coats will go behind the giraffe; next the cute little pony; and if Mr. Grunt, the trick pig, will behave himself, Mr. Spaget's little Joco shall drive him as a tail-ender. Oh, I must not forget Prince George in his little dog-cart with Professor Darwin driving. Of course, the clowns will have the liberty to go where the laughs are the thinnest and the faces the longest. They look like simple folks, but I believe that they are really the most important part of my circus. Bang! Crash! The train came to a standstill and awoke Mr. Big Hed.

(To be continued)

A Little Russian Boy

Nicholas lived in Russia. One winter's day his mother sent him to the market to buy some milk.

An English lady who was boarding with his mother, said, "But you have taken no dish in which to bring home the milk."

"Oh, I don't need any," answered Nicholas.

"But how can you bring milk home without a dish?" asked the lady. "Will you bring it in your big pocket?"

"Oh, no," replied Nicholas, "but I'll get it here just the same."

"Will you bring it in your cap?" asked the English lady.

"Not that," laughed the little boy.

"Then will you bring it in your mouth or stomach, you little rogue? Do you mean to drink up all the milk?"

"You'll see," laughed Nicholas, as he hastened to the market.

And such a queer market as that was! It will make you shiver just to hear me tell of how food is sold during the cold Russian winter. Frozen fowl lay in one corner. Frozen fish lay in the scales. Frozen beef was there looking like an iceberg—so Nicholas thought, although he had never seen an iceberg. As he looked at the picture of the saint which hung in the market he felt as if he were a frozen boy. And the milk was not kept in cans, but in frozen blocks; and into these cakes of ice milk a string was frozen, so they could be carried easily.

Nicholas bought one of these blocks, carried it home, and said, as he showed it to mamma's English friend, "Here is my milk. You can see I did not take a single bite of it."

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have been reading your letters for a long time, so I thought I would write you, too. I am a little boy nine years old, and I go to school. I am in the fourth grade. My father has 50 acres of land. He takes the M. B. F. and he thinks it is a dandy farm paper. I have got three War Savings Stamps and I am going to get another one, too. I picked up 300 bushels of potatoes when they dug them. I think that is quite a lot. I have got a few prune pits and I am going to get more. My brother and I have got some walnuts and when we crack them we are going to save the shells. Here is a story I have made up about Jack Frost:

Jack Frost's Visit to the Cornfield.
Once upon a time, a long time ago, Jack Frost thought he would make a visit to the cornfields. He was going to give all the corn a yellow dress. Jack Frost's wife did not like to have him go anywhere at night because he was always tired in the morning. But he went off at night without her knowing it. First he went to a farmer's house not far away and painted all the windows; then he went down to his cornfield and gave his corn a dress. He went on doing this for a long time until he got tired out. Then he started home. Just at that time his wife at home woke up and found out that he was away. "I will teach him better manners," she said, so she got out of bed and waited for her husband. When Jack Frost got home he was very tired and got a licking too, so the next time he went out at night I don't think he went without his wife letting him out, do you?—Claude Anderson, Cadillac.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have never written to you before, so I thought I would write. I have been reading the letters and think they are fine. I have two sisters, their names are Estella and Pearl. We have two horses, their names are Colonel and Nell, and four cows,

their names are Spottie, Brownie, Speckle and Babe, and also five pigs. We live on a farm of fifty acres. I am ten years old and in the sixth grade at school. My teacher's name is Miss Grace Kirby. I have two War Savings Stamps. Excuse poor writing as I cannot use my right hand. I am sending a story and picture of Santa.—Alice Goetz, Newport, Michigan.

The Christmas Club

It was the week before Christmas and everyone was happy. Grace, Ruth, Betty and Mary had organized a club which they called the "Christmas Club," because they were collecting toys and candy for the poor children. Every day they went out to collect toys and candy from every one that they knew. On the day before Christmas they had over one hundred toys and \$2.00 worth of candy. On Christmas eve they ran from house to house carrying the toys and ringing the door bell and when someone came to the door they would be running away calling "Merry Christmas." When they met the next day they all said they had had a fine time. And they all agreed that the way to be happy was to give something away. So the club ended very happily.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have been reading letters in the M. B. F. from boys and girls and I thought I would write one, too. I am 14 years old and in the eighth grade at school. I have four War Savings Stamps and I am going to get some more. I have read of boys and girls getting Thrift Stamps by writing stories for the Children's Corner, and I thought I would try. I also have a good plan for collecting peach stones, walnut shells, etc. Offer a cent a hundred for the pits and a cent a pound for the shells. This way you will soon make a big collection. A few cents won't hurt anybody. It all goes to save the lives of our boys "over there."

The Faithful Dog

Once, a man who was very cross, had a large St. Bernard dog that was very old. He thought the dog ate too much and so resolved to kill it the next day. That night he was awakened by his dog jumping on his bed and barking very loudly. He shoved the dog off his bed and rubbed his eyes. Then he heard flames crackling in the top of the house. He hurriedly slipped on his clothes and ran out of the house just as the roof caved in. The faithful St. Bernard dog had saved his life. Instead of killing the dog he kept him and fed him the very best until he died.—Leonard Anderson, Cadillac, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have been reading the letters and like to read them. I live on a farm of 80 acres and we have 8 cows, 4 horses and 5 pigs. I go to school and like it fine. I am 12 years old. I have three sisters and 2 brothers; their names are Florence, 20; Flossie, 18; Reta, 15; Archie, 16; Kenneth, 2 years old. Well, I will close for now.—Ethel Balch, Charlevoix, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I am a girl 11 years old. I am in the 7th grade at school. My teacher's name is Lelah Spencer. I belong to a club named Children's Hour. My father takes the M. B. F. and we like it very well. I live on a farm of 160 acres. We have one old pig and 6 little pigs. Our old pig's name is Josephine and the little ones are not named. I have a pet kitten, his name is Mascot. We have six cows, their names are Mooley, Daisy, Boss, Star, Beauty and Rose. We have a lot of young cattle. We have two horses, their names are Deedwood and Dewey. My chum's name is Ida Mudget. I go after the cows every night. My dog was shot last spring. His name was Major. We celebrated peace last night. Hoping to see my letter in print.—Olith Wood, Maltby, Michigan.

Won't you tell us about the club you belong to, the Children's Hour Olith? I should like to know what you do and perhaps some of the other boys and girls would like to form one like it.—AUNT PENELOPE.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—As I have read the letters from the boys and girls in the M. B. F., I thought I would write to you, too. I live on a 160-acre farm. We have a large house and barn. We have three horses, their names are Colonel, Frank and Bill. We have six cows and four calves; the cows' names are Bessie, Darkie, Spot, Spottie, Mollie and Anne; and the calves' names are Nig, Blackie, Starie and White Foot. We have two pigs and about 20 chickens. My brother has two pet cats. I have two brothers and three half brothers and four sisters and two half sisters. My brothers' names are Edward, Homer, Stanley, Ernest and William. My sisters' names are Lena, Pauline, Flora, Louise, Rose and Josephine. I go to school every day. My teacher's name is Miss Sadie Werner. I am ten years old and in the sixth grade. The school is not a quarter of a mile from my home. There are about 30 pupils in our school, and we took two first prizes at the fair. I am glad the war is over, aren't you? Well, I haven't any more to say, so will close, with love.—Ruth Schlegel, Hersey, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have been reading the letter that the children have been writing and thought I would write too. I am 14 years old and in the 6th grade, and I like my teacher very well; her name is Mrs. Brown. We live on a 90-acre farm, 3 1/2 miles from town. I have a pet cat, she likes to go out in the field and hunt for mice. We have three cows, three little calves, 3 yearlings and 20 pigs all together, including a sow with 13 little ones. I would like for our page

