"——the little "Pink-Sheet" that the Farmers swear by, and the Market Gamblers swear at!"

Michigan Business Farming

The First Crop Reporter and Market Guide ever published solely in the Interests of those who make a Business of Tilling the Soil for Profit

No. 29 (VOL. I) Born in 1912—and proud of it | DETROIT, *Saturday, May 10th, 1913* | 50c PER YEAR (TWO CENTS PER COPY)

Last Moment Market Flashes

THE LAST MINUTE before going to press, we secure quotations on the several commodities from the principal market centers. A detailed statement covering conditions, our predictions and special advice, will be found with each commodity on the following pages. The very latest quotations are:

Wheat, No. 1 White (large mills paying)	$1.05½
Wheat, No. 2 Red (large mills paying)	1.06½
Oats, Standard	.38½
Rye	64½
Beans	2.15
Hay (best market today, New York), at	20.00
Potatoes (best market today, Pittsburgh), at	.45
Butter	.30
Poultry	.17
Broilers	.25
Eggs	.18

SPECIAL—We want you to watch the Bean Market for the next few weeks. Just keep your eye on the indicator, and if you have good, dry, marketable Beans you are going to find that they are in good demand. Special information may be had for the asking.

27,000 FARMERS APPEAL TO COURT

A bill in behalf of 27,000 farmers in Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and other central states, holding more than $6,000,000 worth of stock in the Independent Harvester Company at Plano, Ill., has been filed in the United States District Court in Chicago. The company is a $10,000,000 concern, and the action was taken by a committee appointed by 1,500 of the 27,000.

The charge of the farmers' committee and their counsel is that the agriculturalists were duped into paying as high as $15 and $25 above par for stock in a concern touted by promoters as organized to "buck the harvester trust off the map."

Then, they allege, they were denied any voice in the management of their "trust buster." They further allege they are being duped by gross mismanagement of the corporation on the part of the missionaries who sold them stock.

The bill is directed principally against W. C. Thompson, president and controller of the voting stock of the company.

Farmers Demand Accounting.

The farmers ask that Thompson be made to give an accounting of the business of the corporation, of its profits and losses in stock, sales and machinery departments, that the corporation books be audited; that Thompson be forced to tell what compensation or profits he has received, and that he be made to pay back into the treasury of the corporation any money unlawfully received. The bill avers there has been much money illegally appropriated.

The bill asks that Thompson be removed from office, that the corporation be reorganized along co-operative lines, and that the holders of non-voting stock be given the privilege of voting in the affairs of the business.

The complainants state that 27,000 stockholders were duped by Thompson and his agents who did missionary work throughout the country. They thought they were getting into a co-operative concern, they allege, and find now, after years of promises, that the corporation is a gigantic stock selling proposition and not a manufacturing concern.

They say they bought with the idea they would get farm machinery at prices considerably lower than those of the International Harvester Company and at the same time make a profit in dividends from the sale of the machinery.

"Machinery Discount" Stock.

They bought what is called preferred machinery discount stock. They thought, they state in the bill, they were getting regular controlling stock. They found later these holdings gave them no vote and no voice in the management.

The bill states $9,000,000 worth of the stock is non-voting. The other million is controlled by Thompson. He holds the directors' meetings in Portland, Me. Six million dollars of the machine discount stock has been sold.

The Independent Harvester Company was organized in 1905 to buck the trust. It was evolved from the Kellogg Harvester Company of Plano. It never has paid a dividend, although the bill states stock solicitors have represented that it soon was to pay one of from 10 to 25 per cent.

Start of the Indignation.

Trouble began when the plant at Plano could not manufacture enough machines to meet the orders. Indignation meetings were held in several states. The greatest number of stockholders live in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota. A committee was appointed to investigate, but it is alleged little satisfaction was received.

The last directors' meeting was held in January in Maine. At that time members of the committee asked for an accounting. The directors, of whom Thompson was the leader, voted against an accounting, says the bill.

It is said Thompson receives a salary of $12,000 under a resolution which authorizes the payment of not more than $18,000 to the president. More than $50,000 has been paid to him under this resolution, it is alleged. He also has received, according to the bill, expense money to the amount of $10,000 a year, in all $40,000, for which there has been no accounting.

Says Salary is Excessive.

The bill says the salary is excessive and that the president of the company is a stock broker and knows nothing about manufacturing.

Thompson is accused of getting money fraudulently through the transfer of land from himself to the company. The bill states that he has bought property and then transferred it to the corporation without giving a statement of the cost to him of such land. It alleges he is renting one piece of land he bought and transferred to the Harvester company and that the rent is inadequate. The farmers alleged he also made money from the corporation through deals in coal and timber lands.

All of the time of the officers has been used in selling stock, the plaintiffs allege, instead of manufacturing machinery to compete with the trust, although the company is declared to be possessed of sufficient money and a plant.

Stock Selling Chief Business.

More than $3,000,000 worth of stock has been sold during the last two years.

The bill says that while the officers represented the plant as running economically and successfully during 1912, the company expended $1,200,000 in manufacturing and produced goods selling at $800,000.

One of the propositions outlined by the company was this, according to the bill: The officers said they could manufacture a grain binder for $45. The trust (International Harvester Company) was selling the same machine for $100. The independent company was to sell it for $130 and turn over the balance of $85 as profit to the stockholders.

Thompson carried on his corporation books as assets, the bill goes on to say, $1,282,000 which was not assets, but expenditures for office help, agents' commissions, advertising, etc.

"Barred in Certain States."

"The mismanagement and fraudulent misrepresentations of the officers of the company," reads the bill, "so injured the reputation of the company and its products that advertisements are being refused by farm journals. The company has been barred from doing business in certain states."

It is alleged that the plant at Plano is merely a show place to help the sale of stock, that while there is a little manufacturing, there is more jobbing and assembling of machines manufactured in other plants.

The bill states that Thompson is contemplating the erection of another large plant merely for making an impression on prospective stockholders and an injunction preventing him from doing this is asked.

URGES HIGH TARIFF ON BEANS

The tariff question is being discussed pretty thoroughly down at Washington these days. During the past week several congressmen from the agricultural districts have been fighting for a retention of the present tariff duties on many of the farm products. Under the new bill the tariff on beans will be reduced from 45c to 25c per bushel. While we see no necessity of even reducing the tariff on beans, we are not at all afraid that the farmers will suffer to any great extent through competition on this commodity iwth their Canadian brothers, so long as the 25c per bushel is retained. Congressman Samuel M. Smith, of Pontiac, in addressing the House the other day said:

"The bean crop is one of the most important in the state of Michigan. This bill reduces the tariff on beans from 45 cents to 25 cents per bushel. If the bill is permitted to become a law in its present form, I fear that Canada, whose border line is just across the river from Michigan, and produces beans in great abundance, will take possession of the Detroit and other markets, as she did under the Wilson-Gorman bill, and greatly injure, if not practically ruin the industry in Michigan.

"Michigan raises 70 per cent or more of the bean crop in the United States, or more than 6,000,000 bushels out of the 10,000,000 or more bushels raised in the United States. The farmers of Michigan receive a handsome return annually aggregating between $10,000,000 and $15,000,000 each year for their bean crop.

"Scattered along the railways at many stations throughout my district, one can find bean houses where many women are employed at splendid wages. I fear that if this bill becomes a law, that not only the farmers and local buyers will be greatly injured, but that the splendid wages which have been paid to women for work in the bean houses will be greatly reduced."

DRY FARMING TO BE TRIED.

