

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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FARM ORGANIZATIONS NAME CANDIDATES

Gleaners, Grangers and Farmers' Clubs Unite
On L. W. Watkins and Mrs. Dora Stockman as Candidates for Board of Agriculture.

FARMERS' CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

L. Whitney Watkins, farmer, Manchester.
Mrs. Dora Stockman, Grange Lecturer, Lansing.

In a precedent-breaking and epoch-making meeting of the legislative committees of Michigan's leading farmer organizations, the Grange, Gleaners and Farmers' Clubs, held at Lansing Tuesday afternoon of this week, the above names were unanimously agreed upon as candidates acceptable to the farmers of Michigan for the Board of Agriculture.

L. Whitney Watkins is a farmer as were both his father and father's father before him, and he manages the same farm in Jackson county which his grandfather purchased in 1834, and which is one of the largest farms in the state. But Mr. Watkins has had time to serve the people, having been a member of the board of agriculture from 1899 to 1905, a member of the state senate two terms, 1909-13; Progressive candidate for Governor in 1912. His interests are pre-eminently agricultural and he should have the undivided support of the farmers.

Mrs. Dora Stockman is well-known to the farming people of Michigan as lecturer of the State Grange. She is the wife of a prominent Lansing farmer, has always taken a keen interest in the affairs of the College, and would make an admirable representative on the Board of Agriculture for the farmers.

The two expiring terms for which the farmers will support Mr. Whitney and Mrs.

Stockman are those of Robert Graham, a banker of Grand Rapids, and A. J. Doherty, Clare merchant. Having enjoyed the honor of serving the people of Michigan for six years on the Board of Agriculture, these two gentlemen will now no doubt be glad to step down and out, and make way for the candidates proposed by the farmers.

Among other actions of the farmers' legislative committees was to endorse the submission of Sen. Connelly's \$50,000,000 bond issue. Get it clear in mind that this does not mean endorsement of the issue itself, but merely the submission. Farmers believe that the people as a whole can be trusted to vote intelligently and for their best interests on any referendum matter; hence the willingness of the legislative committee to refer the bonding proposition to a vote of the people.

The farm organizations are going into the Board of Agriculture scrap to win, and will

Farmers' Week at M. A. C.

Michigan Improved Livestock Breeders and Feeders Ass'n	Feb. 5-6
County Farm Bureau Conference	Feb. 4-5
Michigan Crop Improvement Ass'n	Feb. 4-5
Michigan School Commissioners	Feb. 4
Michigan Muck Farmers' Conference	Feb. 4-5
Michigan Poultry Breeders	Feb. 5-6
Michigan Syrup Makers' Ass'n	Feb. 5
Michigan Drain Commissioners Ass'n	Feb. 5
Boys' and Girls' Club Conference	Feb. 5-6

(See story on page 5)

back up their verbal promises of support with all the funds necessary to carry on an effective campaign. The farmers in Michigan or any other state for that matter will never get the recognition they deserve until they take off their coats, roll up their sleeves, and go after it.

The sentiment expressed by the representatives of the farm organizations was that there should be a more friendly feeling between them and an active co-operation on matters of mutual interest. Each committee pledged its respective organization to stand with the others on all legislation, thus creating a power that must be reckoned with in all future state issues.

BROKERS RAISE HAVOC WITH BEAN MARKET

New York Commission Houses and Wholesale Grocers Deliberately Plot to Defeat Plan of Jobbers and Food Administration to Stabilize Market

Something has happened to the bean market. Despite the best laid plans of the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Ass'n and the U. S. Food Administration to stabilize Michigan beans at \$8 per hundred the market has declined to such an extent that local elevators can offer no more than \$7 to \$7.50 per hundred, while many, complying with the request of the association, refuse to buy at any figure, so long as the market does not warrant the \$8 price.

There is consternation in the camp of the growers. Farmers who have taken the advice of the bean jobbers and fed the market gradually are alarmed lest the present slump prove to be a permanent one and they may have lost their golden chance of securing the season's top-notch price. The letters published in the boxing below are typical of the appeals received from our readers during the past ten days. The purpose of this article is to answer the questions they have raised and if possible to reassure all those readers who still have beans to sell.

The day the bean market slumped 25 cents a hundred, we wrote the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Ass'n and the Food Administration. We bluntly asked the former to give us whatever information they could upon the new and unexpected developments of the market, and for their best advice upon the future of the market. A day or two after that Christian Breisch, president of the Association called us on the telephone and proceeded to explain the latest vagaries of the bean market.

"The New York brokers and wholesale grocers," said Mr. Breisch, (Continued on page 20)

"Elevators will not Buy Beans; What Shall We Do?" is Cry of the Bean Growers



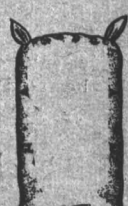
I have just received my first copy of M. B. F., and am surely delighted. I have read a good many farm papers but you have them all beaten in getting real facts. I feel, as most all farmers do, that we are getting a raw deal from the elevators in pick and price of beans. I see that price of beans has dropped to 7.50 cwt. at the Twining elevator, Twining, Mich., Arenac county. How is this, Mr. Editor, when the price was set at \$8 per cwt? Why is it our market should be plugged like this and millions of people on the verge of starvation, and already starving, when there is so much here and no market, so to speak? We were guaranteed \$8 for our beans, and at that when some of these fellows get a chance at the pick there is little left for the fellow who did the work. It's mighty poor dope to help a fellow pay off a mortgage. I expect you to answer my letter, Mr. Editor, either thru your valuable paper or by letter. I am glad you have pro-

vided a corner for us common chaps in the M. B. F., where we can state our candid opinions. —F. J. H., Arenac county.

Just a line about my beans, as in my paper I saw where bean dealers had to pay \$8 per cwt. for beans if dry. As I only had a few I took them to Avoca. The beans picked 2 lbs. per cwt. and they would only pay \$7.50 for them, so would like to have some advice or know how he could do so.—R. M., St. Clair county.

Local elevator here (Michigan Bean Co.) started in buying beans at \$7.50 per cwt. this morning. Please report this to officers of the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Ass'n. Supposed it understood we were not to have less than \$8. Thanking you in advance for the favor. M. B. F. certainly is the best farm paper in our home and I am taking a number of others. Go to it, brother, you are doing a good work. I am doing my best to get people interested.—E. W., Huron county.

Some time ago I saw an article in your paper that the Bean Jobbers' Ass'n were trying to make all elevators pay one price for beans. In Copemish, Mich., my market town, the two elevators there refused to pay but \$7.25. Can you do anything for this locality? For God's sake try, as half the farms are vacant now.—A. G. S., Manistee county.



We would like to ask if you can give any information in regard to the bean market. We have followed the reports and advice in the M. B. F., by selling a few along, expecting that \$8.00 would be the prevailing price thru the winter, but now we want to sell more, and find that there is absolutely no market at all, the elevators will not buy a bean at any price. Are they getting ready to put something over on us again, or is it true that the Government is not buying navies at present? and that the demand for home use is slow?—J. L. S., Ionia.



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL DIGEST



GRADING RULES HANDICAP, SAYS WELL-KNOWN POTATO EXPERT

"The United States potato grading law providing grades for potatoes has proved a boomerang for the potato growers and has given the industry a great set-back."

This was the answer of Eugene H. Grubb, the well-known potato specialist in response to an inquiry from *The News* wired at his Colorado potato ranch. *The News* asked Mr. Grubb for his observations as to the workings of the new law as a practical proposition. Mr. Grubb returned to his California home last week at Princeton from which point he has given *The News* his views in a recent letter. No man in the country has given more of his time and energy to the cause of the American potato than Gene Grubb, whose name is almost a household one in scores of states where he has gone the rounds preaching increased production as one of the methods to help the United States win the war. When it is recalled that nearly, if not all, of this work of talking daily to hundreds and thousands of people at these school house meetings has been done as his "bit" and without official recognition as one of Uncle Sam's "Dollar-a-year" corps, what he has to say will be of interest.

"In Colorado," says Mr. Grubb, "the present rules prevent the poor people from utilizing the small or rough scabby potato since they keep such stock from the markets. Rough scab is only skin deep and is no detriment to the eating quality since 90 per cent of the potatoes consumed today are pared before cooking. The present rules lay great stress upon the attractiveness of the potato to increase sales. No mention is made of quality, flavor or delicacy of texture.

"We are now down to two bushels per capita where it should be eight. There is little chance for an increase. The losses to the potato growers of Colorado during the past two years from high cost of production, from disease, higher cost of transportation and still higher cost of distribution will mean a loss of fully 40 per cent of acreage and production. The same rule will follow all over the country where potatoes are produced by hired labor in a commercial way. The sufferers will be the brokers, the dealers, the transportation companies and the people of small or limited means and small incomes in the larger cities. Idaho and Colorado potato growers are getting \$1.20 per 100 lbs. for their potatoes, while consumers are paying \$2.50 and \$4. All of the potatoes grown in this country during 1917 and 1918 were grown at a loss by the growers who employed labor. With black wart now found in nine counties of Pennsylvania and an embargo on all foreign countries the immediate future is not bright and sunny for the industry. For the consumer the outlook is not the most healthy.

"The grading rules tend to place the potato in the luxury class of foods—this means to such an optimist as I have always been that we are tampering with the future food supply of the country. Potatoes were never intended to be handled like oranges.

"Unless there is some provision made to get the small and inferior potato into consumption there will be trouble all around. There should have been provision made for the wide sale of ungraded tubers which should be sold simply on their merits. Unless we are careful we will keep on grading down so finely that after a while the potato will become a rare luxury only obtainable by the rich people."

PLAN CORN SHOW TO HELP MI GRAIN BACK TO OLD FAVOR

A corn show, thru the medium of which it is expected that Michigan varieties of the tasseled crop will be helped back to their old-time prestige, has been planned by the Michigan Crop Improvement Association to be a feature of its annual meeting here during Farmers' Week and the Housewives' Congress, from Feb. 8 to 8.

During 1917 Michigan's corn crop suffered so severely from unfavorable weather

conditions, that many varieties died out because of insufficient seed ripening to make replanting of them possible. It is expected by means of the corn show to attract exhibitors who have strains of Michigan corn suitable for replacing those that were lost. A number of attractive prizes have been offered by various persons and organizations to stimulate interest in the projected grain exposition and to induce growers to make entries.

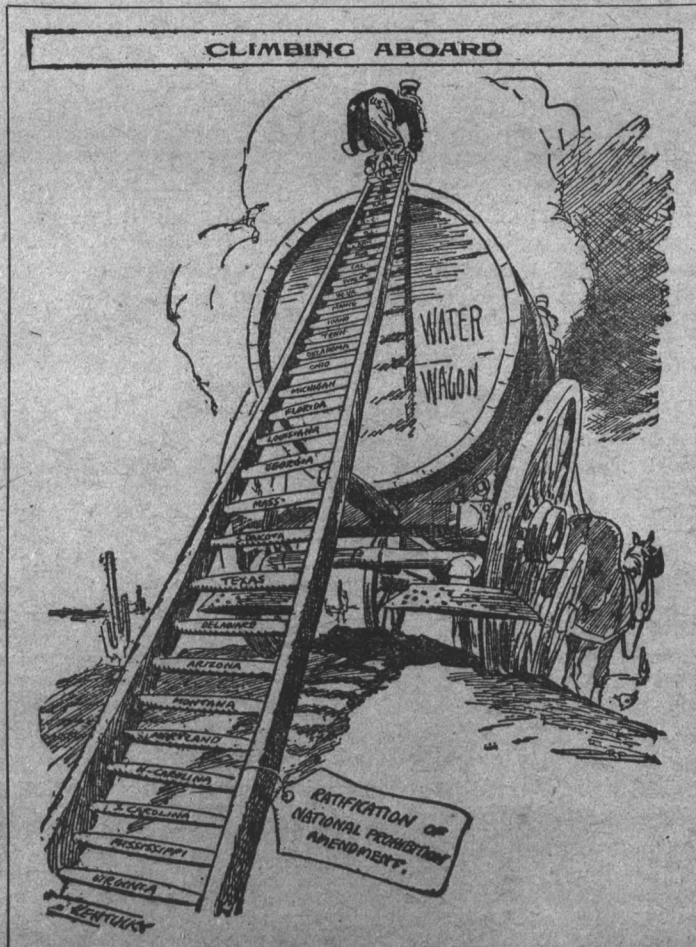
The grain show will be one of a number of expositions to be staged on the campus during the Farmers' Week and Housewives' Congress. The barracks, which in war days were used to house the student army training corps, are being employed as exposition buildings.

GRAIN DEALERS PROTEST FURTHER GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Last week the members of the Michigan Hay and Grain Ass'n held their annual convention in Detroit. P. E. Goodrich, president of the National Ass'n, scored the government for its slowness in relinquishing control of private business enterprises, and warned his audience that the increasing tendency toward socialism and paternalism was a menace to the nation.

Opposition to government interference in the grain trade in this country and with the allied countries, with the exception of control of trade in wheat, the price of which had been fixed for 1919, was urged by Mr. Goodrich. He advocated immediate protest to their congressmen at Washington by members of the different grain organizations of the country.

Do you get the point? About the time the farmers began to wake up to the fact that the millers, feed manufacturers, grain dealers, et cetera were profiteering on wheat mill feeds, the aforesaid manufacturers and dealers had an eye on the awakening and they are losing no time to forestall any move on the part of the farmers to bring the grain trade back under government control, which would mean less profits to the dealers and lower prices to the consumer. We'll wager that two-thirds of the grain dealers in Michigan will wire their representatives at Washington to oppose any legislation for further control of grain and by-products, and we'll also wager that not one out of a thousand farmers will write or wire his view of the case. That's why the fellows who stand between are always heard and usually obeyed, and why the farmer's last minute protests make no impression.



—Orr, in Chicago Tribune

WISCONSIN FARMERS EXCHANGE PURE-BRED BULLS FOR SCRUBS

A drive is being focused on the scrub bull in Wisconsin, and if the work of the "Better Wisconsin Campaign," which was launched under the direction of the State College of Agriculture, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the Live-Stock Breeders' Ass'n, is successful, thousands of these mongrel animals will be replaced by pure-breds. The retreat of the inferior sires already has begun in seven counties, while authorities in other counties are making plans for the crusade. The first gun to be fired in the Wisconsin campaign was in Fond du Lac county early in the year, when school house meetings were called by the county agent. At these meetings some of the leading breeders agreed to exchange pure-bred bulls for scrubs without additional cost, providing the new owners would use the pure-breds for two years. This was farsighted business. They secured 60 or 80 per cent by the transaction, as they would lose in subsequently selling the scrub for beef, but it meant better stock in the future. A census of the cattle herds in the county was made principally by the pupils in the rural schools who secured the names of about 1,100 owners of scrub and grade bulls. To each of these 1,100 a letter was written outlining the trade offer and inviting the farmer to meet with the committee heading the county campaign to discuss the proposition. Many farmers have availed themselves of the opportunity.

ADRIAN COMMUNITY MARKET REPORTS SUCCESSFUL SEASON

At a recent meeting of the directors of the Adrian Community Market, reports were submitted by Manager Braden showing that during the first eight and a half months of operation, nearly \$79,000 worth of business was transacted, and it was freely predicted that the first year of the market's existence would show a gross business of \$100,000, which more than justifies the faith of the farmers and the city of Adrian in the venture.

FOREIGN FARM NEWS

In the three and one-half month period between September 1 and December 15, 1918, 29,701 head of cattle valued at more than \$3,000,000 were shipped from Alberta, Canada, to the United States. According to the American Consul at Calgary the chief causes underlying this noteworthy movement of cattle were the scarcity of feed, especially in the southern part of Alberta, and the attractive market prices in the United States.

To correct a misunderstanding among farmers the British Board of Agriculture made the statement in the middle of December that the price to be fixed for the 1919 crop of cereals then controlled (last December) would in no case be less than the prices than in operation for the 1918 crop will be at least as follows: Rye and wheat, per quarter of 504 pounds, \$18.35; oats, per quarter of 306 pounds, \$11.54; barley, per quarter of 448 pounds, \$17.01 in the case of brewing barley only. The price of other barley will be \$16.28 as during the last season.

The popularity of Scottish Shorthorn cattle is proved, thinks the *London Times*, by the record of auction sales recently published in Scotland. The animals sold last year numbered 1,662, and the amount realized was \$1,115,663, an average of \$671. This average compares with \$494 for 1,507 animals in 1917 and \$381, for 1,516 cattle in 1916, which were the highest averages up to the time they were realized. The outstanding features of a notable season were the sale of a bull calf for \$21,462, and of a heifer calf for \$9,198.

Wage Earners and Farmers Differ Politically

By DR. E. A. BRYAN

IN THE DECEMBER 14th issue of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING we commented as follows upon the political affiliations that had been formed between the Non-Partisan League and organized labor: "The National Non-Partisan League has formed a co-partnership, so to speak, with organized labor and will try to control the next presidential election. For a long time organized labor has been trying to get control of national politics. Alone and unaided it has made little progress. Now it is perfectly willing to use the Non-Partisan League and affiliated bodies of organized farmers as a cat's-paw to clear the hot coals that lie in the road to the national capitol. Once enthroned, organized labor will have no more use for organized agriculture than it has had for organized capitalism."

"There is little in common between the employing farmer and the union laborer. The farmer is first a capitalist and second a laborer. A capitalist because he must have money, or capital, to run his business; a laborer simply because he at times prefers to do his own work

rather than hire it done. The laborer has nothing to sell but his labor; and labor is the least of the commodities that the farmer sells. * * *

"As a strictly agricultural organization, the Non-Partisan League could win great political victories and thru them greater economic justice for the farmers. Harnessed with organized labor it may win victories, but the scales of justice will tip nearer to a balance for the farmer than they do now."

Fully a month after that editorial was published there appeared an article in the *Washington Farmer* upon the same subject. The author of that article was Dr. E. A. Bryan, who was the president of the State College of Washington for 20 years, and is now at the head of the state educational system of Idaho. Dr. Bryan owns a large farm; is intensely interested in the struggles of both farmers and laboring men and knows from years of study and observation why farmers and laborers can never lie peacefully together in the same political bed. The article is a timely one, and we are reprinting it in full.

THERE IS and always will be a bond of sympathy between labor (meaning by that the wage-earning class) and the farmers. Both classes subject themselves to great physical toll, both lead the simple life, and both alike are engaged in the production of commodities.

In larger political problems there is likewise a unanimity of belief, relating to such matters as the freedom of the press, freedom of assembly and of speech, universal education, and the curbing of predatory wealth. But in the concerns which govern political action, especially in its economic phases, they are far apart, and there should be no attempt on the part of farmers at solidarity of political organization or concerted political action except the temporary federated action of distinct groups for specific purposes. The differences are so great and fundamental and the modes of action so diverse, that the uniting of the farmers and laborers is to deliver over all the interests of the former to the control of the latter.

First, the American farmer is distinctively, whether owner of land or renter, a capitalist. The laborer is a non-capitalist.

A capitalist is seldom a rich man. The vast majority of capitalists have very moderate amounts of this world's goods, and are not called rich men, but "middle-class" men. A capitalist is one who possesses "instruments of production;" that is to say, so far as agricultural production is concerned, one who has land and work stock and tools and harness, and machinery and feed and livestock, or some of these. A capitalist is one who adds to the strength of his own body other things which will enable him to produce.

A laborer, in the modern sense, is a wage-earner; one who sells his service as a workman to someone who controls capital or the "instruments of production." Millions of men labor and toil for long hours daily who are not laborers in the modern sense of that term. Farmers are the largest class of these, and who works harder than the farmers?

Thus, farmers and laborers belong to distinct classes. Both are useful. Both may be happy and successful. Both have many interests in common, but also many in which their interests clash. Among these is the regulation of the hours of labor. The farmer's work is seasonal; the laborer's work is not seasonal. The successful factory, transportation lines, mining, mercantile business, operate continuously; the farmer has light and heavy work, according to the season. Long hours and a severe strain at times are inevitable to him. Under the ideal conditions, the farmer and his own family, with a limited amount of help, except at special seasons, do the work and must often endure long hours or lose the fruits of the labor. The drastic regulations of the hours of work which labor deems essential to its protection would be disastrous if applied to the farmer. Second, the farmer is necessarily interested in a high price for food supplies and the raw materials of clothing, cotton, wool and flax. The interest of the wage-earner, on the other hand, is in the lowest possible price for all things which it consumes.

The farmer is primarily a producer; the laborer is primarily a consumer. The laborer has at the outset commuted his interest in his product for his wage, and the larger quantity of food and clothes he can get for that wage, the better. Thus, there are the two classes with diverse economic interests.

Taxes. No class has its property so open to assessment as the farmer. His land, his livestock, his tools and machinery, everybody, including the assessor, may see, and as a class he pays higher than anybody else. The laborer pays no direct taxes. His household goods in practically all

cases are exempt. He is, therefore, for higher taxes. More and costlier public works makes more demand upon labor and hence higher wages. The farmer, on the other hand, is proverbially against increasing the taxes. The wages of the laborer and his tools, if he has any, are exempt from taxes. The fruits of the farmer's labor, which are his real wages, are all taxed—the calf, the colt, the yearling, the 2-year-old, the 3-year-old, all are taxed 2 or 3 times before he realizes on them.

Then again, the two classes differ in the possible rapidity of action in bringing to bear on legislative and executive bodies their wants and needs. The farmer is an extreme individualist; class solidarity reaches its extreme among wage-earners. Think of how ridiculous the strike or lock-out would be among farmers as a class. How absurd the boycott would work out among them.

It is unfortunate when a country must array class against class. It has long been America's proud boast that she knew no class distinction, and the rapidity with which men moved from class to class, down as well as up, and from one industrial occupation to another, has long postponed the day of group organization, based upon common economic interests. But the day has come. The most powerful single group is the labor group, and no one can deny that the common interests of this group are far more powerful than old party allegiance. Their members belong to each and every party in order that they may the more perfectly subject them to the interests of the labor group.

No one will deny that the solidarity of interests

in transportation, manufacture or mining makes groups of those engaged in operating these, with a solidarity greater than any allegiance to historic parties. So also of commerce and trade. For these there does not need to be an organization, a constitution, officers, by-laws. They act together without them.

Farmers—agrarians—are dimly class-conscious. They are in the stage where they growl and complain. They are suspicious of everybody else and vainly imagine that everybody is plotting against them and is acting on other motives than animate them. They assume to themselves a superiority of motive, of unselfishness, of honesty and of public spirit, which do not exist. "Somebody come and organize us," they cry, and the demagogue hastens to undertake the task for his own selfish ends. They strike out blindly here and there—at the railway, at the middle man, at the miller or who not—and think everybody a d—rascal, but the farmer. But we are all very much alike and all very selfish after all, it is time, and it is high time, that the agrarians, farmers everywhere—west, east, south and in the middle—should unite into an agrarian or farmer group. If the tie of old historic party names still binds, it is no great matter. Like the laborites, like certain churches, like the owners of predatory wealth, they may be attached to great political divisions in order that they may control the action of these and direct them to the common end of serving the economic and social interests of the agrarian so long as these do not conflict with the general welfare but minister to it.

Law-Making Farmers of Dakota

If the Lord Helps those who helps themselves, He'll be mighty good to the Western Farmers

THE North Dakota legislature is in session. There is nothing unique in that special fact, except that the legislature of that state is the only one of the U. S. that is absolutely controlled by farmers. For two years now the politicians from coast to coast have bewailed the fate of this sister commonwealth, in being turned over to the merciless and inexperienced hands of the farmers, and they cannot quite understand why North Dakota's good ship of state still plows serenely on, when according to all the "dope" of the professional law-makers, it should have long since foundered on the rocks of class distrust and bankruptcy.

But except for the fact that the state capitol is now thronged with horny-handed and lean-faced farmers instead of soft-fingered and fat-cheeked lawyers and lobbyists, everything seems to be going along about as well as usual. And for the first time in years the people of that western state are getting some really progressive legislation.

Governor Frazier in his annual message recommended legislation that to the easterner appears like the rankest kind of socialism and paternalism which all good disciples of private monopoly quite properly shun. Here are some of the things Gov. Frazier urged the legislature to consider:

1. Creation of an industrial commission to establish and operate all public utilities undertaken by the state.
2. A Terminal Elevator and Flour Mill Ass'n, for the purpose of buying, selling, storing and manufacturing farm products. Finances to be raised by sale of state bonds.
3. Machinery for carrying out compulsory state hail insurance act.

4. State-owned industries to develop state's deposits of lignite coal.

5. A department of public-service patterned after building and loan associations to assist returning soldiers to take up farm operations.

6. Creation of a fund to educate and equip returning soldiers for civilian occupations.

7. State-owned bank, to perform same function for state as do federal reserve and farm land banks for sections in which they are located.

Gov. Frazier concluded his recommendations as follows:

"There is not a single measure in our whole program which will adversely affect any honest and legitimate interest within this state. On the contrary the adoption of this program will make us independent of the out-of-the-state interests, build up home industries and develop and widen domestic markets, promote settlement, bring in more workingmen and make it easier for our people to own their homes—in short—to make North Dakota a state where the producer can retain his just share of what he produces.