stories of fairies and poems, songs, riddles. I will send you a riddle, as follows: "All saddled, all bridled, all ready. I have told you already and yet you don't know." Answer: All. We have our hay and corn in the barn and we have our apples all picked and in the cellar. My mamma and papa take the M. B. F. and think it is the best paper there is for farmers. I have a sister, she is six years old and in the first grade. I have a Fourth Liberty Loan button and have had no nut shells to send to the soldiers, but would if I had any. Our town has a big service flag in the middle of the street on a wire, and there is a Red Cross flag next to the service flag. In the service flag are two gold stars. I will try and get a subscriber for the M. B. F. As ever your friend.—Zella Nelson, Springport, Mich.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have been reading the letters right along that were in the M. B. F. and they are very nice. This is the second time that I have written. I am trying to help win the war by saving old rubbers, papers and flour sacks and also all kinds of pits. I like the Doo Dads very well and wish they were in every time. My father has all his crops out and has been cutting wood for the winter. I am twelve years old and in the sixth grade. For pets I have a little hen and three kittens. My hen's name is Doris and my kittens' names are Spot, Tiger and Fluff. We have Red Cross work at our school and I like it very well, and think it is nice for the children. The name of the school I go to is the Bundy school. I am saving all I can to buy Thrift Stamps. Well, I guess I will close for this time.—Bertha Sievert, Coloma, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—This is the first time I have written to you. But I have been reading the letters from the other girls and boys for quite a while so I thought I would write. My father subscribed for the M. B. F. about a month ago but have been reading my grandpa's paper for a year. He thinks it is the best farm paper he ever read. I was 12 years old the 13th of November, and am in the 7th grade. My teacher's name is Mrs. Jessie Crane. I have one sister, Ethel, 9 years old, and two brothers, Bennie, 5 years old, and Victor, 2 years old. We have 2 horses, Queen and Buster, and 4 cows. I help do the housework when I don't go to school, and helped pick up 40 bushels of potatoes this fall. Well, I must close.—Pearl Ward, Brant, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have never written to you before, but will write now. I am a little girl 9 years old, in the fourth grade. My teacher's name is Miss Lamphere. I like her very much. We have five cows and two calves; the calves' names are Hoover and Betsy. We have some sheep and lambs. We have a pet lamb named Snowball. We have three horses, two mules, a colt and a pony. The horses' names are Duke, Lady and Gipsy; the mules' names are Jack and Joe. The colt's name is Ned and the pony's name is Beauty. Papa has a big farm. I help mamma in the house. We have a lot of nut shells ready to take to town. I have a little brother and sister, their names are Lillian and Earl. Papa takes the M. B. F. and likes it very much. Well, I have written a long letter so I will close.—Erma Howe, Allen, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have never written to you so I thought I would try to write now. I am a girl 14 years old and I go to school every day and I am in the 8th grade. Our teacher's name is Miss Irene Herron. We have 23 pupils in our school. I have six sisters and four brothers; their names are Marie, Julia, Anna, Lena, Alice and Sophie, and my brothers' names are Leo, Anthony, Martin and Stanley. We live on a 180-acre farm. We have 8 cows, 3 heifers and 7 calves, 15 sheep, 6 pigs and 3 horses, their names are Bill, Nell and Queen. We have 2 cats and 2 dogs. The cats' are called Johnny and one Tommy, and we have 43 hens and 4 roosters. We have a Dori cat. I think I will have to close for this time. I will write again. Your loving friend—Agnes W. Cisel, Posen, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have never written to you before so I thought I would write. I am 10 years old and am in the fifth grade at school. My teacher's name is Miss Murray and I like her very much. I have taken out a War Savings Stamp and hope I can take out some more. My father took out a Liberty bond. We live on an 80-acre farm and have seven cows and five horses. I have two uncles and cousins fighting for their country.—Velma Wiltshire, Elwell, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—This is the first time I have written to you. We had a big rain Sunday and a beautiful rainbow. I like to read the other children's letters in the M. B. F. I am ten years old and in the fourth grade. My teacher's name is Miss Mayme Royal. I live on a 75-acre farm. We have 6 cows and 2 calves, but papa sold one this morning. The cows' names are Daisy, Babe, Roxanna, Nell, Mazie, Pansy. The calves' names are Bebsied and Sledbob. My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it very much. My playmate is Thelma Ingersoll. I have one brother in the service and one sister married. Brother's name is Wesley; sister's name is Sylvia.—Doris Muscott, Breckenridge, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I am a girl 9 years old and in the fourth grade. I have no sisters or brothers. I live with my mother and father on a 120-acre

farm. We have four horses, their names are Jennie, Jim, Prince and Bill. We have 15 head of cattle, five milch cows, their names are Daisy, Beauty, Pansy, Cherry and Mattie. I am trying to start a flock of sheep. I have two sheep and one pet lamb. Now I will tell you the names of them all. Fanny, Nancy and Dick. We have 100 chickens, 23 geese I've never written before, so I thought I would try. My Thrift Stamp book is filled and I have one War Savings stamp. My teacher's name is Miss Iva Collier. I gather eggs every night and feed the chickens. I go out to help husk corn. I sweep and last summer helped pick red raspberries and strawberries. I live just a little ways from school. We haven't any school now, on account of the Spanish influenza. I have a piano and I take lessons. I guess this will be all for my letter may be rather long.—Josephine Bunday, Albion, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I will try and write upon the subject "My Home." I live on a 260-acre farm. My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it very much. We have 8 cows, their names are Bess, Paula, Roaney, Heart, Nig, Brindle, Morrice and Independence. We have a dog, his name is Bingo. We have 13 old rabbits and a whole lot of young ones about a month old. I help mamma with the dishes. We have 23 pigs and have been so busy that we cannot name them all. I have one sister and 3 brothers, their names are Ralph, Frank, Karl and Emma. Ralph is 13 years old, Frank is 7 years old and Karl is the baby, he is 2 years old and 6 months old; Emma is 11, and I am 10 years old and am in the fifth grade. There are 15 pupils in our school. My sister and I are going to send you a story after while. I think a good name for the boys' and girls' page would be "Little Patriots."—Agnes May Keck, Wolverine, Michigan.

We will be anxiously waiting to see the story you have promised us.—AUNT PENELOPE.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—This is the second time I have written but thought I would write again. We are not having school now on account of repairs. I have not had the influenza yet, but Mamma has. I have a War Savings Stamp and am going to get two Thrift Stamps. My sister also has a W. S. S. I helped pick up potatoes for papa this fall and he gave me ten cents. I pulled weeds this summer for grandma and she gave me a quarter with which I bought a Thrift Stamp. It snowed here the other day. Did it down there? We have our beans pulled but have not got them threshed yet. We have most of our out-door work done now. I like to go to school. My teacher's name is Miss Mabel M. McCormick. I like her very much. We have eighteen pupils in school now, but are going to have seven more after while. I help mamma in the house quite a little. I help make beds, wash dishes, sweep, dust and help bake. I can crochet and knit and I am crocheting insertion for a towel. I have an uncle in the war; the last letter we had he was in bed from drinking some poisoned water. Well, my letter is rather long, so I will close. Your little friend—Maebeile Detwiler, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have never written to you before so I thought I would like to. I am 10 years old and in the fourth grade. My teacher's name is Miss Royal. I like her for a teacher. I have one and a half miles to go to school. We have 2 cows, their names are Nellie and Daisy, and we have three calves, their names are Dick, Roan and Jessie. My playmate is writing a letter to you, too, her name is Doris Muscott. I live on a 75-acre farm. I have 5 cats, their names are Tommy, Tiger, Gloves, Whitefoot and Injun. We have six horses, their names are Nig, Jip, Bird, Ned, Bill and Belle. We have 6 pigs. We have 30 chickens. I have one sister and one brother, their names are Ethel and Ernest. This is all.—Thelma Ingersoll, Breckenridge, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I have not written to you before so I thought I would do so. I think the Doo Dads very nice and I am glad they are published once a month. I have one W. S. S. I am 9 years old and in the fifth grade. We have two horses named Nellie and Queen. We have five cows and two calves; the and Clover, and we have five cats but we gave two to one person and one to another, one came back, so we have three and I have named two which are Tip and Tabby. I can tat, crochet and sew. I am four feet and six inches high, and have brown hair and blue eyes. I have no sisters or brothers. My teacher's name is Mrs. Henry Schrepp.—Jennie Yale, Summit City, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—There are eleven children in our family. Their names are Claud, 26; Maud, 24; Warren, 21; Ethel, 19; Audley, 17; Reta, 14; Alta, 12, and I am 10 today; Ezra, 7; Genevieve, 5; and L. D. is 18 months old. Claud is in Camp Custer and Warren is in France. Maud is a stenographer. We have a service flag with two stars. We have to walk a mile to school. Our teacher's name is Earl Frost. We like him real well. There are 23 in our school. I like to go to school. I am in the fifth grade. We have 8 acres of corn, 2 acres of potatoes, 9 acres of beans, 12 acres of oats, and 20 acres of hay. We have 6 weeks' vacation on account of the epidemic. Well, my letter is getting quite long, so good-bye.—Mildred Lorraine Bromley, Crystal, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—As I had not written before I thought I would write. I am 12 years old, am in the fifth grade. My father has a 100-acre farm. We have 56 sheep and 4 horses, 3 colts, 3 hogs 6 cows and 1 calf. We have \$300 Liberty bond and \$30 in War Savings Stamps. We have 75 hens and 6 ducks. We take the M. B. F. and like it very much. I read the Children's page and like it. We raised a large garden and I worked in it. I also worked in the house; I wash dishes and help get dinner and sweep floors.—Alta Bromley, Crystal, Michigan.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