E. B. Payne, the "Peach King," of Hope township, and a prominent member of the International Dry Farming congress, who represents the organization in this state, will endeavor to interest Gov. Ferris and other state officials in dry farming methods, by which he is certain that thousands of acres of lands may be rescued for cultivation. Mr. Payne, who has originated means of scientific farming and horticulture, which has enabled him to create a peach of his own, has applied dry farming methods on his farm with success. "Plow deep and then follow with scientific farming," is his method. By the conservation of moisture, Mr. Payne says, the sandy lands of this state may be easily rescued. Dry farming methods have been so developed in the west, Mr. Payne says, that within 10 years they will entirely replace "ditch" farming, as wheat raised by dry methods contains a larger per cent of protein, and brings 22 cents more a bushel.

SEND COUPON from Page 5 for "BOOSTERS CLUB" BUTTON—Free to Readers

A Market Review from the Farmers Standpoint

HAY

The week's development in hay channels seems to demonstrate that something of a spasmodic nature exists. We say spasmodic, while we really believe that a combination of this with indefiniteness would almost completely show the present position of hay relative to its possibilities from a marketing standpoint. It appears of a spasmodic nature, because from the different market centers which cover every available avenue of escape for our hay, comes a very wide difference in tone to the situation and actual results possible to get out of the present situation. More and more spasmodic does this appearance become when we can actually experience and see as a result of actual trades being made from day to day, that said trades are subject to such a wide variance in selling strength. From one market center, for instance, the situation one day is very strong, in sympathy with which a much longer price can be drawn for receipts available; only a day or two later and the situation on this particular market becomes the reverse, the market sluggish, the condition from all angles handicapped from a selling strength and greatly reduced values in actual evidence. At the time this market showed its spirited form, some other market of like magnitude was the opposite. When our first named market is in a sluggish condition, our neighboring market has shown a reversal of form and is paying a premium.

We think this will demonstrate to you, at least, we hope so, that the situation today is both spasmodic and because of its being spasmodic, is of a somewhat indefinite nature. A spasmodic condition from a commercial or marketing standpoint always forms an asset to the general situation in the following manner.

Its tendency is to cause an excitement to exist on the part of traders. It shows up a given possibility in some given direction. This injects real spirit and tone on the part of the dealers in hay, therefore, the natural result is that you, as a producer or raiser in hay, will see better conditions existing locally as well as on the outside. We are giving you these conditions so that you will appreciate not only your position, as a grower, but that you will also understand the position of the man who is trading, which means nothing else or any other than your local dealers. This is the basis on which they are trading today. The above conditions act as a real stimulus or opiate. The one injects real tone, life and spirit to conditions existing, the other produces a sleepy effect on which and out of which a sluggish market is the result. We do not contend that the above affects you in a monetary way as to the disposition of your this season's hay crop, but we hope that it contains something of an educational feature along the lines of conditions affecting those who are working with you, to the end of placing your commodities on the market, therefore, if the above is correct, it should be found of some particular value to you.

The concrete example before us today is but little different and shows but slight variance over the one constantly before us from the inception of the season. It shows but slight variance, because of our having gotten at the real meat of the problem at the outset. Results have proven that we were correct as to the surplus of hay this year, that we were also correct as to the very small percentage of high-class goods. Our outline for this season's operations has been of great value and assistance to the marketers of hay over the state, because actual results have proven that there was no other manner in which the proposition could have been handled and have maintained a sane and safe regulator on results. This high-class hay which we have been advising you contained some strength, in fact, the only kind of hay which had any strength whatever, is today showing and demonstrating just what merits it has. The trade on the outside is making a call. As was first demonstrated in this article, this call is of a spasmodic nature, but at the same time, it is a call and shows that on this particular kind of hay there is a decided revelation of form over that which was facing us at the outset of the season. No other grades of hay excepting high qualities are held in any favor whatever. It is still self-evident that we will be unable to place all of our low grade or common qualities of hay on the market. It also demonstrates that we will not have a surplus of desirable qualities. This combination must work out to the result that high-clas hay will show a tendency, if properly handled, to at least maintain its present standard of level with a keen possibility of showing a further advance. We must be careful when seeding time is over not to dump all of this hay onto the market at one time. If you do this, it is possible that the above reasoning will not hold true, neither could you expect it, but if you regulate the disposition of the remainder of this good hay, it will show a dividend based on former conditions.

OUR MARKET SIGNALS

THE Weather Man takes his observations; gets his reports from other stations and "guesses the weather." We take our observations, have our reports from other stations, and with these as a basis we are going to take a chance at the markets. We will not hit it every time; neither does the weather man. But if we keep just a few farmers from getting "soaked" it will pay. Get on your "Slickers" and watch the signals:

No. 1—Good, substantial demand and present conditions favor steady market, at profitable prices. No. 2—Market clearing up and better prices predicted. No. 3—Market very quiet; has every appearance of being over-fed. No. 4—No profit at ruling prices. If you can hold, this is an "eleventh hour" proposition. No. 5—Better keep in port. Storm on. Prices may go lower but we would take a chance.

HAY—MICHIGAN ZONE PRICES.

Zone No. 1 Michigan	$10.60
Zone No. 2 Michigan	12.20
Zone No. 3 Michigan	13.00
Zone No. 4 Michigan	12.80
Zone No. 5 Michigan	12.40
Zone No. 6 Michigan	12.80
Zone No. 7 Michigan	13.70

NOTE—The prices quoted are for No. 1 Timothy in the different freight zones. This gives you the price dealers should be able to pay for this commodity f. o. b., their station, under existing market conditions. Handling charge not included.

DETROIT—The situation in Detroit is not at all dependable. What dependence there is in this market is based on good stuff. Last week the situation based on common qualities of hay began to look very much depressed. Sellers of these characters of hay were having very much trouble to place them on basis of quotations. With any accumulation at all, this market will show a keen reduction in values on anything below nice No. 2 fancy light mixed or No. 1 timothy.

HAY—DETROIT MARKET.

No. 1 Timothy	$15.00
No. 2 Timothy	12.50
No. 3 Timothy	9.00
Light mixed	12.50
No. 1 mixed	11.50
No. 2 mixed	8.00
Rye Straw	9.00
Wheat and Oat Straw	8.00

PITTSBURGH—The last week has experienced comparatively heavy runs of hay to the Pittsburgh market, with a percentage of this run being of hay far below No. 1 in quality. This has put the situation in a temporary depressed condition. We do not feel it warrantable to quote this market as being dangerous, because if receipts should happen to react, they will be able to come out from under the conditions which now confront them, but with a continuance, we know that the market would be easier on anything but high-class hay.

HAY—PITTSBURGH MARKET.

No. 1 Timothy hay	$15.50
No. 2 Timothy hay	13.50
No. 3 Timothy	11.00
No. 1 Light mixed hay	13.00
No. 1 Clover mixed hay	13.00
No. 1 Clover hay	12.00
Fine Prairie Packing Hay	10.00
No. 1 Oat straw	9.00
No. 1 Rye Straw	11.00
No. 1 Wheat straw	9.00

CHICAGO—The situation which we reported in Chicago last week cleaned up very nicely. No one apaprently got hurt with the increase in receipts reported. Sellers, as a rule, held off and worked out of it in that way. Chicago last week experienced only moderate receipts, with the result, that the tone to the situation is quite satisfactory. Quotations as shown are being maintained with actual trades.

HAY—CHICAGO MARKET.