"The whole tendency of the times is toward greater co-operation and the extension of democracy in industry, and, in my estimation, this industrial democracy is just as necessary as is political democracy. North Dakota in adopting these measures is blazing the trail which many other states are sure to follow. These measures not only will promote general prosperity but will encourage education, remove restraints of privilege and provide more equal opportunity and give our children and our children's children a chance to be better citizens and to be broader and happier men and women."

Lifting the Lid at Lansing



WOULD STRENGTHEN COUNTY HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Full time county public health men who will be created by the prospective passage of the State Board of Health reorganization bill, would by the terms of the act be expected to receive the reports of all dangerous communicable diseases directly from the physicians and to provide for the immediate quarantining or isolation of the cases—to prevent the spread of these diseases—thereby preventing epidemics. Under the present system, diseases have to spread, causing epidemics, because the local health officers did not realize the importance of prompt and strict quarantine of contagious diseases. "If the first case of any contagious disease is promptly and efficiently quarantined there is practically no danger of an epidemic, which is so costly in health and lives of the people, while financially, to the township and county," said Dr. J. B. Bradley of Eaton Rapids here Tuesday to attend a conference of physicians to study the proposed legislation. "A large percentage of the people who have recovered from so-called pneumonia following this influenza epidemic, are found to be infected with tuberculosis," says Dr. Olin, secretary of the State Board of Health. "These cases, together with those cases of tuberculosis found in the discharged soldier, would cause a great increase in the number of our tubercular cases about the state. No county is exempt from this plague. It would be the duty of the county health officer to make a survey of the county, locating these cases and instructing them in how to live, so as to regain, if possible, their normal health, and teach them how to care for themselves, so that they will not be a danger to others and menace to their community. It would be the county health officer's duty to co-operate to the utmost extent with the Michigan State Anti-Tuberculosis society.

"It would be the duty of the county health officer," Dr. Olin continued, "with the aid of the Red Cross nurse, who is to be placed in each county where there is a full-time county health officer, to make frequent visits to the rural schools, instructing children in personal hygiene and other matters, pertaining to public health. It would be the duty of the county health officer, with the aid of this Red Cross nurse to instruct expectant mothers on personal hygiene, proper exercise, diet, etc., so that their offspring may get the proper start in life; also to instruct young mothers on the care of the new-born. This is entirely with the view of decreasing the terribly high infant mortality, which is a distinct menace to our race.

"It would be the duty of the county health officer, when requested, to meet with the different social organizations of his county, assisting in every way possible in rural sanitation, directing the construction of septic tanks, etc., in the rural communities. It would be the duty of the county health officer to organize clinics for the treatment of venereal diseases, tuberculosis, and other ailments of the indigent in each village as far as practicable in his county. He will be commissioned in the reserve corps of the United States Public Health service and will receive all the aid possible from the public health resources of the United States Government.

"The full-time county health officer will save each county in the state many times his salary, by promptly suppressing epidemics, by teaching the rural schools personal hygiene, which will prevent sickness among indigent children, and by his instruction will decrease infant mortality, which is greatest among the indigent. He will give the tubercular patient a pleasanter outlook on life, thereby hastening his recovery, which in many instances will cut off an expense to the county. And he will be a great aid to the county poor commissioners, assisting them in determining the justness of certain bills rendered to the county for the treatment and care of the indigent poor."

LOOK OUT FOR OLEO JOHN; HE'S AFTER THE "BUTTER'S GOAT"

Ald. John Dehn,—beg pardon,—Rep. John Dehn of Bay City, (he used to be an alderman before he graduated) has gone down to Lansing with blood in his eye, and his shirt-sleeves rolled up, according to the *Bay City Tribune*. For the Hon. John D. thinks "that Michigan has been legislating for a special class of citizens (to-wit, the farmers) long enough and that it is now about time to be doing something in the interest of all the people." Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Dehn will introduce a bill, (why certainly, you'd never be-

come an honest-to-goodness legislator if you didn't introduce a bill),—a bill to take the lid off oleomargarine and put it up on the same shelf with butter. Mr. Dehn has it all figured out that the state law requiring the serving of butter instead of oleomargarine in the state institutions costs the state something like \$60,000 a year.

Mr. Dehn also believes that "the manufacturers of oleomargarine should be permitted under the law to color their product and not be forced to adopt subterfuges to get around the law." (Watch out for this, farmer-members.) We wonder if Mr. Dehn knows that butter is a food, and that oleomargarine is an adulterant; that to deprive inmates of state institutions of this article of food would mean the substitution of a less valuable but probably more expensive article. In view of the fact that the butter industry of Michigan involves millions of dollars, Mr. Dehn may have a hard job explaining why the farmers are so strong for a law that provides a market for a paltry

\$60,000 worth of their product. Why, brother, you could close up all the state institutions tomorrow, and it wouldn't cause a ripple in the butter market.—F. A. L.

LEGISLATURE WILL LOOK INTO JACKSON PRISON AFFAIRS

Jackson prison is to be investigated. Rumblings of dissatisfaction have been heard since the law-makers hit town two weeks ago, but the wholesale delivery of prisoners the other night through a tunnel, was the last straw. A resolution calling for a most exhaustive investigation was passed by both houses Monday night without a protest. For several years or since the resignation of Warden Simpson, there has been more or less of a shadow of doubt hanging over the big prison. Wardens have charged their predecessors with making "take" profits and the public has never been quite satisfied as to these big money-making stories. It is well known that the prison has "hocked" their bills of sale as collateral for eastern loans, which is not enthusiastically approved by state authorities. At any rate, the public will be paid in satisfaction no matter what this special investigation discloses.

Legislative Notes—by Merle H. DeFoe

SPEAKER "Tom" Read may or may not correctly reflect the sentiment of Oceana county when he courageously indorsed Commander Newberry's primary election methods following the sharp attack made by Lieutenant Governor Dickinson in his address opening the senate. The lieutenant governor was invited by telegraph to make the principal address at the Roosevelt Memorial exercises held at Hart, Mr. Read's county seat Sunday night. Mr. Dickinson addressed one of the largest public meetings ever held in the town and came back to Lansing Monday night quite satisfied his position on public questions, including the Newberry matter, harmonized with public sentiment in some sections, at least, of Oceana county. The lieutenant governor says the rank and file of republicans are expecting the legislature to amend the corrupt practice act to prevent another repetition of the Newberry scandal and if the legislature fails to provide the remedy, the question he says will be a campaign issue in 1920.

Rep. C. A. Weissert of Hastings, chairman of military affairs, put in a bill Tuesday officially creating the state constabulary as the police arm of the state. Little opposition has thus far appeared against the bill which is expected to pass both houses. The proposal was warmly recommended by Gov. Sleeper in his message and the record made by the organization preserving peace in the upper peninsula during the early stages of the draft and subsequent success in enforcing prohibition has made many friends for the suggestion to make the constabulary a permanent institution.

Many women readers of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING are probably wondering when they must register to participate in the spring primaries and April election. The following official statement by Deputy Attorney General A. B. Dougherty will be of interest: "In reply to your inquiry relative to the registration of women for the coming spring primary and election, would say that the same provisions of law relative to the registration of men apply to the registration of women. They may register at any time prior to the 15th day of February in counties having a primary election or at any time prior to the 15th day of March for the spring election."

A bill has been drafted suggesting that the Board of Pharmacy, nurses, barbers and dentists come under the head of the State Board of Health. The bill is under the guise of economy. "In the first place," says Dr. Dennis Murray of Hastings, the father of the bill, "the Dental Board has never cost the state of Michigan one penny and in fact it has to its credit with the state treasurer over \$4,000.00. The United States Army and Navy have recognized the dentist and have received them in a class with the medical profession and that is the place we belong. The Michigan statute stands as the best law in the United States as we have reciprocity with twenty states."

The Federal Food Administration is being rapidly demobilized and will cease to officially exist Feb. 15. Federal Food Administrator Geo. A. Prescott, who has won the confidence and respect alike of Michigan producers and consumers by his administration, is in Lansing this week closing up the details. Frank D. Fitzgerald, who as Mr. Prescott's executive secretary has had to handle the burden of the detail, becomes deputy secretary of state Feb. 1 to succeed Geo. L. Lusk, resigned. Mr. Fitzgerald made many friends during his fifteen months in this war work and hundreds of people in Michigan who have met him in this capacity will be pleased to know of his preferment.

The State Board of Corrections and Charities has a bill to permit all state institutions to serve substitutes in lieu of butter if they elect. Penal institutions are already operating under such an option. Senator Vandenboom of Marquette, one of the largest dairy operators in the north country, is opposed to the bill on the ground that packers virtually control both butter and butter substitute markets, but they are required to get the big end of their butter direct from the farmers while oleo is made from surplus slaughter house products. Consequently they would rather sell the substitute for the perfectly obvious reason their oleo profits are greater. J. C. Ketcham, master of the state Grange, who was a legislative visitor Thursday, said Prof. McCollough of Johns Hopkins University says the necessary elements of fats are not found in the substitutes and for that reason the state should serve its younger and growing wards butter as a health measure. On the other hand, the State Board of Corrections and Charities offer abundant evidence that good oleo is the equivalent of butter in all the dietary properties and the financial saving to the state would be large. The annual report of the Board of Corrections and Charities comments on this question thus:

"Recommendation for the repeal of the law prohibiting the use of oleomargarine or other substitutes for butter in state institutions. This law was amended by the Legislature of 1913 as applying to penal institutions. An annual saving of approximately \$60,000.00 would be effected in the sixteen state institutions by using oleomargarine instead of butter. It is interesting to note here the effort made by the institutions to economize during the last year. In 1912 fourteen institutions with a population of 9,834 used 357,600 lbs. of butter, while in 1918 the same institutions with a population of 11,263 (1,429 more than in 1912) used 295,398 pounds of butter (62,202 pounds less than in 1912). The average price of butter as paid by the institutions in 1912 was .273 and in 1918, .4299. This saving has been made by the use of peanut butter, jellies, mixing milk with butter, butterless days, etc. There seems to be no doubt as to the wholesomeness and nutritive value of oleomargarine, and this recommendation is strongly urged."

M. A. C. TO BE SCENE OF BIG MEETINGS

Farmers and Housewives Will Gather at
Agricultural College for Five-Day Edu-
cational and Get-Together Treat,
Beginning February 3rd.

Farmers and housewives of Michigan and members of many of the state's most active agricultural and rural life associations will meet at the Michigan Agricultural college for five days during February, commencing February 3 and continuing through February 7. Usually this week in East Lansing is called simply "Farmers' Week and the Housewives' Congress," but this winter, say the announcements from the college, the sessions will be something more.

Michigan Livestock Breeders and Feeders

For one thing, as the completed program discloses, the week will be made the occasion for conventions and conferences by many of Michigan's best known associations. Livestock men of the state will meet in force for the annual sessions of the Michigan Improved Livestock Breeders' and Feeders' Association. This body will convene on February 6. Along with this gathering will be the annual convention of the many associations affiliated with the parent body. The Michigan Horsebreeders' Association will meet on Feb. 5; the Michigan Holstein-Friesian Association on Feb. 4 and 5; the Michigan Shorthorn Breeders' Association on Feb. 6; the Michigan Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association on Feb. 5; the Michigan Guernsey Cattle Club on Feb. 5; the Michigan Jersey Cattle Club on Feb. 5; the Michigan Red Polled Breeders' Association on Feb. 5; the Michigan Hereford Breeders' Association on Feb. 5; the Michigan Poland-China Breeders' Association on Feb. 5; the Michigan Duroc-Jersey Breeders' Association on Feb. 5; the Michigan Berkshire Breeders' Association on Feb. 5 and the Michigan Chester White Swine Breeders' Association on Feb. 5.

Farm Bureaus to Unite

Another conference that promises to be of epochal interest will be the meeting of officers and members of the county farm bureaus of the state on Feb. 4, 5 and 6. It is the intention of the farmers in these organizations—farmers who perhaps represent the most active and progressive agriculturalists in Michigan—to launch a central organization that will concern itself with matters that touch the civil, sociological and other affairs of country life as well as the strictly agricultural.

Crop Improvement Association

A third meeting of moment will be that of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association. The members of this body, who are pledged to the conversion of Michigan farmers to the raising of improved varieties of grains, and who are seeking to procure for the farmer some of the direct benefits that heretofore have accrued to the seedmen, will meet on Feb. 4 and 5.

A principal feature of the session of the grain growers is to be an exhibit of pedigreed grains, and in fact of all grains of merit. A number of prizes have been offered, particularly for corn acclimated to Michigan. The sum of \$100 will be one of the awards made for the best strain of white corn that can be grown with success in this state. Entries for the grain show, incidentally, can be made by filing a request with J. W. Nicolson of East Lansing, secretary of the association.

Muck Farmers

Not a little interest, also, is centering in the proposed meeting of muck farmers of Michigan. A special program has been arranged for agriculturists whose interests lie in this direction by Ezra Levin, specialist in muck crops for the college. This meeting of the muck farmers will run for two days, Feb. 4 and 5.

Many Other Meetings

Still other meetings during the week will be those of the Poultry Breeders of Michigan, the Maple Syrup Makers' Association, the School Commissioners of Michigan, the Drain Commissioners of Michigan, the leaders of boys' and girls' clubs, together with the youngsters who during the past summer were winners in their counties and communities in gardening, raising of livestock, canning and other enterprises in which these clubs interested themselves. The first three of these sessions will be conducted on Feb. 5. That of the

leaders of the boys' and girls' clubs will be held on Feb. 5 and 6. The school commissioners will meet on Feb. 4.

Eight buildings at the college, which during the strenuous preparations for war were built to be used as barracks for the student army training corps, will also be made use of. One of these "expositions" will be of improved grains; another will be used for a poultry show—with special places for winners in recent state contests; a third will be a health show; a fourth will be taken up with exhibits of interest to housewives and housekeepers.

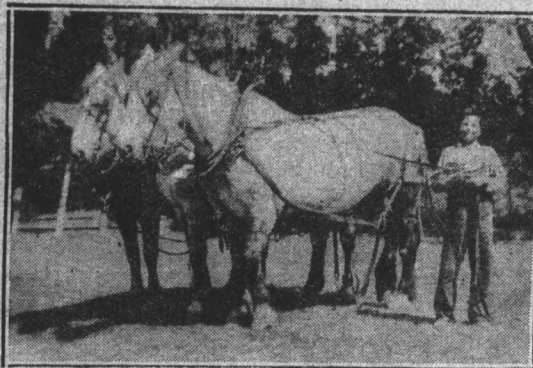
Many Prominent Speakers

The conventions and conferences of the many associations that will unite for sessions at the East Lansing institution, will be conducted during the mornings of the week. During the afternoons and evenings all of them will join in the general farmers' week meetings. These meetings will be addressed by many men and women of prominence not alone in the agricultural world, but in industrial and governmental circles also. Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago; Dr. I. W. Chamberlain, formerly president of Iowa Agricultural College; O. H. Benson, leader of boys' and girls' clubs thruout the United States; Dr. E. G. Montgomery, professor of farm crops at Cornell University; Lieut. C. R. Crozier, who was wounded at Chateau Thierry; Dr. Arthur Evans, of the *Chicago Tribune*, noted health authority; F. M. White, well known as a specialist in tractors; Miss Louise H. Campbell of Iowa State College, and many others, will be among the speakers.

During the week the college—with its lecture rooms and laboratories, instructors and professors—will be turned over to the visitors entirely. The sessions will be open to the public irrespective—according to the invitation—of age, sex or place of residence.

A FARM "BOSS" PROUD OF HIS WORKING RESERVE BOY

I am enclosing a photo of Elbert Revis, an Oklahoma boy who helped me last summer. He used five horses on a double-bottom plow and did it more cleverly than the older men I have been able



to get. We have used many school boys during summer vacations and find them first rate help. I am all for the Boys Working Reserve if handled properly.—Stanley Warner, Barry county.

About the time that demobilization began a strong movement was inaugurated in this state to retain and strengthen the Boys' Working Reserve. The plan did not receive much encouragement. It was felt that the returning soldiers would constitute a labor reserve sufficient to care for all needs, and already this conviction has been justified. It would be manifestly unfair to the men who forgot to preserve democracy to build a labor force that might and undoubtedly would usurp a place in the industrial world which could be filled by returning soldiers. The Boys' Working Reserve was a splendid organization; it filled a great need in the agricultural field during the brief time of its existence; had the war continued long it would unquestionably have been the one big source of labor supply for the farmers. The boys who, moved by patriotic motives, went out onto the farms last summer and manfully took up burdens intended for seasoned farm hands, are deserving of a lot of thanks, and we are sure that those farmers who availed themselves of this help appreciate both the spirit and the assistance of those boys. But the emergency for which the Boys' Working Reserve was built has passed, and it is best for all concerned that the organization be dissolved. The idea will not die, and the boys will be ready to spring to "arms" in any future crisis.

Lansing—The State Association of Supervisors will meet here on February 11, 12 and 13, when the usual program of interest to the township heads will be given. Problems regarding assessments, taxation, good roads, agriculture, etc., will be discussed by well-known authorities.

RETURNING SOLDIERS REPUDIATE FARMING

Declare They Have Had Enough of Life in
the Open at \$30 Per Without Taking a
Life Job at Agricultural Work Un-
der Present Farming Conditions

"Going back to the farm, Jim I s'pose?"

"Back to the farm? No, sir-ee; think I've been a soldiering twelve months for nothing? I used to get \$30 a month on the farm; and enlisted in the army at \$30 per, but I know fellows who are getting \$100 a month and then some in cities, and enjoying life at the same time. Farm? I should say not. Me for the bright lights and the weekly pay envelope."

'Twill be a sad blow to Mr. Lane, secretary of the Interior, when he learns that about 50 per cent of the boys who used to work on the farms are not going back to the farm, and that probably less than 10 per cent of those who never farmed can be induced to try the experiment. But such seems to be facts, if the sentiment of the soldier lads who have already returned is any criterion of how the rest of the boys feel about it.

Soldiers will not farm, that is, no considerable number of them will. The reasons have been clearly pointed out in previous issues of this publication. While city-bred people have laid elaborate plans for inducting returning soldiers into agricultural paradises that exist only in the fertile imagination of those who never lived on a farm, those who have farmed and know something about the trying conditions under which men farm today, have warned that the plans of the theorists would go to smash on the rocks of hard facts and actual experience. And now that the boys are coming home, and snub their noses at farm jobs, the well-meaning theorists clearly see that they should have made other preparations for re-establishing the soldier in civilian life.

It has been feared that the Michigan legislature, in its enthusiasm to do something for the boys, would fall headlong for Sec. Lane's back-to-the-farm proposal, and commit the state to a costly and impractical land-settlement program before consulting the men in whose behalf it was conceived. But a canvass of state officials and members of the legislatures shows fortunately that they are quite cognizant of the difficulties that would be encountered in carrying out Mr. Lane's suggestion in this state.

The only land in Michigan available in large tracts for settlement and cultivation for farm crops are in an undeveloped condition, and it would cost the prospective soldier-farmer from \$15 to \$20 an acre to clear the land of its stumps. This added to the purchase price, and the necessary money for tools and equipment would represent a sum far in excess of what the average soldier could put up.

If, on the other hand, the state and the nation had been forward enough to have provided six months ago legislation that would create a fund from which the development of these lands could have been financed, permitting the soldier-settler to reimburse the state or federal government on the amortization plan, we would be perfectly justified in encouraging our returning soldiers to take up these lands. Under the circumstances, however, it is folly to even contemplate such a scheme, for it could not but end disastrously to both the proponents of the scheme and those it was meant to help.

GAME LAW SUMMARY FOR TRAPPERS AND HUNTERS

To aid trappers and hunters the U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued Farmers' Bulletin 1022, "Laws Relating to Fur Bearing Animals," which is a summary of legislation in the United States, Canada, and Newfoundland, relating to trapping, open seasons, propagation, and bounties. Under the stimulus of high prices there is always danger that trappers will deplete the trapping grounds and permanently decrease the number of fur animals, the Federal specialists say. Regulations and seasons should be carefully observed, so that the fur supply shall not be endangered.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1918, the foreign trade of the United States in raw and manufactured furs reached the largest total in the history of the country. While exports were only \$13,903,631 as compared with \$15,729,160 for 1917, the imports were \$38,389,372 as compared with \$21,553,375 for 1917. The total foreign trade in furs increased over 40 per cent.

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.)

TITLE TO LAND IS NOT CLEAR; MUST WE PAY THE TAXES?

I have taken about a dozen different farm papers in the last five or six years and you sent me a sample copy of the M. B. F. and I have let the other papers go for yours is the best. I hope to see it in every Michigan farm home.

I would like to ask you a question and have you answer thru the paper. My wife has fallen heir to forty acres of land. The heirs had an administrator appointed and he held an administrator's sale and sold off all of the personal property and divided all the money and the land but didn't give her anything to show that she had the land, and said he can't until the boy gets back from the war. What I want to know is, do we have to pay the taxes on said land? It may be a year, or it may be five or six years; we can't tell for we haven't heard anything from him since he went to France.—R. K. P., Ithaca, Michigan.

It is difficult for me to answer this letter from the information furnished. You do not state whether the estate was closed by an order of the Probate Judge and the property assigned to the heirs. You speak of "administrator" but I cannot tell from the context whether it is an administrator with a will annexed or without. You do not say who "the boy" is that is in war. You do not say whether the assignment of the estate by the administrator was before or after December 1st. Ordinarily an assignment before the 1st of December the one who takes the land pays the tax, and where the assignment is made after the 1st of December, the administrator pays the tax. I do not know what prevents the record of assignment of the estate by reason of the absence of "the boy." You state that you can't get anything to show your title because of the absence of the boy. This would not affect the title of the others nor the recording of the orders of the court in regard to the land. So little information is given in the letter that the answer must be indefinite.—W. E. Brown, Legal Editor.

WHY THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DETROIT AND FARM MILK TEST?

Can you explain why, when Detroit only requires milk to test 3%, the commission fixes the test from farmers at 3.5%, thus allowing the dealer to separate 1-7 of the cream they pay for and have it as clear profit and still conform to the city law? Also, why does the commission fix the price of butterfat in milk test of 3.5 at only 40c per pound when it is worth 60 to 70 cents per lb. to make into butter or sell as cream?—Reader.

The state law provides that milk shall contain not less than 3 per cent of fat, and prohibits skimming, watering, or otherwise adulterating milk. It is true that Detroit distributors equalize their receipts. This is necessary in order to put out a standard product. In certain instances it has been found that certain distributors equalize to standard "down." In other words, they were found to take out a certain portion of the fat which constitutes skimming, and is contrary to the law. These cases have been dealt with by either the Detroit Board of Health or this Department.

Concerning the question, "Why does the Commission fix the price of butterfat in milk testing 3.5 per cent at 40 cents per pound, when it is worth 60 to 70 cents per pound to make into butter, or sell as cream?" No good argument can be advanced why this differential should not be based on the market price of butterfat. It is, however, a question upon which producers disagree, due to the fact that the major portion of milk produced for market milk purposes test 3.5 per cent or below. This class of producers suffer whenever the differential is increased, but in view of the fact that the percent of fat in milk is a fairly accurate basis of measuring the value of milk, whether intended for buttermaking, cheese-making, condensed or market milk purposes, there is no just reason why the differential per point should not be based upon the market price for the butterfat.—E. D. Wendt, in charge Dairy Division Food and Drug Department, Lansing.

MENDON FARMER CLAIMS ELEVATOR OR SHORT-WEIGHED HIS GRAIN

I am sending my dollar for renewal to the best farm paper I ever saw—the only one that I know of with the nerve to do the right and proper thing

in the right place and I look for it every week as an old friend. Keep it up, it's good stuff.

Now, possibly you may be able to help me in a disagreeable matter. On Dec. 2, last, my son and myself sacked eight bags of wheat and 22 bags of rye (980 pounds of wheat and 2,700 pounds of rye, by our 1,200 pound Buffalo scales) and he took the load to a Mendon elevator, John Creed, where he gave my son checks for 980 pounds of wheat and 1,690 pounds of rye, or 1,020 pounds short of our weight. My son was in a hurry to get home before night and didn't get the weights at the time of delivery, but next day when we went to Creed's place he was gone and his man gave us the above weights, and I told him they were short, but his man would not do anything about it. Then on December 5 we took another load of 33 sacks of rye, which our scales made 4,210 pounds. Now, this time I weighed the load myself on his scales at the elevator and got 4,200 pounds even, or 75 bushels, and I called their attention to the shortage on the previous load, but Creed himself was still away and I could get no satisfaction. When I did finally get to see Creed he positively refused to do anything about it, and declared his weight to be correct. Now, 1,690 pounds at \$1.50 per bushel is \$45.26. His check called for \$48.26, another error of \$3. And again 1,010 pounds of rye at \$1.50 is \$27, and in order to get untangled, Creed has made another weight check for the balance of my rye, either to himself or to some fictitious person and drawn a check for \$24 instead of \$27, to cover the error of \$3, so his books are again straight, and he has \$24 of my money in his pocket, and as he himself is "fireproof" I need

How Do You Tackle Your Work?