If you like MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING and what it stands for, help us get acquainted with other farm folks who ought to know about this weekly. Tell them what you like in it. Spread the good news, that there is a farm paper that is published in their interests—and theirs alone. Show one of your copies to your neighbors. It will help a lot.

MARKET FLASHES

(Continued from page 11)

market active and 25c to 50c higher; best heavy steers, \$13 to \$16; best handy weight butcher steers, \$10 to \$12.50; mixed steers and heifers, \$8.25 to \$9.25; handy light butchers, \$7.25 to \$8.25; light butchers, \$6.25 to \$7.25; best cows, \$9 to \$9.75; butcher cows, \$7.25 to \$8.75; cutters, \$7 to \$7.25; canners, \$6.50 to \$6.75; best heavy bulls, \$8.75 to \$9.75; bologna bulls, \$7.75 to \$8.25; stock bulls, \$6.75 to \$7.25; feeders, \$8.75 to \$10.75; stockers, \$6.25 to \$8.75; milkers and springers, \$65 to \$125.

Veal calves—Receipts, 535; market strong; best, \$18.50 to \$19; others, \$7 to \$17.

Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 2,355; market 25c higher; best lambs, \$15.50 to \$16; fair lambs, \$14 to \$15; light to common lambs, \$11 to \$13; fair to

good sheep, \$8.00 to \$8.50; culls and common, \$5 to \$7.50.

Hogs—Receipts, 5,446; pigs, 25c higher, \$16.75; mixed hogs steady, \$17.50.

Chicago Livestock Letter

(By Special Correspondent)

Union Stock Yards, Dec. 30.—A combination of the Christmas holidays, stormy weather and the measures taken to restrict hog shipments cut receipts of livestock here last week to small volume, the run totaling 37,425 cattle, 4,265 calves, 116,071 hogs, and 31,449 sheep, a sharp decrease in all departments as compared with the week previous. The response of the market to this curtailment to this supply was prompt and marked. Beef and butcher cattle closed the week at advances of mostly 75c to \$1.25 over the close of the week previous, calves and good feeders advanced about 50c

and common stock cattle alone failed to share in the up-turn. In the hog trade the congestion that had previously prevailed was eliminated and the average price was shoved up on Saturday well above the Government minimum, figuring \$17.69 against \$17.50 the week previous. Although not accompanied by material improvement in dressed market conditions, fat sheep and lamb values advanced irregularly 50c to \$1.25.

The current week's trade opened with moderate supplies and a healthy set of markets. In the cattle trade practically everything sold strong to 25c higher than the close or high time last week and the general run of beef and butcher cattle made prices that compared favorably with any previous time during fall and early winter months. Prime long-fed steers have continued a minus quantity. Some strong weight bullocks sold today at \$19.50, but would not grade better than choice. At the same time these cattle probably represented as good a grade of beef as is now left in feeders' hands and very few steers of their class are included in the marketings. Rank and file of the beef steers now coming are warmed up and short fed cattle weighing from 1,000 to 1,250 pounds and the bulk of such kinds sell from \$13.50 to \$16.50, depending on weight, quality and condition. Killers are getting a few light fleshed light steers downward from \$11, but they are chiefly an off-colored or cannery type that do not attract competition from feeder buyers.

The high altitude of the butcher market is indicated by a canner and cutter trade on a \$7.25 to \$8.25 basis. Most of the medium to good fat cows and heifers are selling from \$8.75 to \$11.50 and choice corn fed kinds on up to \$13 and better. Bulls are meeting a strong demand, particularly bologna and canner classes, and it is a pretty scrubby light bull that has to sell under \$8. Veal calf trade has acted better since Christmas owing to lessening pressure from poultry competition. Good and choice vealers sold today at \$15.25 to \$15.75. Holiday influences have temporarily reduced investment demand in stockers and feeders but supplies have been light of late and the market has worked to higher levels on desirable classes. Bulk of the stock and feeding steers now sell between \$8.50 and \$11.50, but feeders are having access to few cattle weighing above 900 lbs. and selected heavy feeders are quotable to \$14.

Temporary marked reduction of the hog supply has put the trade in healthier condition than it has been in weeks past and so relieved congestion as to permit of a resumption of moderately liberal marketings. The plan of allowing to each railroad a certain number of cars for hog shipments per week is working smoothly and promises to prevent such gluts at market centers as recently occurred. Top hogs on Monday sold at \$18 per cwt. for the first time this month, and the bulk cashed at \$17.50 to \$17.90. Quality is of fairly good average and weights are being well maintained, the average here last week being 225 pounds. Only common packing hogs are now selling below \$17 where weights are above the 150 pound average on which government protection is afforded. Owing to a comparative scarcity of pigs in current marketings this branch of the trade is acting much better than recently and most of the good and choice pigs are now selling from \$14 to \$15.50. The trade, however, strongly urges the retention of thrifty underweight hogs in the country.

Sheep and lamb trade has shown a decided reversal of form during the past week. Receipts have been light all around the market circuit, and although advices from the east indicate no material improvement in dressed trade conditions, this is expected to follow the reduction in slaughter. Choice lambs sold here today up to \$16.25 as against \$14.35 for their mates from the same feed lot ten days since. Few lambs of decent killing quality, unless carrying excessive weight, and now going below \$15.25 and culls are bringing \$12.00 to \$13. Few feeding lambs have been available and \$14.50 is quotable for the right kind. Light yearling wethers of choice class would bring \$14 and good choice matured wethers are selling at \$10.75 to \$11.40, with most of the good fat ewes going around \$10. Supplies are getting into stronger hands daily and the trade anticipates a gradually strengthening

market, the uncertainties of the wool situation notwithstanding.

ORDER FOR 1,000,000

POUNDS PINTO BEANS

Ten million pounds of pinto beans are wanted by the government for export, according to a bulletin issued by the Bean Division of the United States Food Administration, under the personal direction of O. H. Liebbers. Other matters of personal interest were contained in the bulletin which reads as follows:

"On account of the unsettled condition of the pinto bean market, in fact of the market on all food products we feel it important at this time to make the following statement to the bean growers, setting forth the facts bearing on the industry.