Choice Timothy	$17.00
No. 1 Timothy	15.00
No. 2 Timothy	13.00
Light Clover Mixed	13.00
No. 2 Mixed hay	10.00
No. 3 Timothy	10.00
Clover	10.00
Threshed Timothy	8.00
Marsh feeding hay	7.00
Packing	6.00
Choice Alfalfa	18.00
No. 1 Alfalfa	16.00
Rye	8.00
Oats	7.00
Wheat	6.50

BOSTON—Receipts for the past week were 386 cars of hay, seven of straw, 16 cars of this hay were billed for export. The corresponding week last year shows 274 cars of hay, seven cars of straw, with 45 cars of this hay billed for export. Receipts of hay during the last week were really more than the trade was calling for, with the spot situation rather weak. This was more noticeable, of course, on the poorer grades. The situation on very common hay was really serious, there practically being no demand whatever.

HAY—BOSTON MARKET.

	Large bales.	Small bales.
Hay, choice	$21.50	$20.50
Hay, No. 1	19.50	19.50
Hay, No. 2	17.00	17.00
Hay, No. 3	14.00	14.00
Hay, clover	15.00	15.00
Hay, clover mixed	15.00	15.00
Hay, stock	13.00	13.00
Long rye straw	18.00	
Tangled rye straw	12.00	12.00
Oat straw	11.00	11.00

NOTE—Large bales weigh from 200 to 250 pounds; medium bales from 80 to 100 pounds.

NEW YORK—The situation during the past week in New York has been really spirited. Understand, however, that this reflects on No. 1 and No. 2 timothy and fancy light mixed. All grades below this still remain in the buyer's favor.

HAY—NEW YORK MARKET.

New Hay: Timothy— Choice.	Large bales, per ton.	Small bales, per ton.
No. 1	$21.00	$21.00
No. 2	18.00	17.00
No. 3	14.00	13.00
Light Clover Mixed	17.00	17.00
No. 1 Clover Mixed	16.50	16.50
No. 1 Clover	16.00	16.00
No. 2 Clover Mixed	13.50	13.50
Straw—		
No. 1 Rye	17.00	
No. 2 Rye	16.00	
No. 1 Oat	11.50	11.00
No. 1 Wheat	11.50	

NOTE—Large bales weigh from 200 to 250 pounds; medium bales from 80 to 150 pounds.

POTATOES

The potato situation is fast coming around to a point where, we, as producers, must determine just what we are going to do. By that, we mean, determine on basis of our own estimation of the situation what is going to happen so that we in turn will know how to prepare for the happening. That brings us right around to this point. Are these potatoes going higher? Are they going to maintain themselves on their present level or are they going lower? There are three courses which the potato situation must take from now on. Which one of these courses do you think they are going to take, so that you can lay your plans to best protect yourselves in the starting of them out on their market journey? We have no right to figure on this outcome in a haphazard way. We should take a certain line of reasoning why the outcome is liable to be so and so. If it looks logical, shows assets in excess of liabilities, we would then have a reasonable right to pursue that course. We all know that there is an indefiniteness to the future possibilities of any given commodity. We know that there are angles to the situation that no one can figure out with any degree of certainty. We appreciate this more and more as we become more and more completely fooled as to what we thought the outcome was going to be. None of us exist who have given study to the future possibilities of the potato situation, but who has been absolutely fooled and wrong as to the outcome. There are so many things that may happen that this outcome at times becomes the inevitable, therefore, we can only take a general course of action, based on a general line of reasoning and possibilities and act accordingly.

Let us first take, "Why potatoes could go higher." We know that Michigan, Maine and New York have only a limited supply of potatoes still back. These three states could just about take care of the eastern states, with a little assistance from the early potato crop from the south. The result would be that the old potato crop would advance around 25c per bushel, because of the natural condition which now confronts us from an early potato crop point. They could go higher, because as reports show, Wisconsin and Minnesota are fast coming to a point where the western and southern outlet will be given their attention. The moment they are eliminated from the eastern markets, the above possibilities are the result.

Second—Potatoes could maintain themselves on their present level because of the fact that they have almost established a definite market value from the very inception of the season. So forcible and uniform has been this value set, that it has almost reached a popular price line, therefore, potatoes can maintain themselves, because they have established their own marketing value maintenance. They have gotten into a rut, followed it and it may be possible that they will not get out. The rut will not become deeper or wider, simply longer, until the end.

Third—Potatoes could go lower, because there has been an exceptionally heavy crop of early potatoes. It develops that climatic conditions have been the most favorable in years. A genuine bumper crop being the result. The early potato situation might commence to show a real depression unless something in the way of price came in to show relief. Also, our western neighbors, Minnesota and Wisconsin, may not be so nearly cleaned up as reports show. They may continue to ship east as they have been all through the year. If they do and the early potato situation develops as above, the combination might result in our old potato crop being forced still lower. Not only this, but Michigan, Maine and New York may have more potatoes back than we think. When the anticipated amount of potatoes needed for local consumption is considered and the surplus gotten ready for the market, it may aggregate an amount far in excess of our present advice.

These three angles might deal almost a death blow to our weak patient. After you have read the above and studied it over, you will say at once that you have thought of the same things. We appreciate that most of you have and hope that all of you have, but you must appreciate, along with us, that the above are both the assets and liabilities to the potato situation today, and on basis of those assets and liabilities, you must come to some definite understanding as to what you are going to do. It is a day when we must be definite. We must do our business along definite lines. We must get on a foundation and stay there, therefore, what is going to be the manner of disposition of the balance of your crop? Are we going to market them in a haphazard way or are we going to show a determination for better conditions through regulating the disposition?

When you have sized up the assets and liabilities, as above given, you will find that you have an equal chance today in the fight scheduled. The greatest asset we have is, potatoes at their present standard of levels are way below normal from a food stuff angle. They are so cheap that the consumption is not only enormous constantly, but will increase. We would suggest keeping a stiff upper lip in the saying of "I will take or I will not, the price going today." We almost feel sure that it is possible to show a keen advancement in our present potato situation. We do not want to be optimistic, but conservative. The drawing of the line is what established life's real test.

The tone to the market the past week has been of a real keen nature; call is coming from every direction. The situation, at least momentarily, looks better.

POTATOES—MICHIGAN ZONE PRICES.

Zone No. 2 Michigan	$ .32
Zone No. 4 Michigan	.34
Zone No. 5 Michigan	.32
Zone No. 6 Michigan	.34
Zone No. 7 Michigan	.34

The prices shown are what potatoes will net shipper in the different zones. This will enable you to compare with local dealer's price and determine what action you will take as to disposition.

DETROIT—The Detroit market has not responded sympathetically with the conditions existing on most other outside markets. This market has been over supplied continuously for some time. If this overfeeding continues, the market will be in an overfed and congested condition indefinitely, and this in spite of the situation naturally existing.

POTATOES—DETROIT MARKET.

Bulk from car, per bu.	.40 to .43
*Sacked from car, per bu.	.43 to .45

***Sacks must be even weight, 150 pounds.**
Price quoted includes cost of sack, about 10½c each.

CINCINNATI—The new stock has shown a keen effect on the old potato market in Cincinnati. The trade held back noticeably on old potatoes, with a result of a great percentage of them taking new instead.

POTATOES—CINCINNATI MARKET.

Bulk from car, per bu.	.40 to .45
*Sacked from car, per bu.	.43 to .48

***Sacks must be even weight, 150 pounds.**
Price quoted includes cost of sack, about 10½c each.

PITTSBURGH—There is quite some tone to the Pittsburgh market. The last week's trading has run at a high tension and almost continuously. Not only have they taken care of very heavy receipts, but at an advanced price. There is a heavy call, with the tone to the situation quite much improved.

