

"—for all the Farmers of Michigan!"

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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Cornering the Bean "Bears" in Their Lair

One More Chapter has been written in the Gigantic Plot Conceived under the Cloak of Patriotism to

THE WAR brought into the lime-light several types of citizens. One of these was the down-right traitor and slacker, who has already been or will be punished in due season by conscience and the government. Another was the truly loyal, country-loving citizen, who talked patriotism, acted patriotism and felt patriotism. He has already had reward for his loyalty in the consciousness that he helped to overthrow the menace of military domination that towered over the homes of free people everywhere a few short months ago. But in between these two types there was another,—the pocket patriot,—who gave his services to the government and talked and acted patriotism because it served as an impenetrable cloak to cover up secret manipulations for private gain. It is the last type of citizens with whom we are concerned in this article.

Manipulate and Corner the Bean Market

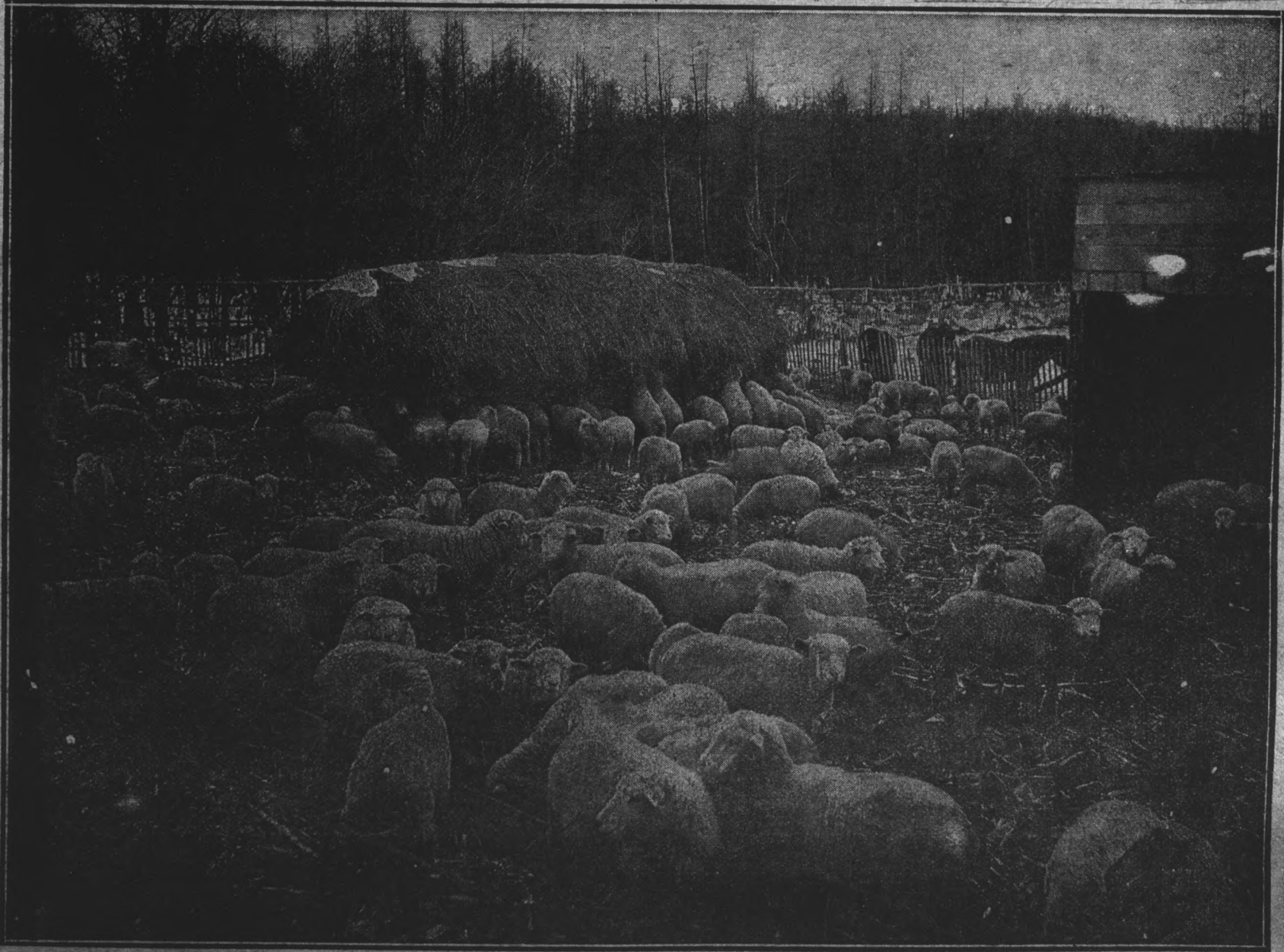
By FORREST LORD

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM
Mr. Ben Gerkes, Member Grain Corporation,
U. S. Food Administration, New York City.

In interests of bean growers we protest against appointment of K. P. Kimball buyer co-ordinated food purchasing agencies. Secret manipulations bean market as result inside information make it imperative position be given party having no financial interest in bean business. Give growers square deal and save this industry. MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING.

TO TELL, in logical sequence, the story of the ups and downs of the bean market the past two years would entail the repetition of columns of facts necessary in order to lead the reader intelligently to the final chapter of a huge plot to speculate and profiteer under the protecting arm of Uncle Sam.

Two years ago today farmers in Michigan were receiving \$6 a bushel for beans. The price subsequently arose to \$10, as a result of a short crop and an unprecedented world demand. For the first time in years the farmers realized a fair profit from their crops; the majority of elevators and jobbers enjoyed good dividends, and a few here and there cleaned up small fortunes. The Midas touch (Continued on page 12)



A Typical Michigan Scene—The bringing in of Western Sheep to the cut-over lands of the state may double Michigan's Sheep Population in next few years

POTATO GROWERS MEET NEXT WEEK

Annual Session Association Scheduled to be
Held at M. A. C. February 6th When
Interesting Program Will
be Given

We are advised by Pres. A. M. Smith of the Michigan Potato Growers' Ass'n that the annual meeting of the association will be held at the Agricultural Building, M. A. C., Thursday morning, Feb. 6th.

The list of speakers had not been arranged in sufficient time to enable us to publish it this week, but we are told that it will include men of both state and national prominence, who will discuss the potato industry from all angles—production, marketing and possibly—grading.

It is known that a representative of the Potato Growers' Exchange will be present to tell the growers something of the successes and trials of co-operative marketing. Mr. L. A. Siple, secretary of the organization and manager of the Gleaner Clearing House Ass'n at Greenville, is also on the program. Prof. C. W. Wald, of the M. A. C., will tell of the progress of the work of his department in combatting potato diseases, selecting clean seed, and other efforts to aid in the production of this great crop. We are promised that other speakers, some of them of national fame, will discuss other potato problems of a national scope.

The reorganization of the Michigan Potato Growers' Ass'n was effected a year ago after a series of turbulent meetings in which everybody not actually a potato grower persisted in misconstruing the motives and misunderstanding the attitude of the growers. The pivot of the differences which brought over a hundred farmers to Lansing from all parts of the state, was the U. S. grading measure. The opposition voiced at that time by the farmers of Michigan to an arbitrary measure in the adoption of which they were given no voice, has since spread to nearly every other potato growing state; and the arguments presented by Michigan farmers against that particular method of grading have since been substantiated by many acknowledged potato specialists who were at first inclined to view the grading measure with favor. As a result of the agitation started by Michigan farmers, Michigan dealers were instructed by the Potato Division to reduce the size of their screens, and there has been little complaint since that time. This may be accounted for by the fact that last year's crop contained very few small potatoes. Should Michigan farmers produce a crop of small potatoes this coming year as they did in 1917 and the same grading rules are in effect, there is bound to be trouble again. We don't know whether the pota-

to association will take up the matter of grades or not at its next meeting. The silence of its officers upon this important matter would lead us to believe that the subject will be left strictly alone. However, it is our firm conviction that unless certain fundamental changes are made in the grading rules, trouble awaits the very next year that frost, drouth or floods prevent the crop from fully maturing.

Anyway, come to the meeting. There'll be many good construction ideas presented that should be of help to every commercial potato grower in the state.

GOVERNMENT NOW CHECKING UP WOOL OPERATIONS

"We sold our wool to a dealer for sixty cents and wish to know what the government price is. Noticed you were discussing this matter, and if there is anything due us we would like to have it."—Mrs. L. B. Wolverine.

We have been following the wool matter closely and scarcely a week goes by that we are not in communication with the War Industries Board urging it to carry out to the letter the provisions of the wool-purchasing plan and return to growers any extra amount that may be due them from the excess profits of the dealers. The last information we have had upon this subject is the following letter from Mr. Chas. J. Brand, chief of the Bureau of Markets, which has taken over the wool-regulating functions of the War Industries Board:

"In reply to your letter of January 20, I wish to state that the operations of the approved wool dealers in country districts are now being checked up and if it be found that they have not made profits in excess of those allowed by government regulations, any such excess profits will be taken over by the government.

"It is our intention to have any excess profits returned to the individual growers interested wherever it is possible to do so. Where the identity of the wool has been lost, we will attempt to secure such a distribution of the excess profits as will be to the advantage of the producers in the territory in which the dealer operated.

A distribution of excess profits will be made only through this office."—Charles J. Brand, Chief, Bureau of Markets.

Our readers are again urged to wait patiently until we are advised that the government checking has been completed when we will be glad to handle any individual complaints where readers do not receive additional returns to which they think they are entitled.

WILL E. A. C. GIVE US FURTHER ADVICE ON CEMENT SILO?

If possible would like further information from E. A. C., Clinton county, on how to build cement block silos. Could you have him write to me direct and tell me as to the make of his machine; if it has a silo block attachment, how the silo is reinforced, what kind of doors, etc.—H. S. F., Jackson county.

17-YEAR "LOCUST" IS DUE THIS YEAR

Department of Agriculture Warns Against
Coming of Brood 10 of "Locusts"
Which Will Spring From the
Ground About May 20th

The most interesting insect in the world, the periodical cicada, is going to be seen perhaps, in very large numbers during the coming spring and early summer over large regions of the United States where this breed has not appeared before for 17 years and over other regions where another brood appeared 13 years ago. This is the insect commonly referred to as the "17-year-locust."

The statement that this is the most interesting insect in the world will hardly be questioned anywhere, and it is the most interesting because it is the most anomalous, or possibly, because it has always appeared to be so mysterious. The fact that it appears in countless numbers one year, then is not seen again for half the average lifetime of human beings and then suddenly appears again in countless numbers, has kept the popular mind mystified and has woven many superstitions about the cicada. When it is known that the insect spends the thirteen or seventeen years in slow development beneath the ground and emerges at almost exactly the same spot where it entered the ground thirteen or seventeen years before—then the mystery disappears but the interest, if anything, is intensified. One of the queerest things in nature is that in spite of such extremely slow growth in their subterranean habitat, all the millions of individuals attain maturity and burst from the ground at almost the same moment.

No doubt the cicada will, as usual, be greeted as a harbinger of disaster, and as usual, there will be reports of deaths caused by stings of the cicada, a belief that has persisted in spite of positive proof that the cicada has no sting, that only by the extremest accident could it inflict a wound either with bill or ovipositor, and that it could not, in any case, inject a poison.

Upon every appearance of large broods of the cicada, fear is aroused that trees will be destroyed, particularly young trees of the fruiting and ornamental species. The number of the insects is so large that one can hardly understand how they can deposit their eggs in the branches of trees without killing them. Yet the fact remains that there have been outbreaks of cicadas in some sections of the United States in most of the years since this country was discovered and that no very grave damage ever has been done.

Inasmuch as the coming 1919 brood of locusts may be one of the largest on record, it is particularly important to (Continued on page 15)

Mrs. Dora Stockman, Michigan's First Woman Candidate for Board of Agriculture

HEREWITH is presented a good picture of Mrs. Dora Stockman, who has the distinction of being the first woman candidate for the Board of Agriculture. To enlighten our readers upon the accomplishments and ability of this lady whom they are asked to support for this important position we give the following brief sketch of her life:

Mrs. Stockman was born in 1872, in a little log cabin in the wilderness of pine forests of Northern Michigan. As a small child, she had two great ambitions: to be a school teacher and to write plays and poems, which she dreamed of giving in response to the call of the worthy lecturer. So as a mere child she began to "scribble" and "speak pieces" at the Grange and at school exhibitions. At the age of 16 she taught school, but her career was cut short when she acquired a "life certificate" to marry a farmer of a neighboring community, also a former teacher. Those were hard years for the pioneer farmers of Northern Michigan, years of persistent drouth that burned up the crops for several seasons, and low prices (corn 10 cents a bushel), till it was more than unprofitable—it was starvation business.

The farm was sold and with the proceeds, for 12 years Mrs. Stockman and her husband worked hard building up a profitable business in a store and lumbering industry. Yet in all the press of business and babies, in her busy life she did not forget her childish ideals. Lying at Benzonia, the home of a small college, in the "dull" business seasons, with her book on the counter and on

country tramps with the "small boy" of the family, Mrs. Stockman studied for recreation, Greek, Latin, German, French, history and literature, drinking eagerly at these fountains of inspiration till she was granted two degrees by this institution. The ill health of Mr. Stockman compelled a change of business and climate. After some time spent in the west, Mr. Stockman returned to Michigan, took a short course at M. A. C., where his son was attending, and becoming thoroughly inoculated with the farming bacteria so abundant there, he bought a "worn-out" farm just outside the city of Lansing.

In the meantime Mrs. Stockman had been caring for the boys and teaching and studying at Hillsdale college, Mr. Stockman's alma mater, from which she received a degree and a teacher's life certificate from the state. In the spring of 1903 they began life on the farm near Lansing. Mr. Stockman took up the arduous task of building up a worn-out soil, and she the care of the new baby, garden and farm home. Here Mrs. Stockman began to "think" and compare notes. She made what was to her a delightful discovery,



that in close contact with Nature on an everyday farm were more wonderful pictures, mysteries and poems than she had ever read about. For the state teachers' paper she wrote plays and dialogues, furnishing the special day programs for 15 years. These dialogues have been published in a book by H. R. Pattengill, late editor of *Moderator-Topics*, Flannigan Co., Chicago; the Silver Burdette Co., and J. W. Darrow of New York State Grange, who use her plays, which are exclusively along home and farm lines.

There are also recent articles on farm topics in the *Youth's Companion* and other magazines. One of her books, "A Bountiful Harvest," on Sunday school missionary work in the pioneer parts of the state, has been an incentive to greater interest to the needs of this work in Northern Michigan. A recent book, "Farmerkins Farm Rhymes," is a Nature's Mother Goose of little poems about farm animals and plants written for the small boy's amusement. For six years Mrs. Stockman has been giving her spare time to occasional trips as State Grange speaker. She is also a farmers' institute speaker and an enthusiastic devotee of farm life and interests. On their farm they raise two things—stock and boys. The eldest son graduated from the Michigan Agricultural College in 1915, and the youngest, a boy of seven, is "helping" mother write poems and grow pumpkins.

During the four years that her older son was a student of M. A. C., as well as since, she has been a frequent visitor and student of its various departments, thus forming a close contact with its activities in many fields.

SEC'Y REED EXPLAINS MILK CONTRACT

Declares Present Arrangement With Distributors Best Obtainable, and Should Have Support of All Milk Producers

There seems to have been, in certain sections of the Detroit area, some misunderstanding in regard to different clauses of the milk producers' application and agreement for membership. In fact almost every one of these clauses have been, by different individuals, cut out and the agreement mutilated before sending it to this office. Especially is this true of Clause Seven; some feeling that this clause left the producer open to severe loss to the buyer of his product.

Inasmuch as you are not making the agreement with the buyer but with your own association, it can readily be seen that there is but little chance for the buyer to have any advantage as a result of your violating your agreement. It can well be understood, too, that should a dealer attempt to take advantage of this proposition, this one thing would be enough to arouse all the producers in the Detroit area and cause a general stampede under the leadership of the association, which would make it mighty unpleasant for the dealer who attempted such a thing.

Our contracts with the dealer are as strong and binding as could possibly be made under the circumstances. Their claim was that we were tying them up too close, leaving them without opportunity to adjust themselves should their business demand.

Your association has been trying in all its career to so stabilize and safeguard the business that each and every man would be protected from any undue manipulation or change. We have gone as fast as good business judgment would warrant in bringing about a basis of action between the producer and distributor. We must at all times establish that fundamental principle (of confidence) upon which to base our future activities and make a permanent business foundation. The Detroit buyers are paying a great tribute to your association in that they have declared themselves willing to abide by our test on the entire Detroit area product at any time we are able to man the field and look after all the test. While this would be a large addition to the work of the secretary's office, yet it seems to us that in the near future this will need to be taken over by us.

We trust that all the interests in this undertaking may be considerate looking forward to the least possible friction all along the line.

It is estimated that the loss to the New York producers in the last strike has meant more than \$2,000,000. It is safe to assume that an equal loss has been entailed by the distributors. If this be true, here is a loss of \$4,000,000 that must be charged up to the business and this alone is enough to bring a severe shock to even so great a business proposition as the dairy supply for New York city. More than this, a general feeling of lack of confidence must have resulted which will, in years to come, continue to be a menace to the milk industry.

Ultimate success must depend not only upon laying well the foundation, but upon a continuation of the united effort of all Michigan territory. The Detroit area cannot, with safety, be divorced or separated from the up-state production, and to this end we are making a strong endeavor to bring the condensing interests into harmonious action, which in a large measure is being accomplished. The general superintendent of one of the largest condensing concerns in Michigan recently informed your secretary that they were willing and anxious to co-operate with us in our great constructive campaign. The condensary and the producers of Mt. Pleasant are just at the present time swinging into line, having gone a little bit further than others have gone, in that they are authorizing the use of a cent and a half for advertising and organizing purposes; this is to be sent to the state association and then one-half cent be remitted back to the local association, so that it may do constructive work in co-operating with the larger interests. At the present time this one factory is using from 75,000 to 80,000 pounds of milk a day.

A great field is before us. A great advertising campaign is to be carried on. We should take over the entire testing of the product. We must enlarge our force; we must work the field. We must do our part. We must fortify ourselves

against the effort that is being made to reduce the prices of all foodstuffs before the cost of production is reduced. This can only be done by a united effort and harmonious action.

Agreements are coming in well; we hope none will be shut off because of any omission on their part.—E. O. Reed, Secretary.

STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY TO HOLD MEETING AT FENNVILLE

The Mid-Winter meeting of the State Horticultural Society will be held in Fennville, Feb. 11 and 12. A very interesting program will be presented and a large attendance from all over the state will be on hand for the opening session.

The subject of "Small Fruits" will be presented by H. J. Lurkins, Benton Harbor.

"Apples for Western Michigan," by F. E. Warner, South Haven.

"Cost Accounting for the Fruit Grower," by I. T. Pickford, extension specialist in horticulture, M. A. C.

"The present Status of the Pear Psylla in Michigan," F. L. Blanton, Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C.

"The Latest in spraying," Prof. H. J. Eustace, M. A. C.

The question box will be in charge of C. P. Haligan, East Lansing.

"The Grape Situation in Michigan," M. H. Pugsey, Paw Paw.

Other timely topics will be discussed and Tuesday evening Prof. Eustace will give an illustrated talk along horticultural lines. No fruit grower can afford to miss this meeting.

Anyone desiring copy of program apply to the Secretary's office, Bangor, Michigan.

SPECIAL MEETING OF MICHIGAN STATE DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Michigan Dairymen's Association will hold a special meeting at the Kerns hotel at Lansing, February 4th at 1:00 o'clock p.m.

Mr. M. D. Munn, president of the National Dairy Council, will be present.

The object of this meeting is to formulate plans for carrying on the educational work of the National Dairy Council in Michigan. It is desired that everyone attend this meeting.

Portable electric machinery has been invented to screen coal and load it in wagons.

Tubes made of glass have been invented in Europe for handling petroleum, gasoline and some gases in place of rubber tubing.

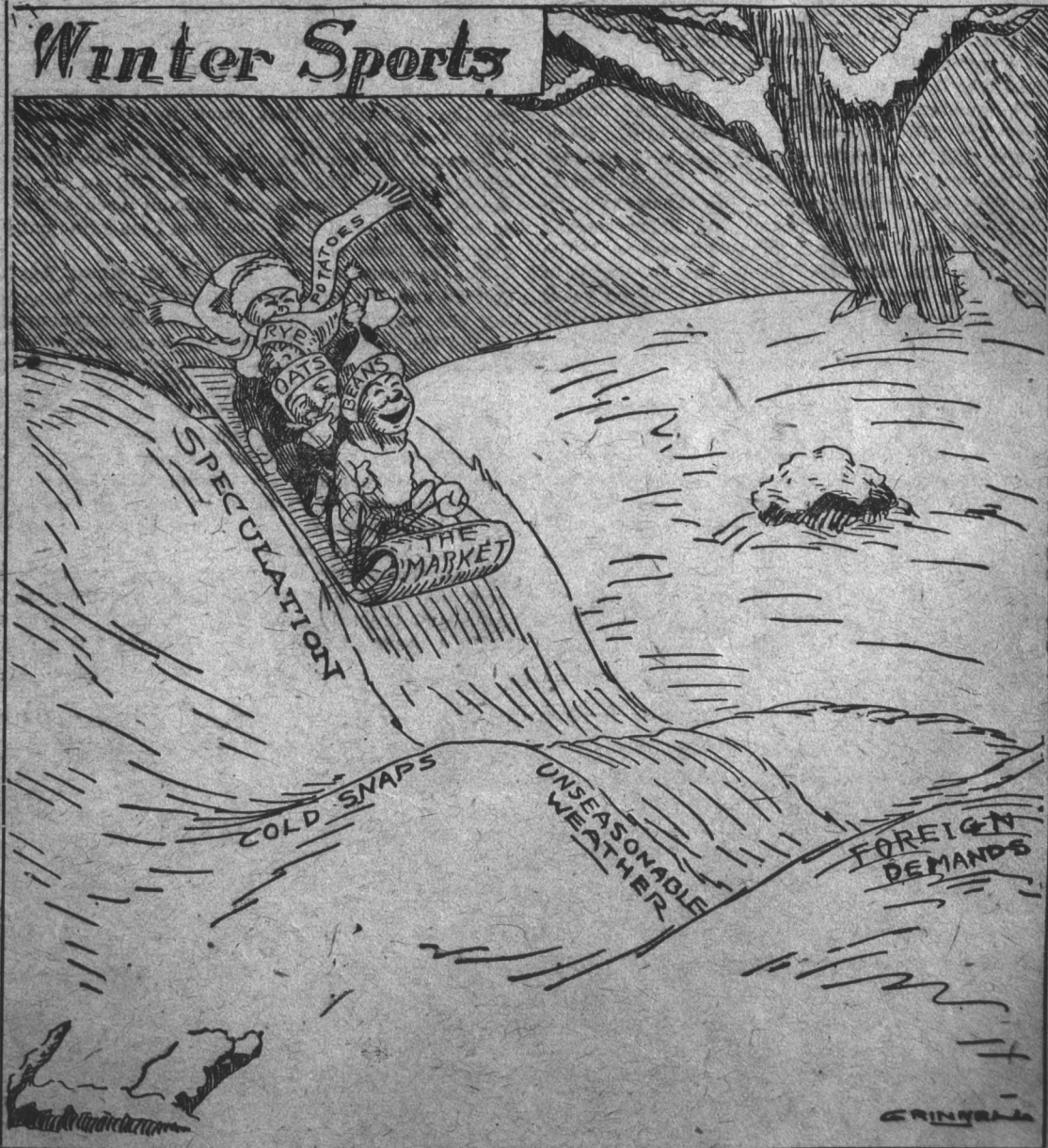
MARKET ANTICS NEED NOT ALARM

Decline in Grain Prices Past Week Due to Many Seasonable Causes Which are Expected to be Removed Long Before Another Harvest

The markets on all farm produce, and especially grain and dairy products, has been cutting some queer capers of late. Last week was the most "bearish" week we have seen in many a day. All grains, with the exception of wheat went down from 2 to 15 cents a bushel and they have not yet recovered from the slump. Butter took one spectacular tumble from 63 cents on January 17 to 51 cents on January 28th. Eggs followed closely in a suicidal leap. Poultry was inclined to be sympathetic. Nothing but government control could have kept the live stock market from going to pieces. Potatoes declined, but gradually. In fact, about the only thing the farmer sells, that did not show weakness were apples.

Were we not so well conversant with the causes for this unusual "bearishness" of the market, we might naturally feel considerable alarm over the situation, but we do not believe there are any grounds for believing that a panic has set in or that the decline in prices is more than temporary.

This is the situation as we view it: Markets ruled fairly steady right up to January 1st, trading being active in the belief that the government and the foreign nations would be large buyers of our food. But the actual demand was far less than anticipated. Delay of the food-buying plans of our former allies, and the holding up of Pres. Wilson's food emergency appropriation bill in the senate are believed accountable for the lesser demand. Moreover, the Food Administration has constantly warned of the large stocks of grains in Australia and Argentina, and other hitherto inaccessible sections, that are now expected to come into competition with American grains. While actually the effect of this competition will be scarcely felt, such "bearish" discussions have a most depressing effect upon the market. In view of the speculative (Continued on page 14)



"Don't be alarmed; the Boys are only Playing."

Co-operative Production of Farm Crops

Consolidation of Farms into one big Production Plant will make Foodstuffs Cheaper and Farm Profits Greater

By E. C. STEBBINS,
Montcalm County Banker

ONE HUNDRED years ago commercial industry had not awakened to the great possibilities that lay before it. Manufacturing, merchandising and transportation, were in their infancy. The manufacturing needs of mankind were supplied by the artisan, working alone in his shop, which was often his home. Merchandising was carried on in a small way, and transportation was by wagons and slow-moving sail and steamboats. The shoemaker, the blacksmith, the wagon maker, the harness maker, the weaver, with the hand loom, supplied each locality with its needs. These artisans produced their goods from the raw material to the finished product. It was a slow, laborious process, but no better way was then known, and few believed a better way could be devised. At this time, co-operation was unknown. The individual was the commercial unit, and each one worked out his destiny in his own way.

The development of the wonderful resources of America awakened a development in the minds of its people, and the artisans who had been working alone, conceived the idea of uniting the small shops of a community, making a similar product, into a larger shop or factory, where all could work together. This idea stimulated business life and brought about a better understanding. The manufacturing process was sub-divided, each artisan working at his part, soon became an expert, which resulted in greater production and a decrease in costs, which brought a larger profit and at the same time lowered the price to the consumer. By the co-operation of these artisans new ideas were developed and machinery was invented and manufacturing industry grew and prospered. A similar development took place in merchandising and transportation.

Every home in the nation was benefited by the remarkable growth of commercial industry. Today the modern home is supplied with numerous conveniences, labor-saving machines and appliances that were undreamed of a hundred years ago. These conveniences are not confined to the towns and cities, but the farm home is being equipped with its electric plant to furnish light, and power to operate the churn and washing machine for the housewife, and her home is also provided with hot water heating and modern sanitary plumbing, all of which are products of co-operative industry.

The modern farm today, with all its conveniences, is still operated as a single unit. Each farmer and his family is working alone, producing the products they have to sell. The farmer is operating in the same way as the shoemaker, the blacksmith, the wagonmaker, the harnessmaker and the weaver, of one hundred years ago. While it is true the farmer of today has advanced in agriculture over the farmer of one hundred years ago, his progress has largely been made possible by the introduction of labor-saving tools and machinery invented and produced by men in co-operative manufacturing industries, more than thru improved farming methods.

Co-operation of the old-time artisans, merchants and traders produced the great manufacturing, mercantile and transportation industries of today. Their success has made America famous for its millionaires. *Could similar success be partly or fully realized by co-operation among the owners of averaged-sized farms?*

It has been said that the average farmer is naturally suspicious and distrustful of others. That as a rule, farmers will not stand together, as men

Farming vs. Manufacturing

THE OFFICIAL census of 1910 shows there were 6,361,502 farms in the U. S. which produced products that year, valued at \$5,487,000,000, or at the rate of \$863.00 for each farm. This census gives the value of these farms at \$40,991,449,090. The same year, manufacturing industries, valued at \$18,428,270,000, produced manufactured goods to the value of \$20,672,002,000. The average value of products grown on each farm in 1910 was \$863.00, which includes the labor of the farmer and hired help, while in manufacturing industry, each employee produced products valued at \$2,642.00.

do in commercial industry, and for this reason it is difficult for them to succeed in a co-operative way. If this is true, there must be a reason for it. The farmer leads a more isolated life than the city man. He does not get in as close touch with his neighbor in business matters, as the man in town. He is following largely in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, and is so thoroughly occupied with his farm duties that he has little time to give to matters of reform. He does not stop to think that he is a part of the greatest industry in the world, an industry representing an investment that towers high above any other industry.