"The United States Food Administration is not handling the pinto bean crop by means of outright purchase, as was the case with the remaining portion of the 1917 crop last spring. This statement is here reiterated to clear up any misunderstanding that may exist among many growers. The principal reason for not absorbing the crop is that if the Food Administration bought the pinto crop this year the entire bean crop of the country would have a just claim for the same action. Last spring's purchase of pintos was an emergency measure justified by special conditions then existing. Pinto beans are now able to hold their own in the world's market, and it is up to the growers of Colorado and New Mexico to determine whether this condition shall continue.

"Previous to the government purchase last winter, growers were receiving prices as follows:

"Pintos, 5½c per pound, and no demand; pinks, 7½c per pound; Navies, 10c to 12c per pound.

"Pintos were recognized to be worth much more than they were bringing. The discrimination in price being unjust, the government purchase wiped out this discrimination and it has not since reappeared. Growers at the present time are receiving prices as follows:

"Colorado pintos, 6c per lb.; California pinks, 5½c to 6c per lb.; Michigan navies, 7½c to 8c per lb.

"Japanese grown beans, competing with pintos are offered hand-picked and in perfect condition at \$5 per hundred delivered Coast points.

"During the past few weeks there has been very little demand for pinto beans. We have just received an order for 10,000,000 pounds of pintos through the Grain Corporation for export. The price of these is 7c net at shipping points, to be sacked in 12-ounce single-sacks or 9 or 10-ounce double sacks. They must come up to the government grade, which requires that they contain not more than 1.2 per cent foreign matter, 2 per cent splits and 2 per cent weather damaged beans. The price of 7c at shipping point, with the requirements stated, should net the growers at least 6c per pound in bulk recleaned. This order must be filled by December 15th—that means recleaned, sacked and actually shipped.

"This order, as well as others, is handled exclusively through the government licensed shippers. Anyone properly equipped to clean and handle beans may procure a license. The government has fixed a margin of profit to the licensed shippers as follows: 10 per cent on the price paid to the grower, plus the cost of the bag. If the shipper also finances beans to destination, he is allowed an additional 5 per cent, based on the selling price."

I think your paper is one of the best.—Don Edwards, Osceola county.

I like the way you go after some people.—Peter V. Oik, Jackson county.

Received a sample copy of your paper and think it is a good market paper.—Geo. Lawler, Isabella county.

We have received several samples of your paper and think it fine.—Zerbe L. Crosby, Alcona county.

Your open letter to the President is great; give them more and then some. Your paper fills a long-felt want.—W. F. Page, Isabella county.

Enclosed find check as payment for your most valuable farm paper. I believe in the entire U. S. I surely think the M. B. F. is worthy from a standpoint of a square deal, straightforwardness right from the shoulder.—C. A. Boone, Isabella county.

WOULDN'T YOU LIKE BETTER RETURNS

If so ship your FURS to

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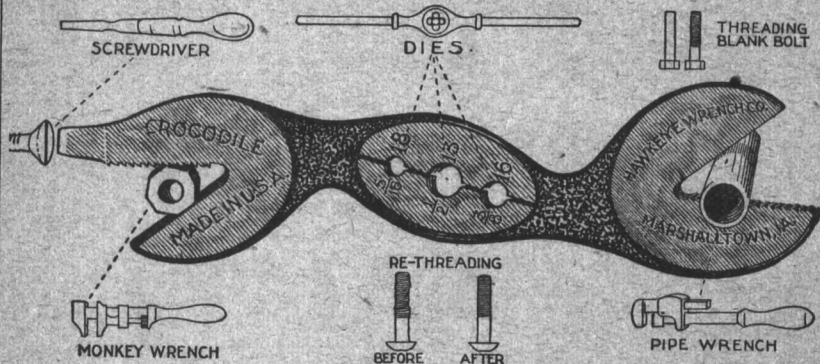
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Write for Price List and Tags.



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"The crocodile wrench you sent me for getting my neighbor to subscribe for M. B. F. is a whole tool box in your hand!"



THE "CROCODILE" WRENCH is drop forged from the finest tool steel and scientifically tempered. Every wrench is guaranteed against breakage. It is 8½ inches long and weighs ten ounces. Teeth and dies are case-hardened in bone black, making them hard and keen. Requires no adjustment, never slips and is always ready for use.

Dies Alone Would Cost \$1.50

and would be worth more than that to every farmer, as they would often save valuable time besides a trip to town for repairs.

Six Handy Farm Tools in One

A pipe wrench, a nut wrench, a screw driver and three dies for cleaning up and re-threading rusted and battered threads, also for cutting threads on blank bolts.

The ideal tool to carry on a binder, reaper or mower.

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For the enclosed \$1 send M. B. F. for one year to

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Send Wrench, postage prepaid, to

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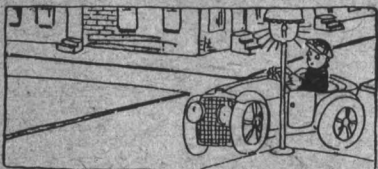
HINTS FOR MOTORISTS

By ALBERT L. CLOUGH, Motor Editor, Review of Reviews
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Gasoline Substitutes

EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE reports are given out that someone has concocted a substitute for gasoline, which is more satisfactory than the real thing and can be produced for a few cents per gallon. Perhaps the former would not be an impossible achievement, but it is to be feared that the latter would. Occasionally, more or less official tests of these substitutes are reported, which make the reader long to possess himself of a tank full but, sad to say, history records the fact that seldom is anything further heard of these new fuels and regulation "near kerosene" continues to be the only motor fuel available. However, "hope springs eternal in the human breast" and the possibility of important developments along this line should not be dogmatically denied. Nevertheless, it is well to remember a few facts in this connection: At the present time our cars are practically all running on gasoline substitutes. They are running on "cracked kerosene" and casing head (natural gas) fuel, which are both substitutes for the "original and only genuine" gasoline, the "straight run" distilled fluid. If it had not been for these substitutes, not many cars would be in operation today. Naturally, these came to us through the oil companies and it is almost impossible to conceive of any substitute reaching the public, in any large way, unless it is handled by the oil companies, for they are the only instrumentalities that possess transportation and distributing systems, which reach every town and hamlet in the country. Unless a fuel is universally obtainable, it will not be used to any considerable extent. A fuel to be usable in ordinary motor car engines, must give out, when burned, the required amount of heat and must be capable of being mixed with air in a finely divided state. So fully are such materials now known, that it is hardly possible that any new substance of this kind will be discovered, although well-known ones may be worked over so as to give better results in present-day engines or the requirements of engines may be changed, thus permitting the employment of fuels not now usable. There is little hope that by any mixture of existing fuels or by adding any substance to gasoline any improvement can be effected, for what is there that contains more available heat energy than gasoline itself? There is, of course, the possibility that something can be done to existing fuels that will fit them better to use in present-day engines. This indeed is just what was done to kerosene when cracked gasoline was developed and this ground has been pretty well covered. (To be continued next week.)

BEST PRACTICE IN TURNING CORNERS



Which do you consider the proper way of running a motor car around a corner with the clutch engaged or disengaged? Which is the more harmful to the engine?—M. E. M.

With the clutch engaged is the better way. There is no use in throwing out the clutch and it only results in additional effort and wear and tear. The throttle should be so adjusted that a very low engine speed is obtainable—a speed which corresponds to a car speed lower than is ordinarily necessary to secure safety on curves—which will, when made use of, have a breaking effect upon the car. Many drivers use the clutch too often, while the skillful operator, with an engine capable of being slowed away down, seldom declutches except when shifting gears and bringing his car to a standstill. Throttle control rather than clutch operation is the proper method of regulating car speed. Attempts to control car speed by declutching, rather than by throttling,

usually results in racing of the engine which is distinctly harmful.