HOW do you tackle your work each day?
Are you scared of the job you find?
Do you grapple the task that comes your way
With a confident, easy mind?
Do you stand right up to the work ahead
Or fearfully pause to view it?
Do you start in toil with a sense of dread
Or feel that you're going to do it?

You can do as much as you think you can,
But you'll never accomplish more;
If you're afraid of yourself, young man,
There's little for you in store.
For failure comes from the inside first;
It's there if we only knew it;
And you can win, tho you face the worst,
If you feel that you're going to do it.

Success! It's found in the soul of you,
And not the realm of luck!
The world will furnish the work to do,
But you must provide the pluck.
You can do whatever you think you can,
It's all in the way you view it;
It's all in the start that you make, young man,
You must feel that you're going to do it.

How do you tackle your work each day?
With confidence clear, or dread?
What to yourself do you stop and say
When a new task lies ahead?
What is the thought that is in your mind?
Is fear ever running thru it?
If so, tackle the next thing that you find
By thinking you're going to do it.

—EDGAR A. GUEST.

some help to get my money. He buys for Little Bros. of Kalamazoo, but whether they would help me I don't know, as so far as they are concerned the account is straight. They have the rye and have paid for it. Please let me hear from you. My son and myself can both swear as to the weights.—Subscriber, Mendon.

If the local dealer is acting as agent for the Kalamazoo firm they are liable for the full amount of grain delivered at the elevator and to prove the exact amount both father and son may be witnesses to prove it. If the local dealer is buying on his own account and reshipping to Kalamazoo then the Kalamazoo firm would not be liable. It is advisable on account of dispute in facts, to consult good local attorney.—W. E. Brown, Legal Editor.

HOW CAN I MAKE LANDLORD CARRY OUT THRESHING AGREEMENT?

I am a subscriber and I would like to have a little information about what to do when the man you rent from refuses to pay thresh bills. I rented from my father and I was to have one-third of the crops and he furnish everything and pay thresh bills.—E. W. C., Newaygo county.

You can pay the thresh bills and take it out of the amount due the landlord or sue him for the amount in an action of assumpsit.—W. E. Brown, Legal Editor.

Enclosed please find my check for a year's subscription to MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING and if the future copies are as good as the sample the paper should reach every farmer in the state.—A. F. Wright, Jackson county.

FOSTER CHILD IS BENEFICIARY OF SOLDIER'S INSURANCE

Here is a case of a soldier leaving an insurance of \$10,000, \$2,500 to each of four sisters, two of them are minors; one is near 14 years of age, she was given by her father to a family when she was two years old, this was in Arkansas. No papers were ever made out, the family coming to Michigan when she was four years old. Her brother soldier, a sergeant, was killed in France. The father has been notified from Washington of the death and the insurance. Now what I wish to know is, will the government pay this insurance to the father, or direct to girl, or will a guardian be appointed? If so, what steps will she have to take in order that she may receive this money, and take care of it, as it will be paid \$16.33 per month, her share, and she wishes to keep it to educate herself after she passes high school, and if it passes to her father's hands the chances are she might not get it.—Reader, Mason, Mich.

The Government is not liable to pay any part of the insurance belonging to a minor to any but a legal guardian. If the minor is nearly fourteen years old she should go to the Probate Court in the county where she lives and petition the court to appoint some suitable and responsible person as guardian and who will be required by the Court to give bond for the safe keeping and investment of the amount payable to her. The government should be notified of the appointment of the guardian and ask that the amount be paid to him. The "giving" away of a child without legal adoption papers is of no legal force except that the Court will take that into consideration in the appointment of guardian, or in an effort to remove the child from her foster parents. The application for the appointment might be applied for property only unless the judge saw good reason to require otherwise he would undoubtedly be satisfied to allow the child to remain where she had been for all these years and especially if the child applied for a guardian after she was fourteen. She could express her wishes to the judge even though she was not fourteen.—W. E. Brown, Legal Editor.

FARMER IS HOLDEN FOR SERVICE OF STALLION

Two years ago I had a mare bred, and about four months after I sold her to the army. Shortly after breeding this man sold the stallion. Do I have to pay for breeding, or does the army man? The stallion was sold before I knew that the mare was in breed.—A Subscriber.

Yes, you are legally liable for the service.—W. E. Brown, Legal Editor.

TIMELY INFORMATION FROM PRES. FARMERS' THRESHING ASS'N

I will answer Clinton county farmer regarding co-operative threshing thru the columns of your paper. We were in the same boat as they are in. We organized about August 1st of last year, rather late, with 30 members, with \$5,000 capital stock paid in, divided in fifty one hundred dollar shares, no member having over five shares, nor under one share. We bought a 19-horse Longfellow Port Huron engine and 33x54 separator, Port Huron, with the Hart belt and bucket weigher, self-feeder and wind-stacker and tank and wagon, also a Greyhound beaver, built by the Banting Machine Co., Toledo, Ohio. I may say right here that our board of directors is composed of the president, secretary and two other members. As I was in the threshing game some time previous to this they elected me president and general manager of the company. Well, we started threshing on Aug. 23 and threshed until Dec. 5, getting in 80 days steady work, we threshed all of the company work and filled their silos, and earned \$1,250 outside of the company business. We held our annual meeting last Friday, Dec. 10. Every member was well pleased with the work done, and after paying help and incidentals and storage for our machinery we paid a 40 per cent dividend and had a balance of \$200 left in the treasury to start with next year. So we think co-operation is all right.

Some think thirty members are too many, but if they are ordinary sized farmers like we have, you can have even more than 30. Now is Mr. E. A. C., Clinton county would like further information write in person and I will be glad to help him.—G. W. Jerome, Pres. Cass Bridge Threshing Co., Bridgeport, Michigan.

Morrice—The farmers of this locality have organized a co-operative live stock shipping association. There are many of such associations in this state and farmers find that co-operative marketing pays good dividends. Who's next to get in line with the co-operative movement?

Marketing Michigan's Grape Crop

A Story of the Struggles and Successes of the Grape Growers of Western Michigan

By SENATOR BAYARD G. DAVIS, Van Buren County Farmer

ONE OF THE most famous grape growing sections of the United States, if not the entire world centers about the little village of Lawton in the northwest corner of VanBuren county. This locality has for many years produced some of the finest grapes, and the little farm-to-village trafficking of nearly fifty years ago, engaged in by a half dozen farmers, has grown into a mighty industry involving the investment and exchange of millions of dollars. Because little is known by the farmers of the rest of the state of the development of this important industry, and also because the Western Michigan grape growers have finally succeeded after many discouraging years in settling the one big problem that baffles so many branches of agriculture, viz: marketing, we concluded to tell our readers something about the growth of the grape-growing industry. To Senator B. G. Davis, of Lawton, a prominent fruit grower and an active figure in grape association circles, we are indebted for the following excellent review of the progress of the grape industry. Sen. Davis has agreed to write other articles from time to time upon the grape growing industry.

THE FIRST grapes were planted by a Mr. Jones of Lawton, some fifty odd years ago. In those early days Mr. Jones' only problem was to raise enough grapes to supply the demand and at good prices. The farmers were quick to realize that this section was especially adapted to the growing of grapes, and in a short time there was a very large acreage planted. Ninety per cent of these vineyards grow the Concord variety and at the present time there are vineyards of from five to one hundred and fifty acres owned and cultivated by one man.

In the early history of the industry there was no trouble to dispose of the crop at a good price, but as the planting enlarged very rapidly, the problems of marketing grew more difficult. In those days the commission men sent their agents into the grape markets and bought for cash. That system never proved satisfactory, as the buyers would get together in the morning, settle on a price, which on account of the perishability of the product the farmers were compelled to accept. This system was in vogue for a number of years until public sentiment crystallized and the Michigan Fruit Exchange was organized. This association with a stock company of ten thousand dollars capital, was organized under the laws of the state. Most of the stock was held by the farmers, the officers consisting of president, vice-president,



The Kind of Grapes They Grow in West Michigan

secretary and treasurer, and board of directors. The members voted to levy a tax of one-half cent per eight-pound basket and \$1.50 per ton for 20-lb. baskets, to provide funds for overhead expenses. As this great industry developed other associations were formed, notably the Southern Michigan and the Wolverine Fruit Associations. These associations changed the marketing conditions very materially and in a short time drove the cash buyer out of business. Experience and growth uncovered what turned out to be a serious defect in all these associations. They all derived their revenue from the basket and tonnage, taxes and their gross revenue so derived was at the disposal of the different managers to defray the expenses. The more they handled the larger was this sum, and from this arrangement grew an intense rivalry

between the different associations and a great deal of bitter feeling existed that was distinctly inimical to the best interests of the industry. To eliminate this condition the board of directors of the Michigan Fruit Exchange took action and placed our manager on a salary and held back ten per cent of our sales money until the end of the season, to provide revenue expense. At the end of the season we deducted out total maintenance expense from the total collected and the balance was prorated back to the grower, in proportion to their shipments. Our idea is to give the grower a means of disposing of his crop, thru a systematic and competent association at only the actual cost. As an example of how well this system worked, our entire overhead expense of putting this year's crop on the market was only 5 per cent.

The other associations in time also did away with the commission feature and placed their officers on a salary basis, and only charged the actual expense to the grower.

With three associations in the field, we found another defect. The associations being competitors on the market the commission men were quick to take advantage of this rivalry and were continually hammering the price down and to a considerable degree defeating the objects we were attempting to promote.

Several attempts were made thru joint meetings of the directors of the different associations to remedy this defect. Two years ago the different boards met in joint session and voted to make the North American Fruit Exchange, located at Benton Harbor, as our selling agent. The different managers of these constituent associations are located at the office of the North American Exchange, and agree and fix the price for the grapes sold on the market that day. This system has proved very satisfactory, the different managers being in constant touch with each other, watching and observing the market and thus eliminating a chance of over-loading any one market. This plan likewise did away with three different prices being telegraphed all over the country from three distinct sources. I believe the grape market is in better condition than ever before in the history of the industry, a tribute to the unselfishness of honorable men bound by a common desire to promote and stabilize one of the great enterprises in our category of agricultural development.

Mister Consumer Gets a Belated Education

EVERY few days I have an argument with city friends about the prosperity of the farmer. "The farmer is getting rich," these city friends cry. "Look at the prices we pay for food."

It is true that the price of food to the consumer is high—much higher than it ought to be—much higher than he can afford to pay. No one realizes this more than the farmer—no one regrets it more, for every rise in the price of food means decrease in consumption and decrease in consumption means a surplus of food on the farmers' hands and that means disaster to the farmer.

We have no scarcity of food; Government figures recently given out show that there is now in storage warehouses in the United States more beef, pork, lamb, fowls, eggs and land than at a corresponding time last year and yet food to the consumer is constantly rising in price. Go to the farmer on the farm and he will show you by figures of his own and by those collected by experts and agricultural colleges that at the present prices paid him he is losing money. And other statistics bear this out.

In Lenawee county, the most prosperous agricultural county in the state, 262 farmers in 1918 sold their outfit at auction and quit in disgust. At the last census 34 per cent of Michigan farmers were tenants and in the great fertile state of Illinois more than half the farmers are tenants. According to W. J. Spillman, former chief of the office of Farm Management of the United States Department of Agriculture, the average "labor income" of the farmers of the United States is \$318.22 and every child over 12 years old is a worker on the farm. These figures were gathered before the war.

LESS THAN \$1,000

Since New Years the Michigan Agricultural

"JIM" HELME, former dairy and food commissioner and editor of the *Michigan Patron*, has undertaken to tell the farmer's story to the people of Detroit. Not merely to tell the story, either; but to make the city folk believe the story, and revise their estimate of the farmer accordingly. That's some job, all right, but we'll have to admit that Mr. Helme has made remarkable progress in the first four articles that have appeared from his pen, which are as clear expositions of the farmer's problems as we have ever read.

As we have previously pointed out, apparently no one knows quite so much about the farming business as the man of the city. He has been fed up with so many misleading statistics from the department of agriculture and so many distorted news stories that he has come to believe that the farmer is a robber and a profiteer. And it's hard to make him believe any differently. However, Mr. Helme has grouped his facts and figures in such an illuminating fashion that we expect to see many converts to the truth. We are going to republish this series of articles, the first of which appears herewith. Others will follow in later issues. Other articles will be taken up in order in later issues.

College has given out the result of a survey made by its agents in a large number of farms. These were picked farms, picked because the farmer kept good farm accounts. They were the better class of farmers, situated on better land in the lower part of the state, adjacent to good markets. The average cash labor income of these farmers for one year of the war, after paying all expenses, was less than \$1,000. That is, the farmer receiv-

ed for his year's work and that of his wife and children less than \$1,000; and out of this he had to pay his living expenses and buy food and clothing.

The average of the whole state would show a cash labor income of less than \$500. Compare this income with the Ford worker, who gets \$6 a day, works eight hours instead of sixteen, has not a dollar invested in the business and is subject to no risk of poor crops to affect his income and you will understand why farmers leave farms for the cities. The labor income from 25 of the best farms from the 100 listed was \$1,976 and these farms were capitalized at \$11,626. Out of this \$1,976 must come depreciation and interest on the capital invested.

FARM POPULATION DROPS

Every decade the census shows a decline in rural population in every farm district and a corresponding increase of urban population. Farming, that most important of all business, is now conceded to be the least profitable of all. Lured by higher wages and shorter hours, the farm boy abandons the farm and hastens to the city to become a consumer instead of producer.

Recent figures show that there are now five consumers for every producer. The steady trend of people to the city continues in spite of all the cries of "back to the land," in spite of the so-called independence of farm life. There is just one thing that will stop this great movement and that is a more liberal reward for the farmer so that he can have enough profit to compete with the city factory in payment of wages.

ONE IN FOUR HUNDRED

According to the returns of the internal revenue collector for 1916, of 6,000,000 farmers, only 14,407 had incomes sufficient to (Continued on page 9)

BUSINESS FARMERS' PRODUCTION PROBLEMS

SILOS CHEAPER NOW THAN THEY WERE BEFORE THE WAR

Silos are cheaper now than they were before the war, in terms of values of farm produce. The following table will illustrate this fact and this same ratio can be applied to any farm equipment. The table here given is for a 90-ton silo with a price of \$300 in 1914 and \$400 in 1919. The market is taken in Chicago during the first week in January of each year:

AMOUNT OF FARM PRODUCE NECESSARY TO BUY A 90-TON SILO

January 1914	January 1919
Price	Price
\$.89	\$ 2.15
.65	2.25
.40	1.41
.40	.68
.36	.70
8.00	18.00
9.25	20.00
8.00	16.00
15.00	36.00
337 Bushels	248 Bushels
461 Bushels	248 Bushels
750 Bushels	588 Bushels
750 Pounds	571 Pounds
833 Dozen	571 Dozen
3750 Pounds	2222 Pounds
3243 Pounds	2000 Pounds
3750 Pounds	2500 Pounds
20 Tons	11½ Tons
Alfalfa hay	

By averaging the cost for both years, it will be found that silos are 36 per cent cheaper now than before the war. This is in terms of the value of farm products. From the table it will be observed that while silos have increased in price they have not increased in the same ratio as farm produce, and as this represents the commodity in exchange, it is safe to say that "silos are cheap." The farmer has a greater purchasing power than ever before and the need of farm equipment especially that which works for economy of production is very marked. The scarcity of stock and stock products; the high prices paid for all kinds of forage make the silo more necessary than ever before.

It is wise to order your equipment early whether it be a silo, a tractor, or any farm implement. This is wise because it is exceedingly difficult for manufacturers and jobbers to handle the trade unless it be distributed thru the season. The tendency is always toward ordering late and this makes a rush at the end of the season, often resulting in difficulty in delivery. Many companies offer discount for early orders. This will amply offset any interest which might be involved. It also affords more time for construction and slack seasons can be turned to good advantage in this way.

Under present conditions the silo will more than pay for itself every year. The great need of a cheap succulent ration is recognized by every stock keeper and with the silo this can be easily obtained in any section of the country. Bulky forage should be grown on the farm where the stock are kept and if feed must be purchased it should be in the concentrated form.

We are now working under a condition of high-priced land which seems to be going steadily higher. This means that we must make more money from our acres. The silo will make this possible. To pasture even \$100 an acre land is questionable. This same pasture land put in corn and that siloed will feed six times more stock and naturally will stand a much higher value. The silo makes it possible to keep more stock on the land and works under in harmony with intensive farm methods.

It is poor economy to hold off from the purchase of any farm equipment on account of the price, for the chances are that the prices of all such equipment are lower in terms of purchasing power of the farmer than ever before.—A. L. Haackler.

MAKING THE MOST OF THE AVAILABLE FERTILIZER

(Continued from last week)

Under such conditions probably the best method of handling is to spread the manure as it is made. Such a practice, of course, subjects it to thorough aeration and leaching by rains. In consequence it is advisable to work the manure into the surface soil as soon after spreading as possible so that the ammonia may be absorbed by the soil. While undoubtedly much loss occurs under this system of handling, it is infinitely better than the common practice of piling the manure beside the barn. If the land is quite rolling the above practice is scarcely advisable, but on fairly level land most of the plant food is worked into the ground where it is fixed by the absorption power of the soil. When manure is spread whenever a load is obtained a roof or shelter of some kind should always be provided for the spreader, not only to protect the machine but to prevent the leaching of the manure when it is left in the open and exposed to rain and bleached by the sun.

It is a common practice in some localities where

manure spreaders are not in common use to pile the manure in the field and spread it when convenient. Such a method of handling is extremely wasteful since much of the plant food leaches into the small area of soil beneath the pile instead of being evenly distributed throughout the surface layer as it should be in order to be easily accessible to the plant roots. In addition such small piles offer ideal conditions for the loss of plant food as ammonia and nitrogen gas.

If it is necessary to pile manure in the field the piles should be large with the top sloping to the center so as to catch the rain and keep the material as nearly saturated as possible. This materially cuts down the loss but under the best of conditions manure piled in the field suffers large losses of plant food and the practice should be avoided.

There are many farmers in Michigan who do not have a manure spreader and large numbers whose supply of manure does not warrant the construction of special sheds or bins for its storage. In fact a very large percentage of the manure produced on Michigan farms this winter will undoubtedly be thrown out back of the barn in the usual way. I wish to call the attention of these farmers to the great loss of plant food from

ESTIMATED COST OF 100 LBS.

3.5% MILK FOR WINTER 1918-'19

Data shows all items entering into the cost of producing 100 pounds of 3.5 per cent milk during seven months of winter feeding (Oct. 16 to May 15.) Data from three different seasons on 121 Michigan farms representing 2,015 cows. All costs based on present prices, Dec. 1, 1918.

Home-grown grains, 10.5 lbs.	\$48.00 ton	.25
Purchased grains, 18.7 lbs.	\$60.00 ton	.56
Hay, 46.6 lbs.	\$25.00 ton	.58
Other dry forage, 21.7 lbs.	\$12.00 ton	.13
Silage, 149.1 lbs.	\$8.46 ton	.63
Bedding, 17.6 lbs.	\$8.00 ton	.07
Labor, man, 2.3 hrs.	30c per hr.	.69
Labor, horse, 12 hrs.	15c per hr.	.02
Hauling milk, 25c per cwt.		.25
Taxes, Int. and Dep. on cattle, \$110.00 at 12 per cent for 7 months		.17
Taxes, Int. and Dep. on buildings, \$117.38 at 10 per cent for 7 mos.		.16
Int. and Dep. on equipment, \$12.09 at \$18.61 per cent for 7 months		.03
Veterinary services and drugs		.01
Losses due to death		.03
Miscellaneous costs		.08
Add 10 per cent for managerial ability, risks and omitted items		.37
		\$4.03
Credits for manure, 230 lbs. at \$2--		.23
Calves (value at birth offset by sire services.)		
Net cost of production		\$3.80

manure exposed to the weather for several months. The extent of this loss is shown by the following table:

	Under roof per cent	Exposed per cent
Loss of organic matter	60	69
Loss of nitrogen	23	40
Loss of phosphoric acid	4	16
Loss of potash	3	36

It is evident that the losses of plant food are materially reduced when the manure is protected from leaching. It seems highly advisable therefore to at least construct a roof over the manure pile. This will require but little labor and there is sufficient old lumber or roofing on every farm to make such a shelter. As the writer has traveled about the state he has watched for some such shelter, but incredible as it may seem he has so far failed to find one. Would it not be the part of wisdom in this time of scarcity of fertilizers and high prices for farm crops to make at least this small effort to conserve the fertilizer we have?—C. E. Miller.

HELPFUL FARM HINTS AND LABOR SAVING DEVICES

(NOTE: We are starting this new department at the suggestion of a subscriber. It will be a clearing house of practical ideas and experiences in the discovery and application of time and labor-saving devices. It is open to contributions from every reader. If you have found an easier way of doing any part of the farm work; if you have made any "contraption," device or appliance which saves time and labor, tell us about it, in your own

words and we will "dress up" your story if necessary for this department. If possible, give us a rough sketch of your idea, and we will have our artist re-draw it for this page. For every idea that can be used in this department we will pay \$1. Send 'em in.)

FOUNDATION FOR SEPARATOR IS VERY NECESSARY THING

Three years ago we invested in a fair grade separator that cost us, in the 750-pound size, a little over fifty dollars, laid down. Today that machine runs smoother, quieter, and as far as we can see, gives just as good service as the day it was first run. So often in a short time after the machines have been in use, they begin to get noisy, or require more power, or quit entirely, that this is easily attributed to one or two things.

In the first place, the separator is in the basement of the barn in a room built for the purpose, concrete walls and floor, and there is no chance for vibration of any kind. Two 2-inch planks were laid in the raised floor at the end of the room to take the larger screws of the machine, and these have never worked loose nor been tampered with. It was also seen that the floor was perfectly level before the machine was installed.

Another thing which might be partly responsible for the quietness and smooth-running qualities of the separator is the fact that the oil is changed regularly and all parts kept tight and in order.—Dale R. Van Horn.

PAPER PROTECTORS FOR PLANTS HAVE PROVEN THE BEST

About every spring comes a relapse in the warm weather with the result that the tender garden stuff is frozen stiff if not properly protected.

One common method is the use of tin and glass cans. But tin, especially is a good conductor of heat and cold and its sides readily transmit the temperature within. Glass jars are better but they, too, are more or less sensitive to temperature changes.

And so, during the cold nights of this spring I resorted to the following method: It is commonly known that paper is one of the best non-conductors there is. Having purchased a few dozen medium-sized sacks at the grocery store, I proceeded to erect them over the plants as shown. The short length of wire holds the sack firmly to the ground. Even in a strong wind these sacks will remain upright.—Dale R. Van Horn.

TOWNLEY AND THE NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE ARE VINDICATED

(Continued from last week)

"The trustee has been permitted to go thru the record of all these concerns as with a lighted candle. He has found no trace of any grant of any of the funds or property of the Non-Partisan League or its subordinate agencies to Mr. Townley, except a salary of \$300 per month. On the contrary, the record shows clearly and affirmatively that the Non-Partisan League and its subordinate agencies have never granted to Mr. Townley any part of their funds or property as his personal estate, and that he has never made any claim to those funds or properties as belonging to himself personally and he has never used them for any purpose except that of a political leader, devoting them honestly to the achievements of the objects of his party.

"The record is full and has been honestly kept and it shows an honest purpose to give an account of an honest stewardship."

"Judge Amidon, who rendered the decision, is a presidential appointee who never has had any connection with the Non-Partisan League, having obtained a life appointment to the district bench before the League became a power.

"The net result of the decision is that Mr. Townley is ordered to pay \$17.89, the amount by which his own schedule of assets exceeded the statutory exemption. The decision specifically denies creditors any right to any funds or property of the Non-Partisan League or any subsidiary organization."

Houghton—The farmers of Houghton county are showing that they are alive to the spirit of the times by their contemplated purchase of a flour mill and elevator. At present there is no large commercial flour mill in Houghton, but in view of the fact that copper country farmers are now raising wheat in considerable quantities, the members of the local farm bureau are trying to interest the farmers in financing a flour mill and elevator project.



THE FORTY THIEVES

Right here in town they're havin' a show called "Allies' Baby, or the Forty Thieves," an' I aint agoin' 'cause I've seen 'em all an' there's more 'n forty—a darn site more, an' I meet 'em most every day, an' I'm robbed by 'em, an' if there's any more than I've already seen I'll try an' keep away, an' why folks will pay good money to see things that are so plentiful is more 'n I know.

Jest the other day I saw a butcher buy some dressed chickens an' he paid the farmer 28 cents, said that was all he could afford, an' then he sold 'em, jest as they were, for 38 cents—an' b'gosh he's only one of the forty, an' there's a lot more jest like him, too. When I want to buy anything I go in a store an' ask the price an' when they tell me, I go out and walk around an' then go back an' the price has been raised, an' so I buy before they can raise it again; an' that's why I say I don't have to go to no dum show to see all the thieves I want to see.