Agricultural industry is a giant in strength, but it lacks organization to use its strength to better its condition. It is like the elephant that is controlled by the hand of man to do his bidding. Without organization, agricultural industry is at the mercy of organized commercial industry. This is why the farmer has so little influence in shaping legislation, controlling the market condition of his products and the supplies he needs. Many of the leading men in commercial industry today were brought up on the farm. There, as boys, they learned to work, and when they left the farm for the city, they were quick to see the advantages that came to all industries thru co-operation.

Farmers' co-operative organizations have but recently begun. The movement is still in its infancy. Splendid success has already been achieved in various localities, which has been principally along the lines of marketing.

The co-operation of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and the state agricultural colleges is paving the way for a great organized awakening among the farmers. The county farm bureau system, in charge of a trained farm agent, provides the logical organization thru which the farmers can place themselves on equal footing with commercial industry. When the farmers unite their strength thru the county farm bureaus, now being organized throughout the nation, the evils and discouragements of farming in the old way will gradually disappear.

As co-operative marketing has proved profitable for the farmer, why not go a step farther and work out a co-operative system for producing the crops and preparing them for market? *Why not unite a dozen or two adjoining farms under one*

organization, and in this way cut down the cost of production and increase the profits?

This is the same plan that was worked out by the early artisans, merchants and men engaged in transportation, and which proved so profitable to them. When commercial industry organized it became a great financial power in the world. The small capital of many was welded together into a strong organization that brought great advantages when buying raw material and supplies, in large quantities and at lowest market prices. Through its greater power, it was able to reach the best markets.

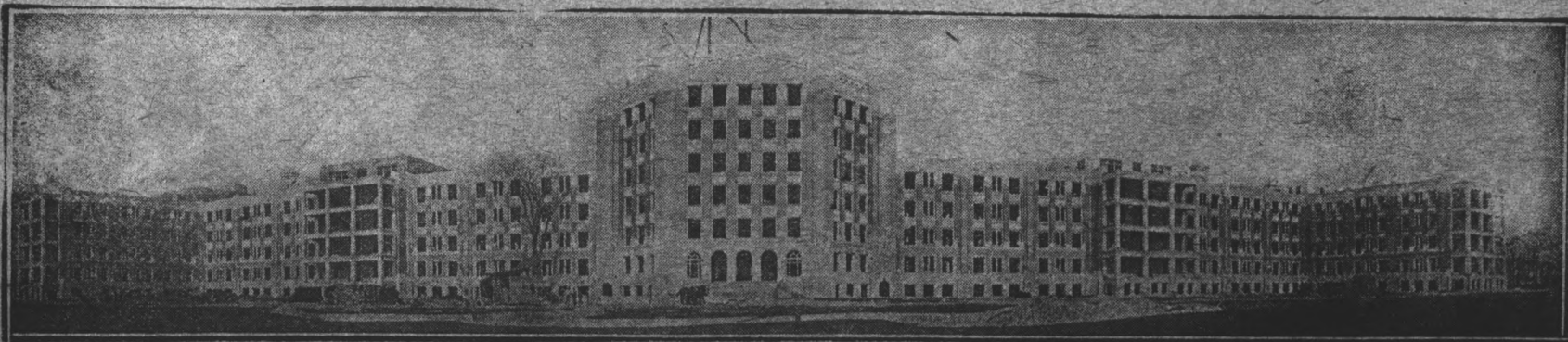
By uniting many small farms into a large organization it would produce similar advantages. The co-operative farm would represent a large investment of capital. This would create advantages in buying power and locating favorable markets. Production would be on a large scale, with an economic saving. Large fields could be laid out so that the cost of cultivation would be reduced through the use of machinery that could not be operated successfully on the small farms.

The cost of tools and machinery would be greatly reduced, over the cost to equip the many small farms, composing the larger farm. By using large fields, the cost of fences would be greatly reduced, and the cost of labor would be less, for with improved machinery each farm hand would produce larger results.

The large co-operative farm would have its threshing machine, silage cutters, so this part of the harvesting could be done at the right time and a further saving over the old way. When it comes to buying supplies, the co-operative farm would have further advantages. Fertilizers, tilling, fencing, building material, machinery and tools and other farm supplies can be purchased in large quantities at reduced prices. To bring these advantages about, the owners of small farms could form an association and incorporate under state law. At a preliminary meeting, the farmers desiring to organize, should choose a chairman and secretary to preside and keep the minutes of the meeting. They should choose a name for the corporation and make application for Articles of Association, so as to become a legal body, also decide upon the amount of capital stock necessary to meet the needs of the corporation. Suppose 20 farmers desired to unite their farms in one large farm corporation, and these farms, with the livestock, machinery, tools, hay, grain, etc., are appraised at \$200,000.00. They should incorporate for say, \$25,000 to \$50,000 more than these values, so as to provide treasury stock that could be sold to outsiders, if desired, to meet the growth and financing of the business.

A committee should be chosen at this meeting to appraise the various farms, and the personal property to be turned over to the corporation. Each member should transfer his farm to the corporation by deed and the personal property by bill of sale, and in return should receive a certificate of stock from the corporation of equal value. Each farmer would now become a stockholder, and from their number a board of directors should be elected to take charge of the large farm. The board of directors should choose from their number a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, also a general manager to over see the farm and carry out the orders of the board. It would be an advantage to choose the officers and general manager from among the stockholders, when possible, for they would have a (Continued on page 27)

Henry Ford Hospital which has been turned over to the Government for the Care of Wounded Soldiers



The biggest monument to Henry Ford's genius and his humanitarian instincts, is this mammoth hospital which covers two blocks in the city of Detroit, and has accommodations for several thousand people. The structure has only been recently completed, and has been turned over, fully equipped, and free of charge to the United States government for the care of wounded soldiers. It will probably remain in government hands for a period of at least two years. The manner in which the institution will be operated thereafter has not yet been determined.

Eat and be Merry--Tomorrow you may Hunger

City Folks two Laps ahead of Starvation—State Warehouses will Close Gap 'twixt

Producer and Consumer

By GRANT SLOCUM

YOU BOAST of your independence, Mr. City Dweller; but you are in fact, the most dependent among the children of men. True, you have shops and stores many; the good things from field, orchard and farm just naturally gravitate your way, and you very naturally feel that you are quite sufficient unto yourselves. Suppose we put it this way: As a city dweller you are just thirty days ahead of starvation; in fact, if you are living in a city of more than four hundred thousand inhabitants you are, to be exact, just five days ahead of starvation. True, Dr. Tanner lived forty days without food, and so you might live five and forty days without food; but the fact remains that you live from day to day, just five days ahead of the necessity of starting out on a long fast. Possibly we can best illustrate the point by comparing your position with reference to the food supply with the animals in the menagerie. The lion, the bear and the tiger may certainly be classed with the independents of the animal kingdom, and left free for the hunt and chase, they will find an abundance of food for themselves and their kind. But, behind iron bars and confined within the narrow limits of their cages, they become absolutely dependent upon their caretakers, and meekly watch and wait for feeding time.

Willingly do we concede the point that you city dwellers handle more actual cash during the year than do the farmers, but remember your money, after all, represents only so many yards of cloth, so many garments, so many pounds of butter, flour, beef, pork, so many dozens of eggs—of these commodities which build and sustain human life, the farmer has in abundance—so it is clear that a human being in a cage, though his pockets may be filled with money, must of necessity meekly and patiently wait for the hand that feeds. Suppose this very night, Mr. City Dweller, you lie awake for three hours—from three o'clock to sunrise. Hear the rumble of wagons and carts, the clatter of hoofs over the pavements. Listen to the tooting of the truck horns; the patient "puff,

puff" and the muffled whistle of the iron horse as it busily sorts the freight train car by car. Why all this activity? Why this noisy demonstration at an hour when people should be asleep? You drowsily ask. My good city friend, the keepers are busy with cart, can, bottle, truck and cars preparing to feed the human beings caged up in your big, over-grown city, where they can not get an ounce of food to sustain life without buying it from their keepers—who graciously deliver the needs for the day at the back door of cage No.—and tier No.—Now that you have had three hours of pensive thought here's a thriller:

Suppose all trains to Detroit were cancelled for ten days; suppose the highway should be closed and the farmers would lock their granary doors and hike for a thirty-day's stay in Florida. After the fifth day poor people would be walking the streets asking for food; within ten days hunger riots would occur and before the thirty-day Florida trip was over, marshal law would be invoked; the farmers' granaries would be broken open—and you would then, Mr. City Dweller, realize that your boasted independence was aff' all the most abject sort of utter dependence.

And it is because of the consumer's dependence that speculation sets aside the well-known and just laws of "supply and demand." In January one year ago potatoes were selling at retail in the city of Detroit at seventy cents per peck—two dollars and eighty cents per bushel. Beans were selling at twenty-two cents per pound—thirteen dollars and twenty cents per bushel. Within one hundred miles from the city farmers would have been glad to have sold their potatoes at seventy cents per bushel and their beans at fifteen cents per pound—but there was no market for either potatoes or beans at country points. True, the

weather was severe, but the point at issue is thereby clearly proven—the city dweller is absolutely dependent upon his keeper for his daily food.

Could iron bars and steel cages prove more effectual in keeping one-half of the human family from securing the necessities of life, at prices they can afford to pay, than absolute dependence upon men, who as keepers, profit most when the supply is limited? Do we not find here an opportunity for speculation? Are not all barriers against market manipulation leveled; all effectual opposition prevented; every gun spiked and powder water-soaked—that the ship may be the more easily boarded by the pirate gang, which finds plenty of protection behind the outgrown distributing system, which has neither been changed or improved in a century?

James Helme, formerly Dairy and Food Commissioner, has drawn up an amendment to the constitution of the state, which, if adopted, will place the real obstruction in the pathway of the "pirate gang." The proposed amendment provides for a bond issue of not to exceed five million dollars for the purpose of erecting in the larger cities of the state storage warehouses. These warehouses to be owned by the state and operated at actual cost, and to be used only by individual farmers and farm organizations as a distributing center. It is not expected that the full five million dollars would be called for, but this whole matter would be worked out thru a law provided by the legislature, and these storage warehouses erected as necessity demands.

As has been previously explained, under present conditions, there is no way of providing for the future needs of the people of the cities. It is a market basket proposition, sufficient for the day is the supply of food, therefore. And so long as this plan is left free to operate, there will be congested markets, lean markets, high prices to the consumer and low prices to the producer—market manipulation by (Continued on page 28)

Agriculture in Hands of Commercialists

Dept. of Agriculture and Subordinate Organizations Controlled by Men blind to

Real Ailments of Farming

By ROYAL D. ROOD
Iosco County Farmer

IT HAS BEEN often said, and within the last few months it has been oftener repeated, that the farmer's worst enemy is the United States Department of Agriculture. The official acts of Sec. Houston have perhaps helped to crystallize this idea, but the feeling did not exist before his time in office.

The policy of the Department has always been to increase the nation's agricultural output. We all know that a general increase in the agricultural output, carried to the logical extreme would result—has resulted—in a drop in price. The country has never been starving, nor have any people ever starved for lack of food enough to go around. The over-production has long since reached the point where only the best is salable at all, and today our grain, potatoes, and fruit are all graded, only the best going to market. The great need is not to raise more, but to market what we do raise. Every activity of the Department has been based on the theory that if the farmer raised more he would get more, and if he saved more he would lose less; and so we have been given the county agent who acts—all too often insists upon acting—as a professor, showing the farmer how to raise more, and how to reduce his losses from pests.

Why has the Department been so slow to hear the farmers' call? Who controls the policy of the Department? There is not a single sweating, plowing, red-blooded farmer in the whole organization of the Department at Washington. There was not a single farmer in the food administrative offices, nor the fuel administrative offices, nor in the Liberty Loan commission. All important executive men in government employ are chosen from the commercialist profession. We might allow that in fuel administration, or even in the Liberty Loan commission on pressure, but why the farmer should not be allowed to represent himself, to speak for himself, in his own department, the Department of Agriculture, is a mystery the farmer cannot solve. The commercialist controls the Department of Agriculture, directs its policies, and carries them out.

The commercialist well knows what is good for his pocket-book. Consumption cannot change either more or less. All that the consumer uses must go thru the hands of the commercialist. The commercialist, not the consumer controls demand. If the commercialist can contrive to increase the production, the supply to him will be greater than he will need, and he will have to pay the farmer less; but the consumer will need all that the commercialist buys, and will have to pay as much as ever. Who gets the extra cash? The commercialist, of course.

It would be a political crime to appoint a farmer, a genuine hard-working farmer to any important office where he might exert any influence, and the person who made the appointment would be committing political suicide, for the commercialist controls our politics. The commercialist is willing to put up the hard cash to buy the office for one of his sympathies, and our laws permit that cash be paid, and that man to hold office. Also the commercialist controls the newspapers, perhaps not by actual cash (tho some such instances probably do exist), but thru a much more powerful influence—thru the fact that the editors of our influential papers live in town, and absorb the point of view of the commercialists among whom they live, also thru the fact that in many cases the profits they receive directly come from the hands of commercialism in payment for the advertising sheets. The farmer is not allowed to speak for himself.

When an appointment is open, the commercialist editors discuss the various candidates pro and con from their various commercialist points of view. What more farmer would so much as dare to express his modest opinion? What would a farmer know about it, anyway, even tho the ap-

pointment be to the office of secretary of the state department of agriculture? As I write this I have before me an editorial in *The National Stockman and Farmer*, a paper published as a farmers' paper (owned by men of distinct commercialist sympathies, if they are not themselves commercialists) an editorial which congratulates the state of Pennsylvania on the appointment to the office of state secretary of agriculture—no, not a farmer, but—a college professor.

The commercialist control of our press is not confined to the daily city paper, but practically all of our so-called farm papers are edited by men of commercialist surroundings. I have a collection of the editorial sheets of the above named paper, for some time back, and not one issue but what contains from one to four editorials actually bucking the attempts of the farmer to help himself. Another editorial in the same issue (Jan. 18, 1919) berates the "misrepresentatives of agriculture," consisting of representatives from all the leading farm organizations of the country, who commit themselves and the organizations and class of people of whom they are a part, to the (as they put it) "support of government ownership, control and development of the natural resources of the country, including about everything except the air. Government acquisition and operation of railroads, pipe lines, express, telegraphs, telephones, inland water transportation, elevators, etc." Another editorial in the same sheet attacks the New York farmers for their attempts to get as much for their milk as it costs them. And in another editorial the paper vies with the Federal Trade Commission in disowning any support of government regulation of the packing industries that made 33c for every dollar invested last year. (And it might be noted in passing that there is another commission on which no farmers are allowed to sit.) And in another editorial the paper does its part toward preparing the way for a lower price to the farmer for his pork. And so it goes with every issue of that "farm paper." There are many other commercialist papers masquer- (Continued on page 15)

NO IMPROVEMENT IN FEED SITUATION

**Food Administration Powerless to Act and
Millers Profess They Are Not Taking
Exorbitant Profits; Farmers Must
Continue to Pay High Prices**

"Passing the buck" seems to be a favorite game just now among those having anything to do with the present feed situation. The Food Administration claims it is powerless to resume control of the milling business; the millers claim their profits are less now than under government control, and the farmer still complains of the high cost of feed.

Last week we wrote to Mr. Geo. A. Prescott, federal food administrator for this state and asked him if he could suggest some method for relieving the farmers from these high prices. He replied:

"You will, no doubt, understand that the Michigan Division of the Food Administration was practically closed on January 15th. . . .

"I might state that some time ago, the Regulations governing retail of feeding stuffs were rescinded and as you intimate, this may have been a mistake, but there are so many things to be considered in connection with all this work, that it is rather difficult for one to feel certain without full information on the subject.

"I want to assure you that I would be glad to do anything that I can to help in these matters, but as stated above, the Food Administration in Michigan, as an organization is at an end."—Geo. A. Prescott, Federal Food Administrator.

As an interesting sequence of the article published in the January 18th issue in which it was claimed that millers were profiteering in wheat feeds, we are glad to present herewith a communication from Mr. L. E. Smith, vice president of the Valley City Milling Company of Grand Rapids. This is one of the largest and most reputable milling concerns of the middle west and we are bound to give Mr. Smith's defense of the milling industry a respectful hearing. We are sure that our readers will be greatly interested in Mr. Smith's explanation of the manner in which milling profits are determined and his comparison between present conditions and those prevailing under government control.

"During the eight or ten months prior to Dec. 31st, on which date the Food Administration cancelled many of its regulations mills throughout the whole country were obliged to pay a certain price for wheat based on a figure made at some terminal point. In our zone this basic point was Chicago and price \$3.26 for No. 1 Red Wheat, which reduced to Grand Rapids basic figure equalled \$2.13.

"Around Grand Rapids there are more fruit producers, dairymen, gardeners, etc., so that while it was possible for us to buy some wheat, probably enough in 30 or 40 days to run our mills one day, direct from the producer, we were forced to go to the elevators throughout the state of Michigan for our supply so that our milling wheat cost us approximately \$2.18 per bushel f.o.b. Grand Rapids. At that time the Government maximum price for small lots of flour in 1/4 paper sacks was \$11.30 per barrel f.o.b. Grand Rapids. The average wheat cost was \$2.18 per bushel. The average return from mill feed, sacks included, was \$35.00 per ton. These were government prices and your own experience teaches you the government doesn't set them any too high.

"The basis on which we worked was a most unusual one. We were compelled to pay not less than the Government price for wheat with the privilege of paying as much more as we wanted to, while we could not obtain more than the Government price for flour, but were permitted to sell it at as low a figure as we desired.

"During the early movement of wheat from the country, mills were able to make a living profit, but immediately the receipts began to dry up, the grain having moved so rapidly that local elevators could not handle it, it ultimately being shipped to terminal markets and put in storage by the Grain Corporation, we began to experience a great difficulty as mills bid up the price of wheat, and it reached a point where it was either a ques-

tion of obtaining immediate relief or shutting down the plants altogether.

As soon as the maximum price on flour was cancelled by the Government, mills then being permitted to name a figure which would enable them to show a profit based on the cost of raw material, they went into the market for wheat, and very soon premiums of from 20 cents to 30 cents per bushel, depending upon the variety of grain, were paid over the Government price.

Even this action on the part of the mills did not seem to bring out the wheat in sufficient quantity and a great many millers in the southwest particularly, closed down their plants on account of inability to secure raw material at any price. It became very apparent unless the Grain Corporation released some of its holdings that many mills would be unable to operate at all. This information was placed before the Food Administration which made its own investigations and found conditions exactly as represented, and on the 20th of January the United States Grain Corporation began offering part of its terminal storage stock of wheat at Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee and Toledo on the basis of 12 cents per bushel premium over the minimum basic price. This would make the cost of wheat to the miller \$2.33 f.o.b. Chicago as the Government minimum price is \$2.26.

This action caused reduction in premiums of about 6 cents per bushel and afforded mills an opportunity of resuming operations.

All this wheat is priced f.o.b. Chicago. We must pay the freight to Grand Rapids so that together with what wheat we were able to obtain thru elevators in the state, the grain costing us at least 21 cents per bushel more than the government minimum price.

It requires approximately four and one-half bushels of wheat to make a barrel of flour of 196 pounds, so we have an advance cost of 94 cents per barrel and inasmuch as we have resumed the manufacture of the high-grade pre-war flour, which costs at least 35 cents per barrel more to produce than the 100 per cent government straight it brings the total additional cost to \$1.29 a barrel.

"To off-set this we have had an advance of \$21 per ton in mill feed and an advance of \$1 per ton on feed on an even wheat market should result in a decline on flour of 3 3/4 cents per barrel. Three and three-quarters times \$21 per ton for feed equals 79 cents per barrel lower cost on flour, so deducting 79 cents from \$1.29, the higher cost of raw material and grade equals a net advance of 50 cents per barrel on flour, or 50 cents per barrel higher cost on flour. We were working under government control at \$11.30 per barrel, one-eighth paper f.o.b. mill and today we are obtaining \$11.70 per barrel f.o.b. mill same package, or \$11.90 delivered anywhere in the state. So you can readily see we are obtaining less money for flour than under Government regulations, advance in feed included.

"This is not due to any (Continued on page 27)

Keeping It Stirred Up



BIG ANNUAL MEET OF LIVE STOCK MEN

**Michigan Improved Live Stock and Breeders'
Ass'n and Allied Organizations Will
Hold Series of Important Meet-
ings Next Week at M. A. C.**

We are pleased to announce the annual meeting of the Michigan Improved Live Stock and Breeders' Ass'n, and member organizations, at the Agricultural College next week. Mr. G. A. Brown, secretary of the association, promises a fine program, and everyone interested in Michigan's great live stock industry is urged to attend the various sessions. A summary of the events and programs to be held under the auspices of this association follow:

Thursday, Feb. 6, 1919—9:30 a. m.

President, I. R. Waterbury, Detroit; Secretary, George A. Brown, East Lansing.

Secretary's report, appointment of committees, President's address.

"Co-operative Live Stock Marketing," Hall Tenant, state marketing specialist.

"Calculating a Farmer's Income in Accordance with the Income Tax Law," Hon. J. J. Jerome, chairman Ways and Means Committee, state legislature.

Recess for lunch.

Meeting at 1:30 p. m.

"The Legislative Program for 1919," Hon. Fred Woodworth, state food and dairy commissioner.

Music by M. A. C. male quartette.

"Farm Loans From the Government," W. L. Fass, Federal Farm Loan Bank, St. Paul, Minn. Reports of committees; election of officers.

Wednesday, Feb. 5—4:30 p. m.

Joint meeting of all allied organizations, Dean R. S. Shaw, chairman.

"The American Federation of Meat Producers and What It Has Done," H. H. Halladay, President State Live Stock Sanitary Commission.

Reports of association secretaries.

Banquet tendered Wednesday evening by the State Board of Agriculture to members of the Michigan Improved Live Stock Breeders' and Feeders' Association. (Continued on page 29)

BEAN PRACTICES COMMITTEE

TEE TO MEET NEXT WEEK

The committee appointed at the annual meeting of the bean growers to investigate and report on trade practices and prices will meet on Wednesday afternoon of next week at East Lansing. This committee is composed of the following: Miles King, Montcalm county; Jas. McBride, Shiawassee; Wm. Hill, Mecosta; F. A. Lord, Macomb; A. B. Cook, Shiawassee county. At that time the matter of bean picking practices will undoubtedly be taken up, though it is not clear thru what medium an investigation can now be made of these bean practices or a remedy provided, now that the Food Administration has virtually gone out of business. It has been suggested now that the bean jobbers are in a tractable mood that they adopt some method of picking and settling for beans that will be uniform thruout the state and meet with the approval of the growers.

Attention, Farmers!

Readers of this publication who are interested in selling eggs, butter, dressed poultry and other small farm produce direct to consumers in Detroit, by means of the parcel post, should send their names, with a list of what they have to sell, to the U. S. Bureau of Markets, 312-316 Hammond Bldg., Detroit, Mich. These names will be placed in the hands of city customers who are interested in this means of combating the high cost of living, and the producers will also be furnished with names of the consumers interested, and with valuable information in regard to the best methods of handling the parcel post business. This method has been used successfully in many other cities and the Bureau of Markets is making a special campaign at this time to develop the business in Detroit and the tributary territory.

Lifting the Lid at Lansing

TO GET LEGISLATION YOU
WANT, GO AFTER IT

*The elephant now goes 'round and 'round—
The band begins to play.
The boys from 'round the monkey's cage
Had better keep away.*

FOUR WEEKS of the 1919 session have passed and to outward appearances, little or nothing has been accomplished. The average citizen wonders why there is such delay in getting into action. Suggestions of swelled heads and exaggerated egos flit across



Herbert F. Baker

his consciousness, followed by reflections as to the workings of the Recall and Referendum provisions of our constitution. Periods of apparent delay at the beginning of legislative sessions are in reality to a large part of the membership a period of apprenticeship. That a legislative body composed of men, many of whom are inexperienced with legislative procedure, lacking that personal acquaintance essential to effective knowledge of conditions within the state, without which same legislation can come only by mere chance, should begin to function properly at its inception, is ridiculous.

The handicaps incidental to each succeeding legislature are being overcome, and effective action in the near future is foreshadowed by existing conditions at the beginning of the fourth week of the session.

It is only fair to say that, present company excluded, the personnel of this legislature compares very favorably with any legislative aggregation ever assembled beneath the dome of the capitol. The people of the state are to be congratulated that the "public be damned" element is conspicuous by its absence. If public conscience and public interest refrain from the use of cordials and soothing syrups during the period of its session, good things may be expected of this legislature. There are no supermen, however, among its members. Election to the legislature cures the human frailties of no man, neither does it supply the lime so frequently lacking in the vertebrae of the colon.

The greatest stimulant to proper legislative service is an alert and discriminating constituency. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and at this time I want to say to YOU, Mr. Farmer, that the biennial legislative period is now on, as stated at the beginning.

*The elephant now goes 'round and 'round,
The band begins to play—*

If you permit the old cob pipe to keep you in a condition of coma while the legislature is in session during the succeeding months, you may find relaxation but mighty little satisfaction in damning the legislature for what it did or what it failed to do. It seems to the writer that just ordinary prudence would dictate that NOW is the time to know what is going on; now is the time if ever, when your influence will count. Senators and representatives are your servants. Do not be timid about telling them what you want of them. Letters from constituents are powerful factors in shaping legislation. They also perform a wonderful service in fortifying your agents against the pleadings of grafters, and the activities of the head hunters of Privilege. The better you attend to your duties the better the fellows here will discharge theirs. Get busy.

SENATOR SCULLY'S INCOME TAX BILL MEETS WITH FAVOR

Among his other good works, Senator Scully has prepared and introduced a resolution providing for an amendment to the Constitution authorizing the enactment of a graduated income tax law and permitting classification of intangible personal property for purposes of taxation.

The proposal has the united support of the farmer members and the farm organizations. It is aimed at those who have large salaries and in-



dependent incomes, but who own little property which under present laws is subject to taxation. There is a considerable class in this state receiving salaries of \$3,000 a year and upward enjoying all the benefits of state privileges and protection, without paying anything toward their support. No one can fairly argue that these people should not be compelled to help support their state government and institutions, and thus partially relieve the heavier burden now placed upon the owners of farms and other real estate.

Sen. Scully's resolution is as follows:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, That the following amendment to section 3 of article 10 of the Constitution of this State to authorize the enactment of a graduated income tax law, and to permit classification of intangible personal property

Of Special Interest to Farmers

THERE are several pieces of pending and contemplated legislation in which farmers of Michigan are interested. As Sen. Baker suggests in his article on this page, both harmful and needless laws are enacted simply because the people neglect to make known their wishes. It is a brave legislator who dares to vote against the wishes of his constituency, but many a time, in the absence of guiding sentiment from back home, he is led to vote, perhaps unwittingly, directly against the desires of the majority of those who elected him. Wide open discussion of state affairs is the surest way of plumbing public sentiment upon current legislation. The readers of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING are urged to express their views upon the following subjects which if not already acted upon will sooner or later come before the legislature for adoption or rejection:

1. The \$50,000,000 road-building bonding measure. Both houses have voted to submit at the spring election. Are the farmers in favor of it?
2. Appropriation to maintain the State Constabulary. Are you willing to foot the bill?
3. State-owned warehouses. Will they help you market your crops for greater profit?
4. Sen. Scully's income tax bill.
5. Sen. Davis' proposed bill to give farmers a fair cream test. We have had some letters upon this subject. We want more. Do you have trouble in getting a fair cream test from your creamery? Tell us what your experiences have been. It will help Sen. Davis to draft his bill for remedial legislation.
6. Sen. Baker would license all elevators and punish cut-throat methods of competition employed against co-operative marketing ventures. Is there need of this in your town?
7. What changes would you suggest in the road laws; the banking laws, the tax laws. This paper is open for all letters upon any of these important subjects.

for purposes of taxation, is hereby proposed and agreed to, that is to say, that said section be amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. The Legislature shall provide by law a uniform rule of taxation, except on property paying specific taxes, and taxes shall be levied on such property as shall be prescribed by law. (Provision may be made by law for a tax on incomes which tax may be graduated and from which reasonable exemptions may be allowed. For the purposes of such tax, property and persons, firms and corporations upon which such tax may operate may be classified. All taxes assessed and collected on incomes derived in whole or in part from property or from the use or operation of property that is now taxed by law for the benefit of the primary school fund, shall, in the proportion that such incomes are derived, be credited to said fund. The Legislature may also provide for the classification of intangible personal property for purposes of taxation, and may prescribe the rate or rates of taxation on such property which shall be uniform upon the classes to which they apply.) Provided, That the Legislature shall pro-

vide by law a uniform rule of taxation for such property as shall be assessed by a State Board of Assessors, and the rate of taxation on such property shall be the rate which the State Board of Assessors shall ascertain and determine is the average rate levied upon other property (other than classified intangible personal property), upon which ad valorem taxes are assessed for State, county, township, school and municipal purposes.

"Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment be submitted to the people of this state at the election to be held on the first Monday in April, 1919."

FARM ORGANIZATIONS SEEK SUPPORT TERMINAL ELEVATOR

The bill introduced by Sen. McNaughton providing for the submission of proposal to appropriate \$5,000,000 for the building of terminal warehouses in the largest cities of the state was not greeted very seriously. Those who have failed to watch the trend of the times or interest themselves in the tremendous important subjects of food distribution and the high cost of living did not at first fully comprehend the temper of the farmers of Michigan, who for the first time have unitedly determined that the legislature shall bestir itself to the consideration of measures which, if drastic, are nevertheless for the benefit of the mass of people.

Those who a few months ago rallied at the "socialistic" doctrine taking root in North Dakota, which found its expression in such things as state-owned elevators, banks, public utilities, etc., are now strangely in sympathy with this move of the farm organizations to erect and operate storage warehouses at state expense. The power of the press that has studiously, and some times viciously, attacked the farmers of North Dakota, has been mighty, and fooled a lot of people. But those who had been led to look with unfriendly eyes upon the aspirations of North Dakota farmers, see now that they have been deceived in many respects.

The bill is still in the committee. It is expected that it will be reported out favorably without opposition, and those who vote to submit it to the people won't have to make any excuses to the folks back home.

STATE CONSTABULARY SENTI- MENT ABOUT EVENLY DIVIDED

It looks now as if there will be a mighty scrap when the appropriation bill for the enlarging and maintenance of the state constabulary comes up. Rep. Carl Young, the recognized legislative leader of the labor forces, is opposed to the bill and is rapidly creating sentiment and opposition against it. Organized labor claims that in other states, notably Pennsylvania which has a most efficient state police force, that the principal work of the constabulary is to intimidate men who strike for higher wages in the mines; and that, inasmuch as the constabulary is largely supported by the employing class being the tax-paying class it is unfriendly to labor disturbances, no matter how justifiable.

Not a few farmer members are opposed to the measure also. They cannot see that any great need exists in this state for a state police force and do not believe that the benefits derived would warrant the large expense, estimated at about a half million dollars annually, of maintaining the force. There are many other large expenditures that must be made which will run taxes up high enough without appropriating funds for ventures of questionable value.

On the other hand the proposal is known to have the support of Governor Sleeper and the prohibition forces. Everyone acknowledges that the work of the constabulary in policing the routes over which liquor has been smuggled into the state, has been most effective, and that without the constabulary, small as have been its numbers, the violations of the liquor law would have been much greater. It is argued, however, that the adoption of the national prohibition amendment will do away entirely with the need of the state troops.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING has received numerous letters from farmers all opposing the appropriation.



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL DIGEST



NINE AND A HALF MILLIONS LOANED FARMERS IN DECEMBER

During the month of December \$9,567,390 were loaned to 3,525 farmers of the United States by the Federal Land Banks on long time first mortgages according to the monthly statement of the Farm Loan Board. The Federal Land Bank of Houston leads in amount of loans closed, \$1,634,035, with the Federal Land Bank of Spokane running slightly behind in amount, \$1,627,915. The other banks closed loans in December as follows: St. Paul, \$1,550,000; St. Louis, \$851,790; Omaha, \$723,900; New Orleans, \$712,650; Louisville, \$647,700; Wichita, \$629,400; Berkeley, \$565,000; Columbia, \$442,800; and Baltimore, \$380,400.

On January 1st the total amount of mortgage loans closed since the establishment of the Federal Land Banks was \$157,020,751, numbering 87,882 borrowers. During December 5,672 applications were received asking for \$19,199,613. During the same period 4,251 loans were approved, amounting to \$15,014,778. Altogether 167,966 have applied for loans under this system, aggregating \$425,741,722.

The grand total of loans closed is distributed by Federal Land Bank districts as follows: Spokane, \$24,531,715; St. Paul, \$22,555,400; Omaha, \$16,895,640; Wichita, \$16,358,100; Houston, \$15,202,546; New Orleans, \$11,356,915; St. Louis, \$10,829,430; Louisville, \$10,111,000; Berkeley, \$9,573,600; Columbia, \$7,795,850; Baltimore, \$6,129,450; Springfield, \$5,681,045.

The total of loans to Michigan farmers is 2,012, aggregating \$3,138,700, which represents about one-third of total amount applied for by farmers of this state.

MASON COUNTY FARM LOAN ASSOCIATIONS ARE ACTIVE

There are three active farm loan associations in Mason county. The association of Marquette township has amended its charter to include the townships of Summit, Riverton, Pere Marquette, Custer, Eden, Branch, Logan townships and that part of Carr settlement in Lake county lying south of the Pere Marquette river. The president of this association is Henry M. Agens; vice-president, Howard A. Cowell; secretary and treasurer, C. F. Olmstead.

At the annual meeting of the Crystal Lake Farm Loan Ass'n, the following officers were elected: President, C. H. Molyneaux; vice-pres., John P. Hanson. This association embraces the townships of Amber, Victory, Hamlin and that part of Pere Marquette township lying north of Pere Marquette river.

The officers of the Freesoll Ass'n are: President, Wm. Tobey; vice-pres., John Swanson; sec-

treas., H. R. Geer. Freesoll, Grant and Sheridan townships are within the jurisdiction of this association.

These three association serve practically every section of Mason county, thus solving the long-term mortgage problem facing so many of our farmers.

STATE AGRICULTURAL BRIEFS

Belleville—The local branch of the Michigan Milk Producers' Ass'n will hold a community meeting Feb. 14th, when topics of general interest to farmers will be discussed.

Lapeer—The farmers of Lapeer have organized a live stock shipping association, with the following officers: Pres., Arthur Dodds; secretary and manager, Edwin R. Stewart; directors, C. A. Bullock, Frank Davis, Clyde Coulter.

Ann Arbor—Branch No. 1 of the Washtenaw County Shippers' Ass'n has just been organized at Chelsea. Otto D. Luick of Lima is president and Chas. Spaulding of Chelsea is secretary. It is expected that several other branch organizations will be effected in the near future.

Ludington—The Farmers' Co-operative association of Victory township, this county, has been presented with one of the best bred Holstein sires in the United States, according to W. J. Barton, secretary of the association. The animal was the gift of W. R. Roach, president of the W. R. Roach Canning Company.

Morrice—The Morrice Co-operative Live Stock Ass'n is getting ready for business. Upon the agreement of the association to ship at least three carloads of live stock a week the Grand Trunk has promised to put in a set of scales and provide suitable stock-yards. A manager will soon be appointed.

Holland—Officers of the Zeeland Poultry and Pet Stock Ass'n for the ensuing year have been elected as follows: President, Wm. D. Van Leo; vice president, Harry VandePels; secretary, J. A. Hartgerink; treasurer, Matt Looker; executive committee, Henry Van Hoven, Thos. VanderPels, and Paul De Groot.

Grand Rapids—The dates of the West Michigan State Fair for 1919 have already been fixed, Sept. 15-19. The state fair at Detroit will be the first week in September, the Jackson fair the second week, Grand Rapids the third, and Saginaw and Hillsdale the last. The annual meeting of the West Michigan Fair Ass'n will be held Feb. 4th.

Three Rivers—The bee-keeping industry in St. Joseph county has become so large and important that the bee owners have found it advisable to effect a county organization to further the industry. Officers of the new association are: President, W. Z. Ruggles, Three Rivers; vice-president, Arthur Reed, Three Rivers; secretary-treasurer, Frank E. Jones, Mendon. Membership fee has been fixed at 50 cents per annum and efforts will be made to secure every bee-keeper in the county as a member.

STURGIS CO-OPERATIVE ASS'N DOES BUSINESS OF \$180,818.40

The Sturgis Co-operative Ass'n has just closed a most successful year, under the management of J. D. Sturgis, the annual volume of business totaling over \$180,000. Over a hundred members were in attendance at the annual meeting and participated in the election of officers.

The following directors were chosen: C. J. Lublow, R. F. Zelt, J. A. Wyborn and E. C. Zable. These directors elected the following officers: President, W. H. Arney; vice-president, G. W. Taylor. As manager for the ensuing year J. D. Sturgis was elected and Clare E. Bordner secretary and treasurer.

The report of Secretary-Treasurer Bordner shows that in the year 1918 the total receipts were \$180,818.40 and there was paid to shippers \$178,960.39. During the year shipments of eight carloads of potatoes and 74 decks of stock were made. The stock shipments were made up as follows: Cattle, 406; hogs, 3,274; calves, 432; sheep, 842. The report shows a balance of \$674.36 on hand.

WASHTENAW GRANGE OPPOSES BILL TO CRIPPLE PRIMARY LAW

The following resolution was recently adopted by Washtenaw Pomona Grange, No. 7. It is suggested that other local Granges, Gleaner and Farmers' Clubs, organizations opposed to restricting the primary law, take similar action and notify their representatives at Lansing thereof:

"WHEREAS, A proposition is before our legislature to so change the primary election laws that one person may be nominated for an office by only one political party, and

"WHEREAS, We have just emerged from a war in which Michigan gave blood of her sons and millions of money to establish justice and democracy for all the common people, and

"WHEREAS, A large number of new voters are about to take part in affairs of state for the first time who should be allowed to do so in the freest possible manner, unhampered by biasing restrictions or party lines; therefore,

"Resolved, That Washtenaw Pomona Grange protests against any change in the primary law unless that change assist the people to more fully express their unbiased preference for nominees."

Marcellus—At the annual meeting of the Four-Counties Co-operative Ass'n, held here recently, it was announced that over \$80,000 had been paid out to members for stock shipped thru the association.

Clare—The farmers of this locality have tried co-operative marketing and found it pays. At a recent meeting of the Grange Co-operative Ass'n, there was much enthusiasm and plans laid for extending the co-operative principles. Clare farmers are now selling their own live stock, their own cream and farm products, and even handling their own groceries thru cooperative mediums.

Michigan's First Factory for Commercial Manufacture of Potato Flour, at Cadillac

WESTERN Michigan is to have a new industry and one that gives promise of being of more vital concern to agricultural interests than any other one single development factor in recent years.

The new industry is a potato flour and starch plant at Cadillac. The Falk Company, Pittsburgh, Pa., manufacturers of animal and vegetable oils is behind the project and recently purchased the Williams Brothers plant, buildings and some 21 acres of land; the buildings including large two-story mill and among others a battery of eight large buildings, steam heated and admirably adapted for the storage of potatoes.

A crew of twenty men is now at work altering the buildings, getting ready for the machinery which has been shipped and due to arrive within

the next week or ten days. This company is planning to be ready for the manufacture of flour and starch within six weeks. The new plant is under the immediate direction of the secretary of the company, Mr. I. R. Simon. The machinery is being installed by the Potato Machinery Manufacturing Company, Minneapolis, Minn. The potato dryers will be of the Adt design and manufacture, which is, so far as is known, the most approved machinery for this purpose manufactured in this country.

No. 2 and cull potatoes are admirably adapted to the manufacture of both flour and starch. Only sound potatoes, however, can be used for flour, whereas for starch even potatoes which have been frozen can be utilized.


The new company plans to co-operate with the

Michigan Potato Growers' Association, independent buyers and others in obtaining their supplies of potatoes. They figure a capacity of 700 carloads or more per season, and if they can get a greater quantity of the raw product will increase the capacity of their plant accordingly. The company further considers the installation of smaller plants in other potato-growing centers.

The establishment of this new industry in Cadillac is due not a little to the persistent efforts of W. P. Hartman, agricultural agent for the G. R. & L., who has long believed in the commercial possibilities of potato drying. If the Cadillac plant makes a success of the venture, it will no doubt mean the starting of similar industries in other profitable utilization of the surplus and off-grade potato growing sections, and the problem of the potato crop thereby forever solved.



Plant of Williams Bros., at Cadillac, Mich., in course of remodeling for drying of potatoes and manufacture of flour.



-have your Lime delivered Now pay for it when you use it

A Special Proposition to Lime Users During February

You remember that last year Solvay Pulverized Limestone was in such big demand that some farm owners had to plant their crops without it, in acid soil.

That was because many Michigan and Indiana farmers waited until they wanted to spread their lime before they ordered Solvay. Orders came in masses, naturally, and everyone could not be supplied at once.

This year, to make sure of getting *your* lime, *order in advance*, and we will co-operate with you.

Place your order for Solvay Limestone for January or February delivery *now*, and we will date your invoice April 1st and extend you our usual terms of 3% for cash if received before April 10th or ninety days net.

By this method you can order your lime *now*—*get* it now—haul it during the winter, when hauling will not interfere with other work—store it in safety, for any shed with good roof will keep bulk lime in good shape—we provide air-tight wrappings for the smaller quantities—and *pay for it when you use it*.

Why Farmers Choose Solvay

It is not necessary these days to tell the modern farmer the benefits to be derived from the proper use of land lime. Everyone knows them—the bigger yield and improved crops land lime develops. Your county agent knows your soil. He knows just what improvements limestone will work in it, and he will gladly discuss the matter with you.

The big thing to be sure of, however, is that you are getting the best land lime you can buy—for only the best will give full returns.

The demand for Solvay Pulverized Limestone is sufficient proof of its quality.

Solvay lime is so finely pulverized that 95% of it will pass thru a 50-mesh screen. This means that every particle of it comes in contact with the soil—works on it—removes the acids—makes the soil sweet.

Another reason for the better results Solvay produces is the fact that we guarantee 94% carbonates.

All Solvay Limestone is furnace dried. It is shipped in bulk in box cars or in 100 lb. dry, air-tight paper sacks in box cars.

Remember that to make sure of getting your Solvay Limestone this year you should order it *early*!

SOLVAY
PULVERIZED
LIMESTONE

SOLVAY-PROCESS COMPANY

2095 JEFFERSON AVE., DETROIT, MICH.

Ask your county agent about the value of land lime.

Write us for a free envelope of litmus paper for testing the acid in your soil. Ask for Solvay from your dealer.



MARKET FLASHES



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	2.26	2.34 1-2
No. 2 Mixed	2.26	2.27	2.33

The release by the government of some of its stocks of wheat has given a slightly easier tone to this market. At some points prices are a little lower; on the Detroit market there is no change. The Food Administration is deep into the study of the problem of carrying out the wheat guarantee and the grain trade is offering all kinds of advice and saying, "I told you so." If the government takes to heart all the grain trade is saying now-a-days about the foolishness of fixing prices, it will "never, never do so again as long as it lives." One grain trade paper voices its conviction that every farmer from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Straits to the Gulf will plant spring wheat. "The farmer," says this paper, "is simply going to continue his patriotic efforts to put money in his purse that he made in 1915, '16 and '17, and it contends that it would be better patriotism if farmers would plant corn instead of wheat so that the guarantee would cost the government as little as possible." We suppose this is exactly what members of the grain trade would do. However, the war is over. Commercial enterprises have announced that "business is again business" and are out to clean up all the money they can. Farmers who shifted their crop-rotation plans a year ago in order to plant wheat which they believed the government would need will be entirely justified in carrying out these plans. Looked at from still another viewpoint, the farmer still has a chance to secure some of the profits denied to him during the war period. On the other hand it would show a splendid spirit for farmers who are not commercial wheat growers to devote their attention to their usual crop and not take advantage of a rather unfortunate situation. We have a feeling, however, that there's not going to be such a terrible big wheat surplus to move after all and that the government's loss on its wheat guarantee will be far less than anticipated. Winter wheat is looking fine (reported to be 98 percent); snow has disappeared from a large section of the wheat area. Because of the exposed condition of the wheat it will be seventeen wonders if a twenty-below-zero snap doesn't come along and reduce the condition to about 60 per cent.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	1.25	1.23	1.40
No. 3 Yellow	1.20	1.18	1.37
No. 4 Yellow			1.35

The stampede in the corn market which started about ten days ago has finally reached an end altho the first of this week there were downward tendencies. In a single week's time corn dropped 10 to 15 cents a bushel. The causes for this sudden drop are about the same as have ruled the corn market for some time, viz: government indecision in fixing hog prices; threatened release of Argentine corn; warm weather; and the ever-present evil of speculation. Fortunately, farmers of the corn belt have kept their heads and are releasing their supplies only gradually. The passage of the food appropriation bill enabling the government to buy supplies for export shipment is expected to have a stimulating effect. It is the belief of the majority of dealers that the slump in corn is only temporary and the market will recover most if not all that it has lost.



DETROIT.—Plenty of hay, prices lower. Grains inactive and lower. Butter and eggs still declining; beans inactive at recent decline. Potato demand poor, supplies liberal, haulage by wagons and trucks from nearby points taking care of city demand.
CHICAGO.—Hay, potatoes, beans, grains all lower. Apples firm. Onions firm.
NEW YORK.—Hay lower; beans in slight demand; apples firm, with good export demand.
CINCINNATI.—Michigan potatoes firm with no change in prices.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Standard	58	56	57
No. 3 White	57 1-2	54	55
No. 4 White	56 1-2	53	52

Oats declined also 10 to 15 cents a bushel in a single week. The influences besetting this market are substantially the same as those directing the corn movement. Release by the government of large supplies bought for its own use has added to the supplies at primary points, and receipts the past week have been considerably larger than could be moved. In view of the large crop of oats still to be moved, it is doubtful if this market will again show its old-time strength, altho it is believed that the bottom of the market has been reached and prices may advance some within the next few weeks.



RYE & BARLEY

There is positively no demand for rye from the domestic trade. The government is doing a little buying but only succeeds in keeping the price at an even level on the markets where it is trading. No. 2 rye which was quoted two months ago at \$1.61 has declined to \$1.43. At that time we said, "There is not the demand for this grain that existed a year ago. Farmers having rye to market may as well get it off their hands now as later." The following week we again wrote, "Not much doing in rye. It is apparent that this market is not going any higher." Almost from that very day rye began to decline. Barley in sympathy with other grains has reached the lowest point of the season, the very best grades bringing less than \$1.00 a hundred.



HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	26 7/8 27 00 25 50 26 00 24 50 25 00		
Chicago	27 00 28 00 26 00 27 00 25 00 26 00		
Cincinnati	30 50 31 00 29 50 30 00 31 25 32 25		
Pittsburgh	30 00 30 50 28 50 29 50 27 50 28 50		
New York	34 00 35 00 33 00 34 00 29 00 31 00		
Richmond			

The hay market is decidedly weak right now. Detroit prices have dropped \$1 a ton. The supply is ample and demand at all points rather light. In the hay deal, the warm weather is held largely accountable for the easy feeling. The Hay Trade Journal gives the following excellent review of hay conditions for the week ending Jan. 24th:

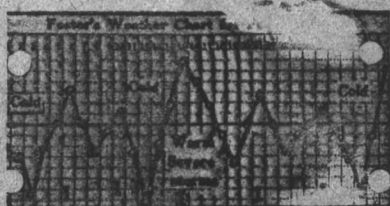
"The demand for hay has fallen off sharply in nearly all the principle markets this week and altho prices are little changed, values are not held as firmly as a week ago. Consumers are well supplied and the unusually mild weather has reduced the demand to a minimum. Reports indicate that country loading is beginning to pick up again, after the sharp drop following the decline. Consumers renewed their depleted stocks when the price dropped, and they took on enough hay to last them some time, and buying lasted long enough to bring the price back from the low level. With the drop in prices the farmer stopped selling which also helped to stiffen the markets. At present there is a tendency for hay to move forward again, but just at the moment the consumer is holding off."



BEANS

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 1, 1919.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbances to cross continent Jan. 29 to Feb. 3, and Feb. 5 to 8, warm waves Jan. 29 to Feb. 3, and Feb. 5 to 8, cool waves Jan. 31 to Feb. 4, and from Feb. 6 to 10. Temperatures of the week centering on Jan. 31 will average colder than usual on meridian 90; earlier west of that line and later east of it. Of the week centering on Feb. 8 temperatures on that line will average warmer than usual. Feb. 1 to 8 precipitation will be less than usual, principally snow in snow sections. Next warm waves will reach Vancouver about Feb. 7 and 12, and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. They will cross crest of Rockies by close of Feb. 8 and 13, plains sections 9 and 14, meridian 90, great lakes, middle Gulf states and Ohio-Tennessee valleys 10 and 15, eastern sections 11 and 16, reaching vicinity of Newfoundland about Feb. 13 and 17. Storm waves will follow about one day behind warm waves and cool waves about one day behind storm waves.

On meridian 90 temperatures will go very low near Feb. 13, unusually high near 15, followed by severe storms and cold wave. Most precipitation of the month will result from these storms. The warm weather crossing continent and reaching meridian 90 about Feb. 15 will melt much of the snow then on the ground and freezing weather following will not be good for winter grain. The storms will be at their greatest intensity near Feb. 17 and they will cause bad weather generally.

The big grain dealers succeeded in putting Chicago prices of grain down during the week ending Jan. 18, but farmers were not inclined to let their grain go at the reduced prices. At these low prices the large sections that failed to produce sufficient grain, particularly corn, to supply their wants, should buy. My readers are advised that grain must go much higher before another crop is produced. Before we arrive at May the country will find that the big grain speculators have accumulated very large quantities of grain and that they will hold it for higher prices. There certainly will not be sufficient grain to feed the world till another crop is produced.

W. T. Foster

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	8.00	8.75	8.75
Prime	7.00	7.75	8.00
Red Kidneys	12.00	12.50	13.25

The bean market is still inactive after the recent decline of 50 cents a hundred. The story of the plot to "bear" and corner this market appears elsewhere. Just now there is a great deal of uncertainty as to the future of the market, but as soon as the government begins buying again, dealers expect the market to look up.



POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Round White Bulk
Detroit	2.00 cwt.	1.90 cwt.
Chicago	1.95	1.80
Cincinnati	1.80	2.40
New York	2.50	2.30
Pittsburgh	2.15	2.00

Developments have fully vindicated our estimate of the potato situation. All things considered, the warm weather and the fact that there has been a bearish feeling in all other farm produce, we are really surprised that the potato market has not gone lower. Two weeks ago we expected a much greater decline, warm weather continuing, than has actually taken place. Last week when receipts were the largest and the weather the warmest the Chicago market showed considerable strength. In our judgment, the fact that the recent decline did not bring potatoes to their lowest previous level is pretty sound evidence that all those concerned with this market have the utmost confidence in its stability. We do not expect potato prices to go much lower, we do expect a reaction very soon to higher prices.



APPLES

While grains and vegetables are cavorting and tobogganing at will, apples maintain a dignified front, and the feeling if anything is stronger than a week ago. The export demand keeps up; supplies at consuming markets keep down, and withal the apple situation is very encouraging. Chicago quotes following prices: Northern Spy, \$9 to 10; York Imperial 6.50; to 7.00; Tallman Sweets, \$5.50 to 6.00; Kings, \$7 to 7.50; Winesaps, 7 to 7.50; Greenings, \$6 to 6.50; Starks, \$6 to 6.50; Baldwins, \$6 to 6.50; Golden Russets, \$6 to 6.50; Rock Russets, \$5.50 to 6.00 and Ganos, \$6 to 6.50. No. 3 stock brought \$3.75 to 4.00 per barrel, according to quality and variety.



ONIONS

Onions have resisted weather, speculation and every other bearish factor and the market is strong with fine outlook. The Chicago Packer gives the following review of the market: "It looks as though the onion market is going to do better from now on. Fancy red and yellow globes this week were selling around \$2.50 per 100 lb. bag. A great deal of the poor stock however, was bringing \$1.50 to 2.00. "From what can be learned, stocks of fancy onions in the country are not large—in fact, they are very small. New York state onions have not been keeping well and the percentage of good sound stock in the state will be much less than was expected a month ago. One authority says that the Indians and Ohio onion districts are short of sound, fancy stock. From what can be learned by us, practically no onions will come East from California this year. There is quite a lot of stock in storage out there, but very little that will do to ship a long distance."



BUTTER

New York Butter Letter

New York, Jan. 25, 1919.—Dealers of a half century experience in the butter market state that they never have witnessed so demoralized a condition as the market as at the present time. There is a very panicky feeling in evidence and receivers in general are greatly discouraged. For some weeks with the price of butter at an unprecedented figure, dealers have felt that at some time during the winter there would be a condition about as prevails at present, but it was thought that it was a matter of several weeks before the break would come, hence no one was prepared. The whole story is lack of consumptive demand and an increased production. The consumer depends on wages largely to furnish his purchasing capital. While labor as a whole is yet well employed there is a feeling that it is a question of only a short time before many will be out of work and, if not, that wages will be materially reduced. With that feeling, a greater economy is being practiced and the consumption of butter is being curtailed. The mild winter which has prevailed this winter has stimulated milk production with the result that a great over-supply of butter is on hand.

The market opened Monday with extras quoted at 61½ to 62c and there was a feeling of greater confidence. On Tuesday, however, a weakness developed and on Wednesday there was a decline in price of about 4c, which was followed by a further decline of 8c on Thursday. On Friday, as jobbers' stocks were practically depleted there was more buying and a gain of one cent was made, the market exhibiting a firmer tone than at any other time during the week. The demand for undergrades is very limited and buyers are seeking bargains in them. At the close on Friday established quotations were as follows: Extras, 55½ to 56c; higher scoring than extras, 56½ to 57; firsts, 52 to 54½c; seconds, 49½ to 51c.



EGGS

Cold weather in the southwest whence many of the eggs on eastern markets are now coming is given as the reason for a slight strengthening of this market. The Detroit market has ample offerings for all demands, however, and every day or two the price works a little lower. Canded firsts are bringing 54 to 55 cents a dozen.



POULTRY

A long dull feeling in poultry has been followed by a firmer feeling and slightly higher prices. Few hens are coming to market now. The principal offerings are chickens. The prices prevailing this week on the Detroit market are substantially as follows: Springs, No. 1, 23 to 29c; hens, 29 to 30c; mediums, 28 to 29c; leghorns, 27 to 28c; ducks, 33 to 34c; geese, 27 to 28c; turkeys, 35 to 36c. Dressed springs, 29 to 30c; hens, 29 to 30c; ducks, 35 to 36c; geese, 23 to 24c; turkeys, 42 to 44c per lb.



LIVE STOCK

Chicago Live Stock Letter (By Special Correspondent)

Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill. Jan. 27, 1919.—The trend of live stock values during the past week has been lower, depressing influences including sharp declines in the dressed markets, unseasonable high temperatures, which have restricted meat consumption and curtailment of government orders for beef, which have been such a strong prop under the cattle market.

In the cattle trade choice and prime
(Continued on page 14)

International Kerosene Tractors

Designed to work with the farm machines you already have, drawbar and belt. Special hitches for binders, mowers, harrows, spreaders, and wagons. Three sizes, 8-16, 10-20, and 15-30-h.p., all operating on kerosene under all conditions. Send for instructive tractor books. Attend our tractor school in your neighborhood this winter.

MANURE SPREADERS
LOW CORN KING,
CLOVERLEAF,
20TH CENTURY

Most effective wide spreading machines. Two styles each of endless and return apron spreaders in sizes for small, medium, and large farms. Light top dressing or heavy spreading, as desired. Hitches for International tractors.

INTERNATIONAL
KEROSENE
ENGINES

Steady running, dependable farm engines from 1 to 15-h.p., in approved styles. Operate on kerosene at all loads and under all conditions. High grade engines, up-to-date in every detail at reasonable prices. Ask the local dealer about the International Type M engines.



International Tillage Implements

• Disk harrows that can be easily set level and that stay level in all kinds of soil. Spring-tooth harrows for cold, wet soil; adjustable for depth. Smoothing harrows with strengthening bars and levers for setting slant of teeth. All work with International tractors or horses. These tools prepare the finest kind of seed beds.

GRAIN DRILLS
HOOSIER,
EMPIRE JR.,
KENTUCKY

Light draft, sure, steady seeders in any desired quantity per acre. Four kinds of interchangeable furrow openers; all sizes; planting all kinds of large and small grain and grass seeds. Fertilizer attachments if desired.