FURTHER USE OF ILL-CONDITIONED ENGINE

The engine of our truck has poor compression and it is pretty well carbonized, our driver tells us, but it is almost impossible to give up using it until the arrival of a new one, which we have ordered. Will it injure this engine to keep it running for a month or so longer?—B. & H. Co.

If this car is run with discretion, we cannot see how its engine is likely to be harmed by thus keeping it in service. Lack of compression will cause no mechanical injury, but it should not be run in such a manner as to cause it to knock, as this is hard upon the bearings and other parts. When knocking commences, a lower gear should at once be thrown in. Why don't you try a liquid carbon remover, to clean out the cylinders? This can be applied over night and will not throw the car out of service at all.



Questions of general interest to motorists will be answered in this column, space permitting. Address Albert L. Clough, care of this office.

Presque Isle (Central)—We have had a very misty and rainy week and the snow is all gone, with no frost in the ground and the roads are very muddy, but it is changing to a little colder. Some are drawing peas and oats to get their tax money, and some are hunting up hay and feed which is scarce with most farmers. The following prices paid at Millersburg this week: Wheat \$2; oats, 65; rye, \$1.35; hay, \$20 to \$22; rye straw, \$10; wheat-oat straw, \$10; beans, \$7; potatoes, \$1.20; hens, 24; springers, 25; ducks, 28; geese, 28; turkeys, 35; butter, 50; butterfat, 70; eggs, 60.—D. D. S., Millersburg, Dec. 23.

Manistee (N.W.)—Farmers are cutting wood; some selling beans and rye. Some are plowing. Pastures are green. Weather has been beautiful. I do not think farmers are holding much to sell later; most of crops disposed of here. The following quotations at Bear Lake this week: Hay, \$15 to \$26; beans, \$8; rye straw, \$10 to \$15; potatoes, 75 to 80c bu.; apples, 50 to 75c bushel.—H. A., Bear Lake, Dec. 23.

Wexford (West)—A two-days' rain; snow about all gone. The following quotations at Cadillac this week: rye,

\$1.45; wheat \$2.07 to \$2.09; corn, \$3.25 cwt.; oats, 95c bu.; hay, \$30.00; beans, \$7.75; potatoes, 60; cabbage, 3; hens, 16; springers, 16 to 18; ducks, 15; geese, 15; butter, 50; butterfat, 70; eggs, 75.—S. H. S., Harriett, December 20.

Fertilizer Feeds the Crops That Feed the World

TWO HUNDRED MILLION
people eat foods grown largely by the aid of commercial fertilizer. In United States alone nearly 7,000,000 tons of fertilizer are used annually.

The Fertilizer Industry performs a most valuable service in searching the four corners of the earth for plant food; in recovering waste materials from slaughter houses, factories and cities; in reaching up into the air and down into the bowels of the earth for newer and cheaper forms of raw materials; and then manufacturing the whole into a product, definite in composition and convenient in form.

Without fertilizer, agriculture would deteriorate. With more fertilizer, agriculture will improve. Old theories are being discarded. Have you thought of fertilizing that weedy run-down pasture? Do you know that fertilizer can help you avoid soft corn? escape the Hessian Fly? overcome drought? save farm labor? get higher prices?

Write for bulletin on fertilizer usage
Soil Improvement Committee
of the National Fertilizer Association
1412 The Munsey Bldg., Baltimore
912 Postal Telegraph Bldg., Chicago

DAIRY AND HOG FEED

Farmers are paying \$60.00 to \$80.00 ton for prepared 20% protein feeds. Why this waste and loss?
Our best grade cull beans analyze Moisture 8.60%, Protein 23.35, Crude Fat 1.38, Crude Fibre 4.82%.

Cull Bean Pickings	\$42.00 ton
Cull Bean Millings	40.00 ton

Sacks included, f.o.b. Port Huron, Mich. 10c each allowed on returned sacks.

You can produce a pound of pork cheaper on cull beans than any other feed. Mix hundred pounds middlings with hundred pounds cooked cull beans and reduce your feed per cow, including ensilage cost, to around 40c per day, and increase your milk production from ten to forty per cent.

Other prices as follows:

Corn and Oat Chop Feed	\$58.00 Ton
Gluten Feed	60.00 Ton
Old Process Oil Meal	60.00 Ton
Cluck Cluck Scratch Feed	70.00 Ton
Oyster Shells	25.00 Ton

Sacks included, f.o.b. shipping point.

Send us your order for cull beans and other feeds. We save you money.

PORT HURON STORAGE & BEAN CO.,
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Build your silo to last as long as you live to run your farm. Durable tile—first cost only cost. "Ship-lap" blocks—stronger walls. Less mortar exposed—silage settles and keeps better. Twisted steel reinforcing—steel hip roof—steel chute. Write for catalog.

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Seeds Wanted

Red Clover, Alsike, Sweet Clover, Rye and Vetch mixed, Ear Corn, Peas, Sweet Corn, White Kidney Beans, some varieties of Garden Beans, etc. Write us stating what you have, send samples with prices, or we will make offers. Our 1919 Garden and Field Seed Book will be ready to mail about Jan. 1st. A request will bring you one.

THE C. E. DE PUY CO.,
Pontiac, Mich.

WANTED to hear from owner of good farm for sale. State cash price, full description. D. F. Bush, Minneapolis, Minn.

COUNTY CROP REPORTS

Arenac (East)—Rain and lots of it and the roads are in fierce condition, and farmers have hard work to get anything to market, and unless it stops raining and freezes most of the grains will need to stay in the granaries. Most all classes of produce seems to hold its own regardless of peace. Most all who grew beets intend to increase the acreage next year. Beans seem to be the talk of the day and some lively times occur in this county—competition. The "flu" is taking off a good many of our citizens and there are still a number of cases here.—*M. B. R., Twining, December 19.*

Ingham (N.E.)—Farm work is at a standstill at present. We have about eight inches of snow, fair sleighing. The following prices were offered at Williamston this week: Wheat, \$2.05; corn, ear, 60; oats, 67; rye, \$1.50; hay, \$20; beans, \$8; potatoes, 75; hens, 20; butter, 50; butterfat, 60; eggs, 55; sheep, \$7; hogs, \$16.50; beef cows, \$6; veal calves, \$16.50; apples, 75c to \$1.—*A. N. Williamston, Dec. 27.*

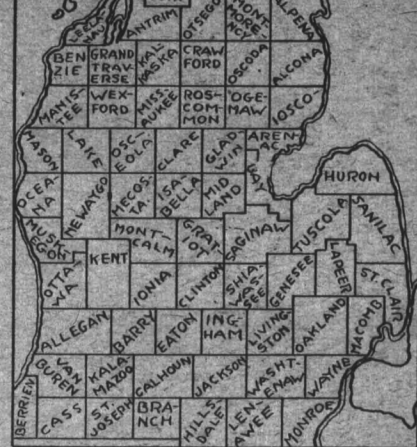
Kent (N.W.)—Farmers are plowing and doing other farm work when the weather will permit. It rains most of the time. The roads are almost impassable, especially where they are not graveled. A great many motor trucks have been used this fall and are still being used to quite an extent; they are using up the roads. A good many farmers are holding potatoes for more money. A great deal of "flu" in this vicinity and some deaths from the same. A great many are trucking potatoes to Grand Rapids, where they get as a rule \$1 per bushel ungraded, amounting to about \$1.25 or \$1.35 per bushel if they were graded. The following prices were offered at Greenville last week: Wheat, \$2.14; corn, \$1.50; oats, 65; rye, \$1.50; no hay for sale here, that shipped in sells for \$30 per ton; potatoes, \$1.35; onions, 65; cabbage, 75; hens, heavy, 21c; butter, 52; eggs, 60; sheep, 10; lambs, 15c; hogs, live, 15 to 15½; dressed, 18 to 19; beef steers, 7½ to 8½; beef cows, 6½ to 7½; veal calves, 9 to 11; apples, 75c to \$1.50.—*G. M. W., Greenville.*