Of course, Allies' Baby might be cute an' all that, but babies are quite plentiful here, an' not knowin' who Allie is, I'm not particular about seein' her baby, 'specially an' so as I said before, I'm not goin' to this dum show, not a-tall.

If dealers would be satisfied with a fair profit, or if consumers could buy direct from the producer, there would be a considerable difference in the cost of livin', but the chicken deal is jest a fair sample of the way business is bein' done—the cost of sellin' the goods amounts to as much as the cost of producin' 'em, which is a little unreasonable, I think.

Now, I am gettin' along in years—mebbe gettin' to be a back number—but, takin' milk, for example; darned if I can believe that it costs a dealer as much, jest to put the milk into bottles an' deliver it to his patrons, as it costs the farmer to buy his cows, feed 'em, milk 'em, build barns to keep 'em in, an' deliver the milk to the dealer; an' yet it's a 50-50 go with 'em here where milk is sellin' for 13 cents a quart. An' its jest about the same with meat. A farmer will raise a steer, feed an' care for him two or three years, kill him an' deliver him to the market an' the butcher will cut him up in half a day, sell him out and get more for doin' it than the farmer gets for raisin' him, an' killin' him, an' haulin' him to market. Kinda comikle, aint it? But jest the same it is true. An' then folks will say, "Oh, the farmers is the biggest robbers on top of the earth, they are jest a coinin' money hand over fist." An' then some folks will deal right along with some of the forty thieves an' then pay good money to go to a show an' see the rest of 'em.

Gosh, the more I see of human natur' the less I know about it, an' why ginger snaps has gone out of reach an' oysters are 80 cents a quart, an' shoes six to twenty dollars a pair, an' hides are down, an' a lot of things like that, an' coffee goin' up every minute, an' there was a time when everything was laid to the war, an' now its all on account of peace. An' there you are, an' then they bring 40 more thieves into town an' want folks to pay to go in an' see 'em!

I never like to sling bokays around much for fear the wrong ones will git 'em, but I jest want to say this: takin' by an' wide, I've found the farmers jest about the squarest sort of folks I've ever mixed up with—by gosh I've eat with 'em, slept with 'em an' its darned little cause I've ever had to find fault with 'em in any serious particular. In my estimation the farmer folks are jest about all right, an' I'm free to say I don't care who knows I think so.—Uncle Rube.

MISTER CITY CONSUMER GETS A BELATED EDUCATION

(Continued from page 7) come under the income tax law—one-quarter of one per cent, the lowest

of any class. Only one farmer in 400 had a taxable income as compared with one preacher in 80, and one teacher in 200, both of which are considered poverty-stricken occupations.

This brings me to the point I wish to make—that the farmer must have more for his products. At the same time farmers realize that the consumer must pay less for his product. How is this seemingly impossible proposition to be brought about?

Milk in Detroit retails for 15 cents a quart. The Lenawee farmer receives 7 cents a quart for that same milk. The producer gets less for producing the milk than the distributor gets for retailing it; and yet the milk producer has \$100 invested in his milk-producing plant for every dollar the distributor has invested and he works one-third more hours. Is this a fair distribution of the consumer's dollar? Take potatoes. The Northern Michigan farmer is selling his potatoes for 60 cents a bushel the Detroit consumer pays about \$2 a bushel. The beet sugar grower gets 4 cents a pound for his sugar. It retails for 11 cents; yet the factory and dealer combined does not have one-tenth of the capital invested nor take one-tenth of the risk that the sugar beet farmer does.

DOESN'T GET HALF

The farmer gets 2½ cents for the peas in a No. 2 can; he gets 2 cents for the tomatoes in a No. 3 can; he sells dry beans at 7 cents a pound; the consumer pays 12 to 15 cents for them.

The farmer seldom gets 50 cents of the consumer's dollar and in most cases it is much less. In fact, reliable figures show that an average on all the leading farm products the farmer gets 35 cents of the consumer's dollar. The balance goes to the middleman. Now the farmers realize that some middlemen are necessary to economic distribution but they do insist that under our present system there are too many middlemen. We have brokers and jobbers and commission men and wholesalers and retailers and warehousemen and so on.

HANDLED SIX TIMES

At Chicago the other day a grand jury began to investigate the high cost of living. It ran down a case of cold storage eggs. It found that the farmer got 28 cents for the eggs last May and they were bought and sold by six firms before the consumer bought them for 55 cents. None of these men made any exorbitant profits, but why six middlemen to handle these eggs when two would have been ample?

In a report issued by the United States Government recently, it is shown that the percentage of foods now in storage of middlemen on Dec. 7, 1918, as compared with Dec. 1, 1917, was as follows: Wheat, 206; corn, 129; rye, 154; barley, 110; oats, 96; wheat flour, 170; graham flour, 249; rye flour, 245; cornmeal, 227; buckwheat flour, 220; mixed flour, 243; beans, 154; rolled oats, 165; sugar, 125; canned tomatoes, 140; canned corn, 133 per cent.

PRICES GOING UP

There is no lack of food and yet prices to the consumer are still going up.

Farmers therefore, make the contention that they must have more money for their products, that the consumers must pay less, that our present system of distribution is wasteful, costly and inefficient. That if we can cut down the cost of distribution one-half and divide that half between producer and consumer both can be made happy.

How we believe this can be done I will explain in future articles with definite illustrations of leading farm products.

Wireless stations will be erected in remote parts of China, one on the frontier of Cashmere and another on the Chinese side of Siberia.

During the war 40,000,000 tons of cereals and 6,000,000 tons of meat have been shipped from Chicago.

Four army airplanes completed flight in formation from San Diego, Calif., to Jacksonville, Fla., a distance of 2,400 miles, in 38 hours.

Transvaal gold output in November valued at \$13,990,000, lowest since February, 1914.



SENSE AND NONSENSE



NOT THE RIGHT KIND

A tramp was walking along one of the London streets and met by a brother hobo, who reproached him for his ragged trousers.

"Why, you ought to be ashamed of yourself," said he.

"But how am I to get a pair of trousers? They don't grow on trees."

"Why, go into the first house that looks like one that might have an extra pair of trousers in it and ask for an old pair."

The ragged tramp took his friend's advice, and seeing a doctor's sign across the street, he went up the stoop and lifted the knocker. A lady answered the summons, and he asked her if the doctor whose name appeared on the door was in. She answered in the affirmative.

"Then," said he, "will you be kind enough to ask the doctor if he has an old pair of pants he would let me have?"

She replied that she was afraid they would not do.

"Oh, I don't mind if they are very old," said the tramp.

But the lady answered: "That isn't it, my man, I am the doctor."

WHILE THE GOING WAS GOOD

A darkey was ushered into the employment bureau of the Du Pont Powder Works and plied with the usual questions put to all new hands taken on at the works.

The old darkey stood the examination very well, but was beginning to feel just a little bit "on-easy" when one of the men suddenly asked:

"And who would you like to be notified in case of a serious accident?"

The darkey paused and scratched his head a bit at this unexpected blow at his morale, but after a little while he thought of two persons who might like to know of his misfortune. Their names were written down.

"And now," said one of the examiners, "where would you like your remains shipped?"

"Where would I like my remains shipped?" repeated the darkey in a groggy sort of voice. "Boss, Ise gwine to take 'em away from here right now."

WHERE HE DIFFERED

"Your Honor," said the policeman to the judge as he preferred a complaint against a colored man, "this man was running up and down the Mill River Road, waving his arms and yelling at the top of his voice, and otherwise raising the mischief, at half past one in the morning. The people of that district complained, and they had a perfect right to." The judge frowned at Rasmus, who didn't seem to be particularly worried.

"What do you mean by such unbecoming conduct?" his Honor demanded.

"Religion, jeedee," was the response.

"Religion. Are you a Holy Roller or something like that? I have religion, Rasmus, but I don't get up at midnight and tell everybody about it."

"Dat's des de diffrence, jedge. I ain't ershamed ob mine."

THEY LEFT HER

Miss Etta came over with her holiday order: "I'm after some more of your fine chickens, Aunt Lucy."

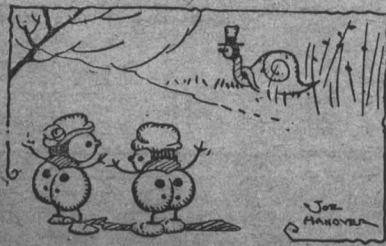
But the old lady emerged from the cabin and hung over the fence. "Why, law, Miss Etta. Didn't yo' know dere was a preacher's conference down dis way? I ain't got one chicken left. Dey's all done entered de ministry."

GUESS THEIR COUNTRY

Two couples of foreign birth and habit had, after six months' travel in America before the war, returned home. One of the male members of the quartet was thus accosted by a friend the next day: "Did you have a good time in America?"

To which was made the character illuminating reply: "Yes, but our wives got awful tired of those upper births."

Being busy does not always mean real work. The object of all work is production or accomplishment and to either of these ends there must be forethought, system, planning, intelligence and honest purpose, as well as perspiration. Seeming to do is not doing.



TOO SLOW

Miss Ladybug—Yes, as a sweetheart Mr. Snail won't do. He's so dreadfully slow my dear.



RIGHT

"They never put Mr. Lobster on the jury."
"Well you know that Lobster never agrees with anybody."



A GOOD RULE

The Hat Tree—You're a hundred years old, and perfectly well?
Grandfather's Clock—Yes, I keep regular hours and always find something for my hands to do!



GREAT

"My but this blotter makes a fine door mat to clean your muddy feet on!"



MARKET FLASHES



BENEFIT IN HIGH PRICES

So Claims Grain Trade Journal
Trying to Excuse Exorbitant
Prices on Feeding
Grains

Not everybody thinks alike about the wheat mill feed situation. While farmers are satisfied that somebody is making huge profits out of bran and middlings at the prevailing prices of \$53 and \$55 a ton respectively, the grain and feed dealers are sitting smug and quiet, taking their profits and saying nothing, while their spokesman, the *Price Current-Grain Reporter*, glosses the situation over in the following honeyed fashion:

"High feed prices are no more to be welcomed than high prices on other commodities; but it is clear enough that bran at \$50 a ton is making money somewhere or its sale at that price would cease. But such prices mean better bred dairy cattle, closer study of the feeding game, and saving of waste all along the line. There is no man who needs more the learning in his art that comes thru this season's experience with feed prices and conditions than the dairyman. It will do him and his peculiar industry a world of benefit which he may not at once admit."

So then, farmers, there is admittedly profits in bran at \$50 a ton, and more profits at \$55 a ton which some dairymen have had to pay in this state, but after all it is not the poor manufacturer or the dealer who gets the real benefit of these prices. Ah, no. 'Tis the dairyman. The benefit is a bit camouflaged, 'tis true, but it is there. High prices will force the dairymen to practice economy in feeding, says our grain trade friend. He will cease gorging his cattle as he did in those halcyon days when bran could be bought for \$36 per. So on with the profiteering.



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

A number of middle west journals are becoming alarmed over a statement said to have been made by Secretary of Agriculture Houston to the effect that unless Congress acts, the Food Administration will be unable to carry out its price guarantee on 1919 wheat. We shall not worry. We haven't the least fear that the government of the United States will break its word to the farmers. We have faith in the printed word of the law and in the written promise of President Wilson that farmers will be protected on their 1919 wheat crop. There are no doubt some big problems in the way of a satisfactory carrying out of this wheat price guarantee, but those problems will be worked out all in good season. Farmers who are planning spring wheat acreage should not become alarmed at the press dispatches they read predicting failure of the government to carry out its wheat program.

Demand for wheat for milling purposes continues very strong, and in some sections fully 20 cents a bushel over basic prices are being paid. At present wheat prices farmers who are still holding wheat should realize four or five cents a bushel more from their local elevators than they could get sixty days ago.

LAST MINUTE WIRES

DETROIT.—Hay \$1 lower; beans very slow, dealers expect better demand soon; butter still declines; potatoes lower; oats lower; weak feeling in all grains.
CHICAGO.—Onions firmer; apples higher; potatoes decline. Hay demand better and prices higher. Food Administration decides to retain hog price minimum for February.
NEW YORK.—Potato market retains firmness; beans inactive; apples firm and higher.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	1.38	1.34	1.53
No. 3 Yellow			1.50
No. 4 Yellow	1.33	1.33	1.48

The corn market is badly shattered. In the big corn districts farmers have been anxious to get rid of supplies and last week visible supplies at primary markets exceeded by 3,000,000 bushels supplies of the previous week, and by 5,000,000 bushels the supplies of a year ago. The uncertainty surrounding the fixing of the February price on corn is having a bad effect on the corn market. Some farmers, falling for the warnings of the market speculators that the government will fail in its promise to stabilize the hog market during February, are rushing their corn to market. Others who believe the government is as good as its word and will fix the price as agreed are in no hurry to sell. Shipments of hogs are still enormous, and failure of the Food Administration to fix prices, would simply mean that the bottom would go out of the market with a thud, and corn prices would be affected seriously in consequence. Last week corn values on the Chicago market declined as much as 17 cents a bushel, and while prices are more steady this week, there is a lack of confidence which is apt to have a bad effect upon the immediate future of the market. The speculators are holding over the heads of the farmers the threat that Argentine corn, now in transit, will send corn prices way down. And all of these various predictions and guesses keep the farmer in a turmoil and uncertain whether to Argentine corn, which is only a drop sell or hold. But regardless of the in the bucket compared with our great national corn, we expect to see corn values recover their former strength, after many and sharp fluctuations from high to low levels and vice versa.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Standard	69 1-2	.67	.76
No. 3 White	69	.66	.75
No. 4 White	68	.65	.74

Oats, which slumped several weeks ago, and declined three or four cents a bushel are still on the downward grade, and prices now are at the lowest point since the market opened last fall. But there is no occasion for alarm in this situation. Corn is the barometer which has measured oat values all winter long, and will continue to do so. Slumps in the corn market, and whenever corn recovers its former values, oats are quite likely to do the same. For some weeks past, export demand has been slow, too, which has had a depressing influence on the market. Dealers expect this demand to pick up again in the near future, in which event oats are sure to recover their former values. We reiterate our prediction made several months ago, however, that oat prices will not materially advance. We expect to see the bulk of the oat crop go on to the market at from 74 to 77 cents a bushel.



RYE & BARLEY

What we had to say in December about rye is being verified in every respect. Demand for rye is very limited, and the market continues to lose a cent or two every week or so. Whereas rye was quoted a month ago at \$1.61, it has now declined to \$1.53, and further declines would not be out of the way, in view of the small demand.

The barley market which strengthened and advanced ten days ago has again gone back to sleep, and there's nothing doing in that grain just now. The last leg having been knocked out

from under the hope that the country would go back to booze, by the ratification of the prohibition amendment, the few brave spirits who dared to dream of malting part of the 1918 barley crop have faded away and the barley market is without support. The present slump is believed to be only temporary. Barley prices range from \$1.85 to \$2, according to quality.



HAY

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

Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	26 50 27 00	22 50 23 00	21 50 22 00
Chicago	29 00 31 00	28 00 30 00	17 00 26 00
Cincinnati	28 25 29 25	27 25 28 25	26 25 27 25
Pittsburgh	27 50 28 50	26 50 27 50	25 50 26 50
New York	30 00 32 00	25 00 28 00	26 00 28 00
Richmond			

There is a better feeling in the hay market. The New York market which has been over-stocked and sluggish for a number of weeks is now in a better condition and it is reported that supplies are not ample to take care of the demands. Detroit is about the only important hay market that is reporting a quiet tone. Receipts have been moderate on that market the past week, and demand not very strong. Prices rule firm, however, and no declines in values are looked for. Reviewing the hay conditions for the week ending Jan. 18, the *Hay Trade Journal* says:

"Supplies continue to run light at nearly all the hay markets and trade is sufficiently active to keep prices strong at a higher range of values than a week ago. Country loading dropped off sharply after the recent decline, and the amount of hay moving since has been small enough to force a sharp reaction from the previous depression. The demand, since the opening of the year, has been more active and with shipments low the markets have cleaned up their accumulations. The feeling at all points is much more satisfactory than at any time since the war closed."



BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	8.75	9.25	10.25
Prime	7.75	8.50	9.50
Red Kidney	12.00	12.50	13.00

The bean situation has been covered so fully on the front page of this issue that there is no need of adding anything here. The market is in a very poor condition; eastern demand is slow; and elevators are having a hard job to find a market for what they have on hand. The government has not been in the market for several weeks, but it is expected that they will soon be in the game again, when a better condition is expected.



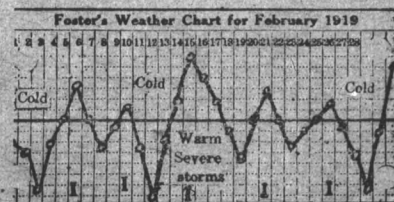
POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Round White Bulk
Detroit	2.00 cwt.	1.90 cwt.
Chicago	1.95	1.85
Cincinnati	2.20	2.00
New York	2.50	2.30
Pittsburgh	2.30	2.20

True to our prediction last week potato prices have declined but they are still 20 to 30 cents a hundred higher than the low point reached several weeks ago. We expect prices will continue to decline, very slowly, however, just so long as the mild weather continues. This statement needs qualifying. Weather that will permit the unlimited shipment of potatoes may prevail for perhaps sixty days, with

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 25, 1919.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent Jan. 26 to 30, warm wave 25 to 29, cool wave 28 to Feb. 1. Temperatures of the week centering on Jan. 28 will average from about to above normal, precipitation from about to below normal, force of storms about normal.

Next warm waves will reach Vancouver near Jan. 30 and Feb. 3, and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. They will cross crest of Rockies by close of Jan. 31 and Feb. 4, plains sections Feb. 1 and 5, meridian 90, great lakes, middle gulf states and Ohio-Tennessee valleys Feb. 2 and 6, eastern sections Feb. 3 and 7, reaching vicinity of Newfoundland about Feb. 4 and 8. Storm waves will follow about one day behind warm waves and cool waves about one day behind storm waves.

Temperatures Jan. 25 of Feb. 12 will average below normal east of Rockies and above west of Rocky ridge. Precipitation, mostly snow, will be generally deficient. Storms will be about

normal force, most severe near Feb. 4. Warmest week of February will center on 15, coldest on 3 and 28. A general deficiency of precipitation is expected for February. Not good crop-weather for winter grain.

I am expecting a long, cold, dry winter east of the Rockies' crest. Greater part of the precipitation in the form of snow, but not much snow. That kind of crop-weather does not promise well for winter grain but it does promise that more than usual feed for livestock will be necessary. West of the Rocky ridge the winter promises to be warmer than usual with less than usual precipitation.

One of the greatest needs in America is more steady and reliable market values for agricultural products. Manipulation of these market values is robbing producers, consumers and legitimate dealers and enriching a few speculators who are already wealthy. The vast majorities of people who are being robbed by the few can not expect a remedy till they become more thoroughly organized for self protection. The difference between what the producers receive for their products and what the consumers pay is enormous and the millions being made out of these differences are dangerous to government.

W. T. Foster

bearish effects upon the market, but we are of the firm opinion that thereafter prices will advance, regardless of weather conditions. Current shipments are abnormally large for the season of the year, but in spite of this fact prices remain remarkably stable. If growers keep on selling and dealers keep on shipping as freely the next sixty days as they have the last sixty days, there will be mighty few potatoes left to ship before the new crop comes onto the market. We hope our readers saw the significance of the sharp advance in potato prices immediately following the curtailment of shipments the first of January. We can construe that effect in no other way than an indication that storage supplies at consuming markets are low, and that consequently any reduction in shipments must be accompanied by an almost immediate increase in demand and raise in price. The market right now is shaky. Unless you absolutely need money, don't sell another potato until the tone becomes stronger. Farmers make a great mistake in selling crops on declining markets. With Michigan dealers shipping out from 40 to 100 cars a day right now, the withholding of potatoes from market at this time is sure to be felt.



ONIONS

Readers will recall that the middle of December we predicted a better onion market after the first of the year. This prediction has been verified and the market now shows considerable strength. The warm weather may set the market back temporarily, but a change to colder weather will mean a firmer tone and slightly higher prices. The demand is almost entirely confined to the better grades. Off-grade stock is hard to sell. Eastern markets are quoting \$1.40 to \$1.75 per cwt. according to grade.



APPLES

The export demand is unquestionably the big influence in the apple deal. The condition of the apple market has been good from the harvesting season, with periodical advances. This week saw another advance at some points, and it looks as if there are not enough apples coming into many of the larger cities to supply the local demand. Describing the demand existing in England for American-grown apples, the *Chicago Packer* says: "Cablegrams from England early this week showed the apple market over there to be just as strong as ever and maximum prices are expected for some time to come. Prices quoted are \$16.07 a barrel and \$4.70 for western boxes regardless of quality. Eastern Baldwins have been selling at \$4.75 to \$5.75 at Boston; freight on barrels has been \$5. Apples are selling at wholesale in Liverpool for 12 cents per pound and 15 cents at retail.



BUTTER

New York Butter Letter

New York, Jan. 18, 1919.—The butter market is very weak. In fact, it seems to have had a very virulent attack of the "flu" and to have barely survived. The old factors of supply and demand are alone responsible for the condition at present. There is an over-abundance of supply with practically no demand. The only thing that will ward off a very decided drop in price at the present time is a snow storm that will tie up traffic for a week or two and cut down production to a considerable extent. Several factors have worked to cause the present market condition, principal among which are increased production lessened consumption because of the pending reduction of wages and the influx of butter which was held up because of the strike among the boatmen on the river. Practically all dealers are considerably worried over the present outlook as they are holding many consignments of butter, many of them having been in the

warehouse for several weeks but which could not be moved to advantage because of slight demand for medium grade butter.

Extras have declined in price fully $4\frac{1}{2}$ c since Monday morning. Saturday's quotation was $69\frac{1}{2}$ c. With the settlement of the boat workers' strike on Sunday so many lots were received that on Monday the quotation dropped to $68\frac{1}{2}$ c. On Tuesday a further decline of $1\frac{1}{2}$ c followed. There was no decline on Wednesday but there were cuts of one cent on each of the days, Thursday and Friday. Reports coming from the Mercantile Exchange, which is sitting as this is being written, show that some high grade extras have been offered at a price as low as $61\frac{1}{2}$ c. Buyers are very discriminating and many lots which formerly passed as of the highest scoring variety now barely pass as extras. The fact is, practically no butter is moving at all at present. Following are the established quotations on Friday: Extras, $64\frac{1}{2}$ to 65 c; higher scoring than extras, $65\frac{1}{2}$ to 66 c; firsts, $62\frac{1}{2}$ to 64 c; seconds, 59 to 62 c.



EGGS

The long decline in egg values has stopped, and there is a noticeable strengthening of the market. Supplies are light and demand is better. Detroit prices range from 58 to 60c for candled firsts. The remarkably warm January weather will, if continued, make for an increase in production, so there is little hope held out that egg values will go much higher this winter. In the event of a late cold spring, prices might advance some, but those who expected to see dollar eggs before another summer may as well bid the vision good bye.



POULTRY

Demand for both live and dressed poultry has been very light for the past ten days and prices generally are lower on all markets. Detroit prices this week have averaged around the following figures: No. 1 springs, 27 to 28c; small springs, 25 to 26c; hens, 29 to 30c; small hens and Leghorns, 26 to 27c; roosters, 20 to 21c; geese, 28 to 30c; ducks, 34 to 35c; turkeys, 34 to 35c per lb.



LIVE STOCK

Chicago Live Stock Letter

(By Special Correspondent)

Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Jan. 20

—A run of practically 100,000 cattle at Chicago for each of the last two calendar weeks, followed by a crop of 31,000 today has proved sufficient to eliminate some of the bloom that appeared on the market during the holiday period. The trade, however, is still giving a remarkable demonstration of its underlying strength, prices having been well maintained considering supply volume, and demand is at most times brisk. It is probable that a cattle supply of such volume as that of the last fortnight has never carried a smaller quota of really choice beef grades. Prime cattle have been conspicuous for their absence and such grades, along with anything in the steer line that would class as choice is as high as ever. Last week's top, \$19.75, was paid for a three-car drove of choice 1,280-pound steers compared with which prime heavy bullocks would have been cheap at \$21, altho the latter price probably could not have been obtained had anything of the class been offered. During the past week steers of value above \$17.50 have held fully steady but the rank and file of current marketings consist of light warmed up and medium short-feds weighing less than 1,200 pounds, and such classes are selling around 25c lower than a week ago, with the bulk at \$13.50 to \$17.25. Weight has the call but finished yearlings would find a good reception. However, light half-fat yearlings are about the mean-
(Continued on page 21)



-Now is the Time to Order Lime

Thousands of Michigan farmers are going to need lime this Spring.

Last year, hundreds were disappointed—had to plant in acid soil—because they placed their orders too late for delivery. Don't you be late this year.