CREAM
SEPARATORS
PRIMROSE, LILY

Close skimming machines that should be in every dairy while butter fat prices are so high. The saving of cream over hand setting or a wasteful separator will soon pay for the machine. Ask the dealer to show you why these machines get all the cream, thin or dense.

WE hold our customers by keeping faith with them, by giving any instruction or assistance necessary to the good work of our machines in the field, and by prompt, cheerful service whenever and wherever service is needed.

This policy, established by the founders of the business 88 years ago, and faithfully followed, has brought us the confidence of thousands of farmers who now are standardizing on our machines.

The Full Line of International Harvester Quality Machines

GRAIN HARVESTING MACHINES
Binders Headers Reapers
Push Binders Thrashers Shockers
Rice Binders Harvester-Threshers

HAYING MACHINES
Mowers Tedders Sweep Rakes
Rakes Loaders Hay Presses
Side Delivery Rakes Stackers
Bunchers Reaping Attachments
Combination Side Rakes and Tedders
Combination Sweep Rakes and Stackers

CORN MACHINES
Planters Binders Pickers
Ensilage Cutters Drills Corn Shellers
Cultivators Huskers and Shredders

PLANTING AND SEEDING MACHINES
Corn Planters Grain Drills
Alfalfa and Grass Seed Drills
Fertilizer and Lime Sowers

TILLAGE IMPLEMENTS
Disk Harrows Spring-tooth Harrows
Comb. Harrows Cultivators (1 horse)
Fog-tooth Harrows Tractor Harrows

POWER MACHINES
Kerosene Engines Kerosene Tractors
Gasoline Engines Motor Trucks
Motor Cultivators

BELT MACHINES
Ensilage Cutters Thrashers
Huskers and Shredders Hay Presses
Corn Shellers Feed Grinders
Stone Burr Mills

MISCELLANEOUS MACHINES
AND TWINE
Cream Separators Farm Trucks
Manure Spreaders Stalk Cutters
Farm Wagons Knife Grinders
Straw Spreading Attachment
Binder Twine

Now is the time to plan next year's work and to place your orders for the machines you will need. Send for and look over carefully our catalogs on tractors, engines, tillage implements, spreaders, drills, cream separators, wagons, and motor trucks, all machines you should have, now or soon.

International Harvester Company of America

CHICAGO

(INCORPORATED)

U S A

When writing any advertiser in our weekly will you mention the fact that you are a reader of Michigan Business Farming. They are friends of our paper, too!



BUY FEEDS DIRECT!

Cut Your Feed Costs

Direct Dealing Saves You All the Expense and Profit of the Middleman
Lowest Prices to All—Special Favors to none.

Write today for Price List.

Everything in feeds.

SOME ITEMS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION:

Tankage for Hogs
This is the highest grade of Tankage manufactured, containing 80% protein and enables the feeders of hogs to save about 40% of his feed bill on the basis of present prices.
Ton lots, F.O.B. Jackson, \$110.00
100 lb. " F.O.B. Jackson 5.75

Salvage Wheat
For hogs, pigs and poultry, is equal to middlings when fed to the above and at several dollars per ton less money. Send for sample.
Lot C. ton lots, F.O.B. Jackson \$52.00
Lot L. ton lots, F.O.B. Jackson \$35.00

Farmer Brand

Cotton Seed Meal

\$8.25 hundred

\$64.00 ton

F.O.B. Jackson

Your money back if not satisfied.

If you want feeds, write us today—it's your opportunity to save money—you buy at wholesale prices.

THE J. E. BARTLETT CO.,
"THE OLD RED MILL"

201 Mill Street, Jackson, Mich.
Michigan's Largest Shippers of Feed and Grain.

Cornering the Bean "Bears" in Their Lair

(Continued from page 1)

hypnotized. It set strange longings to work in the hearts of those ambitious for wealth, and a coterie of men, unable to resist the temptation, set about by fair means or foul, to enlarge their personal fortunes at the expense of Europe's misfortunes.

War Brings Opportunity

The declaration of war against Germany and the formation of the Food Administration gave the unscrupulous few an opportunity for which they were looking. Self-seeking "patriots" from all quarters of the nation flocked to Washington and tendered their services to the government at \$1 per year. The emergency was great; there was no time for careful investigation into the business connections of these men, nor of the motives which brought them to the capitol city. The first who came were the first accepted; and you may count on it that those who were looking for something besides a job were not the tardy ones.

Among other departments of the Food Administration, there was or-

ganized a bean division. For the purposes of this story and to clear the Food Administration and the government from the stigma of any blame for the unworthy actions of those in control of the sub-ordinate branches, we shall hereafter refer to the bean-regulating and bean-buying branch of the Food Administration as merely the "Bean Division."

The history of the "Bean Division" is one ignoble chapter after another. It is blotted with dark deeds and questionable procedures; it reeks with evidences of conspiracy to defraud a vast section of country of its legitimate place in the commerce of the nation; it frankly reveals the use of money of the United States government to advertise and purchase the product of one section of the country to the detriment of another section; and in its final chapter is half-disclosed a plan whereby those, who by virtue of inside information of the food-purchasing plans of the government secured thru association with the Bean Division, would manipulate the bean market, secure vast stocks of

beans at low prices, and finally sell out to the government on large margins of profit.

The Pinto Deal

Chapter I begins almost with the declaration of war when men having financial interests in the pinto bean-growing sections of the west, conducted a wide-spread propaganda among the growers of those sections urging them to plant a large acreage of beans, upon the implied if not actual promise that the Bean Division would advertise and purchase the surplus stocks.

Came harvesting time; the government announced that it would buy beans for the army and navy. Bids were submitted by holders of beans throughout the country. Upon one pretext or another the Bean Division practically repudiated the claims of the Michigan bean growers and jobbers to a part of the government business. The price was too high; the beans were too wet; the Bean Division would buy later. This vacillation worried the bean growers; they pleaded with the Bean Division to buy part of their crop; they urged an investigation to prove that the prices they

were asking were only fair and reasonable; they took every honorable measure to secure recognition from the Bean Division. But they didn't get it. Why? Because evidently the Bean Division had planned all along to buy pinto beans, and about the middle of the harvesting season it was announced that the entire crop of pintos had been taken over for the use of the army and navy. That was the injury. Then came the insult. All over the east there began to appear advertisements, press notices and bulletins bearing the signature of the Bean Division extolling the merits of the pinto bean and urging the dealers and consumers to buy them instead of navy beans. The effect of this publicity was a blow that sent the navy bean industry, already weak from other undermining influences, reeling perilously close to its ruin. Telegrams and letters of protest from outraged growers, jobbers and farm papers of the navy bean states rained upon the Bean Division, but to no avail. The pinto publicity and purchases went on. Finally, a delegation of irate representatives of the bean industry in this state went to Washington and laid before the astonished eyes of Herbert Hoover the evidence of this rank discrimination, and an order went out forthwith that the pinto publicity should cease and Michigan should get a share of the government's orders. Thus ended the pinto deal. It has already cost the farmers of Michigan several million dollars and what its ultimate effect upon the navy bean industry may be, no one can hazard a guess.

The 1918 Bean Situation

We are at the height of another marketing season. There is an enormous crop of beans,—navies, pintos, pinks,—from Michigan and New York; from New Mexico, Colorado and California; from Japan and from Manchuria,—twenty to twenty-five million bushels—all looking for a market in the United States or Europe, thru the agency of the Food Administration.

Domestic demand is light; profitable prices to growers are maintained with the utmost difficulty; fear is entertained that the bottom may go out of the market and cause growers an enormous loss. It is a situation that calls for the utmost diplomacy, the highest skill of salesmanship and the closest co-operation between grower, elevator and jobber.

Several months ago the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Ass'n foresaw some of the things that would happen to the bean market and began to plan a defensive. Members of the association clearly realized that unless Michigan growers were protected against loss this year there would be few beans grown another year. So, after lengthy negotiations, the Association was able to convince the Grain Corporation of the advisability of buying enough of its requirements in Michigan to enable the elevators to stabilize the price to the farmer at \$8 per hundred. And for the most part this price has been maintained. Not without difficulty, however. Because of the large stocks of beans offered for sale and the spasmodic buying by the government, there have been wide fluctuations, but by careful selling and buying between grower and elevator man, the price has ruled fairly steady with few if any losses to date to those who remained true to the pledge of the Association.

The Speculators Enter the Scene

But once more the "villain" enters and messes things up. Certain gentlemen, (or shall we say a certain gentleman) but recently divorced from the Bean Division and possessing much valuable inside information as to the government's future bean requirements, are making strenuous, if unscrupulous, efforts to use this confidential information to profiteer in beans. In collaboration (this is high finance, you know) with certain eastern brokers and certain weak-kneed elevators here in Michigan, these gen-

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"One man and a Moline-Universal Tractor will do about the same work (taking a season through) as two men with four horse teams."—Crumbaugh Bros., Vandalia, Illinois.

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With a Moline-Universal you can plow 9 acres a day, double disc 27 acres, drill 35 acres, cultivate 15 to 20 acres, mow 25 to 35 acres, and harvest 30 to 35 acres. Figure out for yourself how long this would take you with horses. Then keep in mind that in case of necessity you can work night as well as day, because the Moline-Universal has complete electrical equipment, including electric lights and self-starter.

As for expense it runs about half what the same work with horses would cost.

Charles J. Deck of McArthur, N. D., says: "I plowed 60 acres—fuel amounted to \$32.94. It would

have cost me \$82.40 to plow this with 6 horses, not figuring feed for Sunday, or rainy days. I did not have to get up at 5 o'clock every morning either. Mr. Beck did not consider the saving of his own time.

"If I hadn't had the Moline-Universal I would have kept 4 more horses, which are a bigger expense than the tractor," says J. E. Carey of Wilmington, Ohio.

Many other statements similar to this prove that the cost of operating a Moline-Universal Tractor is no greater than maintaining three or four horses, while it will do twice as much work. Then there is another big advantage—belt work. The Moline-Universal has enough power for all ordinary belt power requirements.

"I purchased a 20 x 36 separator and then threshed my grain, pulling it with the Moline Model D. The tractor handled this separator very easily and did fine work. After I had threshed my own grain, I threshed for four of my neighbors, about 350 acres in all."—G. C. Appenzeller, Bouton, Ia.

Considered from every angle the Moline-Universal is the best tractor for you. It does all farm work, including cultivating. One man operates both tractor and implement from the seat of the implement. It will make you money. See your Moline dealer now or write us for full information. Address Dept. 99.

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men are "bearing" the market to beat the band, and last week succeeded in bringing the market down 50 cents a hundred. By every means known to the professional speculator, they have sought to demoralize the great eastern market and at the same time frighten scattering country elevators into disposing of a few carloads on a declining market which they promptly pick up and hold for disposal when the government shall again become an active and generous buyer.

Nor is this all. To make sure there will be no hitch in this cleverly-laid plan to make a "clean-up" in beans, one of the conspirators intends to have himself appointed as managing buyer of the co-ordinated food purchasing agencies of the Food Administration. Then, "We, Us & Company" will get the cream of the orders, and having laid by a few hundred carloads of beans bought on a declining market, the profits will be very comfortable, indeed.

This accounts for the antics of the bean market the past two weeks, and what might have happened, had not the "bears" been cornered in their lair, nobody knows. It is strange, indeed, that such questionable if not actually criminal manipulation should be permitted when the interests of thousands of producers and millions of consumers are at stake.

What is Future of Market?

The bean market is not in such a bad way after all, now that we understand the nature of the influences that have been at work to tear it down. There are many encouraging aspects.

Last Friday California growers unanimously decided to continue holding their crop, and not interfere with the movement of Michigan beans. This action was not taken because they had any special interest in the problems of Michigan growers, but because they have figures to show that less than eight per cent of the Michigan crop remains in the hands of the growers, and that the elevators do not hold a sufficient quantity to seriously affect the future market. The bill recently passed by both houses at Washington appropriating one hundred million dollars to purchase food for the starving people across the seas, was asked for by President Wilson and will be quickly signed by him. This means a demand for more beans, and with this movement there ought to be a clearing up of the present situation.

It is true that the bean buyers of Michigan have been disposing of beans as fast as they could be sold on the basis agreed upon. At five dollars per bushel beans ran into money fast, and the banks will not permit speculation where they furnish the money, now that conditions are so uncertain. Farmers must be patient, we are confident that the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Association is striving to maintain the market, and it stands to reason that they would not at this stage of the game become a party to any scheme which would lower the price at the close of the marketing season.

It has been only thru feeding the market carefully that the five dollar price has been maintained, and now that less than eight per cent of the beans are in the growers' hands, it becomes quite necessary to handle the situation very carefully. As the beans move from the country elevators more will be purchased, and right now it seems quite probable that the market will right itself. An offer of from one to six cars, Saturday morning for choice No. 1 hand-picked, on a basis of five dollars per bushel to the farmer, did not get a single bid; one car was sold at \$8.60 per hundred with no demand for more. These are actual transactions and reflect present condition of the market.

It was expected that the government would again become a buyer this week but it has been learned that the reorganization of the food-buying agencies has not yet been fully effected

and that it may be a matter of another week or ten days before they will be in the market. Nobody, of course, knows what the total of government requirements will be, (with the possible exception of our speculative friends); but it is now believed that they will be sufficient to move the balance of the Michigan crop at the \$5 mark or very close to it. The market will bear close watching, however, and growers and elevators alike

should follow the same conservative path they have trod the past two months.

UNITED GRAIN GROWERS DO IMMENSE BUSINESS

The total amount of grain handled in 1918 by the United Grain Growers of Calgary, the co-operative farmers' organization of western Canada, was

29,879,672 bus., according to report at the annual meeting by T. A. Crerar, president, who is also the Dominion Minister of Agriculture in the Union Government cabinet. The net profits for the year 1918 were reported as \$441,760.96; surplus, \$1,900,000.

The total number of country elevators operated by the United Grain Growers is 343, of which 232 are owned and 111 are leased from the Manitoba government.



"My estimate is that for a single year if all of the farmers in the United States had used the Oliver chilled plows instead of the regular steel or iron plows, the saving in labor would have totalled the sum of forty-five million dollars."

—From Report in Congressional Record by Senate Statistician, 45th Congress (1877-1879).

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This preference is based on sheer merit. It has been earned by Oliver's thorough knowledge of soil conditions, plow design, plow hitches, tractor construction and operation. It has been held and cemented by Oliver's country-wide service organization.

In the "Statement of Yesterday"—proved by the experience of a generation—holding promise of greater achievements in this new era of American agriculture—you will find ample justification for Oliver's slogan: "Plow Makers for the World."

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WESTERN CANADA
Farm Lands
Low Prices

MARKET FLASHES

(Continued from page 11)

heavy steers have been as scarce as ever and have been immune to declines. A new January record was made last Thursday when a load of prime 1466-pound Iowa fed Herefords sold at \$20 per cwt. The top in January last year was \$14.30. Few steers of value above \$18.50, however, have been received and everything below this figure has suffered irregular but sharp depreciation in value. The brunt of the decline in the beef steer trade was borne by steers recently selling between \$16 and \$18. Such cattle which have been utilized largely on government contracts sold late last week and again at the inception of this week's trade 75c to \$1 below the month's high spot. Declines narrowed on the cheaper grades with strong competition from the country for steers suitable to the feeder outlet holding the kinds selling below \$14 up well, in fact good and choice feeding steers which have gone to the country during the past week at \$12.50 to \$14.50, weighing 875 to 1,000 lbs., showed about a 25c advance over their value as feeders the week previous and never sold higher in the history of this market. There continues, however, a slack country call for the more common light stockers, the future market being regarded with too much uncertainty by prospective investors in stock cattle to warrant investments in such stock at recent high levels.

Receipts have carried a big proportion of mixed butcher cattle and the market has experienced severe price cuts. Most of the butcher cows and heifers sold today at declines of fully \$1 per cwt. from a week ago while canners and cutters are off as much, and fat bulls are being neglected at declines of \$1.50 or more per cwt. as compared with their value ten days since. A spread of from \$7.75 to \$9.50 is now taking most of the decent to good butcher cows and heifers.

While hog receipts have been held down by the car allotment plan, supplies all around the circuit have been large enough to keep the trade in a more or less congested condition. On Monday of last week at \$18 top and general average of \$17.64 was made at Chicago, but the price worked down rapidly to the set minimum average of \$17.50 for the month. A moderate supply today prompted some better action on the better grades of butcher hogs and an extreme top of \$17.85 or 15c above Saturday was recorded. The trade awaits with great interest announcement of the plan of the Food Administration relative to sustaining February prices.

Live mutton trade showed some reaction today from declines ranging from 25 to 50c enforced last week, but dressed trade is still in feeble condition and light receipts will be required during the current week if further improvement is to be expected. Good to choice fat lambs sold today at \$16 to \$16.40. There was inquiry for feeding lambs at \$14 to \$15 and fleshy kind on the shearing order was quotable up to \$15.25. Choice medium and heavy yearling wethers are on a \$14.25 to \$14.50 basis with the best heavy yearlings selling around \$13.50 to \$13.75, while good to choice aged

wethers are selling from \$11.50 to \$12, and good to choice fat ewes from \$10.25 to \$10.85.

MARKET ANTICS NEED NOT ALARM YOU

(Continued from page 3)

propensities of many grain and produce dealers before the war we may safely conclude that studied attempts are now being made to "bear" the market to permit the accumulation of large stocks of food for speculative purposes.

The weather that prevailed during the entire month of January has discouraged buying, as unseasonable weather always does.

So much for the bearish factors. Now let's look at the more encouraging factors that are now developing.

Congress has just passed the \$100,000,000 appropriation bill for the purpose of buying American food supplies for distribution among the hungry people of Europe. Just the instant the food-purchasing agencies start buying, it will take the slack out of the market and we may be absolutely sure that prices will advance. Moreover, there is general belief that European countries will soon be in the market to buy on their own account, and as soon as domestic buyers see the surplus stocks going into government and foreign hands, there will be a scramble to fill their own needs.

Another encouraging feature of the market situation is that most of the crops are out of the farmers' hands. Despite the promise of large export orders there have been few years when farm stuff has moved as freely to market as it has the present season. With only about a third of the marketing season passed, probably two-thirds of the total crop has been harvested which leaves a long period of time in which to dispose of comparatively small stocks.

We think the marketing situation is anything but alarming. We must remember that conditions are very unusual; there is a lack of confidence due to the uncertainty of what the first few months of the reconstruction period may bring forth; everybody is loath to "load up" on farm products or anything else. But unless we have been grossly deceived as to the probable food wants of foreign nations, we need have no fear but that there will be a market for every pound of food-stuffs now on hand. Farmers should keep their heads level; market their stuff gradually as prices advance from time to time to pay them a profit. The situation is entirely in their hands. A rushing of crops to market now would simply demoralize the entire trade, bring about disastrously low prices for a couple of months only to result in a reaction to high prices long before another harvest. Keep cool; don't rock the boat; the harbor is just ahead.

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"17-YEAR LOCUSTS"**DUE THIS YEAR**

(Continued from page 2)

allay excessive fear of destruction to timber as well as to have people on guard, so that the few preventive measures possible may be applied. The belief that the 1919 brood will be exceptionally large is based on the largest of the 17-year broods, and that fact that the 17-year brood coming out this year is Brood 10, perhaps the Brood 18 of the 13-year family comes out at the same time.

It sometimes happens that a late spring freeze over varying areas destroys the greater part of the locust before the time arrives for depositing eggs, and other natural causes frequently tend to diminish the possible devastation.

Latitude does not appear to materially affect the time of emergence from the ground, the cicada in the Lake states coming out within a week or two of the same time as in the Gulf and South Atlantic states. This date ranges from the last week in May to the first in June, and the shrieking hosts may be looked for throughout the whole territory indicated at about that time. Late in May or early in June the under sides of leaves on practically all trees in dense brood areas will be studded with the cast skins and every wooded place will be resounding with the shrill drums.

A month later the deposition of eggs in branches will have become general. Of forest trees, the oak and hickory appear to be preferred, though the cicada deposits eggs in all kinds of trees, with apparent tendency, however, to avoid pines and cedars and such other species as exude gummy substances. Of orchard trees, the apple is the favorite, with peach and pear trees second, and all others, even grape vines, come in for some share of attention. In the case of large trees, only slight and temporary injury is done but with young orchards and nursery stock the result may be fatal unless some protective measures are adopted.

Fear aroused by the presence of this insect in great numbers is out of proportion to the real damage likely to be done. People in infested sections should not become unduly alarmed but should apply such methods of control as are possible. In young orchards and nurseries, the safest method is the hand collection of the insects at the time of emergence or as soon afterward as possible. Every cicada tries to climb some plant or tree immediately after coming out of the ground and great numbers of them can be shaken off and collected in bags or umbrellas. This practice may be continued for an indefinite time after emergence and the work should be done very early in the morning or late in the evening when the insects are somewhat torpid and sluggish. If undertaken at the first appearance and repeated each day control will be facilitated by the fact that most of the insects will be on the young trees or short branches, or on the lower branches of large trees and within comparatively easy reach.

The destruction of the cicada may be accomplished with insecticides if applied at the moment of emergence from the ground or shortly after it has shed its pupal skin and is still soft and comparatively helpless. This kind of work can be made very successful in small areas but could not be applied on a large scale. Best results are obtained with pyrethrum powder, kerosene emulsions, a two per cent solution of carbolic acid, or a fifteen per cent solution of acetic acid, sprayed directly on the insects.

Certain precautionary methods, however, are of more importance than the curative ones. In all regions where there is to be an appearance of the cicada, all pruning operations should be neglected during the preceding winter and spring in order to offer

a larger twig growth and thus to distribute the damage over a greater surface. The planting of young orchards should be deferred until the danger is past and the same advice applies to budding operations in the spring prior to the cicada's appearance.

AGRICULTURE IN HANDS OF COMMERCIALISTS

(Continued from page 5)

ading under the name of farmers' friends, who do what they can to convince the farmer that he is being royally treated if he is left with something with which to fill his hungry mouth and those of his wife and babies after a fourteen hour day of the family in the best field.

The commercialist controls our departments in the government; the commercialist controls our press; the commercialist controls our politics.

This has been the story, and there are very few exceptions. We in Michigan are very fortunate indeed to have so true a friend as the MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, but it only reaches the farmer, and until the farmer learns to vote intelligently for his own interests—even more, for in the future his wife must vote intelligently for the interest of the farmer, for we may be sure the women in town will vote as every American should, and the farmer's wife is just as American as the townsman's wife—the people in town will control the vote. We must reach the man in town, show him our side of the case, and show him that if the farmer can get better justice the townsman will share in the benefit. Such a move would, of course, injure the commercialist, and the city newspapers will never aid in such a movement. And so the whole problem simmers down to the simple question, "How can we get a hearing before the man in town?"

The commercialist has himself given us the means whereby we can get before the people. In trying to increase the production the commercialist has given us the county agent for the benefit of the farmer calling him an agent, but for their own benefit demanding that he be a professor and putting every obstacle in the way of the agent should he attempt to really benefit the farmer thru bettering market conditions. In most counties the agent has a "County Agent's Column" in the local newspaper. Thru this column if the agent is truly in sympathy with the farmer, he can place the farmers' case before the people in town. Of course if the agent is not in sympathy with the farmer, but remains the pliant tool of the commercialist influences surrounding him as he lives in the county seat in town, then it is up to the county farmers to get one who will be. The county agent is very necessary, but the farmers should insist that he be the farmers' agent, not the commercialist's agent. That's where the hitch comes. The county farm bureau, the county Grange or Gleaners' society, and the boards of supervisors have it in their control to demand that the county agent be a real farmers' agent, and thru them the farmer can speak for himself. Perhaps after awhile the farmer will then stand some chance of being honestly represented on the boards, bureaus and departments of agriculture, where he can speak for himself and influence the government's actions toward justice rather than to the special benefit of the commercialist (as in the case of mill feeds) at the loss of the farmer and the expense of the consumer.

In a recent issue you asked for experiences with self-feeders for hogs. I am feeding my hogs silage and mid-dlings mixed (about 5 pounds to the bushel, perhaps a trifle richer) in a self-feeder, tankage in another, hay in racks (clover), and salt and ashes as they care for them. And they are growing to beat the high cost of farming.

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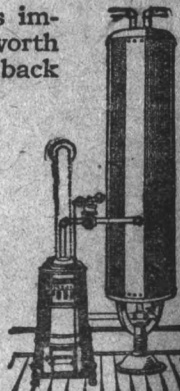
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EDITORIAL COMMENT

By FORREST LORD

The Fallacy of Increased Production

A VERY FOOLISH nation has a very fool-
ish notion that production of food should
be greatly increased. The propaganda that
has been set afoot by the Department of the
Interior to encourage soldiers to take up farm-
ing is one of the manifestations of this very
dangerous doctrine of increased production.
The city gardening idea is another. So are
the redoubled efforts of the agricultural col-
leges to teach methods of efficiency in produc-
tion to the total neglect of efficiency in mar-
keting.

No evidence has been submitted to show
that more food is needed than can be supplied
by those already engaged in its production.
Indeed, there is every reason to believe that
there is an over-supply of certain staple arti-
cles of food, and that the utmost care must
be employed in marketing them if the pro-
ducers are to be spared great losses.

There is too much wheat. The amount on
hand and in prospect is far greater, accord-
ing to the Food Administration, than the
world can possibly consume during this and
the coming year.

There are too many beans for domestic
consumption. The 1918 crop was the big-
gest in the history of the United States. The
market has been glutted; the prices offered
give the growers little if any profit; nothing
but a vigorous foreign demand and large gov-
ernment purchases can move the crop at a
fair price to the growers.

A year ago there were too many potatoes.
This year there are just about enough to go
around. An increased yield of only ten
bushels to each acre planted in 1918, or an
increased acreage of ten per cent, would have
meant an over-production and subsequent
low prices that would have brought ruin to
many potato growers.

Last year with less men engaged in the
production of food-stuffs than for several
years, more food was produced in this coun-
try than during any other single year of its
history. Necessity drove farmers to cultivate
larger areas, with less help and less money,
and having made a successful job of it, they
may be expected to maintain the record they
have established.

Secretary Lane wants the government, in
conjunction with the states to reclaim, irrigate
and develop 200,000,000 acres of land and set
them to work producing crops. That vast
area, divided into farming tracts, would make
2 million farms of 100 acres each, which if
properly cultivated would produce,—in terms
of diversified crops,—600 million bushels of
potatoes; 800 million bushels of wheat; 1,000
million bushels of oats; 800 million bushels of
rye; 400 million bushels of barley; 1,600 mil-
lion bushels of corn; 20 million bushels of

beans; 20 million tons of sugar beets; 60 mil-
lion tons of hay; leaving 40 acres of each farm
for garden crops, pasture land and orchard.

We leave it to the imagination of our read-
ers to estimate the effect that such an increase
of production would have upon the farming
business.

And yet, there are those who would give
their support to Secretary Lane's plan. Right
here in Michigan a commission is diligently at
work in co-operation with commissions of
other states to foster the proposal and encour-
age state legislation to help carry it out. There
is danger that under this paternalistic scheme
not only returned soldiers but every back-to-
the-land dreamer will become competitors in
the business of farming. If these things come
to pass, heaven help the American agricul-
ture for it will not be in a position to help
itself.

The Trials of the County Agent

THERE ARE a lot of fine, capable, and
progressive young men among the coun-
ty agents. But they sure do have their trou-
bles. If they tend strictly to their knitting
and preach only the good old sermons on in-
creased production, they don't get very far
with the farmers who "don't want no city fel-
lars telling us how to farm." And if they
wander from their text and try to show the
farmers how to market their crops co-opera-
tively and for greater profits, they trespass
upon the sensitive toes of the town middlemen
who help pay the county agent's salary from
the profits they make off the farmer.

The county agent of Newago county made
a martyr of himself when he took precedent's
bull by the horns, and tried to assist the farm-
ers to organize for co-operative marketing.
He was promptly gored to death by the near-
sighted and close-fisted produce dealers who
thought they had some God-given right to a
monopoly in food-stuff trading. And the
farmers whom he had tried to help stood
around and watched the goring.

A writer in the Big Rapids Pioneer, dis-
cussing the matter, says:

"If Mr. Smith had been looking solely to the soli-
dity of his own situation, he would probably not
have tackled the question of co-operative market-
ing. The outright campaign which he has con-
ducted in this behalf was likely construed as hos-
tile to established lines of produce business, and
consequently involved the risk of opposition. The
shock of this was all the greater in Mecosta coun-
ty, where it has been generally supposed that the
agent's energy would be chiefly devoted to im-
proved methods of production."