Tuscola (N.E.)—The following quotations at Cass City on Dec. 27, 1918: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 65; beans, \$8; rye, \$1.41; barley, cwt., \$1.75; eggs, 55; butter, 50; cattle, 5 to 8; sheep, 4 to 7; lambs, 12 to 13; hogs, 13 to 15; calves, 10 to 15; hens, 18 to 20; geese, 23 to 25; ducks, 30 to 32; hides, 12.—*S. S., Cass City.*

Van Buren (East)—This has been a fine fall for work, with lots of rain. More vineyards plowed this fall than common. Grape trimming well commenced. Cutting and buzzing wood, butchering; a few find time to hunt rabbits. Been a nice fall for sales, and plenty of them. Tuesday's blizzard has brought a change in the weather. Feed is high and stock mostly poor, the fattest thing seems to be the hog, he is bringing 16½c. Tax time brings lots of them on the market. The town has been quarantined two weeks on account of the flu, not raised yet.—*V. G. Mattavan, Dec. 27.*

Genesee—Farmers are threshing beans and cutting wood. We are having colder weather now and a few inches of snow covers the ground. Some farmers were plowing until a couple of days before Christmas. Selling cattle, hogs, poultry and beans quite lively before Christmas. They are buying dairy feed and flour and coal. The following prices were quoted at Flint on Dec. 26, 1918: Wheat, red, \$2.18; white, \$2.16; oats, 66; corn, \$1.55; rye, \$1.50; buckwheat, \$3.30; red kidney beans, \$9; navy beans, \$8; potatoes, 75c to \$1; apples, .90 to \$1.25; onions, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per sack; eggs, 63c; dairy butter, 63c; creamery butter, 68; hens, 22; geese, 19; turkeys, 28; ducks, 25; hogs, \$16; calves 15 to 18.

Oakland (North)—It looks as tho winter had settled down to business. Not much going to market. Apples have all gone and too cold to truck potatoes. Livestock about all cleaned out for the present. Farmers do not



like to sell potatoes with government sorting, but a few carloads have been shipped. Hay is scarce, not much for sale. The order of the day is to pay taxes. I have not heard anybody complain about taxes not being high enough. The following prices were quoted at Clarkston this week: Oats, 75; wheat, \$2.10; rye, \$1.50; hay, \$30; beans, \$8; potatoes, 75; hens, 21; springers, 25; butterfat, 72; eggs, 70; hogs, \$16.—*E. F., Clarkston, Dec. 27.*

St. Joseph (East)—Farmers are butchering and working in the woods. Weather has been fine, ground not frozen yet. Selling hogs and cattle; no need of holding for higher price, as the government looks after that. Very little building done. The following prices were paid at Colon last week: Wheat, \$2.13 to \$2.10; corn, \$1.50; oats, 65; rye, \$1.50; butter, 54; eggs, 55; hogs, \$17.80; beef steers, 9; beef cows, 7.—*M. W., Colon, Dec. 27.*

Cathoun (S.W.)—The first snow of the winter now covers the ground but not enough for sleighing. Wheat and rye are looking good. Not much grain being sold now. Live stock mostly sold. Hay is scarce and high in price, horses are selling very cheap at the sales, on this account will be higher next spring, I am thinking. The following prices were paid at Athens last week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 62; rye, \$1.45; butter, 55; butterfat, 65; eggs, 60.—*E. B. H., Athens, Dec. 29.*

Ottawa (N.E.)—Had one day of winter, the 24th of Dec. It snowed all day and was cold. The farmers are top dressing their new seeding this winter. The following prices were quoted at Coopersville this week: Wheat, \$2.10; corn, \$1.48 bu.; oats, 70; rye, \$1.45; hay, \$30; beans, \$7.75; potatoes, \$1; onions, 50c; cabbage, 70c bu.; hens, 21; springers, 21; ducks, 25; geese, 18; turkeys, 25; butter, 45; butterfat, 70; eggs, 58; sheep, 16; lambs, 21; hogs, 19½; beef steers, 14; beef cows, 12; veal calves, \$19; apples, \$1.50 to \$2.50.—*J. P., Coopersville, Dec. 27.*

Grand Traverse (N.E.)—Have a little snow, not enough for sleighing. Farmers are putting up wood. The following prices were offered at Traverse City this week: Wheat, \$2.07; corn, \$1.40; oats, 85; rye, \$1.40; butter, 50; butterfat, 75; eggs, 60.—*C. L. B., Williamsburg, Dec. 27.*

Tuscola (West)—Farmers plowed up until the day before Christmas, but we had quite a fall of snow the night of the 24th and quite cold, but it is getting warmer again. Farmers are selling oats and beans, and beef. Lots of the boys are trapping rats, skunk and rabbits and are getting a good price for them. Two men paid for U. S. bonds here with fur and game. There is more money in skunks than in beans or potatoes this year. Let's hear from some of you other boys who got rich farming, thru the M. B. F. The following prices were offered at Caro this week: Wheat, \$2.10; buckwheat, \$3; oats, 65; barley, cwt., \$1.85; rye, \$1.50; hay, \$17 to \$18; beans, \$8; hens, 21; springers, 22; ducks, 26; geese, 32; turkeys, 30; butter, 50; eggs, 55; sheep, 6 to 7; lambs, 10 to 15½; hogs, 15; beef steers, 9; beef cows, 4; veal calves, 15.—*R. B. C., Caro, Dec. 27.*

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We have Salted Herring, Frozen Herring, Trout, Perch, Whitefish
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For Sale One roan double standard bred Polled Durham Short-horn Bull calf, calved June 4th. Milk strain. Paul Quack, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., R. No. 2, Box 70.

For Sale Reg. Jersey bull 14 months old St. Lambert breeding.
J. E. MORRIS, Farmington, Mich.

JOHN'S BIG BEAUTIFUL Barred Rocks are hen hatched quick growers, good layers sold on approval \$4 to \$8. Circulars photo. John Northon, Clare, Mich.

Bay (S.E.)—There is not much doing now among the farmers; roads are so very bad. Severe snow storm the 24th, first of the season. Fowls of all kinds in good demand for the holiday trade and prices about the highest of the season and the supply about enough for the demand. Very little changes since last week; wheat up a few cents and oats down 2c. The wheat is nicely covered with snow.—*J. C. A., Munger, Dec. 27.*

Ingham (Central)—Two above zero this morning with snow six inches deep, makes it sure like winter after having Indian summer weather for so long. Wheat feeds are going up by leaps and bounds. The government has done a fine thing for the speculator, but what will it do for the farmer? But we must grin and bear it until a change comes.—*C. I. M., Mason, Dec. 28.*

Berrien (West)—This locality was visited by a cold wave and snow the day before Christmas. It is still snowing and promises to be quite a snow fall at present. This will be a good thing for farmers having logs to haul. Most of the saw timber left here is being sold this winter as the price is high and trees have been going back. This will make plenty of wood to be cut this winter. About all the rail fences are disappearing in the buzz saws. Rail fences here are a thing of the past. Some grapes have been trimmed but the weather prohibits work now. The following prices were paid at St. Joseph last week: Wheat, \$2.15; corn, \$1.60; oats, 65; rye, \$1.50; potatoes, \$1; hens, 18; butter, 50 to 60; butterfat, 67; eggs, 55; beef cows, 12 to 16; veal calves, 18 to 20; apples, \$2.—*O. C. Y., Baroda, Dec. 28.*

Presque Isle (Central)—We have about ten inches of snow and it is down around zero. Nothing doing but getting up wood and some are buying hay which has raised two dollars retail in the last two weeks. The following prices were offered at Millersburg this week: Wheat, \$2.00; oats, 67; rye, \$1.35; hay, \$22 to \$25; rye straw, \$10; wheat-oat straw, \$10; beans, \$7.50; potatoes, \$1.20 cwt.; hens, 22; springers, 25; ducks, 25; butter, 50; butterfat, 69; eggs, 60.—*D. D. S., Millersburg, Dec. 28.*