POTATOES—PITTSBURG MARKET

Bulk from car, per bu.	.40 to .45
Sacked from car, per bu.	.45 to .49

WHEAT

It has been the contention of many large dealers in wheat, that it was by virtue of foreign strength that our values have been maintained, but this view of the situation has been shattered on more occasions than one. We actually know of times when Liverpool closed with a loss and the Detroit market at the same time closed steady at the finish, with no actual loss for the day's trade. This being absolutely a true example, shows that the foundation for our wheat market situation was not authentically based on the foreign situation, because when the foreign situation slipped out from under us, we find that we had the Michigan situation and with a foundation just as secure and which held us up. It does not look to us as if the bears had very much of a chance in reducing wheat levels. The milling situation from every angle seems to be of a most satisfactory nature, in fact, constantly improving. Flour is gaining in activity, with the result, that we ought to be able to maintain at least the present wheat market.

WHEAT—DETROIT MARKET.

No. 1 White	$1.07
No. 2 Red	1.08

Speculative Prices.

July delivery	.94
*May delivery	1.08

***The prices given for December and May delivery represent the future delivery prices. This information merely gives you the future basis of this commodity as figured by those who speculate on future prospects.**

WHEAT—CHICAGO MARKET.

No. 2 Red	$1.06

Speculative Prices.

*July delivery	.92⅝
*May delivery	.92⅝

***The price given for July and May delivery represent the future delivery prices. This information merely gives you the future basis of this commodity as figured by those who speculate on future prospects.**

BEANS

We think it has dawned on you that it is not only possible for a commodity to become in a depressed condition, sluggish from every angle, rejected in the eyes of the commercial world and to be forced into this position regardless of its being warrantable. We believe you appreciate your individual weakness in being able to determine as to whether the position of a commodity is warrantable or not. That was the situation which confronted you when beans gradually dropped to $1.80 basis. When on $1.80 basis, every dealer in the state claimed that their elevators were full to the roof, impressed you that if they took your beans on that basis, it was through genuine courtesy, that they were making a genuine good fellow of themselves when so doing; that the real chances were that they would take a keen loss after having so done, simply handing you a Xmas present in advance. That was about it, and that is just about the way the average raiser of beans on basis of his natural understanding of the situation, helped along by the information received, had the real results doped out.

Right at this point is when this little "Pink Sheet" of only eight pages came to you and showed you the situation that actually existed in the state of Michigan and on the outside, proved to you with a good concrete example, made up of good logical conceptions, that the situation which we were experiencing at that time was thoroughly of an unwarrantable nature, as based on the general outcome of the general situation. We gave you the angles to the situation which would bring about the depression felt. We showed you what was contended to have caused it. We believe that the contention shown would have a great bearing on the outcome, which was a $1.80 base. We advised you that not one dealer in beans over the state of Michigan was alarmed over the future situation. They considered themselves most fortunate in being able to secure your beans at a $1.80 base, when, at the same time, they had their cover off their salve box and were trying to make you believe its opposite. We told you at that time the possibility of beans. We demonstrated the percentage of beans that had come on the market; the percentage of beans that were left to go on the market, with the percentage of the season on which to place them. You will have to admit that we were "In right" on the future possibilities of the bean situation. You will have to give us credit for having saved the producers of beans in the state of Michigan thousands and thousands of dollars in the last very few weeks.

Today, instead of the sluggish and depressed bean market which we have experienced, we have a situation absolutely spirited, a situation on which speculation is going right and left. Some are even overstepping the mark, acting what might be termed, "mad on the possibilities of beans." Two-twenty has been paid for cars of beans on track this last week. That shows you that actual trading has been way above the standard of quotations as shown in our daily periodicals. It is a real spirited and speculative game today.

We mentioned the possibilities of the writer being crazy in our issue dated April 26th, when daring to assume that beans might top $2.40. We assured you at that time that it was great to be crazy. Don't worry about getting crazy, but just study the possibilities and get the price out of your beans. We never know what some one else is trying to do, but we demonstrated to you two months ago that it was very possible that the great manipulators of beans in the State of Michigan were pulling off the same stunt that they did in 1911. There is some money made when beans drop 40c and there is another bunch of money made when they are going back up 40c. When there is something stirring on the market is when there is some money being made. We do not want to come out today and say that beans are going to $2.40. We have never definitely stated that $2.40 would be the result, but let us tell you one thing, these beans are very, very strong, with very great possibilities as we go to press.

BEANS—DETROIT MARKET.

White, hand-picked basis	$2.15
Red Kidney	2.25

MICHIGAN ZONE PRICES.

Zone No. 2 Michigan	1.96
Zone No. 3 Michigan	1.99
Zones 4, 5, 6 and 7 Michigan	2.02

The above values represent what dealers are obtaining for beans, f. o. b. your station in zones shown. This is on basis of hand-picked beans.

OATS

While there has not been any particular advance in quotations during the past week, still the tone to the oat situation has a little more than maintained itself, the tendency being to just a little firmer feeling constantly existing. Traders

Continued on Page Six

MICHIGAN FREIGHT ZONES

IN order to keep in touch with the market conditions you should know the freight rate from your shipping station to the leading market centers. If you have the freight rate you have the key which places you in a position to know whether your local dealer is giving you the market price for your products or not. In connection with this article we give you the Michigan Business Farmer Zone Map. You will notice that this map is divided into seven freight zones. Your farm is located in one of these zones, and by referring to the table given below you will find approximately what it costs for car-lot shipments to the different market centers. The rate given is per 100 pounds, and it should be remembered that these are the approximate rates which will, of course, differ a little from different points in the several zones, therefore it is advisable that you secure from your local station agent the correct rate from your station to any of the markets named. Remember the railroad companies are common carriers and the agent is obliged to give you the freight rates if you make a request. For example let us say that you reside in zone 5 and wish to ship a carload of hay to Pittsburgh. The rate is 22c a hundred or $4.40 per ton. The quotations in Pittsburgh, for instance, show that No. 1 Timothy hay is worth $16.00 per ton. The freight being $4.40, would show that the dealers in Tuscola county should pay $11.60 per ton, less handling charge. The minimum weight of a car of hay is 20,000 pounds; the minimum weight of a car of potatoes is 30,000 pounds; the minimum weight of a car of beans is 40,000 pounds; and you will have to pay for that number of pounds in each car, so be sure and ship a full carload. The rates given cover hay, potatoes and beans only; all kinds of grains take a different rate. We will be glad to furnish you with full information with reference to the maximum and minimum car-lots, or you can get this information from your local agent.

Zone 1—Sault Ste. Marie.

New York City	.32
Pittsburgh	.28½
Cincinnati	.29
Chicago	.22
Detroit	.22

Zone 2—Kalkaska.

New York City	.34½
Pittsburgh	.22
Cincinnati	.19½
Chicago	.16
Detroit	.14

Zone 3—Bay City.

New York City	.27½
Pittsburgh	.17
Cincinnati	.16
Chicago	.13
Detroit	.10

Zone 4—Greenville.

New York City	.29
Pittsburgh	.17½
Cincinnati	.16
Chicago	.13
Detroit	.11

Zone 5—Sandusky.

New York City	.27½
Pittsburgh	.22
Cincinnati	.18
Chicago	.15
Detroit	.13

Zone 6—Vicksburg.