So there you are. The cat's out. The town
produce dealers, the merchants who make a
double profit by exchanging merchandise for
butter and eggs, and the banks that hold the
purse strings, all help to pay the county agent
to teach the farmer to raise more crops to
help the local middlemen make more profits.
But the instant that Mr. County Agent talks
about helping the farmer to some of these pro-
fits, out he goes.

Men who try to serve two masters inevitably
come to grief. The county agent who at all
times has all the interests of the farmer at
heart and boldly takes the lead in the solution
of marketing as well as production problems,
will sooner or later run afoul of the town
folks. Many county agents took a valuable
part in the development of the co-operative
marketing idea in this state last year. But in
many instances, it cost them prestige among
the commercialists of the towns and villages.
And it is no credit to the farmers to say that
merely because of an ancient prejudice, many
of them, too, forsook the man who tried to
help. Farmers, if you have a county agent
and he's got nerve enough to talk co-operative
marketing aloud, for the sake of your reputa-
tion and your—pocket-book, stand by him.

There's a Politician Around the Corner

SUNDRY EFFORTS are being made by
the tottering remnants of the 'old guard'
to restore the convention system of nomina-
tions in this state, in some form or other.

Senator Charles Tufts, who hails from Lud-
ington, has a pet bill to authorize the hold-
ing of 'pre-primary' conventions, which he
trundles up before every session of the legis-

lature. It has popped up again this year,
and the senate has been invited to give it the
"once-over," after which it will undoubtedly
be given a ride down the banisters to the
basement. Sen. Tufts is a bit vague as to
the benefits of this pre-primary convention,
so far as the people are concerned. There
are none. But it would open a splendid op-
portunity for the disgruntled politicians who
had been turned down by the people at pre-
vious elections, to congregate and perpetuate
a political machine that would use the power
of petty township and county organizations
to thwart the true purposes of the primary
law. A man seeking nomination thru the
primary wouldn't have a ghost of a chance
with a candidate proposed by the pre-primary
convention, and backed by the organized
politicians.

Rep. Warner of Ionia is more bold and has
a bill before the house providing for the re-
peal of the primary law and the substitution
of the old convention system. Shades of Mr.
Hohenzollern! They cast their shadows far.
The autocrats and the aristocrats are afraid
of the people. It costs more to buy their
votes than it does the votes of the machine
delegates, and besides you sometimes get
caught in the act.

The primary law is the people's way to
nominate men to office. The convention sys-
tem is the politician's way. The primary
method gives democracy a chance for its wid-
est expression. The convention method, by
its very nature, puts in the hands of a few
who are not accountable to the people the
power of nominating men for public office
who must be accountable to the people.

The boss-controlled convention is a relic of
the past. It now reposes in the ash-can with
other things that have been tried and discard-
ed for something better. And the voters will
relegate to the same receptacle any legisla-
tor who listens to the siren voice of the pol-
iticians and votes to further impair or destroy
Michigan's primary law.

Give Soldiers the Preference

EMPLOYERS of labor should frown upon
the chimerical efforts of the U. S. Depart-
ment of Labor to build up active organ-
izations of boys and women to bid against male
adult labor. Today in the city of Detroit
alone there are 75,000 unemployed men, most
of whom are returned soldiers. Thousands
of other soldiers will be coming back each
week looking for jobs that do not exist. It is
the undisputed obligation of those who stayed
at home to provide work at living wages for
those who fought the nation's battles. The
Department of Labor is renouncing this ob-
ligation when by a single word or act it en-
courages the employment of child or female
labor. There is no manual labor that a boy
or a woman can do which a stalwart, willing
soldier cannot do better. Even if it costs a
little more to employ the soldier, he should
by all means be given the preference. Any
manufacturer or any farmer who gives em-
ployment to boys, women or male slackers
when discharged soldiers are available, is
lacking in the qualities of our boasted pa-
triotism.

Individual efforts to increase the acre yield
and thereby reduce the cost of production
should certainly be encouraged, but any plan
having for its purpose a nation-wide increase
of food production, or the bringing under
cultivation of vast areas of hitherto unpro-
ductive land, should be weighed with the ut-
most care and intelligence, and the judgment
of those already actively engaged in farming
should by all means be consulted.

"Seven years ago," writes a subscriber,
"farmers declared that they'd be satisfied
with a dollar a bushel guarantee on their
wheat." Yes, and we presume most of them
right now would be glad to go back to those
good old days and still be satisfied with a
dollar a bushel.

There's nothing wrong with the primary
law. The trouble is with the men who are
supposed to enforce it.

FROM A PERSONAL VIEWPOINT

Making Bricks Without Straw

SOMEWHERE in the Good Book we read about the trouble the subjects of a certain ruler had in attempting to make bricks without straw. In those days bricks could not be made without straw, and yet the people were required to make brick and no straw was furnished—very naturally something happened.

While at Washington I met at the conference table with delegates representing the farmers from thirty-four states, and among this number were two representatives of the Non-Partisan League, and they hailed from North Dakota. Very naturally I looked for horns, then claws.

Strange to relate, I found neither; in fact, these two representatives were very calm and considerate in their judgment, very anxious not to embarrass the Government in any way, and counseled moderation in all demands in connection with the reconstruction program. Really the only fellows wearing horns were from the far east, one from Pennsylvania, the other from Maryland.

Dr. Lamb, president of the North Dakota Agricultural College, a very kindly, cultured and scholarly gentleman, was chairman of the delegation. He told of the efforts he had put forth to make the agricultural college a real benefit to the farmers of North Dakota during the past twenty years, of his fight with the combinations which not only controlled the markets, but established the grading rules, and the progress he had made since the farmers had taken hold of the state government.

Simply another case of trying to "make bricks without straw." While certain gentlemen, anxious to hold easy jobs at good salaries are going about Michigan crying "wolf, wolf" and warring against the entrance of the Non-Partisan League; there are farmers in the northern section of the state who have been striving to "make bricks without straw" for years—they have long prayed for relief—they only ask for "straw."

And "straw" in this instance means sufficient finances to operate their business—money; working capital, that they may be able to grow farm products and pay for their home and lands. If bankers, moneyed men and the interests would hear the cry for "straw" and furnish it, contented farmers would supply the bricks.

Wheatley said: "The surest way to prevent serious troubles and untried expedients is the constant correction of abuses and the introduction of needed improvements. It is the neglect of timely repairs that makes rebuilding necessary."

"Fifty Million Dollars—Why, a Mere Bagatelle"

TRULY THE WORLD do move. The other day, over at Lansing, a dozen representatives of farm organizations were talking about the proposed amendment to the Constitution of Michigan, authorizing a bond issue of fifty million dollars for road improvement. And would you believe it, seven out of the twelve men not only favored submitting the amendment, but were actually in favor of the bond issue.

"Fifty million dollars,—why, a mere bagatelle." Before we entered the world war we talked in hundreds and thousands. A year after we entered the war we talked in millions; when the last Liberty loan drive was on we spoke only of billions. Like the old darkey we find it much easier to add millions than we do smaller sums; "the figures, not the ciphers, bother when it comes to addition."

We all favor good roads, and we have favored good roads for many years, but when it comes to the question: "What kind of roads are good roads?" we find no definite answer. The question of good roads is a national problem, and it will not be solved until the United

States provides for a system of federal mail roads.

The question of this bond issue will come before the voters at the April election. There is not sufficient time for the discussion of the question, therefore, the amendment will go before the voters only partially understood. If the amendment passes, then a law, specifically setting forth the plan of handling this immense fund, will have to be passed, the road-building program outlined and the machinery finally set in motion.

The farmers of Michigan are burdened with taxation; they are right now paying more than their portion for good roads. Good roads benefit the farmer; he is vitally interested, but he is not the sole beneficiary, and, as only main arteries of travel would be constructed, it is true that the farmers of the state would receive less benefit from a state system of roads than would the automobilists and truck lines.

If this amendment to the Constitution could be presented at the spring election one year hence we would favor its submission; but to spring a fifty million dollar bond issue amendment on the people sixty days before the election is hardly fair. Finally, those who use and misuse the roads most must pay their just portion of both building and maintenance. Under present laws and regulations they escape through the dust barrage of their own making.

We Have Bridged the Atlantic

WASHINGTON, whose birthday we shall celebrate this month, warned us against "entangling alliances with foreign nations," and just now those who were most anxious that this nation should engage in the war back in '15 and '16, are swinging their arms and crying danger.

The nation has been afflicted with these "nuts" for many years—like the signboards along the highway, they are ever pointing the way but never get anywhere. The United States got into the war thru circumstances not of our own making; the Atlantic was not bridged until necessity demanded that we should move in next door.

The United States will never stand again where it stood five years ago, in its relation to the nations of the world. When Washington gave his warning it would have taken years to have sent a message 'round the world; today a message of war or peace races to every part of the world,—'round and back again in seven minutes.

The people of the nation have a vital interest in the Peace Conference, and it is well that this nation holds a commanding position at the peace table. We attempted to keep away from the fighting, from war, from bloodshed and sorrow, but we couldn't do it. Now that the war has been fought and won, and we realize that neighbors have moved right in next door, it behooves us to get acquainted.

President Wilson is insisting that every possible step be taken to secure such action as will give the greatest possible assurance of an enduring peace, and he should have the united support of the liberty-loving people of this nation. It's the most important piece of business this nation has on hand right now, and all but the "nuts" realize this fact. 'Tis well that in these latter years we pay less and less attention to the ravings of the "nut" family, anyway.

Our good friend Jim Helme, has put it right up to the city folks, and gives figures to prove that the farmers haven't made a "dog-goned cent on any dog-goned thing" they have raised. True, they haven't grown rich; neither have they received their share of profits; but bank balances in country districts prove that farming, as a business, is not going to the tarnation bow-wow.

Bog and Timber Land for Soldier Boys

ALL THIS TALK about placing the returning soldier boys on unimproved lands is "bosh," and the sooner this idea is forgotten the better it will be for all concerned. This nation entered the war June 7, 1917—the day of the first conscription enrollment. Millions of young men registered, and finally left their jobs and entered the service.

Eighteen months have since passed; the war is over and the boys are coming home. Mark you, the boys who left home eighteen months ago are coming back; the very same boys, but not with the same hopes and ambitions. They have been thru an experience that has builded rather than destroyed, hope, ambition and individuality.

They are not coming home as worn-out veterans, as men who have been so subdued by military training and discipline that they are ready to "go way back and sit down." They have returned to enter active business, to better, if possible, their former condition; if not, they at least demand, and should have, their old jobs back.

Some of the farmer boys will not again return to the farms. This is to be regretted, but it is true. Mighty few of the boys are looking for "muck and timber lands," where they can make a home for the little lady, who has longed for the day when "Bill" would return from the war.

Every soldier who has given his life to the cause; yielded up his life in the expectation that Uncle Sam would care for his dear ones. Every injured soldier must be placed in a position where he can earn his own living if possible; must be cared for and looked after by Uncle Sam. Every young man who entered the service is entitled to his old job back, and something better if it is to be had. Forget the "muck and timber" land idea.

The investigation of the Jackson state prison is going merrily on. Now that the war is over, this investigation will give the daily press something to talk about. In the meantime what the present warden needs is a little encouragement and help. He is a new man on the job, and he has tackled the state's biggest job. Some good day the old hulk of a prison, the relic of days long since passed, will be moved out from Jackson, into God's country, under the clear, blue skies, where weary men can look up, and where other men can help lift up. In the meantime let the investigation go on; turn up the putrid soil in the old prison yard; tear down and quarrel and wrangle—a thousand human beings are housed within those grey prison walls.

Several sheep bills before the Michigan legislature. If any or all go thru, Mr. Dog is going to have less liberty than he has enjoyed in the past. Make the dog owners of each township pay for all of the sheep killed within the township and you will have a dog law which will mighty soon rid the country of sheep-killing dogs.

There is such a thing as drinking the "dish-water" of life. When you listen to and repeat scandal and small talk, when you have no good words for your neighbor; when you quarrel and fret—just remember you are drinking the dish-water of life. Throw it in the sewer, and drink from the pump.

J. Ogden Armour, better known as "Uncle J.," says that the packers should be left alone, and predicts dire things if the Government attempts control of their operations. Uncle J. ought to know, for he has surely been where the picking is good and thus far he has been left alone.

Edw. Slocum

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EDITORIALS BY OUR READERS

Farmers "Resolve" Then Vote for Same Old Conditions

I thought I would say a word for your encouragement, as I think that you are on the main track to the betterment of all concerned, but especially the farming class, and hope that you will not get side-tracked by those who oppose your splendid methods of aiming at the truth along economic lines.

There are so many "sharks" in the pond that as soon as you bat one over the head another bobs up, and then others in different directions, so that to be safe we must adopt that glorious old maxim, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

I have noticed for many years that the farming class, as such, is considered by the other "interests" of an inferior class, all by themselves, as it were, but very essential, however, so that they may thrive. The farmer, as a rule, has many considerations to keep him busy and therefore does not take as much interest in public affairs as he should in order to be able to battle the "sharks" successfully as they come to the surface to pull him under for a square meal. They know just about where to find their prey, and have in the past been successful. All other "big interests" are thoroughly organized and therefore know one another in detail, while the farmer has been in the habit of attending the Grange or the farmers' institute, etc., telling of his grievances and resolving to do this or that for a whole year thru, or rather for 364 days, and the very next day, being election day, votes the same ticket in name, as he always did, not thinking but what he has exercised his right(?) of suffrage until another year rolls around, and then does the same thing over again. The greatest hindrance to a farmers' national organization is that their respective interests are different. One is a dairy farmer, another a grain or stock farmer, etc. So all along the list, and so look at economic interests from a different angle, when, if they might pull together they could have things their own way instead of being dictated to in a hundred and one ways. I am truly glad the farmer has a friend in the M. B. F. and also hope Uncle Rube will continue to make it lively for the "interests" from time to time. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," and if we cannot reach the ideal exactly, we can attain to somewhere near it. So let the good work go forward.—F. H. O., Allegan county.

A Good Idea on the Road Building Proposition

I have been reading with some interest the various papers in regard to what we shall do to keep the boys busy after the war. Some of the schemes are so elaborate that it would take years and billions of dollars to get them in working order. Others are so impractical it disgusts a thinking man, while others are so full of graft that it is very self-evident. Now, some may call my suggestion just as impractical and foolish, but here it is: Let the legislature first change the road law, increasing the general town or county maximum tax for road construction from one-half of one per cent to one per cent and out the mud-hole fund to one-fourth of one per cent. This would permit of many roads being built in townships where they have built one road and took so short a time that it ran the tax to the limit, so that it has tied up road building in these townships for from three to five years. Now, a law of this kind would let the state or county highway commissioners go ahead with the Covert act roads, already petitioned for but cannot be acted upon on account of lack of funds. Then let

the state pay a small additional reward on roads completed within two years and if the government wanted to help out, let them cut out about one thousand feet of red tape and pay a per cent on all roads built by the various states and approved by the state. This method would prevent a slump in labor prices, keep money plenty, and help to keep farm produce steady by helping to prevent over-production, as teams would be diverted to road work, thus keeping prices steady all around, wages, farm produce, the merchant and manufacturer; for if the farmers prosper the rest will, but if the farmers' prices slump he is down at the heel. Then it is the law of nature that all else follows except the money-slicer, and he always fattens at the misfortunes of others. Now it looks to me as if this method followed for four or five years would solve the problem and benefit everyone by giving us good roads.—J. O., Hillsdale, Michigan.

Why Not Abolish All Township Offices?

I see there is a scheme on foot to put all county officers on salary basis. That is a good move, but why not go a step farther and do away with all township officers? Let the county officers do the work, and hereafter elect them for four years. Do something to keep down taxes. Of course, you will find some in every township that will oppose it but they are mostly office-seekers.

The state can look after this road building and give better satisfaction than any other way. The only thing they need to improve on is to make the ditches so they will drain the road bed. They will never have roads until they do this. Another thing that should be done is to do away with dirt roads. Make all roads of gravel. We have a road near here made of clay and it is no good. They have spent something like \$2,500 on two miles of it and have got nothing yet. When we bonded the town for \$12,000 to build the road we were to have a gravel road but the township officers took it up and changed it and made a dirt road of it and have got nothing to show for their money. It is all gone including the state reward. You can see how money is wasted by men who don't know what they are doing. You can't have roads if you don't drain your road bed.

Now about that \$50,000,000 bonding. If the bulk of the money is to go to build roads between the big cities, I don't blame the taxpayers for kicking against it. Of course, we want good roads but we want them paid for right. The entire road building proposition should be handled by a state road commissioner, who ought to be held responsible for its work. \$50,000,000 is a lot of money to saddle on to the tax-payers. Don't you think so yourself, that if they want this issue to carry the road law should be changed?—W. M., Midland county.

(Editor's Note: We heartily agree with the subscriber that much money is wasted because of lack of road building knowledge by those who attempt to build roads. Not enough attention is given to drainage. Poor drainage will cause the ruin of a road in a short time; good drainage insures long life. The road building matter looms up big at this time, and we would like to hear from other readers upon the subject.)

Ingham (N.E.)—Weather warm for this time of year, bad on wheat. The roads very bad. Not much stock and grain moving. The following prices offered at Williamston this week: Wheat, \$2.12; corn, cwt., \$2.30; oats, 66; rye, \$1.45; hay, \$16; onions, \$1.50; butter, 50; butterfat, 68; eggs, 55; hogs, \$16.25.—A. N., Williamston, January 24.

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FARMERS SERVICE BUREAU

To Transfer Liberty Bonds

Being a reader of your paper I would like to ask you how the transfer of registered bonds should be. I bought some and had them assigned and properly acknowledged by our Rose City State Bank with their seal, but he says that is as far as he goes. Now how do I get the transfer on the books of the U. S. treasurer? Do I have to send the bonds in or their number and transfer names, and is there U. S. officers in Bay City that could do the transferring by being shown the bonds?—F. H. M., Hale.

I am unable to get hold of the regulations for assigning and transferring registered U. S. bonds, but I am informed that the directions are on the back of the bonds themselves. That each direction therein pointed out must be complied with. That they must appear before the cashier of a National bank for their execution, and the assignment must be to the proper U. S. officer for re-issue to the assigned name. I believe the bonds are then forwarded to the person therein named as the proper officer of the U. S. to receive them and to issue others in their place. I believe that any cashier of a National bank at Bay City would be able to follow directions.—W. E. Brown, Legal Editor.

Tax Assessment Too High

Will you please tell me whether they can collect taxes on personal property which has been assessed unreasonably. The supervisor came along last spring to assess me. I was away from home when he came. I had a bunch of logs out to get sawed. There was a lot of other logs that the neighbors hauled in to get sawed for their own use. The supervisor asked my wife if the logs were mine. She told him that more of them belonged to the neighbors than to me; she said he wrote something down on a paper and went away. He did not go and look the logs over, just saw them at a distance. When I inquired about my taxes this winter I was informed there was assessed \$200 to me personal, and the tax was \$13.05. This is over 6 1/2 per cent, which sure is some rate. The supervisor never came to me at all to ask me about the logs, how many were mine; just guessed at them and went off. I never knew he was assessing them at any such high rate until I found out about the taxes. Can they levy on anything to get this? I am willing to pay my share of taxes but this is out of reason. What would you do under the circumstances?—N. H. E., Newaygo Co.

It would seem as though there must be a mistake in the computation of the taxes. I do not know of any locality where the tax is over 6 1/2 per cent of the valuation. Possibly it may be a clerical error in extending the amounts of the tax. It would look as though it was about ten times as much. A clerical error could be corrected by the collector and so returned with his roll at time of return. If the rate is the correct one and the same as all other property is assessed then you will have to pay the tax and any property you may have may be levied upon. If the tax is an error or the result of an error and the collector will not make a correction and proposes to levy on other property for collection the remedy would be to pay the tax under protest and bring suit within time specified in the law to recover the amount upon the grounds assigned in the protest.—W. E. Brown, Legal Editor.

A Word to Harris Bros. Creditors

As our readers know we have been trying for a long time to get an adjustment from Harris Bros. Seed Co., of claims held against them by many of our subscribers. This firm failed about May 1st of last year, and Mr. Walter W. Russell was appointed receiver. After the failure letters by the hundred were received at the of-

fice of the defunct company, but were left unopened until turned over to the legally appointed guardian of the company's affairs, when they were all returned to their original senders. No doubt many of those who notified us of their claims have already received their money back; others may not. A letter from Mr. Russell, the receiver, says: "If you will send me a list of your subscribers who forwarded money to Harris Bros. Seed Co., and received no seeds, I will check it with the list of returned letters and mail you proof of claim to file for those who have not received their money back."

Now, here's our suggestion: Rather than make a double transaction of this matter, it would be better for our subscribers to deal directly with Mr. Russell. Therefore, if any of you have sent money to the Harris Bros. Seed Co., and did not get your seeds or your money back, write W. W. Russell, Mount Pleasant, Michigan, giving a statement of the facts and he will send you a proof of claim to fill out. Then when the final adjudication is made, you will receive the pro rata amount due you from the remaining assets of the company. Should you not for some reason, fail to hear from Mr. Russell, advise us and we will intercede, though we are certain that all claims will be given respectful attention by the receiver.

How to get Discharge From Army

As you take a great interest in the problems of farmers, I am bringing mine, seeking your assistance. By same mail I am writing Homer D. Luce, 711 Capitol Ave., Lansing, as secretary of the District Board, to ask his assistance in getting the release of Wilbur C. Bolser, Bat. B. 82 F. A., Fort Bliss, Texas, that he may assist me on my farm during the coming year. Am operating two hundred and forty acres and must have help, which is very difficult to procure.

I have communicated with the man in question and he would enter my employ if I can secure his release. I would be glad to hear from you on this subject and be thankful for any assistance you can give me in accomplishing same.

In conclusion I want to say your paper is exactly what the farmers need. The majority of farm papers simply try to encourage the farmer to grow an extra blade of grass, regardless of whether he can sell the one he has at a profit or not. Begging an early reply, I am.—H. D. K., Hillsdale county.

1. The discharge of soldiers from the army is a matter over which this office has no jurisdiction, nor has it been officially informed of the policy determined upon by the government.

2. However, it is understood that men who are needed in industry, in cases where their removal has left matters in such shape that no other person than the particular man involved, can attend to them, may be discharged on application. Such application should be initiated by the soldier himself, in a letter, and attached thereto should be statements and affidavits showing the necessity and giving the proper Commander a sufficient view of the circumstances to enable him to determine whether or not the soldier should be discharged.—John S. Bersoy, The Adjutant General.

The paper is all right and hits my ideas just right.—Wm. J. Carber, Alpena Co.

I would not be without the paper, for I think it can't be beat.—Wm. J. Brigham, Crawford county.

I like your paper very much and want to subscribe again for another year.—Samuel E. Shinn, Emmet county.

Your paper is splendid. Enclosed find one dollar. Please keep sending the M. B. F. I like it so much.—Alfred Mann, Genesee county.

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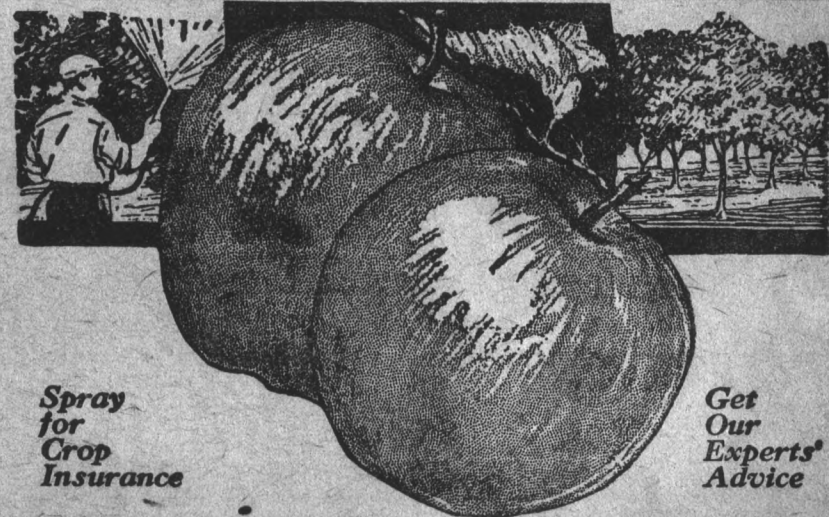
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C. E. HUPRICH, Ohio.

I would not be without your Spreader, because it saves so much labor, puts the manure on the ground evenly, and I can spread any kind of straw or cornstalks. I believe my spreader will pay for itself in two seasons. With the proper use of manure on my place and using lime, I have increased the yield of my farm 25% in six years.

E. M. PHILLIPPE, Virginia.

Your Spreader has given entire satisfaction. I can recommend it to anyone needing a spreader. It is the lightest draft spreader I ever used. I handled mine in top dressing corn with two horses and I like it fine.

S. A. WUICK, Missouri.

I purchased one of your spreaders eight years ago and it has spread all of my manure from fifty head of stock during that time, and as a labor saver it has easily paid for itself each year. I believe that any farmer having more than five head of stock cannot afford to be without a manure spreader, unless he is especially fond of spreading manure by hand, which I am not.

C. E. HOUGH, Connecticut.

I have owned three spreaders in my time. The first two I didn't think much of. Then I got one of yours and now I am more than pleased with the spreader proposition. I find by hauling manure in the winter time on clover sod and letting the rains leach it down before plowing it under will oftentimes double the corn yield or even wheat. Where I used commercial fertilizer and barnyard manure together on 12 acres of wheat last year I got 600 bushels of wheat, an average of 50 bushels per acre. A farmer that owns ten acres can't afford to be without a spreader.

WILL HENSIL, Ohio.

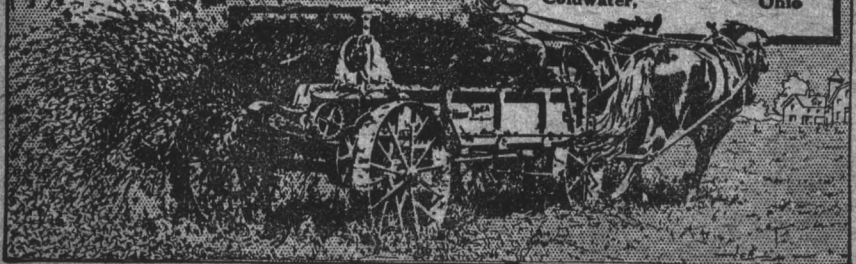
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When you write any advertiser in our weekly will you mention the fact that you are a reader of Michigan Business Farming? They are friends of our paper, too!

What the Wine and Beer Amendment Means Attorney Walter S. Foster Explains "Forty Points" Raised by Proposed Amendment to Restore Booze Traffic in Michigan

ON APR. 7 next each voter will be handed a ballot whereon he or she is to vote yes or no on the so-called beer and wine amendment to Article XVI of the State Constitution.

The proposed amendment is intended to stand as section 12 of Article XVI and reads:

Section 12. "It shall be forever lawful in this state to import, transport, manufacture, use, buy, sell, keep for sale, give away, barter or furnish every kind of Cider, Wines, Beer, Ale and Porter and to possess the same in a private residence. So much of Section 11, Article XVI of this constitution as prohibits the manufacture, sale, keeping for sale, giving away, bartering or furnishing of vinous, malt, brewer or fermented liquors, is hereby repealed. The legislature by general laws shall reasonably license the manufacture of, and reasonably license and regulate the sale and keeping for sale of vinous, malt, brewed or fermented liquors; Provided, however, that the electors of each city, village, or township forever shall have the right to prohibit the manufacture, sale, or keeping for sale of vinous, malt, brewed or fermented liquors within such city, village or township."