Emmet (North)—Christmas has come and gone and still the lovely weather continues. Although the ground is frozen there is very little snow in sight and the weather is more like spring. A large percent of the stock here has been sold on account of the scarcity of and high price of feed. Many farmers have their fall work done and have gone to the woods and mills or factories to work for the winter. The following prices were paid at Harbor Springs this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 74; hay, \$25 to \$26; beans, \$7.25; butter, 60; butterfat, 70; beef steers, 6; apples, 75c to \$1.—*O. L. G., Cross Village, Dec. 27.*

Lapeer (East)—The weather has improved the last week. With some snow a very little more would make good sleighing. The fields are not frozen yet. The hay market is very dull, the buyers seem to be loaded up at present. Cattle and hogs are improving. The following prices were offered at Imlay City this week: Oats, 65 to 67; wheat, \$1.95 to \$2.10; rye, \$1.50; hay, \$16 to \$20; rye straw, \$5; beans, \$7.50 to \$7.75; potatoes, 60;

onions, \$1.50; hens, 18 to 20; springers, 20; ducks, 25; geese, 27; butter, 50; butterfat, 68; eggs, 55; sheep, \$5; to \$7; lambs, \$12.50 hogs, \$14 to \$16; beef steers, \$7 to \$10; beef cows, \$5 to \$7; veal calves, \$14 to \$16.—*C. A. Bryant, Imlay City, Dec. 28.*

Arenac (East)—Yes, snow and froze up, but not enough for sleighing and too much for wheeling. This weather has been a little hard on winter grains, altho some claim they are not hurt very much. The markets are holding quite steady and beans were 15c past the \$8 mark last week at the Eastern Michigan Elevator Co.'s at Omer last week and some declare that they will go better yet—we hope so. Death has taken several of our prominent citizens. Dairy products are very high and scarce, 72 cents was paid by a Bay City Creamery last week for butterfat, something the writer has never known of before. None too much for the price the farmer has to pay for his feeds, etc., do you think so? Some of our soldier boys are returning and we hope that next season will see help more plentiful.—*M. B. R., Bay City.*

Kalkaska (West)—The weather is fine. The farmers are selling potatoes and cream. They are holding their potatoes for higher prices. The farmers are buying hay and grain. The following prices were offered at Kalkaska, Dec. 26: Wheat, \$1.75 to 2.10; oats, 80c; rye, \$1.35; hay, \$29; potatoes, \$1.20 per cwt.; butter, 50c; butterfat, 68c; eggs, 50c.—*R. E. B., So. Boardman, Dec. 28.*

Jackson (South) Weather cold and blustering. Snow covers the ground which is a great protection to wheat. Hay is very scarce and baled straw delivered brings \$12.00 a ton. Help is difficult to obtain. Taxes are very high. Supervisors appropriated \$10,000 for the Red Cross and the Grand River drain tax is a little over 15c per acre on the average. There is much dissatisfaction over the drain tax as the majority of the tax payers will get little if any benefit from it. Too many dams between the land that is taxed and the drain. The farmer boys are reaping a harvest from trapping skunks and muskrats this year as they are quite plentiful and bring a good price on the market. The following prices were offered at Jackson, Dec. 29: rye, \$1.50; beans \$8.00 per cwt.; onions, \$1.00 per bu.; hens, 22c; springers, 25c; turkeys, 30; butter, 65c; butterfat, 71c; eggs, 70c; hogs, \$16.40; veal calves dressed, 22.—*G. S. Hanover, Dec. 29.*

Cathoun (N.C.)—The farmers are mostly choring now; a great many families are entertaining the prevailing epidemic, some are very sick. No deaths and all gaining. The weather is fine now, about 3 inches of snow; the fields are not frozen at all, finest weather for wheat. Not many farmers marketing anything now. A very few oats being held, looks as though they would all be used up locally. A large demand for grain of all kinds here. The following prices were offered at Olivet this week: Wheat, \$2.13; oats, 65; rye, \$1.48; hay, \$24; beans, \$8; potatoes, \$1; hens, 18; springers, 22; butter, 55; butterfat, 68; eggs, 54; beef steers, 4 to 10; sheep, 4 to 8; lambs, 10 to 13; hogs, 15 to 16.50; veal calves, 15.—*G. R., Olivet, Dec. 27.*



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Every reader of M. B. F. will be in need of one or more of the following items before spring. The next few months is the time you will do your buying for the coming season. Check below the items you are interested in, mail it to us and we will ask dependable manufacturers to send you their literature and lowest prices:

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(Write on margin below anything you want not listed above.)

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COWS IN ASSOCIATIONS GIVE INCREASED RETURNS

Milk produced by 5,587 cows in 40 cow-testing associations, studied by specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture, averaged in a year 247 pounds of butter fat per cow. This is considerably above the average production of all the dairy cows in the United States, which is estimated at 160 pounds of butterfat a year. A study of the records of the associations showed that the production of 160 pounds of butterfat a year gave an increase of \$23 over cost of feed, while the average income over cost of feed from cows that produced 247 pounds was \$47, or a little more than twice as much.

Though the dairymen who join cowtesting associations are thought to be more progressive than the average, dairy specialists in the United States Department of Agriculture say the fine showing made by the cows in associations must be credited, in large measure, to association work.

Certainly the cow-testing associations return many more dollars than they cost. It is encouraging, they say, to know that the cow-testing association records show that the large producing dairy cows are the least affected by the increased cost of feeds. Therefore, every dairyman should aim to keep all his good cows, or to place them where they will continue the economical production of human food. This economical production can be obtained not only through careful selection of dairy cattle and skillful feeding, but through intelligent breeding.

While the cow-testing association gives its members aid in each of these three essentials, it is particularly beneficial in promoting better breeding. This is very marked when the members also belong to a bull association. Not every dairy farmer can afford to own a good registered bull, but the bull association has made it possible for each of its members to own a share in one. A farmer for \$50 may buy a scrub bull, but if five farmers will join a bull association and each invest \$50 they may own a \$250 pure-bred bull.

IMPORTANT POINTS IN CATTLE RAISING

The three most important points in raising Holstein-Friesian cattle are type, care and feeding and selection of the herd sire.

Under the head of type the beginner should study the ideal type of Holstein until he is satisfied that he is a good judge. One of the best ways to do this is to visit not one, but all of the breeders he can. All of them will be glad to explain the ideal type for which they are working and allow him to examine and study their herds. He also should study score cards and read every bit of authoritative literature he can get. When he has satisfied himself that he is a good judge, then let him buy the cows nearest to the ideal type his money can buy. There probably is not an absolutely perfect cow, or for that matter any other animal, in the world, but the points by which a Holstein-Friesian cow is judged in the show ring are not fixed for "fancy" ideas, but for practical reasons. That is, the more perfect the animal the more perfect the animal the more likely she is to be a large producer and the more perfect her offspring will be when bred to an animal equally as good.

When the beginner begins to get calves from these cows he must feed them and care for them as good stock deserves. A pure-bred or high-grade animal with poor feed and care can do no better than a scrub, so do not try to raise calves on a strawstack. Feed them abundance of the best roughage besides the necessary concentrates, remember that size and ability due to large capacity for turning roughage into milk are among the most important advantages of the Holstein cow. So by all means the begin-

ner must feed his calves to develop these points, for they are largely in his hands. No matter how good the parentage, a calf cannot develop and become a perfect animal on ancestry alone.

To preserve and better the type with which he has started, careful selection of the herd sire is most important. Nothing should be used, either with grades or pure-breds, but a pure-bred sire, and by all means one that can show a pedigree of high producing ancestors. No bull is "good enough," get the best. As I have already said, there are no absolutely perfect animals, so it is very important that a sire be used which is strong in the points in which the cows are weak.