If you will order your lime now for January or February delivery, we will date your invoice April 1st, extending our usual terms of 3% for cash if received before April 10th, or the amount in full by June 30th.

Order now—haul your lime while you have time to haul it—pay for it when you use it.

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"for all the farmers of Michigan"

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The World is Growing Better

WHEN THE Nebraska legislature, following the action of thirty-five other legislatures, ratified the amendment to the federal constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages within the United States, one of the most drastic, but constructive, pieces of legislation ever proposed, became a law. And a goal for which the enemies of the liquor traffic have been striving for nearly a century has been reached.

The fight against booze has been a long and hard one. Formerly the moral benefits of prohibition were the only weapons used. The agents of the liquor traffic told the tax-payers that the moral benefits were not worth the millions in revenue that would be sacrificed by prohibition. The tax-payers believed and went right on voting against prohibition and for police courts, lunatic asylums, poor houses and other out-houses of the saloon. But came a time when the advocates of prohibition could prove that community sobriety was a distinct financial advantage, and that the cost of supporting the saloons and their crime-annexes was far greater than the revenues derived from them. Gradually there has been a moral awakening. Strong men began to realize that they were their weaker brothers' keepers, and thousands who found no danger nor temptation in the flowing bowl for themselves, gladly gave up the small social pleasure of the saloon, to halt the feet of those who travelled the drunkard's path.

This sudden conversion of an entire nation to the moral and financial benefits of total abstinence from alcoholic drinks upsets many popular theories. For ten years the churches have been decrying the growing tendency of the American people toward worldiness. Pulpit orators have preached fervid sermons against the modern temples of Gomorrah, and have accused the world of renouncing godliness and righteousness for sinful pleasures. But how can we reconcile such a charge with the facts that within the past decade, the peoples of thirty-two states have voted out the saloon, the most prolific breeder of vice of modern times; that the great cities have banished their houses of prostitution; that the licentious drama has given away to the chaste moving picture; and that now,—crowning achievement of all,—the legislatures of thirty-eight states have said that booze shall go for all time. Let the alarmists say what they will; the evidence proves that the world is growing better.

Good Roads and the Farmer

WANT TO be called a "moss-back?" All right; just stand out on the corner and tell everybody who passes by, (and especially the people who own automobiles) that you

are opposed to good roads. Folks will look at you as if you were a freak in a Barnum side-show, or had just parted company with Noah at the door of the ark.

Are the farmers of Michigan opposed to "good" roads? Yes and no. They are strictly and justifiably opposed to building roads from which they get no benefit, but for which they must help pay. They are opposed to any road-building scheme designed in the interest of the few at the expense of the many. They are opposed to building inter-urban roads for pleasure traffic while badly needed farm-to-market roads are neglected.

Sen. Connelly of Spring Lake, Ottawa county, is the father of a bill to submit to the voters at the spring election a \$50,000,000 bonding proposition to build "hard" roads. It is proposed to construct all trunk-line roads of concrete at state expense. The people of the cities and the communities in the vicinity of the trunk lines will fall for this proposition, but it will require some strong arguments to convince farmers living in sections far removed from the trunk lines that they should vote for an additional tax burden of \$50,000,000 from which they are to receive so little benefit.

We are strongly in favor of better roads. The state of Michigan should spend, not 50 million dollars, but a hundred million dollars, on its roads just as rapidly as can be done.

But the cost of these roads should be borne proportionately by those who use them. The machine, be it truck, tractor, or automobile, that travels a highway twelve hours a day should certainly pay more for the maintenance of that highway than the machine that travels it only six hours a day or not at all. A tax spread upon the assessment rolls makes no discrimination between the man who gets a great deal of benefit from the good road and the man who gets little. But a tax upon the mileage of every automobile and truck would put the burden right where it belongs.

If Michigan's road building program is to go thru, some money will probably have to be raised thru the sale of bonds, the redemption of which should spread over a long period of years in order to make the annual tax burden as light as possible. But supplementary to this there should be a tax on gasoline. We are quite sure that the adoption of such a method of creating a road-building fund will make much easier sledding for a bonding proposition.

Leave it to Mr. Houston and the "Experts"

MR. HOUSTON, secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, takes umbrage at the many criticisms directed at his department. But Mr. Houston scarcely ever makes a speech or issues a bulletin that he does not lay himself open to well-deserved criticism. Charitable as we would like to be; forgiving of his mistakes as the unusual conditions of the times might justify, we must look the truth in the face and admit that the department failed miserably in a great crisis to render much-needed assistance to the farmers.

Mr. Houston is not the right man for the job he is holding. He is a square peg trying to squirm into a round hole. He thinks that all farming is conducted by the rule of three. He looks upon farmers as children in a kindergarten just learning their A B C's. They must be coddled and kept smiling; instructed and tutored along certain scholastic lines. That they may perhaps have greater knowledge of the subject than the professors who do the teaching has never occurred to Mr. Houston.

In an address before the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, Sec'y Houston tried to justify the failure of his department to provide the Senate with the accurate wheat-growing cost data, and he wound up with this statement:

"I have already had the situation canvassed by able and impartial committees. I am now invoking the assistance of a number of experts. I shall invite the help of the best and most experienced

minds in your body, and shall hope at the proper time to lay before the Congress a carefully considered scheme for an effective office of farm management. I shall hope that full contacts may be established between this office and similar offices in the agricultural colleges so that in due time we may be able to give more competent advice to the farmers of the nation in the field of agricultural economics."

Too Much Organization.

THE HOUGHTON County farm bureau is not to be represented at the state meeting of farm bureau officers scheduled to be held at the Agricultural College during Farmers' week. "There are getting to be so many organizations presumably intended to promote agriculture that it is getting more and more difficult to keep track of them" said Houghton county Agriculturist Geismar. "I don't see that this federation will do any more than the existing organizations."

Let that soak in. If there's one thing that's worse than lack of organization, it's over-organization. Any movement that is so highly organized that it has a half dozen different heads to speak for it is a much handicapped animal and gets nowhere. There are too many organizations claiming to represent the farmers. During the war Washington was besieged with representatives from so-called farm organizations, but so divergent were the opinions presented and the concessions asked for, that no step could be taken with absolute certainty that it would satisfy the majority of farmers.

If it can be shown that the county farm bureaus of the state represent any considerable portion of farmers, and they want a state association, let 'em have it. But we know that membership in county farm bureaus in this state is very limited, and that any action taken by a state association of these bureaus, in the name of the farmers, is as liable to be contrary to the wishes of the rank and file, as it is to be favorable.

How They Estimate Farm Crop Values

THE QUESTION has often been raised as to whether the publishing of statistics showing the annual production of farm crops did not do the farmer more harm than good. Were this information open only to the farmer, it would be of inestimable value to him, but as common property, its value is questionable. Compiled as it is by a department maintained at public expense, it must, of course, be made accessible to all. Farming is the only industry in the world that keeps the public informed at all times of the quantity and condition of the things it produces. However, we are not prepared to say that public information is not to be preferred to no information at all, when such information is accurate. But the statistics compiled by the Department of Agriculture are often woefully inaccurate, leading the consuming public to arrive at conclusions not justified by facts.

For instance: The December estimate of the Bureau of Markets gave the average price received by growers for potatoes on Dec. 1st as \$1.19 per bushel. At that time the average price to growers in Michigan was in the neighborhood of 75 cents a bushel. Wisconsin and Minnesota growers were receiving about the same amount, while growers of Maine and New York were being paid 25 to 40 cents a bushel more. We were unable to discover any commercial potato growing section where farmers were realizing the price announced by the Bureau of Crop Estimates. We accordingly wrote to the Bureau and asked for an explanation of its estimate. The Bureau's reply is self-explanatory:

"The estimate of the average price of potatoes as paid to farmers includes all sales, not only in commercial regions but in all other regions. If the average is above the general commercial price, it is because a large number of the returns represented sales made above that price. Our figures for December are based upon reports from township and county correspondents throughout the different states."—Leon M. Estabrook, Chief of Bureau.

We strenuously object to this method of determining average prices of farm products. Almost every state in the union grows a few

potatoes, but the states that grow the great commercial crop can be counted on the fingers of the two hands. Farmers who grow only enough to fill the local demand usually receive from two to three times as much for their potatoes as do the farmers living in commercial potato growing sections which produce anywhere from a hundred to a thousand times as many potatoes as can be disposed of locally. In the one case the transaction is from producer to consumer; in the other, all the intricacies of an elaborate and costly marketing system are involved, which are paid for out of the farmer's pocket. But this is something that the consumer knows nothing about, and when it is announced thru the daily press and other mediums that the average farm price of potatoes on Dec. 1st was \$1.19 per bushel, and that the crop is a big one, Mr. Consumer cusses the farmer under his breath as a profiteer, and says, "No wonder he's getting rich."

If the Bureau of Crop Estimates figures the total value of farm products from the averages of the prices being paid for the respective crops in all the states, it is crediting the farmer with about 25 per cent more wealth than he actually receives, thus creating an

erroneous impression in the mind of the impressionistic consumer. Better by far that the Bureau cease "estimating" altogether, if it cannot come any nearer to the actual facts.

We are glad that Senator Townsend of Michigan had good sense enough to vote with the majority to drop the disloyalty proceedings against Senator LaFollette. While the Wisconsin Senator undoubtedly said some things that might better be left unsaid, they were far from expressing disloyalty to the United States government. The vindication of Senator LaFollette is a triumph for democracy and freedom of speech, and the American people generally will approve of the action of the Senate.

Herbert Hoover aroused the admiration of all red-blooded Americans when he sent word to Baron von Lancken, governor of Brussels, who ordered the execution of Nurse Cavell, "to go to hell with my compliments," after that gentleman had advised Mr. Hoover that he would negotiate with him with respect to food supplies for starving Germans.

Few people want the Non-Partisan League

in Michigan. There is absolutely no demand for such an organization from Michigan farmers. But if Mark T. McKee doesn't quit roaming the state ranting against the League before every bankers' and insurance men's convention, the farmers'll get up on their ear pretty soon and ask Mark what it's all about.

What an agricultural calamity it would be if Mr. Houston should lose his cuffs,—the ones on which are written "The Things that I know about Farming".

Nebraska is entitled to an everlasting place in the sun. She was the thirty-sixth state to put national prohibition, "over the top."

If the revolution in Germany continues much longer there won't be any Germans left to make goods for that Flint club to boycott.

Popular hymn in the brewers' and distillers' church, "This World is but a Desert Drear."

The National Grange is coming to Michigan. Welcome, brothers, to our peninsula.

Beaverton Subscriber Still Wondering About Election

I have been thinking for some time of writing to your ever watchful paper, the M. B. F. I am somewhat of an Uncle Rube. Some of the things I have been wondering about is how a man of New York City can run for senator of our state, and when he is elected illegally how he can be seated; and why the farmer or the penny politician, when he sits to rest for a moment or two does not let his mental department loose long enough to forget the standpat ideal and vote for the man who is for his interest; and not until we can do that can we expect relief. Stay by your text, brothers, we are coming to our senses slowly. I will try and aid you in every way I can. I will try and drop you a line now and then if you wish.—L. B. L., Beaverton, Mich.

(Editor's Note: We're always glad to hear from our readers. Write us your opinion.)

Doesn't Like Michigan's Brand of Gratitude

At the close of the senatorial campaign in Michigan, that much-fought-for office was given to the republican candidate, such the vote said was the people's choice. But what of the democratic nominee, the man whom the people said should not sit as their representative in the senate, the man whom it almost universally acknowledged has done the most of any man in the state for the winning of this world's war, and the downing of autocracy; the man who has done more for the improvement of conditions of his employees than any other manufacturer; the man who offered his plant for the building of the submarine chasers without a cent of profit for himself; the man who built one of the most perfect hospitals in the United States, and then offered to take care of the wounded, the sons of these same Michigan men who voted against him. He gave ships to protect their boys, and a great hospital to bring them back to health, and such was the vote of thanks of the Michigan men. Such was their gratitude.—C. A. M., Carson City, Mich.

Disagrees With Farmers' Stand for Higher Wheat Prices

Enclosed find check for three years subscription to your most valued farm paper, M. B. F. I am heartily in accord with ninety per cent you are doing and saying to accomplish for the farmer. Just because I do not agree with you entirely is no reason for me to quit taking M. B. F. Your course in the Ford-Newberry contest was right and showed great courage on your part to come out and take the righteous stand you did, and the Newberry vote falling nearly one hundred thousand behind his ticket showed plainly what the independent-loving voter and those who put right above party that of a man who would allow nearly a quarter of a million dollars to be spent for nomination and election. On the other hand I have not been entirely in accord with the fight that you have been making for higher priced wheat. There has been a human side to this wheat and sugar question that has appealed greatly to me. Supposing speculators had controlled the wheat situation during the war; think of the unjustness of some farmers' having to sell early in the season, say for \$1.50 or possibly \$2, and the fellow who was able to hold and follow the speculator would have gotten \$3 or possibly \$4. And think of the millions of poor children in not only the foreign warring countries, but in our own great cities that would scarcely have tasted bread and sugar if our good Uncle Sam had not put the price on these life necessities, that would let them live as well as we who produce them.

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.)

There isn't a farmer in the wheat-producing section of Michigan but what no longer than six or eight years ago has made this statement: "If I only had a guarantee of \$1 per bushel for my wheat I would be happy, or satisfied, etc." Well, maybe I had better quit before I start something. Anyway, let the good work go on.—W. A. Kalamazoo county.

BLOCKING TRAFFIC



—Orr, in Chicago Tribune.

One Reader Discusses Secret of Hog and Potato Profits

I have been a constant reader of your paper for some time and must say that I value it very highly. I have noticed that there has been considerable discussion taking place in regards to potato grading, and it was treated by your paper as an injustice to the farmer and I know that you voice the opinion of every farmer. However, I have coped with the situation with favorable results, and that is not to raise potatoes. Previous years I raised from fifteen to twenty acres, while I now only raise three acres, and I know if every farmer would do the same we would not be bothered with having our potatoes graded.

In your last issue I read of an incident of where the farmer made a net of twenty-five (minus) dollars, on a hog. My experience last year was practically the same, and as a remedy I quit raising hogs. I am sure if the farmer from Owosso will use this remedy he will find that it works out very satisfactory.—A. P., Sand Lake.

Leading New York hotel men plan chain of American hostels in Europe.

French built a 1,000-foot pontoon bridge across Rhine at Nierstein in five hours.

A SEVENTY-YEAR-OLD FARMER HITS FREE TRADE POILCY

Before the war closed I was all for the President and the administration, and have been reading your paper for most a year and will say I was afraid you were a little strong on some of your kicks, but now the war is over I am with you. Mr. Wilson has done great things, but no better than hundreds of other men would have done in the same things, but he is no friend to the farmer; he is doing more for foreign countries than for the farmers of America. I am no politician, only on one point, and that is the question of free trade. I can't see how any farmer can vote for free trade. I am seventy years old and have lived thru several democratic administrations and under every one of them we had soup-houses and hard times and would have had them now if it had not been for the war. I have had several free traders ask me before the last change what the republicans were going to do with so much money in the treasury, but it was all gone before the war broke out, and we were putting war taxes on most every paper we made to keep down expenses.

Well, this is my first letter to an editor and will be the last. Please find enclosed my check for three dollars to renew my subscription for one year and one new subscriber.—A. D. Jones, Oakland county.

LOWERING OF BUTTERFAT PRICE UNJUST TO JERSEY OWNER

I am enclosing my check for \$1 to renew my subscription. Since it has expired I have been lost without the paper. It is absolutely the best farm paper published because of the fact you have the farmer's interest at heart, and give the absolute truth and stand for our rights.

I would like to express thru the columns of your paper my opinion in regard to the additional price for milk testing above 3.5 in the Detroit area. I contend that six cents per one-sixth per cent above 3.5 per cent is not unjust. I make this assertion because I think the milk commission to be discriminating against the Jersey breeder when they cause him to suffer by lowering the price paid in January to four cents per one-tenth instead of continuing the five cents paid in December because of the claim that the majority of the milk tests below 3.5 per cent.

Now I fully appreciate the good work the M. M. P. A. has done for us and I am, being a member, in sympathy with all of their moves but this. Possibly if you give my method of figuring this proposition my argument may seem more logical.

Take milk selling at \$3.75 for 3.5 per cent; allow a liberal price for skim milk, say \$1.00 per hundred pounds. Then we would receive \$2.75 for 3.5 pounds of butterfat or 7.8 cents per one-tenth pound of butterfat. Then why is not the butterfat in excess of 3.5 per cent, milk worth as much as that below?

Surely this is a great problem and I feel that with the price as it is now, it does not sufficiently recompense the Jersey man as it only gives him for 5 per cent milk 60 cents per hundred pounds more than the 3.5 per cent milk producer.

Trusting that I may see in print the opinions of others in this matter and wishing you the greatest of success, which you deserve.—C. R. L., Waukegan county.



THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



Suggestions on Home Nursing

DEAR PENELOPE: It is just 12 o'clock, midnight, and something just comes to me to write to you some helpful hints on nursing. I had the influenza and pneumonia. The first thing to do for influenza is to break the fever. If you can't get a doctor, give tincture of aconite, put a drop in a spoonful of water, and give every hour until fever breaks. When the fever breaks, watch the pulse, as sometimes people die with heart failure. Have a stimulant ready. Always fan the patient when he feels faint.

If the throat is sore, get this throat wash at the drug store: tincture of iron, 10c; chloride of potash, 5c; camphor, 10c. Just put a half spoonful of this in a glass of water and gargle every ten minutes until the throat feels better. Never wait until the throat becomes too dry. Keep right after it. I never go without this throat wash.

If the lungs and head feel stopped up, steam them with peppermint and a few drops of turpentine. Have the patient put both hands around the cup and breathe the hot steam. Give lots of hot peppermint; make good and strong and hot, and grease the lungs. Then take hot cloths and put on. Keep right at it. Don't just heat one or two but keep them hot until the patient feels easier. Grease every little while where there is severe pain in lungs. Take hot water and turpentine, wring out just as hot as patient can stand and keep this up until the surface of the skin turns good and red. Then grease with pure lard, warmed, and keep warm cloths on. I mean dry ones, and see how quickly it helps. Lots of times pounded onions are good, put in a sack and heated, and put to throat and lungs.

When the ears ache, take a small piece of batten and wet with chloroform and wrap in a larger piece of batten to protect the ear.

When the back of the head and neck pain, keep warm salt sacks. Where patient begins to vomit, take a spoonful of ground cloves, pour boiling water on and let patient drink. Lots of times a few drops of camphor and paregoric in a little water helps.

Well, I have told you a few helpful hints on nursing influenza. I was awful sick when I had it, but my mother was a nurse so I knew just what to do for these little aches and pains. We live quite a ways back and I know I would have died if we had waited until the doctor got there. The best way is to do something to help until he comes.

I hope these few lines help some of our readers.
—Mrs. M. M. Reed City, Mich.

I AM DEEPLY grateful to you, Mrs. M. M., for your valuable and timely suggestions. Some of the methods of treatment you describe I have tried myself and found good; others are new to me. I would like to have the other readers report their experience in combatting the dreaded and so often fatal influenza. Physicians claim that much of the fatality is due to the common ignorance among both city and country people, of simple and sensible methods of home treatment. We would surely be performing a valuable service to all who read this page if, thru our discussions of these methods, we could enlighten others as to the proper care of persons afflicted with disease. The epidemic in Michigan reached its crest several weeks ago and is now rapidly declining. During the few months it raged, it invaded every community, visited the homes of the rich and poor alike, and took its victims from all walks of life. I presume there are hundreds of readers of this page who have lost a member of the family thru influenza and its twin-disease, pneumonia. Probably no amount of nursing would have saved the majority of those who have gone to untimely graves, but in other cases prompt and intelligent home treatment might have turned the tide of the disease in time to thwart death. Because so many farm women live in remote places, too far distant to secure professional medical services when most needed, is one of the big reasons why every farm housewife should school herself in the simple curriculum of home nursing. If my readers would be interested in such a department, I would be very glad to begin a series of articles on this subject. Would you like to have me?—PENELOPE.

Our Children Know Us Too Well

THE REASON we cannot get along with our children is because they know us too well. It is more than ordinary human nature can

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

bear to be lived with every day. One has to be very great and wise and noble to spend ten hours a day with any human being, and still love him.

The baffling complexity of the soul is too much for most of us; it confuses us, irritates us.

Of course, sickly and anaemic children are not much bother; they are quite simple. But vigorous, growing, intense children come upon us like perpetually new problems to be solved, new enigmas to be guessed, new knots to untangle.

And we are not great enough for it.

I know of no more striking proof of the superiority of woman over man, in real resources of character, than the fact that she manages tolerably well with a houseful of little ones, and usually retains their affection.

They would drive almost any man mad.

The cutting edge of the difficulty is that children make such extreme demands upon our moral nature.

It would not be so hard if we could appear on the scene, tell them to be good and go away; but the trouble is when one has to stay with them; then there is nothing for it but to Be Good ourselves, which you will admit is not easy.

And then, how they call upon our powers of self-control, how they demand of us almost super-

The Black Sheep

*I've never been a favorite
With anyone, I guess.
Folks sneering said, "you know it all."
My manner, I confess,
Was trying and sometimes extreme
To hide my aching heart.
Oft times the words like daggers flew
'Till I was left apart,
And looked upon in cold disdain
By old as well as young.
They wisely said, "you'll have no friends."
You cannot hold your tongue."
Could they have known the breaking heart
Too proud to own defeat,
Instead of bitter words they gave,
They might have been so sweet,
'Tis like the fable of the wind
And sun one summer's day,
Each one declared himself the best.
A stranger by the way,
Was counted on to end the quarrel.
In manner most remote—
'Twas there they put him to the test,
By taking off his coat.
The wind sent forth a bitter gale.
The coat he tighter drew,
And thus he stood until the wind
Proclaimed himself quite through.
And then the sun with gentle beams
Of sunshine bright and sweet,
Caressed the stranger tenderly,
'Till victory was complete.
And it will ever be the same,
One friendly word of praise
Is worth a million bitter ones
In changing culprits' ways.
Remember this, to jeer and taunt
Is heaping fat on fire.
No child was ever made a saint
By stirring up its ire.*

—C. S. D.

human strength of will, how they pull the nerve of patience!

A child does not want to know anything; he wants to know everything.

I do not wonder that small, selfish, pleasure-loving souls, who shrink from the struggle involved in nobleness, buy ease at any price, I do not wonder that such people want no children.—Dr. Frank Crane.

The Voting Question

LAST WEEK just after our page was printed containing voting instructions, I received a letter from a reader reproaching me for what she thought was my neglect in carrying out my promise that I would discuss voting matters on this page and help our readers to register and vote intelligently. The information given last week was very brief but I hope to present other facts and suggestions which will aid you all in voting just as correctly as the men folks.

I have an idea that most women who go to the polls for the first time will approach the voting booth with fear and trembling believing that they are about to tackle the hardest thing they have ever done. I must confess that I have never voted, not even at a school election, but I have been ply-

ing my husband with all sorts of questions about what goes on inside that mysterious little booth, and how one should act and what one should do when she goes to vote. And he assures me that it's the simplest thing in the world to do, and warns me to "keep my head," "look as if I knew all about it (whether I do or not)," "smile at the election inspectors" and "make myself right at home." Now, that all sounds easy, doesn't it? I am giving this advice to you for what it is worth, and I would add that we women of Michigan can, if we but try, go to the polls on April 5th, and cast as intelligent and dignified vote as those who have voted for years.

I wonder if that registration matter is entirely clear in your minds. The purpose of registration, as I understand it, is to insure that everyone who votes is an actual resident of the precinct in which he or she votes. This is to prevent the floating population from voting on local matters, which is a good thing as I am sure you will agree. If you are going to vote April 5th, and I hope you are, you must register before February 11th. And this is what you do to be registered:

If you do not already know, ask your husband who the clerk of the township is in which you live. No doubt you will be acquainted with him. Just go to his home on any day before February 11th and tell him you want to register. The only information you will have to give him is your name and address. Simple, isn't it? Then when you go to vote on April 5th, you will merely have to give your name, if the election inspector does not know you, and he will look it up in the registration book, hand you out the ballots and you go in the voting booth and vote. Some time before the spring election we will reproduce on this page a sample ballot with complete instructions on how to vote, so as to make it as easy for you as possible.—PENELOPE.

Baking a Cake in a Saucepan

CONJURING Trick Cookery! This is the title by which an elderly cook of my acquaintance described the cooking of today. Bread and cakes cooked in a steamer and meat roasted in a pot! Whoever heard of such notions! The other day I escorted her to the Fuel Economy Exhibition to learn from an L.C.C. demonstrator how to perform still another conjuring trick—namely:

How to bake a cake in a saucepan. To achieve this feat it is necessary to have a perfectly clean, unlined, iron saucepan. A tin or enamel lined pan will not serve. The pan must be of sufficient size to hold a wide shallow cake tin and have a well-fitting lid.