Before you go to the polls you should thoroughly understand its full significance. For your convenience this analysis is presented at this time:

1. If adopted the amendment will take effect May 7th, 1919.
2. Saloons will be permitted for the sale and keeping for sale of beer, wine, ale, porter and fermented cider.
3. Breweries will be legal.
4. The local option law will be repealed.
5. The legislature cannot pass a new local option law giving a county a right to prohibit such liquors.
6. The people could not initiate such a law by petition.
7. The legislature cannot pass a home rule act giving cities or villages the right, even upon popular vote, to prohibit the giving away, furnishing, importing or transporting of such liquors.
8. The people cannot initiate such a home rule act by petition.
9. The present state wide prohibition amendment (Sec. 11, Art. XVI) will be repealed in so far as it prohibits the manufacture, sale, keeping for sale, giving away, bartering or furnishing of vinous, malt, brewed or fermented liquors.
10. Beer, wine, ale, porter and hard cider fall within one or more of the classifications, vinous, malt, brewed or fermented liquors.
11. Such liquors could be imported and transported by the bottle or the car load.
12. The legislature shall reasonably license the manufacture of vinous, malt, brewed and fermented liquors.
13. And shall reasonably license and regulate the sale and keeping for sale of such liquors.
14. It is questionable whether under the proposed amendment the legislature can "regulate" the manufacture of such liquors by prohibiting the location of breweries near schools, churches, in residence districts or otherwise.
15. After the legislature has provided the necessary election machinery and the people have so voted, cities, villages or townships may prohibit the manufacture, sale or keeping for sale of such liquors.
16. The legislature cannot prohibit or regulate the giving away or use, importing or transporting of such liquors except in places having a license (breweries and saloons.)
17. Nor can cities, villages, or townships prohibit or regulate such gift, use, importing or transporting.
18. The people could not initiate laws or ordinances for the purposes mentioned in the last two paragraphs.
19. Any person may therefore give by the drink or by the barrel any of all of such liquors at any place, public or private (except licensed saloons or breweries), to any boy or girl, jitney driver, locomotive engineer, electric motorman, member of fire department on duty, habitual drunkard, posted person, inmate of county poor houses, prisoner inside of jail or prison, policeman on his beat, inmates of insane asylums or any one else.
20. And such giving could not be stopped by punishing the user, for the use is made forever lawful by the proposed amendment.
21. Neither the legislature nor any municipal council, nor the people by any initiated state law or local ordinance could punish any person no matter what his employment, age or condition for accepting and using any amount of any of the named liquors, at any time or place except in saloons and breweries.
22. It will be lawful—no one can prevent or punish—to place kegs of beer, ale, wine, porter or hard cider where anyone may get it on Sundays, holidays and election days.
23. The giving away of such liquors on trains, interurbans and at depots will be lawful.
24. No city or village could impose any regulation upon saloons, for the legislature only may pass laws upon such subject and its laws must be general—applying to the whole state.
25. A city or village could not by ordinance nor even by vote of the people collect any local saloon license fees.
26. Or regulate saloon closing hours.
27. Or the number of saloons.
28. Or the district wherein they could operate.
29. Or the use of saloon screens.
30. Or the custom of treating in saloons.
31. Or the cashing of pay checks in saloons.
32. Or the employment of girls therein.
33. Or the exclusion of dance halls in connection with saloons.
34. Inasmuch as the amendment provides no method of carrying into effect the last clause of the amendment to ascertain the will of the people in cities, villages and townships upon prohibiting the manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of vinous, malt, brewed or fermented liquors within such city, village or township, such clause will be ineffective till the legislature passes a law for holding such election.
35. If the legislature does not pass and put into effect a law licensing and regulating saloons by May 7th, 1919, then anybody and everybody may sell such liquors at any time or place (Sundays, holidays and election days included), until such laws become operative.
36. Should such an interval occur, Michigan would be absolutely without any restriction or regulation on the sale or use of beer, wine, ale, porter and hard cider—the state would be wide open on those liquors in the widest sense of the word.
37. Before such law could be passed and put into operation, saloons could probably be established anywhere in the state, without any license or regulations.
38. Such liquors could be possessed in any quantity in private residences.
39. The manufacture, sale, keeping for sale, giving away, bartering, or furnishing of spirituous liquors will still be forbidden.
40. At the election April 7th every registered elector, men and women, may vote on the amendment.

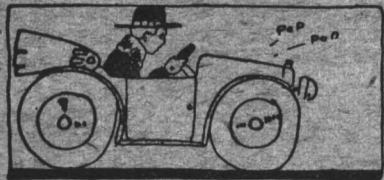
HINTS FOR MOTORISTS

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

Try Heating the Intake Piping Before Condemning Your Carburetor

TROUBLE IS being experienced in the carburation of a vast number of cars and has been so experienced quite acutely for a number of years past. Naturally, most of the complaints of carburation trouble are made during cold weather and a large part of them come from users of cars built more than three or four years ago. These "tales of woe" frequently speak of the failure of certain cylinders to fire regularly, of the sputtering of their plugs, of their early carbonization, of lack of engine power, poor acceleration and the stalling or choking of the engine upon a sudden opening of the throttle. It is significant that such correspondents often state that they have changed carburetors once or more, but without eliminating the trouble and a few words as to this may not be amiss. There are many makes of carburetors. All are good and some may be better than others, but it is doubtful whether there is any carburetor to be had which is capable, unaided, of giving perfect results in connection with an old engine having a long, exposed intake-manifold of doubtful design, and burning ordinary commercial gasoline. All modern carburetors are good metering devices and improvements have been made in the more thorough atomization of the fuel, particularly at low gas demand but, under adverse conditions especially, all such carburetors require assistance in performing the vaporizing function. When a motorist experiences carburation difficulties nothing is more natural than that he should lay these troubles to the carburetor, which is commonly supposed to be solely responsible for carburation, and that he should install a different one. This reasoning frequently proves incorrect for the simple reason that the carburetor is not the only agency concerned in the function which gives it its name, the length and design of the intake piping, the provisions for supplying heat to the same and the jacket temperature of the engine all being important factors as affecting the vaporizing function. It may be suggested that the motorist should consider the carburetor and the entire intake system as a single unit, responsible for carburation results and should act accordingly, not making too many ventures in new carburetors until he is sure that the intake system is supplied with sufficient heat to permit the vaporization of the fuel and air measured into it by the old carburetor. Exhaust heated manifolds are obtainable for many models and for others, a heating jacket can usually be made by a competent sheet metal worker to surround a part of the intake piping.



CAUSES OF MISSING

What are some of the things that make an engine "skip?" Mine has been giving me trouble of this kind and I have not yet found the cause of it.—S. R.

Among defects in the ignition system itself are the following: Cracked, badly adjusted or dirty plugs, short-circuited or leaky plug cables, loose connections to battery, coils, switch, magneto or interrupter, and breaks in the wires connecting the same; dirty or badly adjusted contact points in magneto or battery current interrupter, dirt short-circuiting distributor contacts, weak battery or magneto magnets, burned out condenser or coil winding and faulty mechanical action of make-and-break mechanisms. Among the causes of skipping, other than electrical, are, too lean mixture to be ignitable, too rich mixture to be ignitable or such as to short-circuit the plugs with soot, air leaks in intake between carburetor and cylinders, obstructed carburetor spray nozzle, water in gasoline, valves which do not

seat properly, particles of detached carbon deposits lodging between plug points and oil entering the combustion chambers and fouling the plugs.



OIL TO REDUCE ALCOHOL EVAPORATION

I have been told that the addition of a small quantity of oil to the radiator will partly stop the evaporation of alcohol from the anti-freeze mixture. Is this true?—L. O. W.

We should think that it would have this effect, as it would form a layer of involatile liquid over the surfaces from which evaporation takes place and somewhat restrict the passage of alcohol vapor bubbles through it, especially if the oil used be rather viscous. Probably the oil would attack the rubber water connections somewhat, but these are not expensive to replace. You can also reduce your alcohol evaporation somewhat by using an equal quantity of glycerine with it, the somewhat syrupy character of the mixture preventing, to some extent, the distilling away of the alcohol.

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

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Every reader of M. B. F. will be in need of one or more of the following items before spring. The next few months is the time you will do your buying for the coming season. Check below the items you are interested in, mail it to us and we will ask dependable manufacturers to send you their literature and lowest prices free and without any obligation on your part.

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THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



DEAR FRIENDS: I am re-printing below an article which I think you ought to read. You will do me a great favor and yourself a lasting benefit if you will take the time to read it not once, but twice and thrice, until its significance phrases and beautiful lessons are enshrined indelibly in your heart.

The book of life has many noble passages. But how often we skim thru the really worth-while verses, and spend ourselves with sordid chapters that awake within us the sleeping demons of discontent and unhappiness. Happiness is a state of mind, pure and simple. Look about you. Here is a woman with a large family of children. They are poor and there is much work to be done and much sacrificing to be made to keep the little brood fed and clothed. We expect to find a grim-visaged and self-pitying creature, who has soured against the world. But what a pleasant surprise it is to find so often that she is quite the reverse; smiling, happy, contented; carrying her burdens cheerfully; thanking God each day that she has the strength and the willingness to work and sacrifice for the children. Surely her happiness is not of the kind that is born of material possessions. It is a state of mind and nothing else.

I am acquainted with the woman, too, who has no burdens to carry. One expects to find her forever content with the things of the world, always cheerful and kind and agreeable. But what a disappointment it is to find in so many cases that the care-free woman is the unhappiest of all. It would seem that she has everything in the world to give mental comfort. But she persistently rejects happiness and refuses to be anything but miserable.

The mind is the mint where the golden doubloons of happiness are coined. So be careful of the materials that you store within it. Glean from the book of life only the beautiful lessons and apply them to your own experience. The article below contains many of these and will help you on your road to happiness.—PENELOPE.

Sunshine in Your Home

CHEERFULNESS may almost be said to be the "philosopher's stone," as far as daily home life is concerned. Its value is priceless and it blesses its possessors alike as it does all with whom they come into contact.

As one looks around at the world in general, one cannot but see how great an influence a cheerful person has, and that that influence is a good one. Depressed and morbid people infect others with their own dismal views and feelings; while on the other hand, the glad make others see life through rose-colored spectacles, simply by refusing to look thru any others, themselves. This does by no means imply that the cheerful person is unsympathetic and cold as regards the woes of others, or is so insensitive as never to weep at his own. No; the cheerfulness that is as a ray from the Sun of Righteousness Himself leads its possessor to weep with those who weep, as well as to be glad with the rejoicing.

In Mr. Ruskin's book, "Christ's Folk in the Apennines," there is a very sweet thought of an humble woman on the subject. The Tuscan peasant said there was no reason why each of us should not have "two paradises"—one in this world and one in the next; and "as for myself," she added, "I trust in my Lord about everything, and I think that is why I get on so well."

This, truly, was having the "merry heart" that "doeth good like a medicine." And most true it is that the patient and cheerful endurance of the ills of life, great and small, and the determinate looking on the bright side make and keep the body in health, besides tending to the well-being of both mind and soul.

A writer of the day, says: "Evenness of mind, to the sensitive, nervous temperament, depends very much upon order. Regular hours of rising and of sleep; a certain broad order of duties in the day, to prevent hurry, and to give the sense of rest, of duty done—not many things undertaken, but few and finished; this is part of the self-discipline depends upon."

"Besides order of time, visible order is a great help—neatness of person, and of home, with the proverbial 'place for everything, and everything in its place,' or rather restored to its place on the old-fashioned principle of clearing as we go. Visible order in its highest degree becomes highest beauty—the home full of brightness and good

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

taste, the face and dress and bearing as pleasing as care can make them. All this outward order is a tonic for the mind.

Another thing which much conduces to cheerfulness is the habit—and this can be acquired, though, perhaps, with some natures slowly—of taking pleasure in small matters. It by no means betokens a little mind to be quick to see tiny sources of pleasure and to be glad at trifling causes of joy. The sight of the blue sky and sunshine, a bunch of flowers, or beautiful fruit; innocent recreation, a pleasant book or a favorite piece of music; surely to be pleased at such things is one way of thanking the good Giver of them all.

*"Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if Thy blessings had spare days,
But such a heart whose pulse should be
Thy praise."*

The one who is ever ready to be pleased and is happy in himself is easily amused, and here I must quote Ruskin again. He says: "Never seek amusement, but be always ready to be amused. The least thing has play in it, the slightest word wit, when your hands are busy and your heart free. But if you make the aim of your life amusement, the day will come when all the agonies of a pantomime will not bring you an honest laugh." One great recipe for cheerfulness is to have

"That Shall Abide"

*WE hug our griefs too tightly,
We count them overmuch,
When hourly, daily, nightly,
Joy lingers for our touch.
We are too prone to borrow,
We are too prone to lend
The sorrow of tomorrow—
What gladness it may send!*

*The snow laughs in its falling,
The rain laughs with the grass,
The breezes all are calling
A joy song as they pass;
When wintry days are over
The rose laughs into bloom,
The chuckle of the clover
Comes drenched with its perfume.*

*Have done with mete and measure
That tell of saddened whiles;
Count up our richest treasure—
The lasting gold of smiles!
Let us link hands with laughter—
Grief lingers overlong;
We shall find our hereafter
Built up of smile and song.*

plenty to do. Idle people are rarely cheerful, and busy people are often quite the reverse. "That awful yawn which sleep cannot dispel" is never known by the busy individual, and for this alone cheerfulness is of benefit. It kills ennui.

Even, regular work, of which mind and body are capable, not spasmodic fits of undue labour undertaken only now and again, should be entered on. With regular employment will come a sense of peace, and cheerfulness follows not far off.

The checking of all needless complaining is a great conducive to cheerfulness. I have often noticed how the habit of grumbling grows upon people, until, indeed, they seem to forget that they have any mercies for which to be thankful. Complaints about the weather, food, clothing, minor trials, petty vexations—all these are very small matters, but when they detract from that serenity of mind which is so beautiful and helpful, they become serious. To talk needlessly about these tiny troubles is to make them more real, whereas to ignore them often effaces them almost entirely.

*"A merry heart goes all the day,
Your sad tires in a mile-a!"*

is true enough. Carlyle very incisively remarks, "Wonderous is the strength of cheerfulness, altogether past calculation its power of endurance."

It is easy enough to be cheerful, many may say, when all is bright, but when sorrow comes it is not so easy. No one would aver for a moment that it is, but there is an old Irish saying that in a very homely way expresses what is a very valuable recipe for equanimity of mind: "If you can't take it alsy, take it as alsy as you can." To be

able to feel resigned is a great mercy, but to be cheerful under trying circumstances is greater still.

Without faith in an overruling Providence—in the

*"Divinity that shapes our ends,
Rough-hew them how we will,"*

cheerfulness would be impossible. With it, it is possible; and besides the fact that it makes all trouble easier to bear, it also heightens all happiness and gives the power to receive it. In home life the cheerful member of the family is ever the one who charms the family circle, and mothers particularly can do much towards making home pleasant. Anything that tends to this is of great value, and a mother who is cheerful with her children, joining in their interests as far as she can, and ever bright and sunny, is linking them to home by a very strong chain.

LESSONS IN HOME COOKING

(NOTE: In the city schools the children have courses in Domestic Science and the housewives can secure all this information through a similar course in the Y. W. C. A., but for the women of the farms this advantage is not available, and so with the one idea in mind to have just as good for M. B. F. readers as is enjoyed by any women anywhere, we have secured the services of Miss Elizabeth Matheson, who is the director of the Domestic Science department of the Valley City Milling Company. Miss Matheson will give us a practical lesson in foods and the ingredients of which they are made up, and will also furnish some recipes from time to time. She will also answer any questions sent to her, in care of THE MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMER.)

A KNOWLEDGE of cooking is like a knowledge of spelling—easier for some than for others. While some may be "born cooks" still it is possible for others to acquire the art. Surely no art is of greater importance since it deals so vitally with human welfare and efficiency.

"We may live without art, we may live without books. But civilized man cannot live without cooks."

Too much importance is usually placed upon recipes. A good cook book should be a part of every housekeeper's equipment but it should be used as a help over the occasional hard places rather than as a guide in detail for every dish prepared.

Cooking becomes more interesting and very much easier if we learn something of the principles underlying the preparation of certain foods.

To be a successful cook one must have a correct sense of the value of proportions. An experienced cook—one who prides herself on "never using a recipe"—has, it may be unconsciously to herself, developed this sense of proportion. But this art is acquired only by long successful experience, and a well-developed judgment. Sad to say, not all of us acquire either though we may cook every day.

Intimate relationship exists between many of our common dishes and instead of using a new recipe for each new dish let our experience of proportions make one recipe serve a score of needs.

Returning to Wheat Flour

I BELIEVE one of the best pieces of news received lately by the housewives is that the restriction regarding the milling of wheat flour has been removed and the millers are again allowed to manufacture a high-grade flour. And no matter how willingly and patriotically we ate corn meal and dark bread we are glad indeed that we can once again eat our familiar and dearly-loved white bread.

A great many women have been sadly disappointed the last few months in the flour they purchased and the resulting dark and heavy bread. They thought their baking troubles were ended when the necessity for using "substitutes" was over, and expected the same good wheat flour that we had in the pre-war days.

But while the days of "substitutes" was past, the milling regulations were not removed and the miller was obliged to continue the manufacture of his war flour. Unless it states otherwise on your sack, the flour you buy is an all-wheat flour; that is, there is no other cereal mixed with it. But it

does not contain more than the outer part of the wheat berry than was formerly used, making a lower grade of flour; and that is the reason that so many women have had poor bread during the last few months.

I believe no one is gladder than the millers themselves to be allowed to put out their own high grade flour. It stands to reason that when a manufacturer has spent time and money perfecting a high grade article and is staking his business reputation upon it, he dislikes immensely to lower the quality of that article. Of course, we are all glad to do our share in the great emergency, but now that that is past, I believe both manufacturer and consumer are glad to get back to our former bread, a good white loaf.

I realize that a great many people say the war flour is "more wholesome," but opinions differ regarding that, and I think there are as many if not more who believe otherwise.

One must always remember that bran is not a food for us, and while in certain cases it may be beneficial in the diet, there are absolutely just as many people who cannot take it into their systems, but must depend upon other articles of food for the "bulk"

that the advocates of bran in the diet claim as its chief value.

The actual test of the belief in the "wholesomeness" of the war flour will come during the coming weeks, when both the war flour and the new flour—which is really the old flour of pre-war days—is upon the market. I believe the average woman will take the high-grade flour, and then when she wants bran bread will make a loaf of good bran bread.

If you bought your winter's supply of flour during the fall you have on hand then a nice supply of war flour, and if you happen to be one of the women who in the fall of 1917 laid in your winter's supply of flour and all of last winter had good white bread while others were eating substitutes, this winter will probably even up the matter. It is too bad, but I don't see how anyone can help you.

And for those who buy flour now remember the market is filled with war flour, and most of us will undoubtedly have a little more of it to use. I do not know what relief we can have, only to buy a guaranteed article from a reliable firm that is willing to replace an unsatisfactory piece of goods.

But your troubles with wheat flour are almost, if not quite, at an end.

LATEST STYLES and New York Patterns

No. 2422.—Ladies' Dress. Cut in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 5 1/2 yards of

44-inch material. The skirt measures about 1 1/2 yard at the foot. A combination of surplice and Norfolk is a new feature shown a great deal in spring styles. In fact most of the one-piece dresses have the waist extended in surplice or otherwise over the skirt, and in this style the upper skirt section may be tunic or made in one with the waist. Plain gingham or chambray with plaid binding is an attractive combination for housewives, or a soft poplin with figured silk would make a serviceable afternoon dress.

No. 2720.—Ladies' House Dress. Cut in sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 6 1/2 yards of 36 inch material. Width at lower edge is 2 1/4 yards. Plain and simple with long and short sleeves and buttoning the full length, this neat house-dress is one which will please all. The dress is made in one piece, having waist and skirt cut straight from the shoulder, and simply held in place by a narrow belt. Large patch pockets and trimmed with lapels of the plain material used for belt and facings.

No. 2718.—Girls' Dress. Cut in sizes 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 10 will require 4 yards of 27-inch material. The straight lines of this little model will be most becoming to a large fleshy girl, for all the fullness in the entire dress comes in the flare of the skirt section, which is set onto a deep jacket effect. The buttons down the back may serve only as a trimming as the opening may easily be made on the left side of the V neck, or vest in front.

No. 2708.—Girls' Dress. Cut in sizes 12, 14, and 16 years. Size 14 will require 3 1/2 yards of 44 inch material. There are some girls of 12 and 14 years who seem perfectly adapted to wearing these quaint, severe clothes, but they are few, and if I were to suggest a becoming style for young girls, I should never consider such an "old fashioned" dress, for truly, this dress could have been designed for her grandmother fifty years ago. I believe many mothers used to make a mistake in dressing children so old; they dreaded to wear the dresses and felt awkward and uncomfortable in them.

No. 2714.—Boys' Suit. Cut in sizes 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 10 requires 2 1/2 yards of 44-inch material. For brother's crisp, white linen frocks for spring what could be dearer than these semi-tailored suits with a real black patent leather belt and a bow tie? The blouse shows a military effect in the double-breasted front.

The style would be equally as suitable for a wool suit of navy blue serge, trimmed in brass buttons and how proud little brother would be to own such a suit! One thing of importance in making boys' suits is to make the trousers knee-length, but no longer. The extra inch or two in length over his knees will harm materially the effect of the entire suit, and give the appearance of being dressed in "big brother's left-overs."

No. 2726.—Girls' Dress with Gimpes. Cut in sizes 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. Size 8 requires 2 1/4 yards of 27-inch material for the gimpes, and 2 1/4 yards for the dress. The style of apron and gimpes will always be dainty and stylish for little girls, and it is an excellent plan for using out-grown garments, also for saving laundry. This style will be as becoming to girls of 12 years as those of 4 and 6 years. The full empire skirt is set onto the fitted jumper top, which is cut low in front, and buttoning in the back. The separate gimpes button well up around the neck, fitted with a deep square-cut collar. The sleeves are made in the yoke. Plain chambray, linen, or poplin worn with a white muslin gimpes is a practical, economical school costume.

No. 2712.—A comfortable Negligee. Cut in sizes, small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large, 40-42; and extra large, 44-46 inches bust measure. Size medium requires 6 1/2 yards of 36 inch material. The "Mother Hubbard" of years ago was a most comfy wrap to slip on when one felt tired or ill and today the same loose-fitting negligee is taking the prominent place in every housewife's wardrobe. This negligee hangs straight from the shoulder, showing a wide panel both front and back, and a skirt section shirred onto the sides from panel to panel for fullness. The shops show such pretty crepe for these more commonly worn negligees ranging from \$5 to \$15.50 a yard, in all the Japanese effects and colors.

No. 2555.—Ladies' Apron and Cap. Cut in sizes, small, 32-34; medium, 36-38; large, 40-42; extra large, 44-46 inches bust measure. Size medium requires 3 1/2 yards of 36-inch material for the apron and 1/2 yard for the cap. Just the serviceable slip-over work apron and cap. But now is the time to make these for spring. Ask your merchant for that 20 inch percale selling at 22 cents a yard. It is the same grade but cuts without waste in this narrow width in making aprons.



Herewith find cents for which send me the following patterns at 10c each. Be sure to give number and size. Send orders for patterns to Pattern Department, Mt. Clemens, Mich. Be sure to sign your full name.

Pattern No. Size

Pattern No. Size

Back to the Good Old Days

Now that the war is won and a good crop of wheat is in stock the Food Administration has found it advisable to permit the mills to go back to the manufacture of patent flour.

This is certainly good news for every one, and particularly those who have been in the habit of using the old time high quality

Lily White

"The Flour the best Cooks Use"

You cannot expect to bake the best biscuits, bread and pastries if you do not use the best flour.

Of course, a good cook will produce better results with a poor flour than a poor cook, but good cooks do not risk their reputations by using poor flour.

Certainly no better flour has ever been made than LILY WHITE, and it has been so universally used by particular, exacting housewives that it is now known as "The flour the best cooks use."

This fact is very suggestive and is a very good reason why YOU should bake with LILY WHITE FLOUR.

VALLEY CITY MILLING COMPANY

Grand Rapids, Mich.



An Hour With Our Boys and Girls

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

DEAR CHILDREN: Last week we finished the story of the Giants of Lilliputania, and if I may judge from the letters the children sent in about it, I am sure you all enjoyed it. Too bad, wasn't it, that General Dissatisfaction and the others should have come to such a sad end, and be compelled to leave their pretty home? But something bad like that always happens to those who are selfish enough to wish for things they cannot have. Some day I hope to tell you more about the giants who went to a far-off land, and there built homes and raised families of giants like themselves.

This week we are printing a cute little story about a modern Red Riding Hood. Of course, you all remember the story of how little Red Riding Hood went to visit her grandmother, was chased by a wolf, and how her father killed the wolf. This is a much nicer story, for the animal that our little Red Riding Hood thought was an ugly wolf was really only a big kind shepherd dog, who wanted to play with little Red Riding Hood. If you like this story, perhaps we will print other stories later on.

This month occur the birthdays of two great men, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. I know all of you have read about these men and their wonderful deeds in behalf of humanity. Next week I will tell you something about them, for every boy and girl ought to know the history of two of the world's greatest men.—AUNT PENELOPE.

Story of a Modern Little Red Riding Hood

By ADELINE MCGILVARY

IT HAD been snowing all night and in the morning the world was covered with a deep white mantle. It was Saturday morning, too. Elizabeth looked out of the window and said:

"My gracious! I never did see so much snow in my life! I'll wear my red cape and red hood and rubber boots when I go with the basket to Maum Liza's."

It was Elizabeth's custom to take a basket of good things to eat to Maum Liza every Saturday morning. Maum Liza was Elizabeth's old nurse, crippled with the rheumatics and quite poorly, but dearly beloved by her "honey chil'."

"The snow is pretty deep, Elizabeth," said Mother. "Perhaps I had better send Joe with the basket today!"

"Oh, please no!" cried Elizabeth. "I'd rather take it myself. I just love snow!"

So then Elizabeth's mother said all right and packed the basket with great care, laying a snow-white cloth on top. There was jelly and celery and a roast chicken and ham and a loaf of corn bread and apples in the basket, so it was quite heavy, but Elizabeth put it over her arm and stepped out into the snow with her red hood and cape on, and red mittens besides.

"I'll take a short cut through the woods," thought the little girl. "My, how nice and white the snow is! How it crunches when I walk! I wish it would snow oftener down this way."

She reached the woods and began to trudge along, crunch, crunch, crunch! under the trees. Almost all the trees were evergreens and right pretty they looked trimmed with snow.

"But how dim and mysterious it is!" thought Elizabeth, stopping to rest beside a stump. "It reminds me of fairy stories. How still it is!"

She listened and listened. Not a sound did she hear. It seemed as if every twig and branch on every tree were asleep or bewitched by a magic spell. These woods had been a favorite playground of Elizabeth's in other days. She had gathered early anemones there. She knew where the lively little rill came creeping down thru the moss and ferns from the icy spring. Somewhere near was the rock under which two friendly chipmunks lived, and a chinkapin tree grew close by, but where was it now?

It was all changed, and as strange as if she had never been there before. "Fairy stories could happen here," said Elizabeth out loud, taking up her basket and trudging on again.

It was stiller and stranger than ever as she went on, her footsteps crunch, crunch, crunching thru the snow—"as if I was a big, enormous giant coming," thought she.

So, to make it more sociable, she began talking to herself.

"Snow White and Rose Red—that's a nice fairy story. Wish I had a sister. Let's see! They lived in a little house in the woods. One night a bear came—ahem!" The mention

of "bear" gave Elizabeth an uncomfortable feeling. She looked over her shoulder and said hastily: "It wasn't a real bear. It was a prince. He had been bewitched by a wicked dwarf. Ahem! Guess I'll think of something else. Let me see!"

"There was once a little girl called Red Riding Hood." She stopped short, then she put down her basket and clapped her hands. "Why, that's me!" she cried. "I've got a red hood. I'm little Red Riding Hood. I'm going with this basket to my grandmother's house in the woods."

She picked up her basket and went on, making up this little song:

"I'm little Red Riding Hood,
I'm walking thru the wood
To see my grandmama,
Tra-la-tra-la-la-la."

"Red Riding Hood walked and walked and pretty soon she met a wolf."

Here Elizabeth looked over her shoulder again and said, "Ahem!" very loud.

"Oh, well, I'm not Red Riding Hood," she sang:

"I'm going thru the wood,
To see Maum Liza-za,
Tra-lee-lee, W-di-da."

Just then she heard a sound! Except for her own little voice and her own crunching through the snow, it was so very still in the woods that the tiniest sound could be heard clearly. Elizabeth stopped and listened. Crunch, crunch-crunch-crunch! Something was trotting towards her thru the snow.

"I'm not scared but I might as well hurry a bit," said Elizabeth. "Maum Liza's expectin' me."



THE Overhead Railway is one of the many wonders of the Wonderland of Doo. As usual, things are moving fast and furiously. Poor old Flannelfeet, the Cop, stood in the way of one of the cars and is getting an awful bump. But here comes old Doc Sawbones, who is in

The Doo Dads and Their Overhead Railway

for a tumble over Sleepy Sam, dozing away peacefully in spite of the hubbub. The Doo Dads in the elevator will also get a tumble when that silly little rascal cuts the rope. Percy

Haw-Haw, the Dude, has nearly missed his car. How helpless his Bullfrog looks. Smiles, the Clown, is into mischief with his pea-shooter while Roly and Poly are in trouble

on the ladder. See that poor old Doo Dad getting his head scorched on the cable as the car whizzes along. The foolish Crow is so much interested in the Cop's plight that he will surely be run over in a minute. There seems to be no end to the escapades these Doo Dads can get into.