New York City	.29
Pittsburgh	.17
Cincinnati	.15
Chicago	.10½
Detroit	.11

Zone 7—Pontiac.

New York City	.27½
Pittsburgh	.17
Cincinnati	.15
Chicago	.13
Detroit	.06½

Michigan Business Farming

The First Crop-Reporter and Market Guide ever published solely in the Interests of those who make a Business of Tilling the Soil for Profit

"Founded in 1912, for the Business Farmers of today, and proud of it!"

EDITED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MR. GRANT SLOCUM

*"They copied all they could follow, but they couldn't copy my mind,
And I left 'em sweating and stealin' a year and a half behind."—Kipling.*

¶ This "pink-sheet" has no creed, nor party, plays no favorites and bows its head to neither friend nor enemy, if they would swerve it from the single path which it has laid for itself to solve the greatest problem that confronts the farmer today, THAT OF DISPOSING OF HIS CROP FOR A GREATER PROFIT!

¶ The market reports are written directly to serve the farmers of Michigan, and to assist them in receiving at their own local market the prices which should be theirs.

¶ MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING maintains a Service department, under competent and experienced direction of men, whose duty it is to aid our readers in any part of this state to secure fair prices and good markets and if the local buyer will not meet these conditions to aid, if possible, in the disposing of his produce on a favorable market.

¶ In the unpretentious little "pink-sheet" which you hold in your hands, the farmers of Michigan will find a militant strong-arm, ready and anxious at all times to defend their rights and to right their wrongs wherever and whenever they be found. No independent farmer or group of organized farmers in this state need hesitate to call upon this publication, at any time, if it can be of assistance to them.

¶ MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, let it be clearly understood, represents no single organization, be it Gleaners, Grangers, Farmers' Clubs, Society of Equity or whatever its creed or title. It does, however, stand for organized farming, because in this way only do we believe the farmers of Michigan can come into their own.

**ONE-CENT-PER-WEEK (when ordered for 50 weeks or more)
SEND 50c FOR 50 WEEKS.**

(In remitting it is to your advantage to write full name and address carefully and tell us whether you are an old or new subscriber.)

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT DETROIT BY

RURAL PUBLISHING CO, INC., GEO. M. SLOCUM, SEC'Y-TREAS.
HOME OFFICES: 95 WEST FORT STREET, DETROIT, MICHIGAN
OTHER OFFICES: New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Port Huron.

Entered as 2nd Class Matter, Oct. 13, 1912, at Detroit, Mich., under Act of Mar. 3, 1879.

EDITORIAL

"WHAT a tangled net we weave, when first we practice to deceive." If the new tariff bill passes, sugar will be placed on the free list in 1916. At the present time the good housewife contributes one dollar and sixty-seven cents to the manufacturer, on every one hundred pounds of sugar the family consumes.

A TANGLED WEB, TO BE SURE.

One dollar and sixty-seven cents represents the duty—the tariff tax. Who gets the $1.67? Ah, there's the rub. If the consumer must contribute $1.67 on each one hundred pounds of sugar his family consumes, in order that the manufacturers of sugar may be able to pay the farmer a living wage for growing sugar beets and sugar cane; if the tax of $1.67 per hundred is needed to pay the employes of the sugar factories a reasonable, living wage.

And leave just a reasonable profit for the manufacturers—then "retain the tariff;" so say all of us. BUT—if we are paying this $1.67 per hundred tax—and remember the tariff is a tax—in order that the millionaire sugar manufacturers may pay larger dividends on watered stock—well, that's a horse of another color.

Why not? If we are required to pay $1.67 on each one hundred pounds of sugar we consume, over to the manufacturer as a bonus—to protect from the pauper labor of the countries across the seas—we ought to have the right to look over the books and see whether the farmers and laborers are really getting the protecting we are trying to afford them.

As the discussion has proceeded, a doubt has been raised in the people's minds as to who is getting the benefit of the tariff. The evidence of President Charles B. Warren, of the Michigan Sugar Company, before the Congressional Investigating Committee, showed that for at least a few years the sugar business was mighty profitable. In fact, the farmer could have been paid more for his beets and the laboring man higher wages and a reasonable profit remain for the manufacturers.

This investigation showed that during the first four years of the company's existence, it actually had a surplus of over three million dollars, besides paying dividends amounting to about a million dollars. President Warren further testified that the method of manufacturing had been so simplified that the manufacturing cost was less than when the industry was in its infancy.

So great was the company's profits during the first four years that it capitalized a five-million dollar investment at $12,500,000. Five million dollars of this amount is represented on their books as "good will"—a new name for "water."

We are now approaching canning time, and we fear that the provident housewife will grudgingly turn over her portion of the tax to the sugar companies that they may pay dividends on watered stock.

And it now transpires that the sugar companies of Michigan are actually paying the Canadian farmers more for their beets than they are paying the farmers right here at home. The Michigan farmer has to pay freight on his beets to the factory; the Canadian farmer has no freight to pay. The Canadian farmer gets his seed free; the Michigan farmer pays fifteen cents per pound for his seed.

This information comes to us through the daily press, and thus far the representatives of the Michigan Sugar Company refuse to be interviewed on the subject. We presume they take the position that the manufacture of sugar is their own business, and the question of profits is none of other people's business.

And now we get back to the proposition: "If the people are to be taxed to foster an industry that labor and capital may be protected against unfair foreign competition, the people who pay the tax have a right to know who are the beneficiaries of that tax."

Open up your books, gentlemen. We want the beet sugar industry to thrive, and if we must be taxed in order that the industry may succeed, we ought to have the right to examine the tax budget.

FARMERS CAUGHT IN SPOOK FRAUDS

Michigan farm and town folks alike, seem to be equal believers in "spooks" of various kinds, as evidenced by the crusade being waged against the fraudulent practices of so-called "clairvoyants" by the authorities in Chicago.

Recently we read how a Michigan woman had separated a number of men from various portions of their bank rolls, by advertising in a matrimonial paper that she was looking for a husband. She was already married and lived on a small farm, but she and her husband had found it easier to persuade men to yield cash under the guise of love, than to persuade the soil to yield profitable crops by means of hard labor. After she had received traveling expenses, which, in some cases, amounted to generous sums, the expectant bridegroom failed to hear any more from his mail-order bride.

Supported By the Foolish.

This woman, of course was not a clairvoyant, but her fraudulent practice had much in it of the nature of that used by the men recently arrested in Chicago. Both are the product of unscrupulous newspapers that publish advertising which on the face of it bears every evidence of fraud. Neither could exist but for the numbers of silly men and women who are looking for something unusual, and have faith in anything that is out of the line of ordinary experience.

The clairvoyants indicted in Chicago for swindling farm and town folks in Michigan and other states are "Prof." Charles R. Crane, Robert T. Milton and Jesse Gillage, and the amounts the various believers in "spooks" lost through these men, run over $25,000. We have not a list of the Michigan farm folks who sent money to these clairvoyants, because they believed on "spirits," and if we had, we would not publish it. Any man who is weak and foolish enough to fall into the trap laid by these sharpers, ought to be too heartily ashamed of himself for us to wish to add to his misery.

Clairvoyants Are Still Active.

It must be remembered, however, that the few men who have been caught are as nothing to the number who are still at large. There are several hundred of these so-called "clairvoyants" operating in this part of the country, and the number of people who believe in, and are swindled by them, is amazing.

According to the prosecutor, the investigation has shown that there is a trust among clairvoyants. Lurid advertisements were used as exhibits against the three men. These advertisements and others, clipped from newspapers accepting these advertisements, were used by the grand jurors in their report.