Make the cake, grease the tin and fill it three parts full with the mixture. Meanwhile make the saucepan hot. If the empty pan is placed over a fierce heat it may crack, but if heated gradually the pan does not suffer. When quite hot place an iron trivet or inverted pie dish in it and stand the cake pan on it. Put the lid on the pan and after the first ten minutes lower the heat and leave for one hour. Do not lift the lid. At the end of the hour test the cake with a clean skewer. If it comes out clean, the cake is done. If not cooked replace the lid quickly. Increase the heat for five minutes, lower and leave for 10 or 20 minutes. Turn the cake out of the tin onto a wire rack or sieve to cool. Let the pan cool gradually. Any cake mixture may be used. A cake of moderate size bakes best, and the tin should be wide and shallow rather than of high shape.

The following plain currant or seed mixture is admirable when pan-baked: 8 oz. flour, 1½ oz. fat, 2 oz. currants, 1 large tablespoon of baking powder, 1 egg or dried egg (used prepared according to directions), ½ gill milk, ¼ teaspoonful of spice, salt, 1½ oz. sugar. Mix the flour, salt, spice and baking powder, rub in the fat, clean and add the currants and sugar. Beat up the egg and milk well and mix thoroughly. If currants cannot be obtained use caraway seeds.

The Tooth-Brush Drill

THE IMPORTANCE of the dental care of the young children is so well recognized that clinics for early and scientific treatment of children's teeth have been established in connection with the public schools in cities and towns. What is now needed is a traveling school dentist corps to attend to the children in remote and rural sections. Frequent talks by school nurses and teachers on the daily care of the teeth have results beyond the immediate hearers, as the children carry home the information gained, and so

ignorant and careless parents are educated.

The tooth-brush drill is a school feature that is sure to impress the children. Anything that has action—that appeals to the child as a game or play—is sure to hold his interest.

Any mother can overcome a child's reluctance to the use of the tooth-brush by beginning his training in his first year. If such teaching has been neglected now is the time to begin with a new brush moderately stiff, well made, so that the bristles do not pull out. A tube of ribbon tooth paste that is fragrant and has an agreeable flavor, will probably please the child and not be wasted as powder is apt to be.

It is important that tooth brushes should be washed in running water before and after using, and the teeth need brushing before and after breakfast, after dinner and after supper. So many diseases enter the body through the mouth that frequent mouth and tooth cleansing is essential.

Chamber Fittings

FOR a bedroom, sash curtains of crinkly crepe are pretty and practical. This material hangs well and needs no ironing. The overhanging may be made of gray-blue gingham, stenciled in a conventional design in dark blue.

To facilitate the work of tying comforts or of embroidering, have several

needles threaded at the same time and laid within reach.

Blankets too short for a bed may be made longer by sewing to them at one end a strip of unbleached sheeting the width of the blanket. Use the end so lengthened for the lower end of the bed, and tuck the sheeting well under the mattress. This plan will allow for extra covering over the shoulders.

Removing Grease Spots

BY ABSORPTION: Lay the material on a flat surface, with the spot between two very soft blotters, and apply a warm iron. If this is not effective rub the wrong side of the spot with powdered magnesia, French chalk, Fuller's earth, cornstarch, or white talcum powder, brushing it off and applying a fresh supply as it becomes gummy. When most of the grease has been removed, a fresh supply of the absorbent may be applied and the garment hung away for a day or two. The powder should then be removed by a thorough brushing.

By solvents: When using a solvent, great care must be taken, or a ring will be left around the spot cleaned. Place a very soft white blotter or a soft, clean cloth under the spot to be cleaned, changing the cloth or blotter as it becomes stained. Sponge the spot with a piece of cloth, like the material when possible, moisten with chloroform, carbon, tetrachloride, ether, gasoline, naphtha or benzine. Keep the bottles well corked, have plenty of fresh air, and do not work near heat or a flame, as most grease solvents are very inflammable.

To prevent the spreading of the grease and solvent, work with a small amount of the liquid at a time, and work from the outside toward the center. The spot should be rubbed gently with a clean cloth until dry.

LATEST STYLES and New York Patterns

ADVANCED SPRING STYLES

IT MAY seem a little early to begin planning one's spring clothes in January, especially in this climate, but I am sure many of us do it and a great many women will appreciate the suggestions and styles now being shown. By buying now one often saves much and as the merchants promise equally as high prices on all yard goods this spring as we are now paying, surely a few cents a yard is worth saving.

No. 2728.—A smart negligee. Cut in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 4 yards of 36 inch material. Tho not as common as the once popular dressing sacque, yet every woman today appreciates a comfy negligee. These make such appropriate birthday gifts, or if you want to make one for yourself, just a few yards of Scotch flannel or wool chalais will make a jacket of comfort and dainty enough for any house wear. The long wool bathrobes are heavy and awkward to wear, but these short jackets are just the thing when one is tired or perhaps recovering from a sickness.

No. 2735.—A set of three attractive dress accessories. Cut in sizes, small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large, 40-42; and extra large, 44-46 bust measure. It will require for No. 1, 1½ yards, for No. 2, 1 yard, and for No. 3, 1½ yard of 36 in. material. Often it is the trimming and "extras" on a costume that make the dress, and particularly is this true in today's severely tailored models. No. 1, the tucked vest and monk style of collar, may be used with any ordinary blouse pattern, using same or contrasting material. This style of collar must be worn over a plump well-formed neck. The pattern shows a plain back and plaited front, suggesting the panel style of back by lengthening the back and allowing it to hang loose from the neck. No. 2, the more ordinary style of square sailor collar and short vest to be worn under a waist which is too low in the front. No. 3, the sleeveless waistcoat of a heavy corduroy silk or velvet, worn with georgette sleeves, is a note of fashion which is finding favor more and more as spring styles appear. The vest may be simply slipped on over a waist and worn with a suit or it may be a part of the waist. White satin charmeuse with black facings and tiny black buttons is delightful, shown under the suit. A gray velvet with gray chiffon sleeves would make an attractive blouse.

No. 2731-2527.—Ladies' costume. Waist 2731 cut in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Skirt 2527 cut in sizes 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inches waist measure. Eight yards of 44 inch material will be required for the entire dress. Width of skirt at lower edge is 2 yards. Two separate patterns. Many of the new dresses show the loose flowing sleeves, and the extended waist line. The draping gives the effect of a fichu and serves both as tie for the col-

lar and also a belt. Tho the pattern calls for 8 yards, I am sure a dress can be made from much less, using a lining underneath the tunic part of the skirt. Soft silk or wool is most adapted to this draping.

No. 2733.—Misses' dress. Cut in sizes 16, 18 and 20 years. Size 16 will require 3½ yards of 44 inch material. The dress measures about 2 yards at the foot. Simple and girlish, and what a sensible dress for school. It hangs straight from the shoulder with the wide tucks giving the effect of panels in front and back, and trimmed only with the braided belt. Wool jersey made in these simple styles is most desirable. Note the collarless neck. For those who prefer collars the young lady might knit just a straight strip 52 stitches wide and long enough to go around the neck and meet as any roll collar. Needles used for stockings will be about the size for such knitting.

No. 2338.—Girls' dress. Cut in sizes 2, 4, 6 and 8 years. Size six requires 3 yards of 36-inch material. Nothing adds more to the daintiness and style of a child's dress than smoking or hand shirring and in this pattern either may be used. I should use the same colored thread as used in the shirring to outline the collar and cuffs instead of lace ruffles, unless it would be on a dainty fluffy baby

dress. These styles made in the plain gingham or chambrays make dressy frocks. Little white muslin collars and cuffs might well be added.

No. 2573.—Girls' dress. Cut in sizes 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. Size 8 requires 3½ yards of 36-inch material. For the stylish little school dress that is easily made and easily ironed, here is an excellent suggestion. The dress is full and yet simple and plain with only a prettily shaped collar and belt.

No. 2709.—Ladies' dress. Cut in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 6½ yards of 36-inch material. The skirt measures about 2½ yards at the foot. One needs a few dresses that are as suitable for town wear as house wear, and that requires the plain shirtwaist style of blouse with straightline two-piece skirt. Cotton gabardine or linen or gingham is always good looking in such a dress.

No. 2713.—Ladies' combination. Cut in sizes small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large 40-42; extra large, 44-46 inch bust measure. Size medium will require 2½ yards of 36-inch material. After a woman has once worn a combination suit she seldom goes back to the old drawers and corset cover. The pattern shows a straight piece corset cover set into the full skirt which buttons together at the hem.

Ladies!

Isn't it about time to get that new dinner set you have long been thinking about?

No use putting it off any longer—

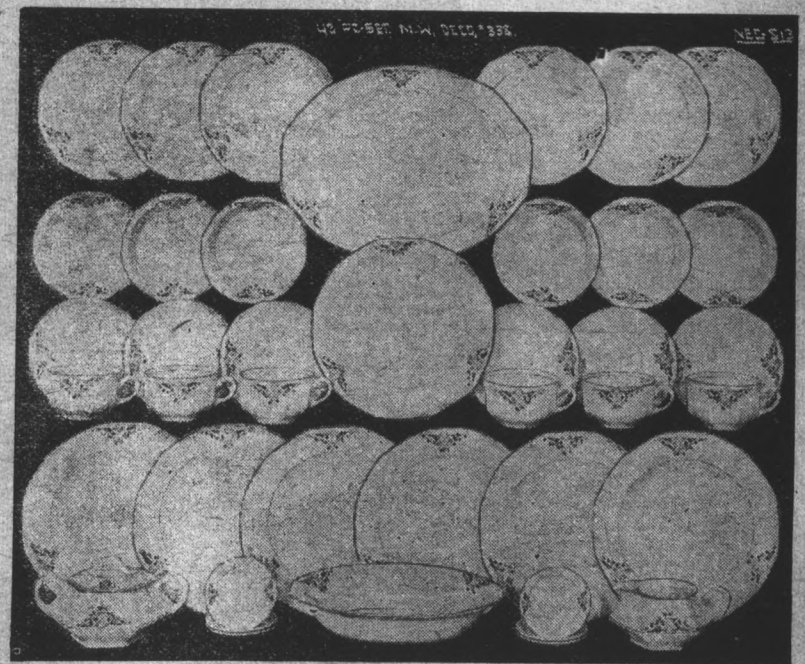
because:—

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, and have selected the 42-piece set illustrated as the one we believe will be most satisfactory in every way. It can easily be earned by 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 offer, Free!

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING,
Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

I would like to earn a new set of dishes by getting a few new subscribers to your 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

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 patterns to Pattern Department, Mt. Clemens, Mich. Be sure to sign your full name.

M



An Hour With Our Boys and Girls

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

The Boys Are Heard From

DEAR Boys and Girls: The best surprise I have had in a long time are the fine letters I am receiving from the boys. I used to think the boys were bashful and didn't like to write letters, but I have changed my mind about that now. The last few weeks I have had a dozen or more letters from the boys, and I know my young lady readers are as pleased as I that the boys are taking so great an interest in our page. Perhaps it has been my fault that the boys were not interested before. I have no little boys; both my children are girls, so it is quite natural that I should write about the things that interest the girls most. But I shall try to correct this fault, and if the boys will be good enough to offer suggestions of what we might print on this page that will be of great interest to them, I shall certainly be glad to accept their advice.

For some time I have been trying to find enough space to begin a series of articles on home-made toys, but I haven't been able to do so yet. However, boys, if you will just be patient, and wait a bit longer, I can promise you we'll have some stories on this page that will keep your minds and hands busy for hours. Just watch for them, and whenever you get a good idea about anything, be sure to write it to your Aunt Penelope.

What a queer winter this is, not much like the winters we had when I was a girl. My, how I used to tramp in the snow and coast down the hills and go skating on the pond. Boys and girls surely cannot have much fun

this kind of weather when it's too cold to go barefoot and play in the sand, but too warm for snow and ice. Oh, well, I suppose we'll have lots of snow yet, before spring and flowers come. Don't you hope so? With love, from AUNT PENELOPE.

The Giants of Lilliputania

CHAPTER IX

YOU are, no doubt, wondering where old General Dis Satisfaction was all this time. I do not understand either how he could have slept with all the excitement and noise going on, but presume his many, many weeks of hard unusual work and worry had tired him out completely. His frightened wife had forgotten him as she rushed from the house when whole Lilliputania was aroused and followed the crowds as they surged to City Hall Square. It was she who remarked to Mr. Big Hed that the terrible beast had a striped coat like "Bell Boy," her pet cat. Mr. Big Hed liked the name and said, "Mrs. General, we will call him 'Bell Boy' in honor of your pet."

Mayor Frickleschnitz, the gallant gentleman, offered to see the General's wife home and along trooped Professor Plus, Heave Ho, the sailor, Dave Dough and his wife and daughter, also John Bull, Mrs. Bull, their son Henry and John Lung, the Chinaman. They soon ran into Mr. Spaget who had been chasing little Joco—the little monkey got away from his owner and had led him a merry chase. As they reached the General's house his wife said, "Friends, I thank you for seeing me home safely. Wait a few minutes, I am sure you are all hungry and thirsty; rest yourselves on the lawn and I

will get you something to eat and drink." And so they did. In a little while the good woman came out of the house with a big platter of cheese sandwiches and the BIG PITCHER OF MILK—the same milk, some of which had played such havoc with "Bell Boy." Of course she didn't know that this was the milk prepared with the MAGIC FOOD by the General! How could she have known? All were very hungry and thirsty as the General's wife had guessed and eagerly ate the sandwiches and DRANK A GREAT BIG GLASS OF THE MILK—all but Mayor Frickleschnitz—he said he could not drink milk. As they ate and drank they laughed and joked. They gave cheer after cheer for the General's wife as well as the heroes of the day, Mr. Big Hed, Chief Dulin and Chief Puff.

Their noisy jubilee right under the General's bedroom window finally aroused him and he came out to see what it was all about.

By this time the buttons were popping off Chief Dulin's and Chief Puff's coats. Their hats sat on their heads like little toys and they were looking at each other in astonishment. "Hey, what maller me?" yelled John Lung. Mrs. Bull and Mrs. Dough tried to run into the General's house and couldn't get into the door. The General was just coming out and Professor Plus almost stepped on him. The General saw his wife with the empty pitcher in her hand standing horrified and almost unable to move with fear. This was enough for the General, he instantly knew what was the matter and ran down Fountain Lane Street, his wife after him, with Mayor Frickleschnitz trying to overtake them.

There isn't much more to tell you—you can imagine from Bell Boy's experience how big the few people who partook of the General's Magic Food grew. They grew until they were the GIANTS OF LILLIPUTANIA, and when they wandered about the city the other Lilliputians fled. Where they went and what became of them I could not learn. General Dis Satisfaction disappeared. I don't think he is dead. Once in awhile I meet people who mention his name and say that both he and his wife are still roaming about the earth. This may be so. If you ever meet him, I advise you not to have anything to do with him, for I believe he is still trying to get control of all good people.

(THE END)

Dear Aunt Penelope: This is my first letter to the M. B. F. I like to read the letters from the boys and girls. I like to look at the Doo Dads. Hope that none of you get the "flu." I go to school and am in the 6th grade. My teacher's name is Miss Lillian Lyman. I like her fine. I have five sisters and one brother. I will answer any letters from the boys and girls.—Mirla Herrington, Petoskey, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I have never written to you before so thought I would try one letter and if that is printed maybe I will try again. I live on a 40-acre farm. I am 13 years old and in the 8th grade. The school I go to is the Ball school; my teacher's name is George House; there are just 11 scholars. I have three brothers, one of whom is in the training camp at Stithon, Ky., his name is Myrle. My other brothers' names are McKinley and Clarence. We have 4 cows, their names are Lucy, Teny, Queen and Beauty. We have 3 horses and 2 colts; the horses' names are Fanny, Jessie and Bob, the colts' names are Flossie and Jim. My brother has 3 horses and 2 colts; the horses' names are Bird and Molley; the colts' names are King, Buster



SLEEPY SAM, the Hobo, is getting the Doo Dads into all sorts of trouble. Someone gave him a big, plump sausage and he proceeded to cook his dinner. He made a fire in the hollow of a big tree and here he is, roasting his sausage, with no idea of the excitement he is causing. It started in this way. The smoke went up thru the hollow trunk of the tree in which some of

Sleepy Sam Causes Excitement Among the Doo Dads

the Doo Dads had their home. They thought for sure that their house was on fire. Then the scurrying began. Percy Haw Haw, the Dude, raced to the fire bell. He is ringing it with all his might. Out came the Doo Dads. One has the pet bird and another the grandfather's clock. Some are holding a blanket and one

poor little fellow has been thrown out right on his head. That baby Doo Dad will wake up when it lands in the blanket. Roly is working the pump. When the water starts to spout out thru the nozzle, Poly will get it right in the face. Smiles, the Clown, is running with a water bucket and Flannelfeet is rushing

to the rescue with a ladder. But here comes the fire engine. Don't you hear the gong ringing? Old Doc Sawbones has heard the fire bell and comes rushing to the scene with his grip full of plasters. Sleepy Sam will catch it when they find out that he is causing all the commotion. He had better get his sausage eaten before they discover him for they will be sure to turn the hose on him and give him a good drenching.

and Queen. For pets I have 5 cats and a dog, the dog's name is Shep. My brother takes the M. B. F. and I enjoy reading the letters from other boys and girls. If some of your boys and girls will write to me I will answer their letters.—Catherine Palmer, Paris, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I have written to you once before, so I will write a story. How many words do you want us to have in a story?

Curious Sarah

Once upon a time, a very long time ago, there lived a little girl named Sarah. She was always asking questions and tried to find out everything, and what all sorts of things were made of. She pulled her best doll to pieces to find out what it was stuffed with, and picked out its eyes to see what made them move. One day Sarah was out in the kitchen with her mother. Her mother had told her that if she would not ask a question or pry into anything while she was busy she would make her a little cake. Sarah thought that would be very nice and tried hard to obey her mother. She stood beside her mother while she chopped the raisins and thought how much she would like to taste them. Sarah looked at the raisins for a long time and when her mother turned away to get something Sarah reached down and was just about to take a raisin when her mother turned again to the bowl, and not noticing Sarah, brought the knife down accidentally on her wrist, making a deep cut. Sarah screamed out with the pain and her mother ran for some cloth and bound up the wound. She did not scold Sarah a bit, and finally the naughty little girl threw her arms about her mother's neck and sobbed out, "Oh, mother, I am so sorry I disobeyed you; mamma forgive me and I'll never do so again." Sarah never forgot the lesson, and if she was tempted she would look at the scar on her wrist and remember her promise to her mother. When she grew up and had little girls of her own her children were told the story and were shown the scar on mother's wrist. It helped the little girls to learn the lesson not to meddle and to mind what their mother told them.—Thelma Ingersole, Breckenridge, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: How are you? I am well and hope you are the same. I am sending you a picture of Old Santa Claus and a verse. I have one sister and one brother, their names are Vera and Evert. We have two horses, their names are Bill and Colonel. We have a dog, his name is Colle. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I like the story of the Giants of Lilliputania very well.—Inez Fox, aged 10, 4th grade, Blanchard, Mich.

Winter

Little fairy snowflakes
Dancing in the flue,
Old Mr. Santa Claus,
What is keeping you?
Twilight and firelight,
Shadows come and go;
Merry chimes of sleigh-bells
Twinkling thru the snow.
M other's knitting stockings,
Pussy's got the ball.
Don't you think that winter
Is pleasanter than all?
I am very sorry, Inez, that your little poem and the picture of Santa didn't get to me earlier. Next time you must mail your Christmas letter sooner.—AUNT PENELOPE.

Dear Aunt Penelope: This is the second time I have written to you. Was so pleased to see my other letter in print so thought I would write again. I like to read the letters from the other children. I go to school every day; my teacher's name is Miss Blanch Stroud. I like her very much. My friend's name is Myrtle Matthews, she is in the same grade that I am. Our teacher gave us all a box of writing paper and an orange. We had a Christmas tree at our school this year. I was away for Christmas and was not there. Santa Claus was good to me. I am the baby of three sisters and two brothers. My sisters' names are Belle, Manie and Sadie; my brothers' names are Charley and Ralph. My sisters are all away and one brother is away. They all live in the same place. I have only one brother at home and no sisters at home. Papa takes the M. B. F. and thinks it the best farm paper. We could not do without it.—Josephine Coons, Akron, Mich.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I was very glad to receive the Thrift Stamp. I did not have a very nice Christmas as I had the influenza. The second day that I had the "flu" we got the M. B. F. and the Doo Dads were so comical that I could not help but laugh, even though I did not feel like it. I enjoy reading the stories from the other boys and girls. I am 14 years old and in the 8th grade at school. There is about a foot of snow here now, but it is the first we have had. I like the "Giants of Lilliputania" very much, and like the story too. We have lots of fun putting them together.—Harriet Jarman, East Jordan, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I am a little girl 9 years old. We live on a 40-acre farm. We have two cows and 2 heifers and two calves. We have two horses. I have one brother and three sisters. My brother is in a hospital in France. He enlisted in the service four years ago and was wounded the first time last August. He is sergeant now and his name is Louis. I had a half brother, John, who was killed in France August 30th. I am in the fourth grade at school. We had no vacation on account of the "flu" and I think we did very well. Well, this is enough for this time. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.—Pearl Gaunt, East Jordan, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I have written to you before but I will write again to thank my M. B. F. friends for the many letters I have received. I have written to most and if I did not answer and of the letters it is because I have lost their address. Mildred Hadlock must excuse me for not answering her letter as I lost

her address. Hoping all my friends had a Merry Christmas, I will close.—Josephine Collier, St. Charles, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I am a little girl 11 years old. Will soon be 12. I am in the sixth grade at school. My teacher's name is Miss Gill. I read the letters in the M. B. F. and think them very interesting. I enjoy the Doo Dads very much, and like to read the "Giants of Lilliputania," and hope to see it in the paper again. I have two brothers and one sister, their names are Kenneth, Vernon and Irene. We have two horses and 2 cows; the horses' names are Prince and Maud; the cows' names are Daisy and Midget. We have two pigs, one dog and three cats. The dog's name is Ring and the cats' names are Tommy, Tabby and Teaton. We live on a square forty. We have a Ford car. I haven't written to you before so I am writing to you now. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you. Maybe you think that I am not patriotic because I have not written to you before, but I am.—Thelma Midgah, Nessen City, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I am sending you a letter to thank you for the Thrift Stamp which I did not expect as my story was very short. The day I sent my letter the mail man came before I expected him so I could not end up my story the way I wanted to. On Christmas day I was sick with the "flu" so did not have a good time. Our school has been closed ever since Dec. 19, 1918, on account of the "flu." Our teacher's name is Miss Eileen Gunsolus. We were going to have a Christmas tree at the school but the "flu" came to the neighborhood. Last summer we farmed some land for another man and we raised one acre of buckwheat, three acres of beans seven acres of corn, eight acres of potatoes and six or seven acres of oats. I am 11 years old and in the 6th grade. There are 21 in our school.—Dorothy Jarman, East Jordan, Mich.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I have never written to you before but am very interested in other letters. I am a girl 13 years old and in the 8th grade at school. I live on a farm of 80 acres. We have 3 horses, 2 cows, 2 calves, 2 pigs and chickens. I have 3 cats, their names are Snowball, Polly and Myrtle. We have a home-made talking machine; my father made it; it plays real good. Santa Claus remembers me every year; he left me a hair ribbon, book, game of fortune telling cards, box of handkerchiefs, candy, nuts, oranges this year. Well, my letter is getting long so I will close.—Edna Graves, Sandusky, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I thought I would write to you. I live on an 80-acre farm. I help papa on the farm. I can cultivate, drag, plow and plant potatoes and do anything else on the farm. I didn't do any housework this summer. I and my sister dug potatoes for two weeks. We dug about 500 bushels. We have a car it is a Ford. We have one horse, his name is Frank. We have 11 head of cattle, six of them are milkers, their names are Stella, Daisy, Rose, June, May and Springtime. The rest of the cattle's names are Pansy, Teshing, Ople, Foll, Fuss and Jack. We have two pigs. Papa and Allen butchered Saturday. We have 27 hens. I have three sisters, their names are Florence, age 13; Grace, age 14; Rhoda, age 1½. I have four brothers, their names are Paul, age 4; Oliver, 12; and Allen, 19. The leaves are all off. I am 16 years old. I am not going to school until after Christmas because I am going to help papa get wood for this winter. I have a dog and a cat for pets.—Miss Beatrice Lewis, Vanderbilt, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I am a girl 9 years old and I am in the fifth grade. I go to school every day; my teacher's name is Miss Grace Foster and I like her very much. My father takes the M. B. F. I like to read the children's stories and letters. I have two brothers and two sisters, their names are Glen, Harold, Bertha and Alice. We have two horses and their names are Bird and Badger.—Esther Artibe, Marion, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—Well this is the first time I have written to you. I have been reading the children's letters in the M. B. F. and think I shall write to you also. I am a girl 12 years old. I live on a farm of 200 acres. We have seven horses, their names are Topsy, Maud, Florie, Jeff, Molly, Dan and Prince. We milk 19 cows and I milk five of them. The five I milk are Dado, Star, Brindle, Cherrie and Bessie. We have 13 pigs, 40 chickens, 8 calves and 60 sheep. My pets are two rabbits, whose names are Buster and Domino, and one horse named Jeff, and a pet lamb. I wash the dishes for my mother, sweep, wash milk pails and milk cans. I take music lessons; my teacher's name is Miss Carson and I am invited to a musical at her home on Thanksgiving. I like to help my father work also. I drive our teams real often. I am expecting to go visiting Christmas. My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it fine. I am in the seventh grade; my teacher's name is Miss Tautont. Well, I must close.—Alice Snyder, Bentley, Mich.