She began to hurry and the more she hurried the faster she went, until she was almost running. Crunch, crunch, crunch, crunch! Footsteps coming nearer. She looked over her shoulder and there peering through the tree was a large, shaggy animal with a pointed nose, pointed ears, bushy eyes and bright eyes.

"The wolf!" thought poor Elizabeth. The basket was heavy and her boots were clumsy, but how she did run! Down she fell in the snow! Up she got and away she raced. She heard the animal following close behind. She thought she felt his hot breath on the back of her neck.

"What will Mother say when I don't

She was near Maum Liza's cabin and pushed open the door and latched it.

"Fo' de lan's sakes!" cried Maum Liza. "Wot de maitah, hon?"

But Elizabeth could only cling tight to her and sob out something about a wolf. Maum Liza held her tight and rocked her, saying:

"Now den, honey chil, tell youah mammy all 'bout it."

Just then there was a scratching at the door.

"The wolf! The wolf!" screamed Elizabeth, hiding her face in Maum Liza's shawl.

"Lawdy, hon, dat ain't no wolf!" cried Maum Liza. "Dat's Ebenezer,



She Looked Over Her Shoulder and There Peering Through the Trees Was A Large, Shaggy Animal.

come back?" thot Elizabeth. "She'll look for me, but she won't find anything but my red hood because I'll be eaten up."

This was a sad thought and made her cry. Then she thought of the chicken and good things in the basket.

"I'll throw something out to the wolf," she thought, "and he'll stop to eat it and I'll get ahead."

She reached into the basket and grabbed the first thing that came to hand, which was the ham. She threw it on the ground and the wolf pounced on it and gobbled it up in three licks. Then Elizabeth siezed a drum stick and drew out the roast chicken. Down she threw it, and away she fled.

now. In a minute she had reached it de fine sheppa'd dog dat Sam done brung me fo' to keep youah ol' Mammy company. Go open de do' fo' him."

Elizabeth went and unlatched the door and peeped out. There stood her wolf with a roast chicken in his mouth. In he came and laid the roast chicken down at Maum Liza's feet.

"Dar, now!" cried Maum Liza. "See, you-all mus' have dropped disheah. Aint he a good doggie to brung it back?"

Elizabeth agreed that he was a good doggie and in a minnute or two she and Ebenezer had made friends, and in five minutes they grew so fond of each other they were sitting side by side by the fire.

Letters from Our Boys and Girls

Dear Aunt Penelope: I enjoy reading the children's letters very much in M. B. F. I have four sisters and two brothers. I am a girl 13 years old and in the 8th grade. My teacher's name is Bernadette Barrett. I live on a farm of 70 acres. This is my first letter. I thought I would like to join the boys' and girls' club. I am writing a story about two orphan children and I will send it to you. Elizabeth Tonkin, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Two Orphan Children

Once there was an old lady and a man, who did not have any children, but they dearly longed for some. They said they would get them anything they wanted if they could only have some. There was a large city not far from there. It had a home for orphan children. One day the man said to his wife that he was going to have a boy to help him. The wife said that she wanted a girl, so one day the man took the buggy and went to the orphan home. He looked them all over and picked out a boy and a girl. He soon found out that they were twins.

The girl had blue eyes and red hair. The boy had blue eyes and brown hair. The boy asked about the horses, cows, pigs and sheep, and the girl asked about the chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. They could hardly wait until they got to their new home. After awhile they got there. They wore ragged clothes and holes in their shoes. When they got there the new mother met them at the door. Gyp, the dog, wagged his tail; tiger, the cat, purred. When they went into the house the new mother had a good dinner. The girl helped her new mother and the boy helped his new father. Their names were Florence and Walter. Florence helped do the dishes and sweep the floor. Walter helped his father with the chores. The cat liked Florence and the dog liked Walter. Walter had a horse, named Nellie, which he liked very much; she was kind and gentle. He would ride her down to pasture and get the cows. He would not run the cows or work the horses too hard. Walter liked the animals best and Florence liked the fowls. That night they slept sound. After awhile Florence got

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MAFIE RAPIDS, MICH.

R. F. D. No. 1

the breakfasts and Walter did the chores. They had a car after awhile and they learned to drive it. They went to high school and were graduated. They became the principal and the superintendent of the school after awhile. And after awhile they got lost from each other and the father and mother were gone.

Dear Aunt Penelope: I am well and hope you are the same. I received the Thrift Stamp and card you sent me and am thanking you very much for it. I have written to you once and sent you a Christmas story. Now I am sending you another story. I weigh 88 pounds and am 10 years old. I have light brown hair, blue eyes and wear glasses. My papa works in Midland. My teacher is very, nice to me every day and I like her very much. She wears glasses, too. Well, I think this is all for this time and will write again. — Margaret Gimmesky, Coleman, Mich.

The Snow House and Snow Man

Once upon a time there was a little girl. Her name was Gladys. She had a little sister, younger than she. They never had to do any work, nor never thot of it, and the days seemed very long. Gladys' little sister's name was Margaret. The snow was on the ground. They had lots of toys, but they soon became tired of them, so one day they thought of a plan. It was not cold; it was in the afternoon. Their plan was to make a snow house. So they started at once. First they made the sides, then the door. At one side of the house there was a window and a door. They had it fixed up real well. Then they made a snow man. When they had this all finished they thought and thought, and after awhile Gladys said, "Margaret, I know just what we can do, bring out our toys and fix up the house. But we must first ask mamma." Mamma didn't know that the children had made a snow man and house so she went out to see it. She was proud to see it, and said "Yes, my dears, you may." They asked mamma if she had a curtain so that they could put it up at the window. She had one and gave it to them, so they went out and hung the curtain, then they went in to get their furniture. When they got out they fixed some shelves in the house, they put their lovely set of dishes upon the shelf, then they put in the rest of the furniture. After awhile it was all fixed up and they went in to ask mamma to come out and see it. She came out and found the house all neatly worked. Gladys asked mamma if she could take a lunch out and eat it. Mamma said "Yes, you may," so she went in with the children and put some apples, big, round rosy ones, some cake, pie and cranberries and some candy, bananas and oranges in a basket and they went out into their little snow house and spread out the lunch on their little table and they enjoyed it very much. They took their dolls to eat with them, but the dolls would not eat, they weren't hungry. After they ate their lunch they carried the basket in. Winter days were passing for the children, for they were always busy at play in their playhouse. They spent most of their time in it. They had a flag on the top of it, its stripes were red, white and blue. It waved all the time. The snow man stood up as long as the house. Soon the days began to get warm and the house seemed to settle down. Every day it seemed to get smaller. At last it was spring and Gladys and Margaret had to take their things out of it. That made them feel very sad for they remembered what good times they had had in it.

Dear Aunt Penelope: This is the first letter that I have written that I have stated in it that I don't want to funny. I want to stay up and read the old year-end and the new year in but I got so sleepy that I went to bed. I received a large envelope yesterday thru the mail. It was a set of "The Giants of Lilliputia." I have the city built now and everything out. It is lots of fun. I am getting lots of new subscriptions. I already have two. How long do we get these sets? Please answer this as I would like to get many more. I received my Thrift Stamp today. I received a letter from Josephine Collins today. Do you remember in our children's race she was the first runner to write to her? I did. I will close now, thanking you very much for the Thrift Stamp.—Irene Smith, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Dear Aunt Penelope: This is the first time I have ever written to you. I am reading the letters that the boys and girls write. I also read the story "The Giants of Lilliputiana." We have four horses, ten cows, seven calves, three pigs and about a dozen geese. The horses' names are Prince, Scott, Topsy, and Pet. I have a cousin in France. I have a brother, his name is Klemence. I have cats for pets. I bought a \$150 Liberty and and so did my brother. We live on an 88-acre farm. I go to school every day; I am 11 years old and in the 7th and 8th grades. My teacher's name is Miss Mary Flannery. I have three quarters of a mile to go to school. We have a Dodge car and we live two and a half miles from town. We had an entertainment at Christmas time to raise money for the Red Cross. Bertha Kulish, Minneden City, Michigan.

COUNTY CROP REPORTS

Arenac (East).—At this writing the weather is warm and rainy, snow most all gone and water lying all over, just like spring. This weather is hard on winter grains, especially on low ground. Grains are a little lower and beans around the \$7.50 mark. Hay is slow and from indications there will be a big lot of it carried over, as buyers on the start paid high prices and the government cancelling their contracts has caused the demand to stop. Farmers are selling some hogs, cattle, etc. The epidemic of "flu" still prevails in this county. The Eastern Michigan Elevator Co. at Omer is still handling a vast quantity of beans and is a grand thing for Arenac county. Farmers are not as yet talking much of spring work. At an auction sale here Jan. 14, common grade cows averaged \$103 each. How is that for prices. Some farms changing hands and bringing very satisfactory figures. The following prices quoted at Omer this week: oats, 65; hay, \$15 to \$18; beans, \$7.65; hens, 16 up; butter, 55; butterfat, 71; eggs, 56; hogs, 16.—*M. B. R., Twinning, Jan. 24.*

Kent (N.E.). — Farmers are doing nothing but chores and fishing thru the ice. The weather is mild; the roads bad. Snow about all gone and wheat bare. Wheat so far uninjured. Lots of horses changing hands and bringing good figure, several teams have been sold for \$400 and better. Many horses being wintered cheaply on oat straw and a little grain and are standing the racket fine. That's better than the tankage works for the horses and their owners as well. Potatoes are nearly 75 per cent marketed around here. The following prices quoted at Greenville this week: Oats, 65; wheat, \$2.20; corn, \$1.40; rye, \$1.40; beans, \$7.50; potatoes, \$1.50 to \$1.60; hams, 20; springers, 20; butter, 52 to 53; eggs, 45 to 50; sheep, 10; lambs, 15; hogs, live, 16; dressed, 20; beef steers, 9; beef cows, 7; veal calves, 9 to 11.—G. M. W., Greenville, January 23.

Muskegon (South)—Farmers are hauling gravel, but the mild weather is taking the snow. Farmers are selling potatoes and straw. The Co-operative Creamery company held its annual meeting this week and they had a good showing; paid an average of 53c per lb. for butter during the year 1918. A number of new silos are being sold here for the coming year. The following prices were offered at Ravenna this week: Wheat, \$2.12; corn, \$1.56; oats, 70; rye, \$1.40; hay, \$30; rye straw, \$14; wheat-oat straw, \$16 potatoes, \$1.50; apples, \$2. —E. E. P., Ravenna, Jan. 27.

Genesee (South).—Farmers not doing much besides chores on account of rainy weather and bad roads. No grain moving at present and livestock moving slow. Prices on most every thing weaker. Auction sales are very plentiful and prices are working lower. The Fenton Co-operative Ass'n is planning on buying the Fenton feed and flour mills, and it will probably be in operation as a farmers' co-operative mill by the middle of February. The following prices were paid at Flint this week: Wheat, white, \$2.22; red, \$2.23; corn, \$1.50; oats, 62; rye, \$1.42; hay, \$25 to \$30; beans, \$7.50; red kidney, \$9; potatoes, 90 to \$1.10; onions, \$2.50 to \$3 cwt.; cabbage, \$20 to \$35 ton; hens, 22 to 26; springers, 25; ducks, 20 to 23; geese, 20 to 24; turkeys, 32 to 36; creamery butter, 62; dairy butter, 55; eggs, 63; sheep, \$8; lambs, \$14; hogs, \$15; beef steers, \$4 to \$9; beef cows, \$6 to \$7.50; veal calves, \$13 to \$18; apples, \$1.25 to \$2.—O. S., Fenton, Jan. 24.

Mecosta (North)—Farmers not very busy these days. Weather warm and ground not frozen very hard. A good many have sold their potatoes, the price was \$1.50 cwt. here the first of the week, but only stayed there a few days. The following quotations at Hersey this week: Wheat, \$2.06 to \$2.08; corn, \$1.30; oats, 62; rye, \$1.40; hay, \$18 to \$23; beans, \$7.50; red kid-



ney beans, \$7; potatoes, \$1.35; onions, 90; butter, 50 to 60; eggs, 50.—*L. M., Hersey, Mich., Jan. 17.*

Emmet (North)—The weather man must have turned a new leaf for this part of the country, and is sending us mild winter weather, at any rate that is what we have had so far and as the last few winters have been very severe we can appreciate the mild weather. Lumbermen are getting anxious about their logs as the snow is very thin and the weather so warm that making ice roads is impossible. No ice in Lake Michigan yet. The following prices quoted at Harbor Springs this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 78; hay, \$25 to \$28; potatoes, 60; butter, 55; eggs, 55; dressed beef, 12½; apples, \$1.—O. L. G., Cross Village, Jan. 17.

Oakland (North).—Everything quiet here. Not many potatoes going to market and most of them by trucks. Not much fat stock going; great call for hay, which is scarce and high. It has been hard on wheat and clover ground is bare and freezing and thawing every day. Farmers not doing much but cutting wood. Been threshing cloverseed lately; not much seed but it counts up in money at the price. Farmers in some localities are talking of forming companies and buying grain threshers on account of the high price charged by threshers. The following prices were quoted at this place this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 75; rye, \$1.40; hay, \$25 to \$30; beans, \$8; potatoes, 70; hens, 25; butter, 60; eggs, 55.—*E. F., Clarkston, Jan. 26.*

Tuscola (N.E.).—Springlike weather; snow about all gone. Farmers are hauling out manure. A carload of horses was shipped from here last week. Farmers are buying milch cows, prices are from \$80 to \$150. The condensary at Cass City is doing a large business and farmers are well pleased with returns. The following quotations at Cass City this week: Wheat, \$2.14; oats, 60; rye, \$1.30; hens, 21 to 23; springers, 21 to 23; ducks, 30 to 32; geese, 20 to 22; turkeys, 23 to 30; butter, 50; butterfat, 60; eggs, 50; sheep, 5 to 7; lambs, 18 to 15½; hogs, 14 to 16; beef steers, 5 to 10; beef cows, 4 to 7; veal calves, 10 to 15.—*S. S., Cass City, Jan. 24.*

Tuscola (Central)—Farmers are not doing much but chores just now, and getting up wood. Weather is warm with some rain; no frost in ground, bad for rye and wheat. Not selling much grain now; no market for beans and most of the other crops in farmers' hands and taxes are due; looks as tho some taxes will be returned or we will have to sell our bonds at a big discount to pay them. There was a car loaded with potatoes at Daytona last week at 60c, and it did not take long to load it. One car is not much when most of the crop is still in farmers' hands. The following prices quoted at Caro this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 60; rye, \$1.50; hay, \$21 to \$22; barley, \$1.85 cwt.; potatoes, 60 to 65; onions, 75 to \$1; hens, 22; springers, 22; ducks, 24; geese, 20; butter, 52; eggs, 52; sheep, 10 to 7; lambs, 10 to 15½; hogs, 15; beef steers, 10; beef cows, 4 to 5; veal calves, 14.—*R. B. C., Caro, Jan. 24.*

CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTION OF FARM CROPS

(Continued from page 4)

very strong financial interest in the corporation and would be personally interested in its success.

Naturally the Board of directors would be made up of stockholders, whom had been most successful in farming. This would give all stockholders the benefit of the judgment and experience of their ability. After organizing, the board should adopt by-laws, outlining the duties of its officers, fix the time of its meetings and the meetings of stockholders, also fix the salaries of its members and employees, including stockholders who help work the farm.

The large amount of capital now represented by this corporation would call for careful business management. The secretary should keep a complete set of books, showing all income received and expended, also giving complete details of the business. This would effect a considerable saving over the ordinary loose way in which the small farmer looks after his business.

Plans could be worked out so that the farm work could be divided into various departments, with one of the stockholders or an employee, adapted to that particular line, at its head. One could be placed in charge of the cattle, another the hogs, another the sheep, horses, etc. One could look after the machinery and tools, the fences and buildings, and see that the same were kept in good repair. Experience would soon work out a practical plan along these lines.

The co-operative farm plan would solve the labor shortage, for by uniting the small farms, the land could be worked more rapidly and with less help. The complaint of the boys leaving the farms and going to the cities, would be largely overcome. By conducting the large co-operative farm along commercial lines, with the best of machinery, it would prove attractive to most farm boys. The social life would be augmented by their coming in contact with more associates. These boys would aspire to place a part of their savings in such a corporation by purchasing its stock, and to become directors and officers, and to share in its dividends.

In organizing the small farms into the larger one, each stockholder could remain in the farm home and take active part in operating the large farm, if desired. His having entered the corporation would give assurance that the farm would be operated, even should he desire to leave it. He would be relieved of the responsibility of securing a renter, and he knows the farm work will go on successfully, whether he is there or not. A corporation is not disturbed by the death of a stockholder, as his stock simply passes to his heirs. This stock is negotiable and can be sold or transferred at any time if desired.

The great industrial corporations of the country are made up of thousands of stockholders, working together in unity. Experience has proved that large corporations have many advantages, both for the stockholders, and the public, over the single individual. Its success is demonstrated on every side.

There is no greater or more important industry today than farming. This great industry is the foundation upon which rests all other industries. More people are engaged in this occupation than in any other one industry.

The official census of 1910 shows that there were 6,361,502 farms in the U. S., which produced that year products valued at \$5,487,000,000, or at the rate of \$863.00 for each farm. This census gives the value of these farms at \$40,421,449,000. The same year manufacturing industries, valued at \$18,428,770,000, produced manufactured goods to the value of \$20,672,002,000.

The average value of products grown on each farm in 1910 was \$863, which

includes the labor of the farmers and hired help, while in the manufacturing industry each employee produced products valued at \$2,642. These figures show the difference between un-organized and organized business. Can our great agricultural industry be organized and made more profitable? Will the farmers make use of the means of organization, provided by the national and state governments?

The suggestions, herein submitted, are offered for your consideration with the hope that it may awaken an inspiration that will assist the farming industry to take its place in the ranks of commercial industry, where it may enjoy the privileges of greater reward.

The great world war is revolutionizing methods of government and industry. Old customs are breaking down and new and better ones are being established. The spirit of democracy and love of liberty is asserting itself throughout the world. Can we catch this spirit of progress and apply it to the everyday affairs of our lives?

MILLING CO. EXPLAINS POSITION OF MILLERS

(Continued from page 6)

desire to make less profit than the government allowed, nor because it is not necessary to get as much or even more, but on account of competitive conditions.

"If you will investigate we believe you will find our price on flour is as high as the average mill, higher than many of them because we are making a higher grade flour. On the other hand, of course, low grades or clears we have taken off from the high grade sell at from \$1 to \$1.50 per barrel less than Lily White.

"The writer has been in the milling business fifteen years and has never seen such unfavorable conditions or worked under such handicaps as we have worked under during the past year and a half.

"We can readily understand the wheat growers' viewpoint. He cannot see how he has somehow or other led to believe the Government price on wheat was a maximum as well as a minimum price, while as a matter of fact it was a minimum price. We understand in several cases he was told wheat would be no higher while instances he was urged to hold his grain when he was able to do so, as a patriotic duty, thereby preventing all stocks moving from first hands to terminal points, where, sooner or later it was known it would have to be re-shipped at a big cost.

"The most difficult phase of this subject for the farmer to understand is why he should have been led to believe he could obtain only a maximum price for his wheat, and while he was obtaining this minimum price have the price of flour and feedstuff regulated, and as soon as he had closed out his crop of wheat to have both flour and feed advance as well as wheat. Neither can we understand it from a standpoint of fairness. It isn't understandable. However, it is not the fault of the milling industry. It is the effect of half-way regulation discontinued. Neither can we as millers, understand why the raw material, the grain, should be sold for export or tied up at terminal points thereby depleting, as far as the American miller is concerned, the supply of raw material, forcing up the price of wheat on account of competitive buying and scarcity, all of which results in higher price of flour and feed and scarcity of both, particularly so of the feed, because of our raw material being sent abroad to be made into flour and feed by foreign mills."

Arenac (East)—Prices on produce are down a little, especially on beans which dropped 50c cwt. On account of the government not coming in for the beans it expected to buy last month raised hob with the market. It is hoped that the price of produce will right itself shortly. There are still some auction sales and the prices are good.—M. B. R., Twining.

If you have any extra copies of the M. B. F. would like to have you send me three or four. I would like to get my neighbors interested in the best farm paper in Michigan. Here's to keeping right on with the good work.—E. A. Duer, Saginaw county.

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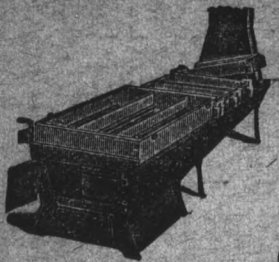
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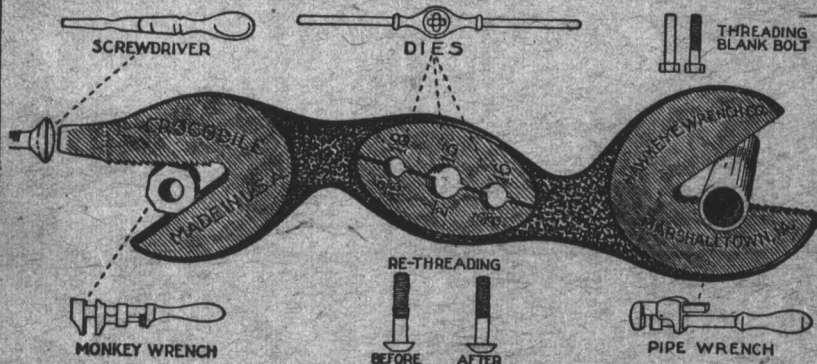
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EAT TODAY—TOMORROW
YOU MAY HUNGER

(Continued from page 5)

master manipulators. This plan will appeal alike to the consumer and producer, because it works in the interest of both. For example suppose there had been fifty thousand bushels of potatoes and two thousand bags of beans in the state storage warehouses in Detroit in January last—do you think for a moment that potatoes would have been selling at seventy cents per peck and beans at twenty-two cents per pound?

And here is another point, Mr. City Dweller, which should have your attention. When a car of foodstuffs is received on track in Detroit it must be unloaded, else demurrage charges must be paid. Unload we must; where shall we find storage? In the basement of some commission man's building, where the potatoes are held for speculation. It's a case of "heads he wins, tails you lose." If the products arrive on a glutted market the farmer gets a price below the cost of production; but mind you, Mr. Consumer, you get no advantage from the loss on the part of the farmer. Those potatoes are stored, and when the price goes up you pay the price and the profit goes to the pirates who scuttled the ship. Mark this down, Mr. City Dweller where you can refer to it occasionally: "There has not been a time during the past three years when the farmer received more than thirty-five cents of the dollar you paid for the products from his farm. The other fellows got sixty-five cents for handling; you paid your dollar and received thirty-five cents worth of farm products." And herein you find the reason why the farmer complains because he is not making a living wage, and you complain because you are paying such high prices for the products of the farm.

So here, Mr. City Dweller, you have a chance to take the first step toward independence; here's where you cut the first knot in the rope of distribution. If the state owns these storage warehouses the state can and will regulate their operation. It will not be left for the "parasites" who exist thru party manipulation in the cities, to establish rules and plans, but the whole matter will be up to a board or commission, which will establish regulations in the interest of both producer and consumer. Speculation will be barred and we will have a sufficient supply of food products within hauling distance, so that it can no longer be said that the city dweller lives in an iron-bound cage, dependent always upon the whims of those who do the feeding, for their daily bread. On the other hand it will place the individual farmer as well as the organized co-operating farmer in a position where they can establish themselves well inside the market walls which now effectually surround every city in the land. And when these storage warehouses are once established and the country districts organized how easy it will be for the city of Detroit, and other large cities, to establish aggregators or slaughter houses and cold storage plants where shipments of live stock may be received and handled at cost. Paris, Texas, is one thriving little city which has beaten the packer's trust to it, thru this plan, and other cities can secure their independence from the packer pirates thru similar plans of co-operation. The city and country must unite to solve these great problems if they are ever solved in the interest of both producer and consumer, and here and now, right here in Michigan, is an opportunity to take the first step first. If Mr. City Dweller, you do not choose to lend a hand, then it's the cage and iron bars for yours, and under the present plan of organized greed, may we add: "And the devil take the hindmost."

I think your paper hits the nail right on the head.—Paul Lehmann, Newaygo county.

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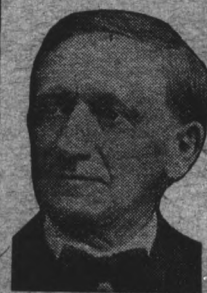


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IMPROVED LIVESTOCK AND BREEDERS' ASS'N

(Continued from page 6)

MICH. ABERDEEN-ANGUS BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2 p.m.
President, Alexander Minty, Ionia;
Sec'y, Ward Hathaway, Ovid.

"The future of Aberdeen-Angus Breeders," Chas. Grey.

"How the Angus assists me in Farming," W. E. Scripps, Detroit.

"How and Why Should We Maintain the Breed in Michigan," Pres. A. Minty, Ionia.

All Angus breeders should be present to hear these addresses as it will be profitable for them.

MICHIGAN RED POLLED BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1:30 p.m.

President, N. C. Herbison, Birmingham; Sec'y, E. J. Peabody, Milliken.

"Starting a Breeding Herd," J. M. Chase.

"The Future of the Cattle Industry," J. M. East.

"How We can do Our Best to Attract Attention to the Red Polled Cattle," E. Foster.

"How Much can a Small Breeder Afford to Pay for a Herd Bull?" Andrew Seeley.

Business meeting and election of officers.

MICHIGAN JERSEY CATTLE CLUB—Tuesday, Feb. 4, 3:00 p.m.

President, Alvin Balden, Capac; Sec'y, Mrs. P. H. Walker, Kalamazoo.

Address, "Economic Feeding of Dairy Cattle," Prof. A. C. Anderson, M. A. C.

Tuesday Evening, Feb. 4
Banquet. Speakers: C. D. Richardson, Chesaning; H. F. Probert, Jackson; James Helme, Adrian; Jno. Breck, Jackson; Hon. S. Odell, Lansing; A. Hendrickson, Shelby; C. C. Lilla, Coopersville.

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10:30 a.m.

Assembly at College.

Address, President A. Balden.

Moving pictures at theatre, "Hearts and Jerseys," featuring May Irwin.

Adjournment for lunch.

1:30—Address, W. F. Taylor, New Era, "A Small Machine and a Large Task."

2:10—Business.

2:30—Address, Hon. Samuel Odell, Lansing.

3:10—Address, C. C. Lilla, Coopersville.

3:40—Question box.

MICH. SHEEP BREEDERS' & FEEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10:00 a.m.

President, E. G. Read, Richland; Sec'y, W. H. Schantz, Hastings.

Short address by Pres. E. G. Read.

Hearing of reports and election of officers.

"Some Requirements of a good Dog Law," Jno. C. Ketcham, Lecturer National Grange.

"Progress Made in Sheep Husbandry in the State During the Past Year," H. H. Halladay, Pres. State Live Stock Sanitary Commission.

"What We Expect to Accomplish by Sheep Husbandry Extension Work," V. A. Freeman, M. A. C.

"What Has Been Done by a State Sheep Breeders' Ass'n in Ohio and can be Done in Michigan," J. B. Walker, Sec'y and Treas. Ohio State Sheep Breeders' Ass'n.

Discussion on these subjects until noon.

MICH. SWINE BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1:30 p.m.

President, J. B. Hibbard, Bennington; Sec'y, C. F. Foster, Pavilion.

"Economic Methods of Pork Production," E. Z. Russell, Swine specialist, Bureau of Industry, Washington, D. C.

"The Swine Growers' Organization and What It Means to Michigan Breeders," W. J. Carmichael, Sec'y National Swine Growers' Association.

General discussion led by Newton Barnheart, St. Johns, Mich.

Paper by C. U. Edmonds, Hastings, Michigan.

MICH. HORSE BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1:30 p.m.

President, Jacob DeGeus, Alicia; Sec'y, R. S. Hudson, East Lansing.

President's address, Jacob DeGeus.

"The Future of the Pure Bred Draft Horse," Ed Sprunger.

"Stallion Registration Problems," Jacob Black, Richmond.

"The Commercial Horse Market," John Sharkey, Bellevue.

Friday, Feb. 7, horse sale at 10:00 a. m.

MICH. POLAND CHINA SWINE BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10:00 a.m.

President's address, P. P. Pope.

"Does Size Count as Much as Quality?" E. R. Leonard, St. Louis.