The recommendations made were as follows:

"This grand jury would respectfully call to the attention of your honorable court that in the regular course of its work two cases have been brought to its attention, and true bills returned therein, where women, innocent and unskilled in business, have been induced to part with large sums of money, to wit, thousands of dollars, in each case, because of the publication in newspapers of advertisements of individuals claiming to be able, by reason of occult powers, to invest money in such a way as to produce greater interest or benefit than is customary through regular chanels of investment.

"We believe the cases mentioned are not alone or exceptional. These advertisements are on their face fraudulent, and appeal to credulity and superstition. Without question, a moral responsibility rests with the publisher of such advertisements and without going into the extent of the present legal protection in these matters, we would call attention to the necessity of a study of these conditions with a view to the securing of better laws to hold all publishers of such advertisements liable as accessories in connection with fraud perpetrated by reason of them."

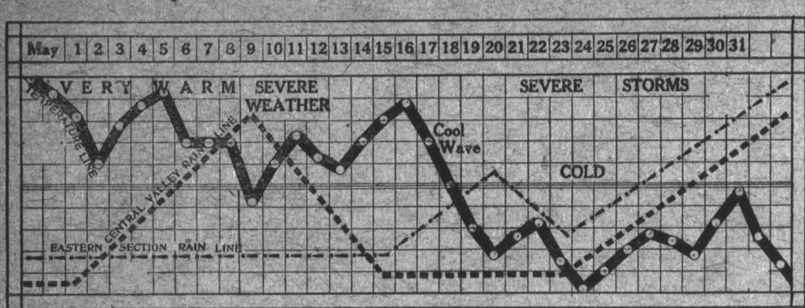
After Leaders of "Ring."

"We have several cases under consideration," said Mr. Sullivan, "and hope to cause the indictment of the leaders of this 'ring.' The practice has been to swindle persons who answered advertisements by seances and the like. As a result their money was 'invested' in some way so that the victim saw no more of it."

The possibility of showing a connection between certain stock brokers and the clairvoyants, was admitted by Mr. Sullivan, but he refused to give any names.

Whenever Michigan Business Farmers see the word "clairvoyant," they will know that it is merely another name for "swindler," even though Webster's dictionary does not define the word as we do. The dictionary defines the word as describing one who has powers of seeing into the future, of telling you all about the coming events of your life and so forth. Some also guarantee to put you in communication with dead relatives or friends, or perhaps advise you how to invest money in mining or other stocks. There are simpler methods of throwing away money than that of turning it over to "clairvoyants," "mediums" and others of their kind.

FOSTER'S WEATHER BULLETIN



May temperature will average about normal. Normal means the average of many years for the month and place, and normal temperatures and rain constitutes the best crop weather. May will bring a drouth to large sections of this continent. Most rain in northeastern states, east Gulf coast and southern plains states, immediately east of Rockies. Not as good crop weather as in April. Dangerous storms May 21 to June 3. Most rain in great central valleys week centering on May 9 and in eastern sections 18 to 31.

In above chart the treble line represents normal precipitation and temperatures. As temperatures and precipitation lines rise probabilities will increase for more precipitation and higher temperatures. Dates are for Meridian 90. Count one to three days earlier for west of that line and as much later for east of it, in proportion to distance from that meridian which runs north through St. Louis.

Washington, D. C., May 10.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbances to cross continent May 9 to 13 and 14 to 18, warm waves 8 to 12 and 13 to 17, cool waves 11 to 15 and 15 to 20. This period of about two weeks will average warmer than usual and will be followed by a great fall in temperatures. Storm forces will be greater than the usual average and severe weather may be expected May 8 to 12, but dangerous storms are not probable. Most rain is expected in great central valleys not far from May 9 and in eastern sections about and following May 20.

Next disturbance will reach Pacific coast about May 19, cross Pacific slope by close of 20, great central valleys 21 to 23, eastern sections 24. Warm wave will cross Pacific slope about May 19, great central valleys 21, eastern sections 23. Cool wave will cross Pacific slope about May 22, great central valleys 24, eastern sections 26.

This disturbance will average cooler than usual, will be preceded by a great fall in temperatures, followed by a cool wave that will carry frosts farther south than usual and cause the coldest weather of the month. Tender vegetables should be protected in northern sections.

This disturbance, following a lull in the storm forces, will inaugurate another period of dangerous storms but the most severe storms will come with next disturbance. Not far from May 24 the above described disturbance will cause severe weather east of meridian 90 and at the same time severe weather may be expected off the coast of British Columbia.

We are not expecting such dangerous storms as those of recent months but it is advisable to use care and not go into unprotected places while this storm is passing. Our danger signals will hang out from May 20 to 31 and our readers may expect the most severe storms to occur close in front of the warm waves and not far from the places and dates noted for the disturbance dates.

Indications favorable to a general shortage of rainfall and some indications of damage to crops by drouth. That is expected to be the general conditions but some places, on account of the severe storms will get too much rain. The middle southeastern states will have some heavy local rains and similar conditions may be expected in parts of Pennsylvania, New York, the New England states and the eastern provinces. But large sections between meridian 85 and the Rockies will be too dry for good of growing crops.

Much will depend on amount of moisture in the soil middle of April. Where the soil was well wet at that time the crops may come through the drouth in good shape. Oats will probably suffer more than other crops.

Prof. Hopkins of the University of Illinois severely attacks two errors made by the United States Agriculturald Department in the past few years. He says that the optimistic secretary permitted the erroneous statement to the effect that farm soils never wear out and that the estimates of crop productions were uniformly extravagant. These bulletins have frequently stated that the government reports of the crops overestimated the productions. The effect of such overestimates is to enable the big speculators to buy at low prices and of course the farmers and planters are the losers. This matter should be looked into and the government reports more carefully made. For a scientific department to declare that farm soils do not wear out is so ridiculous that we can find no excuse for it.

WANT PARCEL POST EXPRESS.

George P. Hampton of New York city, secretary of the Postal Express Federation, which is composed of about two million business men and farmers, addressed a meeting in Detroit. In an interview he said:

"Detroit particularly is interested in the parcel post because its businessmen have been the leaders in getting the service. Now that the service has been obtained we are after improvements.

"We want the rates lowered, weight limit increased, onerous restrictions against packing removed and insurance lowered. The rates are 500 per cent above cost in some cases and could easily be cut in half in the city districts. The weight limit, which is now 11 pounds, should be raised to 100 pounds, which is logical because it would cover the gap between the present limit and the freight unit.

"The present restrictions against the shipment of liquids should be removed and the government should furnish hampers for the shipment of bottles, as it now furnishes bags for other matter.

"The government should allow invoices to be inclosed with the material sent and permit C. O. D. deliveries both on the delivery cost and the goods. There is no reason why the government could not collect for the goods and make the return the same as express companies do. That is what we are trying to do—make the parcel post the equal of the express service."

The total for the United States, in round figures, shows that in January there were 40,000,000 packages mailed; in February 50,000,000, and in March 60,000,000.

NEW HORTICULTURAL COLLEGE.

A horticultural college for Traverse City is to be one of the next steps in the development of the western Michigan region. The setting of fruit trees in the 20 counties reaching from Ottawa to Emmet has been so great during the past few years, and is continuing at such a pace that it is apparent that many horticulturists are needed to care for the orchards in a scientific manner.

In the past it was believed that any man who knew the difference between the apple tree and an oak was sufficiently wise to be in charge of an orchard. But now it is different. It is admitted that successful orcharding requires men with special training.