Dear Aunt Penelope:—I am a girl 11 years old and in the fifth grade. I live in Big Rapids but am out to my grandma's for a while. I was born on a farm and like to live on a farm better than in the city. Grandma lives on our farm, but we live in the city. We have a 240-acre farm. We have 12 cows, they are Holstein and Jersey. Their names are Daisy, Pansy, Spot, King, Cheery, Nellie, Minnie, Slowpoke and Pinhead. We have lots of stump fences around our farm. I have two brothers, their names are Orill and Edward. Orill is 7 years old and Edward is 9. I have no sisters at all. My uncle works for my grandpa. He has two little boys, their names are Louis and Harold. Louis is 3 years old and Harold is 7 years old. I like to cook and sweep. I have a war stamp now. We have 100 chickens and 27 turkeys on our farm now. Grandpa takes the M. B. F. and likes it very well. We all like it.—Lucile Willison, Morley, Mich.

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(Editor's Note: The reader who asked for poultry farm information did not give his name.)

We need a young married man with small or no family to work at Brookwater farm. No man who cannot furnish best of references as to character and dependability need apply. Wife must be a good cook and willing and able to prepare meals for 1 to 2 extra men as required. We are looking for clean capable people who are ambitious to find a permanent place where faithful efficient service will be appreciated. Must demonstrate ability, willingness, loyalty, before unusual wages will be paid. BROOKWATER FARM, R.F.D. 7, Ann Arbor, Mich. Herbert W. Mumford, Owner. J. B. Henderson, Mgr.

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HINTS FOR MOTORISTS

By ALBERT L. CLOUGH, Motor Editor, Review of Reviews
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Limitations of the Carburetor

Don't Blame the Carburetor for the Shortcomings of the Fuel

WHEN SUFFICIENTLY volatile or "high test" gasoline is used for motor fuel, the ordinary spraying carburetor acts only to admit to the intake system correctly measured amounts of air and fuel to meet varying mixture demands; but it also acts as a mixing device, that is, the fuel-sprayed is quite thoroughly taken up in the vaporizing chamber of the carburetor forming, at ordinary temperatures, a quite homogenous and fairly permanent combustible mixture. With old-time straight run 74 degrees gasoline, the carburetor was able to perform this double function with substantial completeness and comparatively liable carburetion trouble was experienced. When, however, "low test fuel" containing a large proportion of quite involatile hydrocarbons, is used, the conventional spraying carburetor, while it performs successfully enough its function of proportioning the amounts of fuel and air supplied to the intake systems, fails quite markedly in its mixing function. The fuel and air do not form, at the carburetor, a permanent and homogenous combustible mixture, for the heavy gasoline constituents altho well atomized at the carburetor jet, and persisting as a coarse mist for a time, too often return to liquid form in the intake piping and it is only toward the end of the compression stroke that anything like a vaporous mixture of uniform quality is produced. Even then the conditions are often unfavorable to complete combustion. In order actually to vaporize gasoline, a large amount of heat is required, exactly as heat is required to boil water and this is especially true of low test fuels. What little heat can be supplied by jacketing the carburetor throat or by supplying warmed air is inadequate. Heat must be supplied after the mixture leaves the carburetor in order to secure even approximately perfect vaporization and uniform quality. This is the reason for the recent adoption of exhaust and water-jacketed manifolds and those of the hot spot type and these practices are a recognition of the fact that the spraying carburetor is essentially a fuel-and air measuring device, with very slight vaporizing ability, and that vaporization must be very largely effected by heat furnished the mixture from the surfaces past which it passes after leaving the carburetor. It is the relatively involatile character of commercial gasoline which gives the above facts their present importance.

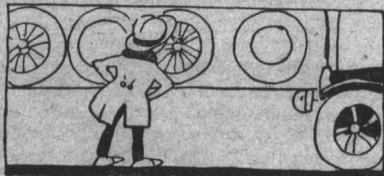


BEST ANTI-FREEZE MIXTURE

What is the best thing, price considered, to use in my radiator to keep it from freezing?—A. H. L.

We generally recommend alcohol and think highly of the half-and-half wood alcohol-glycerine solution, 33 per cent of this mixture and 66 per cent water, giving protection down to 10 to 15 degrees Fahrenheit below zero. A 40 per cent mixture of wood alcohol will protect down to 20 degrees Fahrenheit below zero. The reason we recommend mixtures like the above is that they are perfectly free from any ill effects upon the metals of which the radiator and other parts of the cooling system are constructed. Proprietary anti-freeze liquids, which are generally calcium chloride solutions, are themselves less expensive than alcohol mixtures, as they do not lose strength through evaporation, but there has been considerable serious corrosion of the soldered joints of radiators and of aluminum pump hous-

ings and water manifolds attributed to their use and, for that reason, we hesitate to assume the responsibility of recommending them in a general way, although we have known of many instances of their successful use. In a thermo-siphon cooling system with a tubular radiator, it appears that the danger of using them is at a minimum.



DEMOUNTABLE RIMS OR SPARE WHEELS

Which do you recommend me to put on my Ford, demountable rims or the spare wheel equipment?—S. H. T.

Both types work out very well but, if standard wood wheels are to be used, we rather favor the demountable rim, because the spare equipment carried is so much lighter and the chances of needing a complete wheel on the road are rather small. If wire wheels are to be used, we fancy the spare wheel arrangement. In selecting a demountable rim, be sure to obtain one with thoroughly reliable locking devices, which will prevent the rim from creeping and making a noise.

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

Please find enclosed \$1 for M. B. F. We have a few neighbors whom I think would take M. B. F. If you will kindly send half a dozen copies I will hand them out. It is the only paper that meets all the requirements of the farmer.—Mrs. J. L. Jacob, Clinton county.

I feel a personal interest in your efforts to get a just recognition of the rights of farmers to secure a just return for their products without the consumer being robbed. Enclosed find one dollar for the best farm paper I ever read, and I have been taking from one to six for thirty years.—F. J. Lovell, Hillsdale county.

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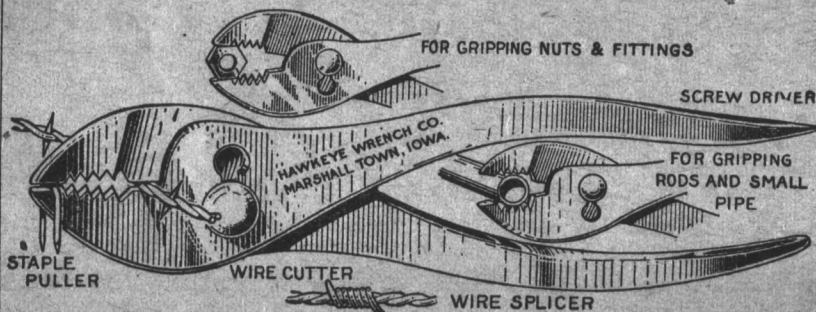
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REVIEW OF JANUARY MARKETS

(By U. S. Bureau of Markets)

The open winter in most sections has favored an active produce movement which has been stimulated further by the rising markets. Prices have inclined generally upward on most leading fruits and vegetables thru December and the greater part of January. Potatoes, cabbage, onions, apples, celery, lettuce and oranges made frequent gains in values. Almost everything of much importance at this time of the year had its rise in price, except field beans, but over-supply in some lines caused reaction and losses of a portion of the advance. Average volume of produce shipments week by week was from 10 to 15 per cent greater than a year ago, the increase being chiefly in potatoes, onions, cabbage, apples and oranges. During the latter part of January the movement became about 900 cars per day compared with 600 average at the corresponding time a year ago.

Potatoes Advance and React

Carlota's northern sacked white stock at Chicago rose about 50c per cwt. then lost most of the advance. Prices averaged not far from those prevailing a year ago. The range recently has been \$1.50-\$1.90 f.o.b. cwt. sacked, in western producing sections, and \$1.90 to \$2.25 f.o.b. in the east. Consuming markets ranged \$1.75 to \$2.50 in the west and \$2 to \$2.75 in the east, compared with western consuming markets a year ago ranging \$1.90 to \$2.50 and eastern at \$2.25 to \$2.75. Shipments in January were liberal for the time of the year and the supplies accumulated in some distributing markets, causing prices to react sharply from the high point. Official estimates of stock on hand in 21 northern states including most of the larger shipping sections, 120,769,000 bushels, or 172,525 cars of 700 bushels each, compared with 215,237 cars Jan. 1, 1918. Last winter, 1917-18, about 50,000 were actually shipped from principal northern shipping states. The rest of the stock is accounted for by home consumption, wagon sales, seed stock, starch manufacture, dehydration, and loss by freezing, waste and natural shrinkage. In average years not over one-third the estimated potato crop is shipped in cars. Figures available show that about 36,000 cars of the northern crop were shipped Jan. to June inclusive in 1917, and about 75,000 cars January to June inclusive, in 1916. Loading per car averaged much lighter before 1917 than during the past two seasons.

Onions Higher

The markets gradually strengthened in December and advanced further in January, reaching an average top of \$2 per cwt., sacked in consuming markets, having gained about 50c over low points in December. Choice red and yellow stock reached \$1.50 to \$2 per cwt. in producing sections. The strength of the market in the past two months resulted partly from apparent reduction of stock on hand. While the crop was estimated only about 1,000 cars larger than that of the preceding season, shipments have been nearly 3,000 cars larger this season, thus improving the position of the remaining stock available for shipment. Acreage of Texas onions is reported less than last year, but condition of the growing crop is excellent.

Cabbage Values Still Advancing

The upward movement in December was continued in January, reaching \$25 to \$30 per ton bulk f.o.b. in the New York State producing sections, and \$28 to \$32 in Wisconsin. Consuming markets ranged generally \$30 to \$40 per ton. Shipments increased of both old and new stock. California, Florida and Texas cabbage reached a volume over one-fifth that of the total cabbage movement.

Bean Markets Weak

Dragginess and tendency to declining values continue the chief characteristics of the bean market. About the only brisk demand is for export, the U. S. Grain Corporation having bought over 1,500,000 cwt. for this purpose, but even in this outlet there was competition of Asiatic beans at lower prices. Growers received for white stock in bulk \$7.50 to \$8 per cwt. in Michigan, \$7 in New York State, and \$8 to \$8.50, sacked, in California,

while consuming markets ranged mostly \$9 to \$10 for sacked, re-cleaned stock. California limas declined over 50c ranging \$11.50 to \$12 and weakened also in the producing sections. Pintos declined 15c to 25c in some markets. Shipments have gradually fallen off since the first of the year.

Firm Apple Values

Barrelled stock sells about the same as a month ago. Best grades of standard varieties have ranged mostly \$5.50 to \$7.50 including much cold storage fruit. Values for good stock are firmly held, some markets showing advances. Northwestern extra fancy winesaps reached a top of \$2.75 f.o.b. in shipping sections, but in consuming markets ranged about steady, mostly at \$3 and \$3.25, reaching tops of \$3.50 in some markets.

SPECULATORS RAISE HAVOC WITH BEANS

(Continued from page 1)

"are trying to break the market. They are in an agreement not to buy Michigan beans at present prices, and are deliberately trying to defeat the plan of the jobbers and the Food Administration to keep the price of beans to the grower at \$8 a hundred. They simply refuse to buy beans in any larger quantity than to supply immediate demands. They are the ones who are under-quoting the market. The purchases of these brokers and grocers usually are a big influence, and in normal years they just about control the market, but this year the purchases of the Food Administration will defeat their plans, providing the growers and jobbers sit tight and wait for developments.

"I learn that some of our members are paying less than \$8 a hundred for beans," added Mr. Breisch, "but that is usually only in cases where farmers must have the money and insist on their buying. Most of our members are urging the farmers to hold until the market strengthens and they can again pay the \$8 price. If I were you, I would advise your readers not to worry. The Food Administration has agreed to buy more Michigan beans, and I am in a position to know that the price they will pay will not be less than the old figure."

There is every reason in the world why the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Association should want to see the farmers of Michigan get \$8 or more for their beans this year, and no reason, so far as we can discover, why they should attempt to deceive the farmers upon the prospects of the market. We are absolutely convinced that the jobbers are sincere in their efforts to stabilize the market and eliminate speculation, even tho it may mean only moderate profits on their transactions. We are convinced, moreover, that the abnormally large crop of beans will not warrant entertaining any hope of \$10 or \$12 beans, and that it will be only by the most careful and closest co-operation between growers and jobbers that the market can be maintained at the \$8 level.

In some localities elevators are advertising to buy beans at less than \$8 a bushel; in other places they refuse to buy them for less than that. In the one instance, growers who desire to hold their beans for better prices, complain against the elevators; in the other instances growers who must get their money out of their beans, also complain. The first-mentioned elevators are going exactly opposite to the wishes of the jobbers' association and should be reported. No elevator, for its own future welfare, should attempt to upset the plan for harvesting the present crop, by either urging farmers to sell at the low price, or refusing to buy where it is evident that the farmers need the money. In all cases, the farmer's interest should be the paramount interest; the elevator plays safe on its transactions and mutual harmony prevails.

MARKET FLASHES

(Continued from page 11)

est sellers on the list. Killers are getting no steers that would hang up a decent beef carcass below \$11, in fact feeder competition is such that nice qualified fleshy steers weighing 1,000 pounds would command \$14 or better on country account and packers are letting few of that weight get away from them. The trade foresees a very light supply of well finished strong wt. cattle on the market horizon and altho the spread in prices is likely to narrow, choice bullocks with weight will command a substantial premium for months to come. A good market at high levels, in fact is indicated for all classes as supply pressure will be less pronounced during the late winter and spring months than in the recent past and a broad export outlet for our products is assured.

Investment demand in stocker and feeding cattle has been encouraged by the stability of the fat cattle market and by the recent dip in corn values. Good quality feeder steers of fair wt. have advanced 25 to 50c during the last two weeks and are at the high point in January trade history. Choice fleshy feeders weighing 900 to 1,000 lbs., are quotable up to \$13.50 to \$14, but the output has consisted chiefly of thin and light flesh 650 to 850 lb. cattle that have sold mostly at a range of from \$9.25 to \$11.50, depending on quality and weight. Killer competition has for the time being at least, virtually strangled the output of medium heavy feeders. Common light stockers are in slack call, moving around \$8 to \$8.50, and many of them going to killers for canner purposes. The trade anticipates a very broad demand for stockers and feeders, as the winter ages and the grading season approaches.

Butcher cattle trade has acted much after the fashion of the beef steer market. Choice cornfed cows and heifers are rare and are selling in a class alone, fully as high as a week ago. Medium and common grades have meanwhile lost 25 to 40c per cwt. with canner material selling relatively better than the lower grades of butcher cows. An occasional prime, heavy cow sells up around \$14, and prime drylot heifers to \$15 or above, but most of the medium and good butcher grades are going between \$8.50 and \$11.50, common butcher cows down around \$7.50 to \$8.25 and canners and cutters from \$6.60 to \$7.40. Most of the bologna bulls are selling from \$8.50 to \$9.25, and good fat bulls upward from \$10. The calf market has declined \$1.50 per cwt. during the past week, with the best vealers now going at \$16. The vanguard of the spring run of calves is showing up and a permanent reaction toward higher levels is not at this time expected.

Reduction in car allotments for the movement of hogs to Chicago last week made in order to relieve congestion at last week's opening, so reduced supply as to permit of a good clean-up at advancing prices the latter half of the week. The market by the week end was safely above the \$17.50 minimum. Today with a moderate supply of 41,000 received further improvement in values was noted. The top at \$18 made on prime heavy butcher hogs compared with \$17.65 a week ago while the general average at about \$17.62 was 12 cents higher than the previous Monday. Now that the crop of stale hogs in the yards has been reduced it is expected that receipts will expand and the market work back closer to the established minimum. In Monday's trading most of the butcher hogs sold from \$17.65 to \$17.95, with desirable light and mixed grades from \$17.45 to \$17.60, the common, heavy packers from \$16.60 to \$16.75, and throwouts, roughs, in small lots downward to \$16. Pigs have been in small demand and are selling lower than a week ago, \$13.50 to \$14.50 buying good to choice, while light lights weighing 130 to 150, are selling from \$14.75 to \$15.50. The question of minimum hog prices after Feb. 1 still remains undecided. The conference to have been held at Chicago on Jan. 23, to discuss this question, has been postponed until Jan. 28. It is recorded that the postponement of this meeting has been due to Great Britain's cancellation of provision orders. Food Administrator Hoover is expected to return from abroad in time to attend this meeting, the postponement of which was made in order that the benefit of his guidance and counsel could be had.

Sluggish dressed markets for lamb and mutton have handicapped the trade on sheep and lambs on foot during the past week. The lamb market has held about steady with a week ago but is fully 50 to 75c lower than the high spot week before last. Good and choice fat lambs are now selling at \$16.40 to \$16.75, a medium killing grade around \$15.25 to \$16 and culls from \$14 down. Michigan and Wisconsin feeders have been in the market for feeding lambs and prices on this class have been well maintained, good and choice selling \$14.50 to \$15.25. Matured sheep have been relatively scarce, but demand has lacked breadth. Most of the good to choice fat ewes are selling from \$10.25 to \$10.75.

STORAGE APPLE HOLDINGS
LESS THAN A YEAR AGO

Washington, D. C., Jan. 17.—The monthly report of the Bureau of Markets, department of agriculture, shows storage holdings of apples on Jan. 1, 1919, as follows:

The 534 storages that reported showed total stock of 4,887,907 boxes and 2,554,800 barrels apples. The 523 storages that reported for Jan. 1, this year and last, show present holdings of 4,730,473 boxes and 2,548,424 barrels as compared with 5,534,220 boxes and 2,753,784 barrels last year, a decrease of 803,747 boxes and 205,360 barrels, or a total decrease of 10 3-10 per cent.

Onion Markets Show Strong Tone

Values strengthened further in New York producing sections, reaching \$1.75 to \$2 f.o.b. for best yellow stock. Consuming markets ranged from \$1.75 to \$2.25 per cwt. for eastern and midwestern sacked yellow stock. California brown and yellow onions averaged 25 cents higher for fancy stock from dry storage, reaching \$1.65 to \$1.85 f.o.b.

MR. MARK STIMER,
ONE OF M. B. F.'S AGENTS

A busy season, pulling and removing stumps on a new farm in Mecosta county and incidentally looking after his duties as treasurer of Morton township has still allowed Mr. Mark Stimer to find a pleasant and profitable occupation of such spare time as he finds available, in taking subscriptions to MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING.

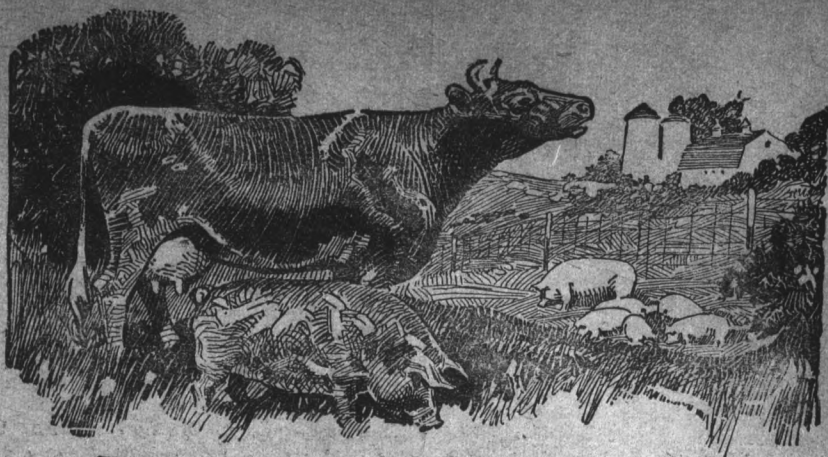
Mr. Stimer, altho it pays him well, does not act as our subscription agent only because it pays him. He does it mainly because he is heart and soul with us in the stand we are taking in the interest of the farmers of Michigan. Being an M. B. F. enthusiast he talks about it to his neighbors, and when he asks them they subscribe. Mr. Stimer is only one out of hundreds of men and women among the subscribers to this weekly who earn a handsome sum in their spare time by acting as our agent in their locality.

You, too, have spare hours! Why not use them?

Before it's time to start your work next spring you can easily earn a good many dollars in the pleasant and profitable work.

If you will try it, just drop a line and say you want to know our agents' proposition.

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Thousands of Dollars
Added to Cattle Profits

OUT of every five bushels of whole grains fed your cattle, one bushel goes to the manure pile without being digested and is a total waste.

But ground feed is all digested. Feeding it, means a 20% cut in feed costs, also fatter, higher priced stock. Come in and let us show you without any obligation, how easy it is to get these results with the

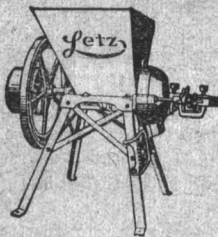
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Leading Feed Mill

The fine cutting of the Letz is due to the 848 keen cutting edges of the patented Letz Grinding Plates. In one operation cuts, grinds, pulverizes into finest meal all grains and grasses, wet or dry; and cannot clog.

Grinds corn, shelled or on cob—snapped corn—or complete stalk, ear, leaves, and all. Grinds oats, hulls and all; grinds barley, rye; special attachment for alfalfa, clover, millet, Kaffir corn and other roughage crops. Grinds into finest flour.

Plates are self-sharpening—can be run together empty for hours without injury—average 2000 bushels of moderately fine cut meal before replacement is necessary.

Grinds the finest flour. Has 10 big exclusive features any one of which makes the Letz superior to any other process. Let us prove it. See a Free Demonstration today.



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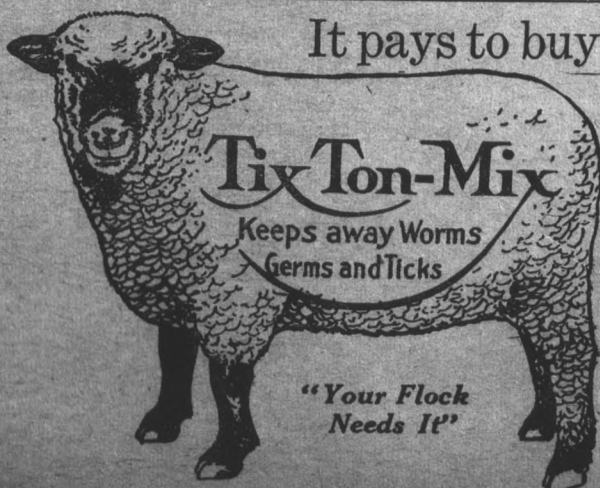
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SEND US THEIR NAMES

and whether you send 5, 10, 25 or a 100 we will mail to each address you send us THREE SAMPLE COPIES of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, free and postage paid.

Let them see for themselves, just as you did, what this weekly is doing for the farmers of our great state and ten to one they will add their names to our list and thus increase the power for good we can accomplish.



It pays to buy Tix Ton-Mix with salt the year

around keeps flock healthy and free from stomach worms and ticks. A \$5.00 box makes \$60.00 worth of medicated salt—saves you big money—A \$1.00 size box of Tix Ton-Mix by parcel post will medicate 1/2 barrel of salt.

Write for club offer—booklet on "Nature and Care of Sheep"

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A Federation of Interests

Day Old Chicks

We are now at the beginning of another hatching season. Our new poultry Catalog, with illustrations and full description of each breed, will be ready for distribution about January 25.

If you want to buy Day Old Chicks this spring, write to us so that you may learn something of our Pure Bred Practical Poultry; each breed in a colony entirely separate from every other colony, a free farm-range stock.

Breeds for the Season are:

Barred Plymouth Rocks, White Plymouth Rocks, Buff Plymouth Rocks, R. C. Rhode Island Reds, S. C. Rhode Island Reds, White Wyandottes, Silver Laced Wyandottes, S. C. Black Minorcas, S. C. White Leghorns, R. C. White Leghorns, S. C. Buff Leghorns, S. C. Brown Leghorns, R. C. Brown Leghorns, S. C. Anconas, Sicilian Butter Cups.

Eggs for Hatching

Eggs from the foregoing breeds in quantities for incubators and also in single sittings. We would appreciate correspondence with any person who will need incubator eggs this spring.

Plymouth Rock Eggs for Early Broilers also in quantities and at lower prices.

Cockerels.—A few Cockerels of nearly all the foregoing breeds.

We will send you illustrated catalog and price list; ready about January 25.

BLOOMINGDALE FARMS ASSOCIATION
Bloomington, Mich.