"Do Filthy Surroundings Injure Sales?" W. J. Hagelshaw, Augusta.

"The Value of Pasture," L. L. Chamberlain, Marcellus.

"In What Way can the Association Help Most?" W. E. Livingston.

General discussion.

Election of officers.

MICH. HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN ASS'N—Tuesday Evening, Feb. 4.

President, M. W. Wentworth, Battle Creek; Sec'y, Chas. Daniels, Okemos.

Banquet held at 7:00 o'clock at Plymouth Congregational Church, Lansing.

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10:00 a.m.

Reading of minutes of last meeting.

Address, by President, M. W. Wentworth, Battle Creek.

Report of Sec.-Treas., C. A. Daniels, Okemos.

Awarding of prizes for 1918.

Business session.

Noon recess.

Afternoon Session, 1:30

"How Can the Extension Department and the local Associations Co-operate to the Best Advantage?" Wm. M. Rider, Director of Extension Service, Holstein-Friesian Ass'n of America.

"Problems of Milk Commission," Prof. A. C. Anderson, M. A. C.

"Future Possibilities for the Michigan Holstein-Friesian Breeder," Hon. D. D. Aitken, President Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

MICH. GUERNSEY CATTLE CLUB—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1:30 p.m.

President, Harry Ballard, Niles; Sec'y, C. G. Parnall, Jackson.

The President is preparing an attractive program and urges every breeder of the Guernsey Cattle Club to be present.

MICH. HEREFORD BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1:30 p.m.

President, Louis Norton, Kimby; Sec'y, Earl C. McCarty, Bad Axe.

"Why I Breed Herefords," Sam Bigelow, Cass City.

"The Hereford as a Feeder," Representative Wallace.

"Advancing Hereford Interests in Michigan," Jay Harwood, Ionia.

MICH. DUROC-JERSEY BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10:00 a.m.

President, Fred J. Droot, Monroe; Sec'y, O. F. Foster, Ann Arbor.

"Breeding Better Durocs," Discussion by members.

MICHIGAN CHESTER WHITE SWINE BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10:00 a.m.

President, Harry T. Crandall, Cass City; Sec'y, J. Carl Jewett, Mason.

Annual meeting and election of officers. An interesting program is being prepared.

MICHIGAN SHORTHORN BREEDERS' ASS'N—Thursday, Feb. 6, 4:00 p.m.

President, Jay Smith, Ann Arbor; Sec'y, W. W. Knapp, Howell.

"How to Improve Our Shorthorn Herds," J. L. Torney, American Shorthorn Breeders' Ass'n.

MICH. OXFORD SHEEP BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m.

President, O. M. York, Millington; Sec'y, I. R. Waterbury, Detroit.

MICHIGAN BERKSHIRE BREEDERS' ASS'N—Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m.

President, J. L. Miller, Caledonia; Sec'y, B. B. Perry, Leslie.

Short business meeting and informal discussion by members of club.

In addition to the above meetings, the annual Farmers' Week at the College is being held at the same time and will provide evening entertainment each night. The college is also staging very attractive exhibits in the buildings which were erected for barracks. The character of the exhibits will be such that no one can afford to miss seeing them while here.

Sales—Thursday, February 6, 9:00 a.m.—Holstein sale, pure-bred cattle.

Friday, Feb. 7, 10:00 a.m.—Sale of pure-bred draft horses.

Hotel Accommodations—Visitors will find it to their advantage and convenience to secure rooms for the night in Lansing before coming to the College, inasmuch as the several sessions will be practically continuous from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. The usual hotel rates prevail.

The success of these meetings is already assured. If they are to be of benefit to you you must attend.

The executive committees will appreciate the receipt of annual dues from members not present.

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Winter Protection and Comfort

Wearers of these Rongex high cuts kick their way through storms, slush and bitter cold with a laugh.

All men who work out-of-doors will appreciate these high-laced, bellows-tongued Rongex Boots.

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These Rongex Boots are lighter, better for the feet than heavy rubber footwear, and cost less per year. You won't go back to heavy Arctics and Lumber Jacks once you've worn them.

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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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Send for illustrated catalog: Barred, White and Buff Rocks; R. C. Reds; W. Wyandottes; S. C. Black Minorcas; S. C. and R. C. White and Brown Leghorns; R. C. Buff Leghorns; Anconas; Cockerels—Barred and White Rocks; W. Wyandottes; S. C. Black Minorcas; S. C. and R. C. White and Brown Leghorns; Anconas; R. C. and S. C. Rhode Island Reds.

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BARRED ROCK

FOR SALE—Choles Barred Rock Cockerels, bred from Detroit Winners. Also a few pullets and yearling hens. Tolles Brog, 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. B. Hough, Hartford, Mich.

ORPINGTON

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

LEGHORN

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.

WYANDOTTE

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

FOR SALE Blue Andalusians, Birds, Eggs, Young chicks, Flemish Giants, Rabbits, High grade, Write Dr. W. E. Newark, Chas. W. W. Michigan.

COCKERELS R. C. R. I. White, Large pure white husky fellows, prices reasonable, satisfaction guaranteed. O. E. Hawley, Ludington, Mich.

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

TURKEYS

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS—Strictly thoroughbred, for sale. Gobblers weigh 15-35 lbs., Hens 9-16 lbs. Price, \$7.00 to \$25.00, according to weight and beauty. Eggs, \$4.00 per setting of ten. John Morris, R. 7, Vassar, Michigan.



LIVE STOCK ON THE FARM

POULTRY, SHEEP AND SWINE

BEEF PRODUCTION BREEDING PROBLEMS

LINSEED OR COTTONSEED MEAL IN DAIRY RATION

In making up a ration for dairy cows the University of Missouri College of Agriculture usually recommends that the cows be fed all the alfalfa or clover hay they will readily consume, and to feed corn silage when available. To this should be added a grain mixture if good results are to follow. A grain mixture often recommended is four parts, by weight, of corn chops, two parts wheat bran, and one part either cottonseed or linseed meal. This mixture is to be fed according to the quantity of milk produced. One pound of the mixture is sufficient for every four pounds of milk produced by a Holstein cow or for every three pounds produced by a Jersey.

A question often asked whether linseed or cottonseed meal is preferable is answered by W. W. Swett. At the present time, linseed meal is retailing at \$70 a ton while cottonseed meal is \$68. The linseed meal contains a somewhat lower percentage of protein but a higher percentage of carbohydrates of energy. In total digestible nutrients they are almost identical, so that at the foregoing prices each pound of total digestible nutrients costs 4.5 cents in linseed and 4.34 cts. in cottonseed meal. The linseed meal is slightly laxative and cooling and even in small quantities, acts as a conditioner or tonic to farm animals. It is of special value to a dairy cow in preparing for her calving. It tends to produce a soft butter and is a useful addition to the ration when butter is hard or tallowy. The relatively higher carbohydrate content of the linseed meal makes it useful when a ration is not particularly low in protein but lacks carbohydrates. It is particularly valuable when alfalfa is fed without silage.

Cottonseed meal is valuable because it can be added to a ration containing a very low percentage of protein to bring the protein content up to requirements. It is the cheapest source of protein obtainable. In contrast to linseed meal, it is constipating and must be fed with laxative feeds. Butter made from cows receiving large quantities of cottonseed meal, is hard and tallowy, and pale in color with poor flavor, except when the cottonseed meal is fed with corn silage. In addition, large quantities cause a poisoning to the animals receiving it. Such small quantities as are fed in the mixture recommended will do no harm whatever. The dairyman feed-

ing a good mixed ration will do no harm in feeding small quantities of either one. It is not a bad plan to mix the two feeds half and half and feed the mixture. In general it may be said that linseed meal, when fed in quantities up to a pound a day, is slightly preferable to cottonseed meal, altho it is slightly more expensive from the standpoint of protein furnished.

WITH SILO WE CAN FEED THE WORLD

Corn is the king of silage plants on account of its high yield and universal use in the stock-growing country, but there are many other plants which can be made equally as well into good silage.

The sorghums thrive in many of the western and southern states, and have proven not only drouth-resisting, but also high-yielding crops; of these perhaps kafir corn is the most valuable. A feeding test at the Kansas experiment station found it the equal of Indian corn. Kafir corn makes excellent silage for all kinds of live stock and its drouth-resisting qualities make it a dependable crop.

Milo maize, sorghum, feterita and sudan grass are also members of the sorghum family, which are very valuable as silage plants, being drouth-resisting and yielding a high tonnage per acre.

Root crops, such as suar beets, mangels, rutabagas and turnips can also be siloed with good success.

Beet pulp as produced from the sugar factories has been used for many years successfully as silage. Beet tops are also easily made into silage, and in many parts of the country have become a staple forage for farm animals. Where beets are free from dirt, the beet plant, both top and root can be successfully cut up and put into the silo and will come out as excellent silage. In sugar beet growing sections the silo should be used to save the large crop of beet tops, which is produced each year. These tops make a splendid food, especially for milk-producing cattle, and can be equally well fed to fattening and growing stock.

The much-despised Russian thistle of the northwest and west has been proven to make good silage. It will grow when practically nothing else will survive in long drouth seasons. When cut while still green and put into the silo, it undergoes a fermentation and comes out as excellent silage, relished by all farm animals.

Sun flowers have also proven to be good silage plants and big yielders. At the Montana experiment station, they were successfully tested out during the year 1918. They have the advantage of a very high yield; often running as high as 30 tons per acre. The silage is relished by live stock and has a high feeding value, nearly equal to corn. In many of the western states wild sun flowers are a noxious weed and grow in the corn field with such luxuriance that they sometimes get the start of the corn and will make up one-half of the crop. I have seen corn and wild sun flowers harvested where the sunflowers composed two-thirds of the tonnage. The silage produced was not only relished by the stock, but also proved high in food nutrients.

Many of the weeds, such as pigweed, rag-weed, pigeon grass and bind weed, will also make fairly good silage, and for this reason a corn crop which has been taken by the weeds can be profitably and successfully harvested as silage. As the heat moisture produced in the process of fermentation will destroy all weed seeds, there

is no danger of making the ground foul by putting weeds in the silo.

Cane tops have been successfully siloed in the southern states, and in the Hawaiian Islands. As the tops are not of value in sugar-making, they can be successfully put into the silo and turned to great value in feeding livestock. The silo will yet come into its proper use.

In this reconstruction period when the demand is so great for stock and stock products, all forage plants should be put to their most valuable use. Many of the hay crops, such as clover, alfalfa, timothy, millet, oats, peas and soy-beans in wet seasons when hay-making is difficult, can be profitably siloed and in this way will not only be saved, but turned to a valuable end. Practically all our grass and grain crops can be made into silage.

Wheat, rye, spelts, barley and peanut vines will make fairly good silage. In the high plateaus of the west and southwest where peas and Mexican peas produce large yields, the silo can be used to store these crops and put them in such shape that they can be fed thruout the year or even carried for two or three years.

The silo has proven itself the most valuable equipment on the stock farm and without it a stock-farmer is handicapped and is not making the best use of his forage.—A. L. Hoecker.

Veterinary Department

Will you tell me thru the columns of your good paper what time of year is the best for dehorning cattle and the best method, and what would be a good remedy to stop the bleeding.—Leo J. Hoffman, Carleton, Mich.

Cattle may safely be dehorned at any time of the year, however, when dehorned in the winter and the weather is too severe they should be kept in a fairly warm place after the horns are removed as a matter of protection; the inside of the horn next to the head is very sensitive. The proper and only safe method is a dehorning instrument which clips the horn off quickly; applying a strong cord tight around the horn close to the head will in the majority of cases control the bleeding; in severe cases it may be necessary to apply the firing iron, however, this is seldom required. After removing the horns a pad of absorbent cotton well soaked in oil of tar should be applied to prevent exposure to cold and dirt. Care should be taken to prevent a too firm scab to form as sinus and nasal catarrh result almost every time.

I am writing you to find out what is wrong with my 3-year-old heifer. She eats well and is in good shape, but she vomits nearly every morning. I will thank you very much if you will tell me what to do for it.—J. N. Y., Kinde, Michigan.

Your heifer is slightly affected with an obscure abdominal ailment and should be given some good internal antiseptic. I would advise you give her one quart raw linseed oil to which add two ounces of turpentine. This should be followed in twenty-four hours with F. E. nux vomica, two ounces, one ounce salol; add sufficient water to make eight ounces, and give one ounce morning and night.

I think M. B. F. is a live paper, and should have the hearty co-operation of every enthusiastic farmer.—Arthur Grubbs, Wexford county.

Enclosed you will find one dollar for which please send your paper to the following address. Have received one sample copy some time ago and am certainly well pleased.—E. A. Prell, Presque Isle county.

The Milking Shorthorn

is the Farmer's Cow

Come with me to the Milking Shorthorn Congress Show and Sale at Erie, Pa., March 20 and 21, 1919
If you are thinking of attending this meeting or wish to know more about it write

Chas. Bray, Okemos, Mich., Breeder of Milking Shorthorns

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CATTLE

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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
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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.
Musolf 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 \$85.

ROBIN CARR

FOWLERVILLE, MICHIGAN

Clover Dairy Farm offers a very nice straight handsome bull, born March 15, 1918. Sired by Johan Hengerveld Lad, with 92 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. L.C.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 Kornayke from A. R. O. dams with records of 13.85 as Jr. two year old to 23.25 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 40 lbs. Write for pedigrees and prices. Fred J. Lange, Sebewaing, Michigan.

HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES

Sires dams average 27.74 lbs. butter 7 lbs. 14.55 lbs. 30 lbs. testing 5.52% fat. Dams good A. R. O. packing. Calves nice straight fellows & white. Price \$15.00 each while they last. Herd tuberculosis tested annually.
Beardman Farms, Jackson, Michigan.

WOLVERINE STOCK FARM

I want to tell you about our Junior Herd Sire, "King Pontiac Lunde Kornayke 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 Kornayke, 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 20 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 near set dams of hard give are both above 25 lbs. butter in 7 days, average 700 lbs. milk. E. A. Hardy, Rochester, Mich.

CHOICE REGISTERED STOCK

PERCHERONS
HOLSTEINS
SHROPSHIRE
ANGUS
DUROCS
BORDO BULL, KIMBA, MICH.
R. F. No. 1

BREEDERS
DIRECTORY

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

at College, Feb. 6th. Good Foundation cow, A.R.O. record as 9-year-old, 40 1/2 lbs. of milk 13.77 of butter. 30 lb. sister, bred to 30 lb. bull.

C. L. Hulett & Son, Okemos, Mich.

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.

SUNNY PLAINS HOLSTEINS

Types, Quality. A few bull calves from A. R. O. dams for sale.
ARWIN KILLINGER,
Fowlerville, Michigan.

WHEN IN NEED of Registered Holstein cows and bull calves. Visit our herd.
Dr. W. E. Newark, Charlotte, Michigan.

JERSEY

The Wildwood Jersey Farm

Breeders of Majesty strain Jersey Cattle. Herd Bulla, Majesty's Oxford, Fox 194214, Eminent Lady's Majesty 150934. Herd tuberculosis-tested. Bull calves for sale out of R. of M. Majesty dams.
Alvin Belden, Capac, Michigan.

GUERNSEY

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.
Woodcoats Stock Farm, Ionia, Michigan.

SHORTHORN

MILKING SHORTHORNS Mapelane Laddie No. 504725, a Grandson of General Clay 355930, 44 head of herd. Young stock of both sexes for sale. Can spare a few cows.
A. W. Thorne, Elk Lake, Michigan.

OAKWOOD SHORTHORNS. Three bulls from Bates cows, 10 to 12 mos. old.
Collar Bros., R. No. 2, Conklin, Michigan.

FOR SALE—SHORTHORNS Of Quality, Scotch and Scotch topped. Maxwellton Monarch and Maxwellton Jupiter in service.
John Schmidt & Son, Grand Rapids, Mich.

For Sale TWO roan double standard bred Polled Durham Short Horn Bull Calves, calved May 2nd and June 4th. Paul Quack, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, R. No. 2, Box 70.

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

SHORTHORNS have been kept upon Maple Ridge Farm since 1867 and are Bates bred. Two red heifers for sale; 1 bull, 10 mos. old.
J. E. Tanswell, Mason, Michigan.

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.

FOR SALE REG. SHORTHORN BULL, 18 mos. old, of best Bates breeding. W. S. Huber, Gladwin, Mich.

DUAL PURPOSE SHORTHORN Calves both sexes, from good milking cows, for sale at reasonable prices.
Roy Finch, Elk Lake, Michigan.

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.

HEREFORDS

HEREFORDS Herd headed by Bob Fairfax 404027. Can furnish you with males or females. Polled or horned. Write for prices. Earl O. McCarty, Bad Axe, Mich., Sec. Mich. H. B. Association.

HORSES

SHETLAND PONIES

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.

CLOVER LEAF STOCK FARM
Monroe, Mich.

O. I. C. SPRING GILTS, bred to good son of Grand Champion Caloway Edd. Priced right.
Dike C. Miller, Dryden, Michigan.

RAY WARNER, Route 3, Almont, Mich. Breeder of Pure Bred Shorthorn Cattle and O. I. C. Swine. A few Oct. pigs on hand.

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. Orton'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.

DUROC BOARS, GILTS

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

F. E. EAGER and Son
HOWELL, MICHIGAN

DUROC-JERSEY SWINE

We have some choice big sows and gilts for March, April and May farrow to offer, also fall pigs, both sexes, and two spring boars. Write for pedigree, description and prices, or come and see them. Will ship on approval.

Thos. Underhill & Son, Prop., Salem, Mich.

PEACH HILL FARM

We are now offering Registered Duroc Jersey fall pigs, either sex. We can furnish you unrelated pairs or trios. Write to us. Our prices are very reasonable.
Inwood Bros., Romeo, Mich.

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.

POLAND CHINA

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

FOR 25 YEARS

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.
JNO. C. BUTLER - Portland, Mich.

BIG TYPE P. O. BOARS, all ages, the kind that make good. Meet me at the fair. H. R. Leonard, St. Louis, Mich.

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.

Wm. J. Clarke, R. No. 7, Mason, Mich.

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

BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS. Spring boars all sold. Bred gilts ready for shipment. Inspection invited.
L. L. Chamberlain, Marcellus, Michigan.

WALNUT 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. BEED 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. O. Choice bred sows from Iowa's Greatest herds. The big bone prolific kind with size and quality. Elmer Mathewson, Burr Oak, Mich.

BERKSHIRES

THORO-BRED BERKSHIRE HOGS

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.F. No. 4, St. Johns, Michigan.

CHESTER WHITES

CHESTER WHITES—Gilts bred for Mar., Apr. and May farrow, of the large growthy type. Priced right.
F. W. Alexander, Vassar, Michigan.

SHEEP

SHROPSHIRE

Registered Shropshires A few large well fleeced three and four-year-old ewes bred to high class ram to lamb in Mar. and April. Flock established 1890.
C. LEMEN, Dexter, Michigan.

"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 test by parcel post will indicate a barrel of salt. Write for club offer booklet on "Nature and Care of Sheep."
PARSONS TIX-TON CO., Grand Lodge, Mich.

DOGS

DOGS FOR SALE

2 thoroughbred English Fox hound Pups, 8 months old; females.
W. G. Rice, Springvale, Michigan.

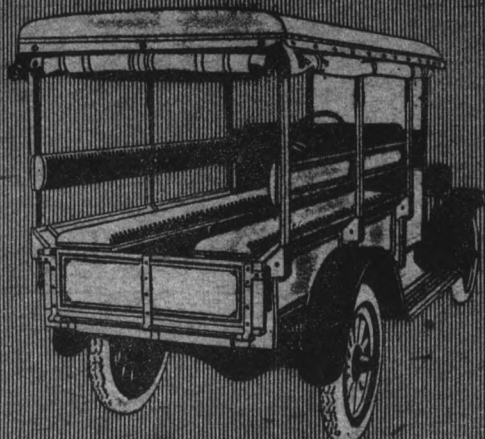
We Guarantee More Eggs

A good layer will transform one dollar's worth of food and supplies into 15 worth of eggs at present prices. To be a good layer a hen must be in top notch of health. That is GERMONE'S strong hold. Germone, three times a week, coupled with our simple directions for daily feeding, care and culling out slackers, is guaranteed to produce better and more permanent health and egg supply, or no pay. One woman averaged 18 eggs daily from 21 hens in December. Germone costs less than one cent per hen per month. See the profit.

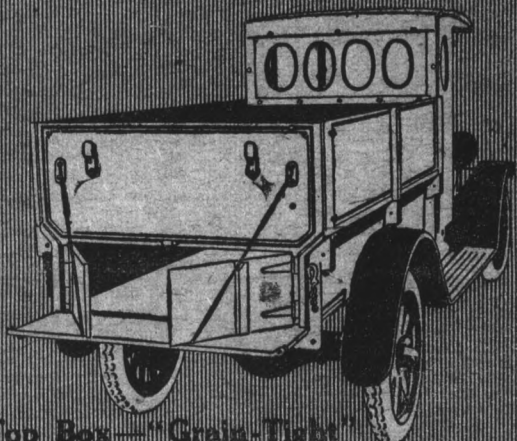
Germone cuts out the illnesses from rusty or spoiled food, impurities picked up with food from floor, contagion through the drink, roup, colds, cancer, throat inflammation, sour crop, etc. It goes well with any modern method of feeding—grain, vegetables, meat. SIXTY DAYS' TRIAL—PAY IF SATISFIED. To those who agree to use as directed and pay if satisfied, we will send GERMONE free trial on 60 day trial, postpaid, without preliminary charge. Write today, stating how many hens you have. Germone is sold by drug and seed stores in 75c and \$1.50 sizes.
GEO. H. LEE CO., Dept. 454 Omaha, Neb.

64 BREEDS Most Profitable Chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys. Choice, pure-bred, northern raised, Fowls, eggs, incubators at low prices. Free price's greatest poultry form. 26th year. Valuable new 112 page book and catalog free.
R. F. NEUBERT Co., Box 241 Muskegon, Mich.

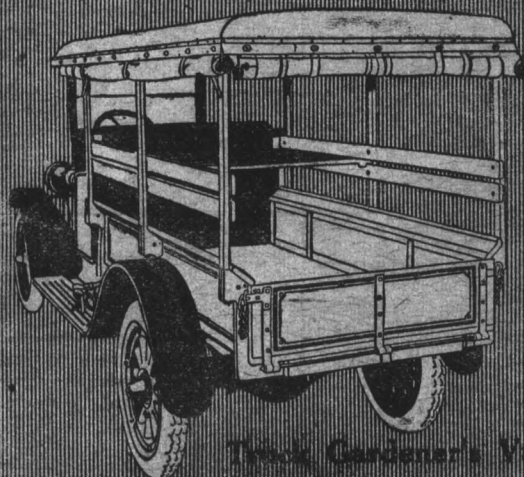
REO



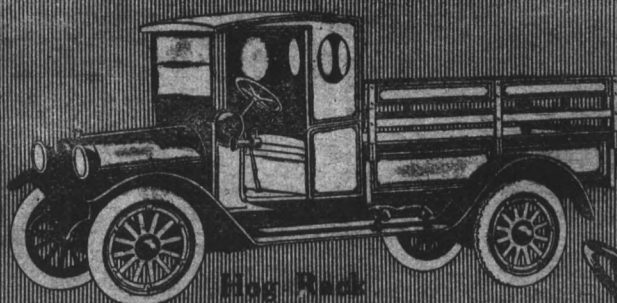
Passenger Car or "Carry-All"



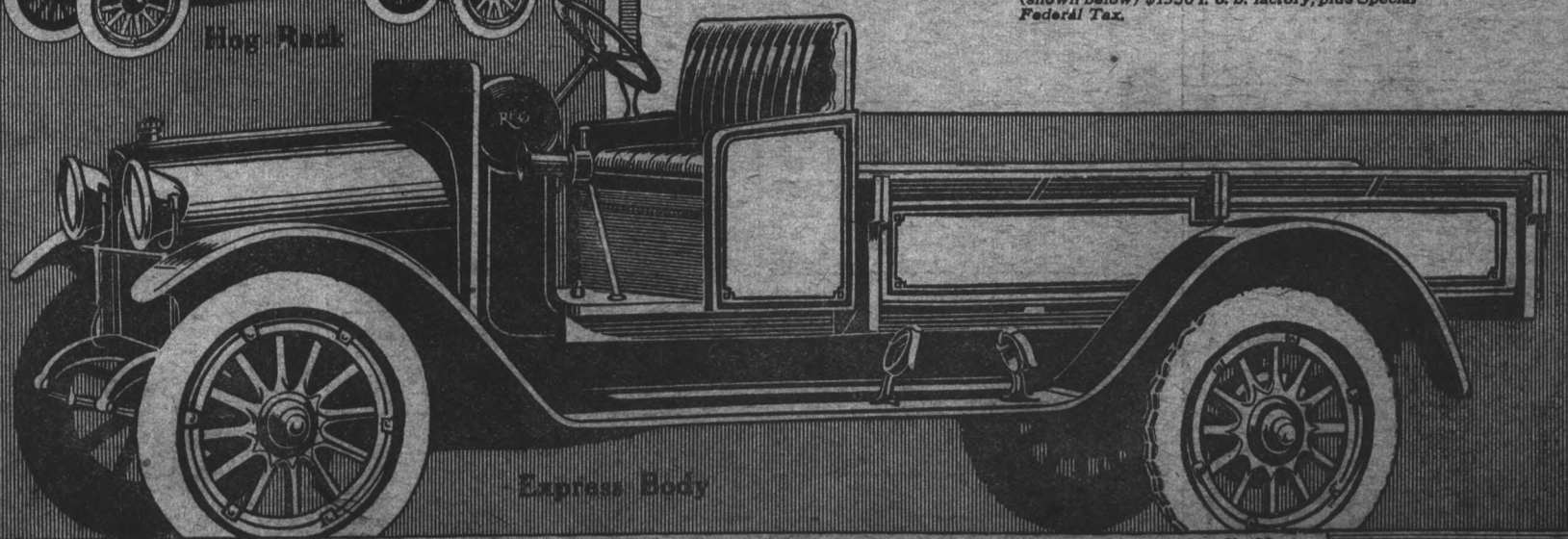
Top Box—"Crain-Tight"



Truck Gardener's Van



Hog Rack



Express Body

Another Triumph for Reo Engineering

There has existed a great need for a more adaptable motor truck.

The need was not for a chassis, for the Reo "Speed Wagon" had proven, in several years of use, that this chassis is ideal for every class of farm hauling.

But there was great demand for a body that would enable you to carry a maximum load of any commodity regardless of its density.

Many attempts have been made to develop a body that would be readily convertible into several practical forms.

Some of these have been successful to a degree.

Fault with all of them, however, was too much complication—too many adjustments and connections to get out of order.

Such construction also ran into a lot of needless weight to be carried all the time.

It remained for the Reo engineers to solve the problem in the simple, direct, substantial Reo way.

And they did it, not by making a convertible body that would fold first into one form and then another, but by a set of sectional units with one basic body as a foundation.

This basic body itself performs fully fifty per cent of all delivery service.

No user will need all the extra sections.

Each user will, however, need one or several of them.

You buy the Reo chassis equipped with the basic—low express—body shown below.

Then, to fit your special service, you select such other attachments or sections as you find most applicable to your work.

This Reo body in its several forms meets every requirement of speedy, economical hauling—in city and suburban as well as rural service.

There are seven forms in all.

On the left we show four forms of this body.

The other forms you may obtain at a few dollars extra cost.

Need we add that the chassis on which these body types are mounted has been longer in service and has been more conclusively proven than any other?

It is, in fact, the pioneer of its class—the first motor truck to be mounted on pneumatic tires.

Also, lest you forget; Reo was the first to see the need for, and to equip a motor truck with electric starter and lights.

The very classification "Speed Wagon" was original with Reo.

This Reo proved the superiority and the greater economy of the pneumatic-tired truck.

In operation and upkeep cost this Reo easily surpasses all others.

And so it should—for it represents the ripest experience and the soundest engineering known to the industry.

Your own Reo dealer will show you this versatile Reo "Speed Wagon" with the seven styles of bodies and quote you price on such as you may select as best suited to your own requirements.

Demand is—tremendous. Always is for Reos, but this season more so than ever before.

Only way to be at all certain of getting a Reo "Speed Wagon" for early delivery is to place your order at once.

Today won't be a minute too soon.

Reo Motor Car Company, Lansing, Michigan

Price—Chassis equipped with low Express body (shown below) \$1350 f. o. b. factory, plus Special Federal Tax.

"THE GOLD STANDARD OF VALUES"