Because of the heavy tree settings these men are going to be needed in the early future. At present the larger orchard propositions are hiring men who have been trained elsewhere, some in the west.

Last fall the proposition of a county agricultural school was laid before the supervisors of Grand Traverse county, who appointed a committee with instructions to report at the annual meeting to be held the coming October. In the meantime the subject is being discussed by the farmers' organizations of the county, and the arguments for and against the proposition are being carefully analyzed.

AN INTERESTING RULING.

Judge Smith, of Pontiac, has set aside assessments levied in Addison against farmers for cutting weeds along the roads. The taxes were unpaid and the land returned for sale. The objectors to the tax filed their appearance and the court held with them that such a tax is not assessable to individual property, but must be spread upon the township at large. The lands assessed are exempted from the tax sale.

A CHANCE FOR BOYS.

The Michigan State Agricultural society has decided to send one boy from each county to the state fair at Detroit, September 15 to 20, and to give him instructions while there in stock judging, soil testing, dairying, etc. The society will pay all expenses.

The selection of the boy will be made by the following committee in each county: County commissioner of schools, president of Farmers' Institute society and the master of Pomona Grange.

The committee will meet to select the boy on June 2, or at the call of county commissioner of schools.

The selection will be made from the two following examinations, taken by any boy in the county, between the ages of 14 and 20.

First—The regular county eighth grade examination, to count 50 per cent.

Second—Examinations on 20 questions prepared by state fair management, to count 50 per cent.

The second examination to be taken by applicants on afternoon of May 16 with regular eighth grade examinations.

Second examination questions will be sent to each commissioner, about May 1. The boy in the county, between 14 and 20, having the highest average standing, will be selected by the above committee. Any boy in the county between the ages of 14 and 20 who wishes to attend the state fair must take both examinations and committee will select one boy from this number.

GRAND RAPIDS-KALAMAZOO INTERURBAN.

Work is progressing rapidly on the new interurban between Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids. Towers for the high tension wires are being set up, and rails and ties are distributed along the right of way. The grading is practically finished. The roadbed will be among the finest if not the finest in the state. In no place along the distance does a curve exceed a 1 per cent curve and the same is true of the grade.

THE MARKET SITUATION VIEWED FROM THE INSIDE

Continued from Page Three

have shown a disposition to get longer prices instead of to reduce levels. This is a condition which must exist before any real advance.

OATS—DETROIT MARKET.

Standard	$ .39
No. 3 white	.38
No. 4 White	
No. 2 Mixed	
No. 8 Mixed	

CINCINNATI—A general steady tone characterized the Cincinnati market for the last week. The trade continues to make a call for the better qualities. While there is no particular change, quotations show a little reduction in levels but we do not believe that a real warrantable tone to the situation has changed.

OATS—CINCINNATI MARKET.

Standard	.39
No. 3 White	.38
No. 4 White	.36
No. 2 Mixed	.37
No. 3 Mixed	.36

PITTSBURGH—Receipts have been just about equal to the demand, with quality running fairly high. The result of trading shows that the market is in just a little better shape than was reported in our last week's issue

OATS—PITTSBURGH MARKET.

Standard	.40
No. 3 White	.38½
No. 4 White	.37
No. 2 Mixed	
No. 3 Mixed	

CLOVER SEED

The cloverseed game is in real and actual play at the present time. Last month showed the heaviest run of cloverseed that the largest handlers of seed in the State have experienced for some time. The situation has maintained itself just about as we anticipated it would. The tone to the situation has been keen but conservative throughout. This demonstrates that the trade in general expected that the present standard of levels could be figured on with conservative accuracy, therefore, trading has been easy to maintain on this basis.

CLOVER SEED—DETROIT MARKET.

June, prime	$12.00
Mammoth, prime	12.00
Alsike, prime	12.60
Timothy Seed, prime	1.65

APPLES

There is going to be a real shuffle around storages for the remainder of this month. Not very many Michigan apples can be figured on for disposition locally after the first of June, and but very few holdings can be maintained until this time with any degree of profit, because the shrinkage feature is in most cases too great. The market is firm, bears every evidence of good tone, but there is a limit possible to get at the present time and we doubt very much if it is going to be possible to advance this level to speak of. Only occasional varieties in high class condition and of color could be figured on as working.

APPLES—GENERAL MARKET.

Fancy, per barrel	2.50 to 4.50
Ordinary, per barrel	1.00 to 2.50

CORN

The corn situation has maintained its tension, as said one week ago, with the result of the week's trading tightening up the same just a little. There is not any real advancement in conditions but the tone to the situation is sharp, keen and really conservative, founded on true principles of the possibilities set for this commodity. The corn game has fought a good, clean-cut fight from its very inception. It is well worthy of the laurels it has received.

CORN—DETROIT MARKET.

No. 2 white	
No. 3 white	
No. 4 white	
No. 2 yellow	
No. 3 yellow	57½
No .4 yellow	55½
No. 2 mixed	54½
No 3 mixed	53½
No. 4 mixed	

CORN—CINCINNATI MARKET.

No. 2 white	.62
No. 3 white	.61
No. 4 white	.59
No. 2 yellow	.62
No. 3 yellow	.61
No. 4 yellow	.58
No. 2 mixed	.62
No. 3 mixed	.61
No. 4 mixed	.58

CORN—PITTSBURG MARKET.

No. 2 white	
No. 3 white	
No. 4 white	
No. 2 yellow	.60
No. 3 yellow	.59
No. 4 yellow	
No. 2 mixed	
No. 3 mixed	
No. 4 mixed	

BUTTER

From an Elgin standpoint, we can see that quotations are gradually lowering on butter. We would like to have some one explain to us why this reduction is warrantable at this time. We know there is a heavier season of the year and we also know flow of milk usually expected at this that this flow of milk is created at a less expense to the producer of milk than during winter months, and we also feel aware that the handlers of milk take this one feature of cost of production into consideration and absolutely pay you for your milk accordingly. To back up their lowering of price, it just appears to us that they are working through the Elgin scheme of reducing the level, thereby, making it appear to you as a just reduction to make. Now, the size of it is, that not but a very small percentage of creameries over the State or buyers of whole milk or otherwise handlers of milk, in any way, are making butter at the present time to speak of, neither will they be making butter to speak of during summer months. The demand and call for cream, ice cream filler, etc., is so extensive that your milk can go through that angle to better advantage than by putting it into butter by your local station. If you are selling your whole milk, butter can be made at your creamery, the skim milk made into an ice cream filler which will net more money than when they could only make butter on basis of 36c.

BUTTER—GENERAL MARKET.

Creamery No. 1, per pound	.30
Fancy Dairy, per pound	.30

EGGS

It has been some time since we have experienced such a uniform price on eggs during the month of April and so far into May. We must appreciate that April affords the best run of eggs possible to get for storage purposes. Next comes May. With present indications, we will continue to see prices run along on about an April basis. It will depend, of course, on the supply. We would not be so very much surprised if the supply along the middle to the latter part of May would be curtailed to the extent that receipts would be affected and accordingly prices might respond with an upward tendency.

EGGS—GENERAL MARKET.

Large fresh	$ .18
Medium fresh	.16

POULTRY

The demand for poultry continues in excess of the supply. As was demonstrated in our second issue back, it has been necessary to import poultry from outside states. Iowa is usually the state from which receipts are shown. Our market has sagged just a little on basis of this importation, but not but a little. From now on until fall the situation locally will be in a state of the demand exceeding the supply, unless figured on an outside helping hand. The broiler situation starts at around 25c.