Whether the object is to be a dairyman or a breeder, these three points are all-important to success.—Robert H. Gray, in *The Idaho Farmer*.

The Story of the Hampshire Hog

AT THE request of Mr. John W. Snyder, breeder of Hampshire hogs, of St. Johns, we begin in this issue a story of the Hampshire hog. In subsequent issues the histories of other breeds of hogs, as well as cattle and sheep will be published. We aim to make this department one of real value to our readers. Send in the pictures of your prize animals.

The history of the Hampshire hog in America has been one continual advance and success after another. This particular breed of hogs has demonstrated the fact that a person does not need heavy financial interests or does not need to be an experienced showman in order to win with a Hampshire hog, either in the special classes made particularly for this breed or in the classes where all breeds are in competition with one another.

The recent International Live Stock show at Chicago possibly possesses the most sensational record which has ever been made with the Hampshire breed of hogs. Gus Meyer of Elwood, Indiana, is a young farmer. His father has been engaged in the Belgian horse business and to some extent in cattle business, but has all of the time made his largest and best money through the production and feeding of Hampshire hogs for the market. He has always kept pure-bred sires and pure-bred sows, but never pays any attention to registering or selling to supply the pure-bred market. He has fed the Hampshire hog simply because they grow and develop under Indiana conditions more satisfactorily than any other breed so far as his observation and feeding have been tried. It is a fact, however, that he has tried almost all of the present day registered hogs as feeders. He exhibited the car of hogs at Chicago International, slightly over a year old, averaging 391 lbs. per head, and they were easily the grand champions of the International of 1918.

HAVE THE COWS CALVE IN THE FALL OF YEAR

Cows should be bred to calve at a time when their production of milk and fat will be as great as possible. Early in the spring the conditions are favorable for milk production. At this time there is an abundance of green grass and the cows can be handled with little labor. In Missouri this condition lasts only a very short time and very often by the first or the middle of July the pastures are burned and almost useless. This is the hardest season in the year for the dairy cow. If the cow freshens in the spring she soon finds that the food supply is very low and she consequently fails in her milk production. It is not uncommon for production in August to be not more than one-half what it was in June. The pasture shortage is not entirely responsible

for this big reduction for the flies are very troublesome at the same season, and doubtless are to blame for a part of the decline in milk flow. Many cows seem unable to stand the hot weather and this shows up in the milk production particularly, because the cow when uncomfortable from heat fails to graze as she normally does and as a result is underfed. Another factor of importance is that the milk tests lower in the summer months than at any other season of the year so that while the milk production receives a severe cut the fat production is even more seriously affected.

When a fairly regular milk supply is desired thruout the year, have a few cows freshening in all seasons. The preferable time, however, is in the fall because then the weather is cool and most favorable, the flies are not troublesome, the declining pastures are not a factor, as the cows are fed in the barn, and because in the winter months the percentage of fat in milk is at its highest point. Still another reason for fall calving is that the calves can be given more attention at that season, because the farmer is not as busy with out-door work. Flies and hot weather affect the calves somewhat and the young calves can do their best during cool weather.

If at present you are following the plan of having all your cows freshen in the spring, give the fall calving plan a trial and become convinced, advises W. W. Swett of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture.

FRUIT GROWING HELPS IN POULTRY RAISING

I find from my own experience that fruit growing makes an excellent combination with the raising of poultry. By this combination a man is able to secure two crops from the same land, besides the soil being improved by the poultry droppings. Insects which are injurious to the trees are devoured in great numbers and kept in check and the soil under the trees kept loose by the hens; while, on the other hand, the trees furnish an abundance of shade for the poultry which is so essential during the summer and fall.

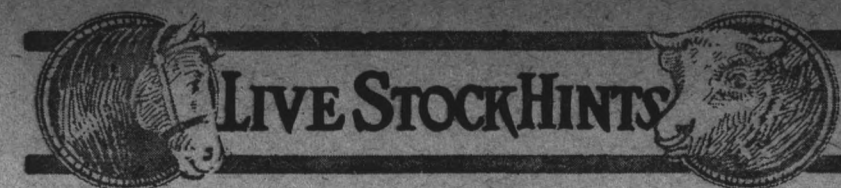
Where you have a small orchard, and wish to run poultry in, I think it a good plan to fence the whole with chicken wire of some kind. By having the whole orchard fenced, the fencing does not interfere with cultivating the trees, and will prevent any other hens from ranging on your land and in this way the danger of getting some contagious disease is much less. The colony system is easily used in an enclosure of this kind, and this I think is one of the most satisfactory methods of keeping poultry. The houses need not be expensive, and should be of a size that is easily moved about when desired, and will accommodate about twenty-five birds very well. Having the houses movable enables one to have the houses on fresh ground when desired. This I consider one of the special good features of the colony system. When the house is built so as to be constantly at the same place it is almost impossible to keep the ground fresh.

The roosts should be made so as to be taken out when desired, and by painting the house on the inside with crude oil two or three times a year, mites can be kept down.

By a judicious use of the hopper method of feeding in connection with the colony system the labor in the house can be reduced to the minimum consistent with good profitable returns.

The special beauty of this system is that the birds are not free range, have the advantage of free life and can be cared for the same as when kept in confinement. This includes the advantages of both without the worst disadvantages of either.

I should say to the reader, try this system and see what the results are with the proper management—getting a profit from both poultry and fruit.—R. B. Rushing, Simpson, Ill.



Dinner time at a "Hampshire Dining Room."

CATTLE

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN

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In Holland

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Wolverine Stock Farm

Offers two sons about 1 yr. old, sired by Judge Walker Pietertje. These calves are nicely marked and light in color and are fine individuals. Write for prices and pedigrees. Fattie Creek, Mich., R. 2.

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For the greatest demand, future prices that has ever known. Start now with the Holstein and convince yourself. Good stock always for sale. Howbert Stock Farm, Eau Claire, Michigan.

Bull Calves sired by a son of Friend Hengerveld De Kol Butter Boy and by a son of King Segis De Kol Korndyke, from A. R. O. dams with records of 13.25 as Jr. two year old to 28.25 at full age. Prices reasonable breeding considered.

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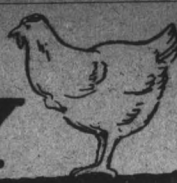
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SHORTHORNS and POLAND CHINAS. Bulls, heifers and spring pigs, either sex, for sale, at farmers' prices. F. M. Piggott & Son, Fowler, Michigan.

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HEREFORDS Herd headed by Bob Fairfax 494627. Can furnish you with males or females. Polled or horned. Write for prices. Earl C. McCarty, Bad Axe, Mich., Sec. Mich. H. B. Association.

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FOR SALE—Dual purpose Red Polled bulls and Oxforddown rams.
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Spring boars. Also 2nd prize Jr. yr. boar Mich. State Fair, 1918.

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O I C

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O. I. C.'s Two last spring boars, also 2 June boars, a good lot of last spring gilts bred for next spring farrow. Also last fall pigs not akin. All good thrifty stock. Otto B. Schulze, Nashville, Michigan. Citizens' Phone, 124.

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Start the New Year right. Buy a registered Duroc Jersey Boar from
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DUROC JERSEY SWINE. Boars, Sows, Gilts and Fall pigs for sale. Choice spring boar, sired by Brookwater Tippy Orion No. 55421. This is an unusually good bunch to select from. Come and see them or I will ship on approval. Fall pigs \$12 each, either sex. Home Farm, Thos. Underhill, & Son, Props., Salem, Michigan.

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Bred sow and gilts. Special price on bred sow and big growthy fall boar, not related to sow or litter.
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All sold out now, none to offer at present, 68 head sold Nov. 29 at auction for \$4,440.50. Thanks for your patronage and you'll always be welcome.

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