POULTRY

BARRED ROCK

FOR SALE—Choice Barred Rock Cockerels, bred from Detroit Winners. Also a few pullets and yearling hens. Tolles Bros, R. 10, St. Johns, Michigan.

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

Barred Rock Eggs From strain with records to 290 eggs per year. \$2.00 per 15 Prepaid by parcel post. Circular free. Fred Astling, Constantine, Michigan.

For Sale Thoroughbred Barred Rock males and females, also eggs for hatching after Feb. 1st. Bradley Strain Bred-to-lay. H. E. Hough, Hartford, Mich.

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For Sale WHITE ORPINGTON COCKERELS \$3 and \$5 each. White African guineas \$2 each. Odell Arnold, Coleman, Michigan.

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PROFITABLE BUFF LEGHORNS—We have twenty pens of especially mated Single Comb Buffs that are not only mated for exhibition but, above all, for profitable egg production. Eggs at very reasonable prices. Our list will interest you—please ask for it. Village Farms, Grass Lake, Michigan.

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Silver Laced, Golden and White Wyandottes of quality. Breeding stock after Oct. 1st. Engage it early. Clarence Browning, R. 2, Portland, Mich.

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STANDARD BRED COCKERELS—Mated Anconas; Buff and Partridge Rocks; Ronen Drakes. Hatching Eggs in season. Sheridan Poultry Yards, Route 5, Sheridan Michigan.

64 BREEDS Most Profitable chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. Choice, pure-bred, northern raised. Fowls, eggs, incubators at low prices. America's greatest poultry farm. 20th year. Valuable new 112 page book and catalog free. R.F. NEUBERT Co., Box 841 Mankato, Minn.

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CHICKS We ship thousands each season, different varieties, booklet and testimonials, stamp appreciated. Freeport Hatchery, Box 10, Freeport, Michigan.

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POULTRY, SHEEP AND SWINE DAIRYING BEEF PRODUCTION BREEDING PROBLEMS

GIVE THE COWS WARM WATER IN WINTER

Every hundred pounds of milk contains 87 pounds of water. The cow requires in addition, large quantities of water for carrying on her body functions. This water cannot be of any use to the cow until it is warmed. If it is swallowed ice cold it must be warmed inside the body. This gives the body a severe chill and requires a great deal of energy from the food to return it to the proper temperature. What are the results? W. W. Swett of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, answers: First, the cow does not drink as much as she should and the milk production is limited. Second, a part of the food which should go to make milk is used to warm the cold water taken into the body and to overcome the decided chill imparted to the body. There are other more economical ways of warming water than by the use of expensive grain.

A group of cows drinking from an icy stream is a common winter sight in many parts of this country. In many cases these cows are driven half a mile or more for this privilege. In many cases the cows refuse, under such conditions, to drink as much as they should and are driven back to the barn to wait until the following day when they will be offered the same thing over again. A cow cannot be a heavy producer of milk under these circumstances.

The best place to water dairy cows in cold weather is in the barn. When running water is available this can be accomplished by installing individual drinking cups or by watering them in a gutter-like manger. In this case the water will not need to be warmed as the water in pipes is not too cold. Individual cups have another advantage by allowing the cows to take small quantities at frequent intervals.

On many farms these conveniences are impossible. In such cases it is always possible to use a tank heater. There are several different kinds of tank heaters on the market which may be purchased at a moderate price. Most of them are satisfactory.

Another possibility for a tank heater is to use a small water-tight iron stove so constructed that it is entirely immersed in the water. It extends thru the wall of the tank and is fed from the outside of the tank. The funnel which must be of heavy iron extends at least twelve inches above the top of the tank. Draft is secured thru the front that extends thru the tank wall. Coal or wood may be burned. Don't compel dairy cows to drink ice water. They cannot be high producers if you do.

HOW TO PROPERLY FEED THE DAIRY BULL

Although the bull in the dairy herd is often looked upon as a necessary evil it should not be forgotten that the calves inherit half their blood from him. M. H. Fohrman of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture says that too often the bull is housed in dark, dirty quarters and little attention given him. The bull at all times should have a proper feed, and the kind will depend somewhat upon his age. Young growing bulls do well when fed legume hay and 4 to 8 pounds of grain daily. A suitable mixture to be fed with clover or alfalfa hay is four parts of corn chop, one of oats, and one of bran. Older bulls as a rule are not as active as young animals, and there is more danger of overfeeding them. After the animal is mature he requires only

sufficient feed to keep him in good breeding condition and to keep him warm. The herd bull should not be allowed to become fat as this results in sluggishness and early loss of breeding power. See that he has an abundance of drinking water and ample opportunity for exercise.

While care should be exercised to avoid overfeeding, do not go to the other extreme in the case of young bulls, as underfeeding checks growth. Size is always a desirable quality, and it is poor economy to underfeed a growing sire. Feed him a sufficient amount of grain to furnish ample material for growth and regulate the quantity according to his appetite and condition.

SHEEP FARMERS NEED A JUST DOG CONTROL LAW

One of the greatest draw-backs to sheep farming in many regions is the sheep-killing dog. The dog not only kills sheep but keeps out of the sheep business many farmers who would otherwise go into it. Remarkable progress has been made in several states in enacting good dog laws, and others may take similar action at the meeting of their legislatures this winter. But let it be understood that no law, however well worded it may be, can be effective unless it is enforced and has the moral support of the people who are affected by it.

Wool and mutton are commanding higher prices than ever before and our wool supply is being reduced so rapidly that even the peace has come it will take a long time to restock the wool trade of the country. These facts alone should be sufficient to make it clear to any fair-minded citizen that we should provide reasonable protection for the sheep farmer against the

ravages of prowling and uncontrolled dogs.

D. A. Spencer, sheep extension specialist to the University of Missouri College of Agriculture says sheep farmers talk among themselves the troubles they have with dogs, but in order that their stories may accomplish something worth while the facts should be told to their senators and representatives with all possible definiteness and emphasis.

Those interested in securing correct legislation on a just and reasonable dog control will find helpful information in Farmer's Bulletin 935, "The Sheep-Killing Dog." This bulletin contains a digest of the dog laws of all states, together with many useful facts and suggestions. The bulletin may be had free by addressing the Division of Publications, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Hatch Early

If the pullets are not fairly well matured and settled in their winter quarters before the severe cold weather sets in, it is more difficult to get them to start laying. It requires on the average six or seven months for pullets of the general purpose breeds, such as the Plymouth Rock, Wyandotte, Rhode Island Red and Orpington, which are so commonly kept on general farms, to mature and start laying. If these pullets are to start laying by the time desired, they must therefore have been hatched six or seven months previously, and this means early hatching. Hatch early, therefore, and secure well grown, mature pullets which will begin laying in the fall, will produce the high priced winter eggs, and will be profit makers.

The Story of the Hampshire Hog

The Hampshire created a sensational record in Denver, Colorado, in 1917, by winning over all breeds in carload lots and single classes. They have, on several different occasions created the same sensational record in the Chicago International Live Stock show. They created the same sensational record in the palmy days of St. Joseph, Missouri, when she put on one of the greatest live stock shows in America. In Pig Club classes in the state of Georgia, where Pig Clubs have developed to as great an extent as any state in the Union, Hampshires have been grand champion over all breeds for the past two years. In the state of Indiana where Pig Clubs have grown to great prominence, Hampshires have been grand champion over all breeds every year excepting one. This breed is very prolific. The average of more than 40,000 reported in the last year has been better than 8 pigs to the litter raised, showing an average of 11 pigs to the litter farrowed. The Hampshire sows are very kind, good natured mothers, giving a very heavy flow of milk, and taking most excellent care of their young. The Hampshire has entered many feeding contests and has won. In our recent days of war, through the public sale system of giving a Hampshire to the Red Cross, more than \$168,000 have been raised for that great assisting body in the protection of our soldiers; more than \$68,000 have been raised for the Y. M. C. A. The breeders who have promoted this breed of hogs desired to have a new home. About a year ago they commenced the erection of that home; they have expended \$14,000 and have paid for it by popular subscription. There has been from \$7,000 to \$8,000 given by

the Record Association and the breeders as special premiums every year in the large state and national shows. The National Swine Show where all breeds meet in friendly rivalry and competition, has found the Hampshire breed to exceed all other breeds in numbers; they were first in numbers in 1916, 1917 and 1918. They have been much talked about for the quality of their show as well as superior numbers. They are a breed of hogs which is given very much to making their own living on forage and cheap foods. Those who know them best like them best. Those who tried them to prove they were not superior have in almost every case become one of the greatest breeders and promoters of the breed who have entered pedigrees for record in the Association. Some of the most prominent breeders of other breeds have decided to try the Hampshire simply to prove they do not possess superior quality which is claimed for them. Whether they fooled themselves or whether they were converted, it is hard to tell, but in every case ever reported to the secretary's office where such a thing has been tried, it only took from two to three years to find there was nothing on the farm of such a man except the Hampshire breed of hogs. They are prolific, they are kind to handle, they are very thrifty and insist on doing a part of the work. They are always able to gather their own feed in the field, grind their own feed, make their own bed, and after all of this is done, carry their carcass to market and do it without exertion and as if they liked to do so. They are a hog of beauty and develop and grow with a great deal of satisfaction to their owners.

CATTLE

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN

Butter Making
In Holland

Butter making is the chief business of the Holland dairymen, the originators of the Holstein-Friesian breed of cattle. Upwards of forty million pounds of butter per year is exported from that little country, which is more per cow, and more per acre, than does any other country export.

Send for our booklets—they contain much valuable information.

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, Box 295 Brattleboro, Vt.

Two Young Bulls
for Sale, Ready for Service

One from a 25 lb. cow and one from a 22 lb. four year old. Write for pedigrees and prices. E. L. SALISBURY
Shepherd, Michigan

MUSOLFF BROS.' HOLSTEINS

We are now booking orders for young bulls from King Pieter Segis Lyons 170506. All from A. R. O. dams with credible records. We test annually for tuberculosis. Write for prices and further information.
Musolff Bros., South Lyons, Michigan.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING has sold two different lots of cattle I have offered. I now offer heifer calves from heavy milking dams for \$100 each, and the same kind of bull calves for \$35.

ROBIN CARR

FOWLERVILLE, MICHIGAN

Clover Dairy Farm offers a very nice straight handsome bull, born March 15, 1918. Sired by Johan Hengerveld Lad, with 62 A.R.O. daughters, with records up to 31 lbs. The dam a 16 lb. granddaughter of Paul Beets DeKol, 105 A.R.O. daughters with records up to 32 lbs. Price \$100, f.o.b. Flint. Extended pedigree and description on application.
L. C. Ketzler, Flint, Michigan

PREPARE

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 18.25 as Jr. two year old to 28.25 at full age. Prices reasonable breeding considered.

WALNUT GROVE STOCK FARM
W. W. Wyckoff, Napoleon, Mich.

LANGHURST STOCK FARM

Offers young Holstein-Friesian Bulls from dams with records up to 24 lbs. and sires' dams up to 46 lbs. Write for pedigrees and prices. Fred J. Lange, Sebewaing, Michigan.

HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES

Sires dams average 37.76 lbs. butter 7 das. 145.93 lbs. 30 das. testing 5.52% fat. Dams good A. R. backing. Calves nice straight fellows ¾ white. Price \$65.00 each while they last. Herd tuberculosis tested annually.
Boardman Farms, Jackson, Michigan.

WOLVERINE STOCK FARM

I want to tell you about our Junior Herd Sire, "King Pontiac Lunde Korndyke Segis," a son of King of the Pontiacs, his dam is Queen Segis of Brookside, a daughter of Pontiac Clothilde De Kol 2nd and Prince Segis Korndyke, a great combination of breeding.

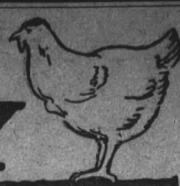
We are breeding this young sire to the daughters of Judge Walker Pieterje, our Senior Herd sire whose first five dams each have records above 30 lbs. he also has two 30 lb. sisters. How can you go wrong by buying a bull calf of this popular line of breeding?
T. W. Sprague, Battle Creek, Mich.

HOLSTEINS OF QUALITY. Two nearest dams of herd sire are both above 33 lbs. butter in 7 days, average 700 lbs. milk.
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CHOICE REGISTERED STOCK

PERCHERONS,
HOLSTEINS,
SHROPSHIRE,
ANGUS.
DUROCS.

DORR D. BUELL, ELMIRA, MICH.
R. F. D. No. 1

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SPECIAL ADVERTISING RATES under this heading to honest breeders of live-stock and poultry will be sent on request. Better still, write out what you have to offer, let us put it in type, show you a proof and tell you what it will cost for 13, 26 or 52 times. You can change size of ad. or copy as often as you wish. Copy or changes must be received one week before date of issue. Write to-day!
BREEDERS' DIRECTORY, MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING,
Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

Holstein-Friesian Cattle

Under the present labor conditions I feel the necessity of reducing my herd. Would sell a few bred females or a few to freshen this spring. These cows are all with calf to a 30-pound bull. J. Fred Smith, Byron, Michigan

We Sell at Breeders' Sale

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REG. HOLSTEIN BULL CALF from good producing Cow and sired by a No. 1 bull. Price \$50.00 for quick sale. F. W. Alexander, Vassar, Michigan.

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Type, Quality. A few bull calves from A. R. O. dams for sale.

ARWIN KILLINGER,
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JERSEY BULLS ready for service for sale. Sired by Majesty's Oxford Fox, and out of R. of M. Dams by Majesty's Wonder. Herd tuberculin tested and free from abortion. Our aim is size with good type, and production. Wildwood Jersey Farm, Alvin Balden, Capac, Mich.

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THE Jersey has ever been noted as the profit breed. But these days of high-priced feed are making her even more famous. You must look into this Jersey matter. It will show you the difference between keeping a cow and having the cow keep you. Ask breeders for prices and pedigrees. Write us for important Jersey facts, free.

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367 West 23rd St., New York City

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GUERNSEYS WE HAVE A FEW Heifers and cows for sale, also a number of well bred young bulls—write for breeding. Village Farms, Grass Lake, Michigan.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS

ABERDEEN ANGUS CATTLE We are offering at reduced prices, a number of high-class young bulls, well able to head the best herds in the land. Best in blood lineage on either side of the ocean. Write for price list, or call and see us.
Woodcote Stock Farm, Ionia, Michigan.

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OAKWOOD SHORTHORNS. Three bulls from Bates cows, 10 to 13 mos. old.
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FOR SALE—SHORTHORNS Of Quality, Scotch and Scotch topped. Maxwellton Monarch 2nd & Maxwellton Jupiter in service.
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For Sale Two roan double standard bred Polled Durham Shorthorn Bull Calves, calved May 2nd and June 4th. Paul Quack, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, R. No. 2, Box 70.

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SHORTHORNS have been kept upon Maple Ridge Farm since 1867 and are Bates bred. Two red heifers for sale; 1 bull, 10 mos. old.
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THE VAN BUREN CO. Shorthorn Breeders' Association have young stock for sale, mostly Clay breeding. Write your wants to the Secretary. Frank Bailey, Hartford, Michigan.

WHAT DO YOU WANT? I represent 41 SHORTHORN breeders. Can put you in touch with best milk or beef strains. Bulls all ages. Some females. C. W. Crum, Secretary Central Michigan Shorthorn Association, McBrides, Michigan.

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DUAL PURPOSE SHORTHORN Calves both sexes, from good milking cows, for sale at reasonable prices.
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FOR SALE—Two Shorthorn Durham bulls, Bates strain and good individuals. One 3 years old; one 6 months. Geo. W. Arnold, Bates, Mich.

Shorthorns 100 head to select from. Write me your wants. Prices reasonable. Wm. J. Bell, Rose City, Michigan.

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HEREFORDS Herd headed by Bob Fairfax 494027. Can furnish you with males or females. Polled or horned. Write for prices. Earl C. McCarty, Bad Axe, Mich., Sec. Mich. H. B. Association.

HORSES

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SHETLAND PONIES For Sale. Write for description & prices. Mark B. Curdy, Howell, Mich.

HOGS

O. I. C.

O. I. C. GILTS

Bred for March and April farrow, also choice fall pigs.

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Monroe, Mich.

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.

O. I. C. SPRING GILTS, bred to good lowlay Edd. Priced right.
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Bred Gilts
and
Serviceable Boars
J. Carl Jewett, Mason, Mich.

DUROC

DUROC BRED SOWS

and growthy big type last fall boars. State Fair champions and winners. Orion's Fancy King 83857 heads herd.
Newton Barnhart, St. Johns, Michigan.

PLEASANT VIEW DUROCS

Three choice bred gilts priced at \$60 each for quick sale.
W. C. Burlingame, Marshall, Michigan.

Durocs Spring Boars and gilts. Ten years experience. A few black top Rams left. Newton & Blank, Hill Crest Farm, 4 miles south of Middleton, Mich.

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We are offering some fine, Big type, fall and spring Boars and Gilts. At Farmers' Prices.

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We are now offering Registered Duroc Jersey fall pigs, either sex. We can furnish you unrelated pairs or sows. Write to us. Our prices are very reasonable.
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DUROCS SPRING GILTS and brood sows. Gilts by a good son of Panama Special. Newton & Blank, Hill Crest Farms, Perrinton, Mich. Farm 4 miles s. of Middleton, Gratiot county.

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BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS. Two big boned boar pigs farrowed in June, sire Michigan Buster. Gilts bred to Bob-O-Link, Gerstdale Superior and Gerstdale Lad. O. L. Wright, Jonesville, Michigan.

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This establishment has been head quarters for Big Type Poland Chinas. We have a nice lot of boars and sows of strictly big type breeding at very low price. Let me know what you want. Bell phone.
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Large Type Poland China Hogs

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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BIG TYPE P. C. The best lot of big, long bodied, heavy-boned boars; the prolific kind; litters averaged better than 10 the past 3 years.
H. O. Swartz, Schoolcraft, Michigan.

BIG TYPE P. C. BOARS, Rambouillet and Hampshire rams and ewes for sale.
A. A. Wood & Son, Saline, Michigan.

BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS. Spring boars all sold. Bred gilts ready for shipment. Inspection invited.
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WALLNUT ALLEY BIG TYPE Poland China Gilts. Sired by Arts Big Bob. Will be bred to a son of Giant Senator for April farrow. If you are looking for the best of breeding and the kind that gets big and has quality here is the place to find it. Please give me a chance to tell you more about them. A. D. Gregory, Ionia, Michigan.

L. S. P. C. BRED GILTS now ready to ship at prices any good farmer can afford to pay. Also dealer in Raw Furs. Write for prices.
H. O. Swartz Schoolcraft, Michigan.

BIG TYPE P. C. Choice bred sows from Iowa's Greatest herds. The big bone prolific kind with size and quality. Elmer Mathewson, Burr Oak, Mich.

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We have an inquiry from a reader who is in the market for thoro-bred Berkshire hogs and of course we want him to buy here in Michigan. Where is there a breeder of this variety in our state, and why does he hide under a bushel? This reader suggests that we give him the name of some prominent Illinois breeder, do you know why Michigan buyers look to Illinois? Simply because the breeders in western states have learned the value of advertising and are not afraid to set aside 5 per cent for making their names and breeds known. Small, hidden space or advertising once in awhile won't make Michigan a great livestock state, but any breeder with nerve enough to spend a few hundred dollars annually in advertising can have all the live buyers in Michigan looking to him when they want something in his line.

GREGORY FARM BERKSHIRES for Profit. Choice stock for sale. Write your wants.
W. S. CORSA, White Hall, Ill.

HAMPSHIRE

HAMPSHIRE SPRING BOARS now at a big bargain, bred gilts now ready to ship. John W. Snyder, R.F.D. No. 4, St. Johns, Michigan.

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CHESTER WHITES—Gilts bred for Mar., Apr., and May farrow, of the large growthy type. Priced right.
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Registered Shropshires A few large three and four-year-old ewes bred to high class ram to lamb in Mar. and April. Flock established 1890.
C. LEMEN, Dexter, Michigan.

DELAINES, bred on same farm for 50 years. Size, quality prepotent; rams for sale delivered. Write
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'TIX-TON MIX' with salt the year around keeps flock healthy and free from worms and ticks. Saves you big money—a \$1.00 sample box by parcel post will include a barrel of salt. Write for club offer—booklet on Nature and Care of Sheep.
PARSONS TIX-TON CO., Grand Ledge, Mich.

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DOGS FOR SALE

2 thoroughbred English Fox hound Pups, 8 months old; females.
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Big Price Reductions



This is a Harris Home No. J. R. 1001 but one of more than a hundred beautiful designs in the new free edition of the Harris Book of Plans. Excellent arrangement, five rooms and a big attic.

Quick action on your part will bring your request for information to us at a time when we are better situated than ever before to impress upon you the time and money saving advantages of the "Harris Way." The great war ending almost as suddenly as it started, will cause a stupendous rush of operations in the building field. Every one will want to be first. The delay will cause them to be even more anxious to see their Harris Home quickly erected and ready for occupancy with the least possible delay. Building Material sources will be taxed to their fullest capacity. So don't delay! Get in touch with us now.

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NOW is the Time to Buy

Watts No. 4 WATTS CORN SHELLERS

Capacity 75 to 125 Bushels Per Hour



All Sizes Now Yours At Big Cut Prices!

Mail the Coupon for Our SPECIAL BOOK of THIS Great CORN SHELLER Sale

Watts No. 1 Corn Sheller for the man who shells corn only for his own use. Capacity 50 to 75 bushels per hour with a 3 H. P. engine, now \$38.30. Order No. J.R. 900.

Watts No. 4 Corn Sheller, built for the man who shells for himself and a few neighbors. Cleanly shells 75 to 125 bushels per hour with a 3 H. P. to 6 H. P. engine. Cleans and loads all the corn. Stacks the cobs, now \$77.70. No. J.R. 901.

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INDOOR TOILET

\$12.75



Improved chemical indoor closet, fitted with regular shaped closet seat and cover, finished in birch, mahogany, cast metal frame and base, steel casing enameled in azure blue, complete with exhaust pipe and chemical, ready to install. No. J.R. 1816, each \$12.75.

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Size 18x30 inches \$15.95



White Porcelain Enameled one-piece roll rim sink and back, two nickel plated faucets and strainer; head "P" trap. No. J.R. 6520—20x30 in. \$16.95. No. J.R. 6530—18x30 in. \$15.95.

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We are now prepared to make quick delivery of this celebrated high-grade, guaranteed, perfect gasoline engine in sizes ranging from 1 1/2 to 16 horse power. Take advantage of this opportunity to buy these famous Gas Engines at money saving prices.

Write today for special catalog illustrating full line.

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Good Iron Pipe in random lengths, complete with couplings in all sizes are now offered at prices that save money. Suitable for the conveyance of water and all liquids. No. J.R. 204—1 in. per ft. 7c. No. J.R. 205—1 1/4 in. per ft. 9c.

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Complete cobbler outfit consisting of reversible iron stand, last, hammer, knife, sewing awls, last, needles, rivets, heel plates, leather and rubber cement, clamp, punch, soldering copper, thread and wax. Order No. J.R. 84.

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We Can Ship Your Roofing Promptly — Order NOW! This is your big chance to buy Prepared Roofing, Steel Roofing and Siding at an unusual saving. But you must act quickly to get your share of these savings. ORDER THESE SNAPS Direct From This "Ad"!

Ajax high grade rubber surfaced roofing: put up 108 sq. ft. to the roll. Complete with nails and cement. No. J.R. 302, 3-ply, per roll \$1.27. 2-ply, per roll \$1.17. 1-ply, per roll \$1.07.

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10,000 rolls of extra heavy high grade roofing: red or gray slate coated, rock faced, brown pebble coated, double panned, mineral or mica surfaced. No. J.R. 305, per roll of 108 sq. ft., nails and cement included \$1.94.

Corrugated Metal Roofing Sheets! 28 gauge painted 2 1/2 in. corrugated, overhauled siding sheets; 6 1/2 ft. long. No. J.R. 306, per 100 sq. ft. \$2.00.

26 gauge painted 2 1/2 in. corrugated, overhauled roofing sheets. No. J.R. 307, per 100 sq. ft. \$3.00.

24 gauge extra heavy painted, 2 1/2 in. corrugated, overhauled sheets for roofing barns, granaries, etc. No. J.R. 308, per 100 sq. ft. \$3.50.

Bath Room Outfit \$75.00 Complete



Consists of porcelain enameled 5 ft. bath tub, half circle lavatory size 18x21 inches, and low down closet outfit with golden oak, heavy copper lined tank and syphon wash down vitreous china closet bowl; seat and cover of closet finished to match the tank. The outfit is furnished complete with all nickel-plated fittings above the floor line, bath cock, faucets, supply pipes, etc., ready to install.

No. J.R. 1742—Bathroom Outfit, \$75.00. No. J.R. 1743—Bath Tub with fittings, \$35.00. No. J.R. 1744—Half Circle Lavatory with fittings, \$17.50. No. J.R. 1745—Closet Outfit, complete, \$27.00.

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