POULTRY—DETROIT MARKET.

No. 1 Turkeys	.19 to .20
No. 2 Turkeys	.14 to 16
No. 1 Spring Chickens	.17 to .18
No. 2 Spring Chickens	.14 to .16
No 1 fowls	.17 to .18
No. 2 Fowls	.13 to 15
No. 1 Geese	.15 to .15½
No. 1 Ducks	.19 to .20

POULTRY—CHICAGO MARKET.

No. 1 Turkeys	.17
No. 2 Turkeys	.14
No. 1 Spring Chickens	.17
No. 2 Spring Chickens	.13
No. 1 Fowls	.17
No. 2 Fowls	.12
No. 1 Geese	.13
No. 1 Ducks	.15

Note.—A wire from any of our readers will bring last minute quotations. Use care in making shipments and be sure the consignee is financially responsible.

LIVE STOCK

Cattle—Detroit.

Receipts for the week show a decrease of 521 head, there being 1,222 this week against 1,743 last. Practically a new market level has been established on this market. Trading started in this last week on about the basis of the week previous, while there has been a tendency to not quite touch the premium notches as shown in last week's quotations. Practically nothing this week in steers touching over $8; with steers and heifers 1,000 to 1,200 pounds, $7.50 to $8; 800 to 1,000 pounds going at $7.25 to $7.75; nice classy fat stuff weighing 500 to 700 $6.50 to $7, so that the actual trading for the week demonstrates that the natural and conservative level on which to figure is around $8 top, with the bulk of sales being made between $7.50 and $8. Even with the decrease in receipts, the trading was not more brisk than one week previous. There was some little tone manifest in the cow department, with good, choice, fat, classy stock going at $6.25 to $6.75; good fat cows, $6 to $6.25; common, $5 to $5.50. Practically everything in the canner department cleaned up at $3.50 to $4.25. Choice heavy bulls more than held their own, with last week's sales touching $7 to $7.25 as against $6.75 top last week; fair to good bologna bulls, $6.50 to $6.75; stock bulls, $5.50 to $6.

There was a comparatively good tone to the feeding department, with choice feeding steers 800 to 1,000 pounds going at $6.50 to $7; good straight stuff, not fleshy, 800 to 1,000 pounds going at $6 to $6.75; choice stockers weighing 500 to 700 pounds, $6.50 to $6.75; fair stockers, weighing 500 to 700, $5.50 to $6; nice run of stock heifers, $4.50 to $5; good large young milkers, $65 to $75; common run, $40 to $60.

CATTLE—DETROIT STOCK YARDS.

Beef steers, good to prime heavy	$7.75 to $8.25
Beef steers, medium to good	7.25 to 7.50
Beef steers, common to fair	6.00 to 6.75
Beef cows, common to selected	5.50 to 6.75
Heifers, selected	7.25 to 7.75
Stock steers	5.50 to 6.25
Feeders	6.00 to 6.75
Canners and Cutters	3.50 to 4.25
Good to prime veals	5.00 to 9.50
Bulls	4.50 to 6.75
Dressed veal	8.00 to 13.00

Receipts this week in the veal calf department show 1,350 against 1,065 last week. The market sagged off from last week's level to $8.75, common run, from $5 to $8. Milk cows and springers were going strong.

Cattle—Chicago.

Extreme prices and bulk of native beef cattle sold here this week, quotations for carload lots, with comparisons:

	Number received.	Extreme range.	Bulk of sales.
Monday, April 28	29,938	$7.00@8.90	$7.60@8.40
Tuesday, April 29	2,339	7.10@8.60	7.50@8.10
Wedn'day, Apr. 30	10,575	7.20@8.80	7.75@8.50
Thursday, May 1	3,071	7.25@8.85	7.75@8.50
Friday, May 2	800	7.35@8.05	7.70@7.85
Last week	....	$7.00@8.90	$7.60@8.50
Previous week	....	7.25@9.25	7.90@8.75
Four weeks ago	....	7.20@9.20	8.00@8.80
1912	....	6.00@9.00	7.15@8.40
1911	....	4.85@6.50	5.50@6.20
1910	....	5.50@8.35	6.75@7.80
1909	....	5.00@7.25	5.90@6.90
1908	....	4.70@7.30	6.00@7.05

The receipts of cattle on the Chicago market Monday would suggest that the country had really gone mad. Thirty thousand cattle arrived on this date to add to a lot of stale steers, having been held over from the previous week. Packers, killers and butchers were all aware of the situation that a big jam of this kind could be forced to have on the general situation. They were not long in doping out this and bringing about results in sympathy with their own personal interests. The result was that Monday's run shows a decline of 25 to 50c under the week previous. As the week progresses we find that it works back a little on about Wednesday with conditions becoming somewhat relieved. Thursday shows the Chicago market with but a light fresh run of steers, trying to be held firm on the advance as made possible Wednesday. Conditions were such on this date as to throw the packers and shippers into the market as contenders. The results were fairly satisfactory from a seller's standpoint. The result of Thursday's run shows the market about 15 to 25c lower than the course of a week previous.

The real selling value on heavy and handy steers for the week was at least 50 to 65c under rates in current effect ten days ago. It is argued that 5,000 to 6,000 head of stuff came from the Dakotas to escape about $1.25 per head tax. From the situation resultant on this surplus condition in Chicago, it would seem to have been better to have paid the regular tax and to have maintained some regulator on the disposition of the stuff.

The week closes on Friday with hardly a half dozen loads of steers offered, with this amount sufficient enough to take care of the demands. The deal was steady, with no urgent orders. The trade was considered dull, with the tone of the market not as good as Thursday. Everything is cleaned up before the week finally closes. This leaves the Chicago market in shape to start in Monday with a fresh slate. Killers and shippers claim that there is nothing particularly wrong with the situation, other than the spasmodic and overdose feeding of the same. A holding back process is applied to none for the tonic which they are prescribing.

About the top for yearlings for the week is $9, with the bulk of stuff going around $7.60 to $8.50. This is against sales of the week previous from $8 to $8.85. On basis of the situation that existed this week, it took strictly choice stuff in the cow line to land $6.50 to $7; strictly prime to bring $8.25 and better; right good beef cows were selling at around $6 to $6.25; decent to strictly good killing heifers around $6.50 to $7, with the common light grade around $6 and under. Good bologna bulls were landing around $6.30 to $6.35; a cut of about 50 to 55c under last week; good big beefy bologna quotable around $6.40 to $6.50. This kind went at $7 and better a week ago; a fair to good sort selling at $6.50 to $6.75, this being about 50c lower than the week previous.

Distillery sales have been made around $7.10 to $7.40. The canner and cutter trade was of a mean sort, with sales being effected all the way from $3.40 to $4.75, in sympathy with the situation along the line. Packers were able to chop off about 25c on veal values for most of the short run for the week. The week closes with prime grade of vealers going at $8.75. A few good classy ones went at $9.60 on Thursday, with most good calves making $8.50 to $8.60. The receipts of stockers and feeders were comparatively liberal. Those weighing 700 and under were in lighter supply than any other kind and in good demand. Good yearlings and real light stockers, where quality was running, light, active stock steady at 10 or 15c lower than last week. Common stockers were in moderate supply and met with poor demand, with prices 15 to 25c lower. The demand was broad enough to make a pretty fair clearance of these for the week. There was a very liberal run of practically all kinds of stockers and feeders weighing 750 to 1,150 pounds. A large number of 750 to 900 pound cattle were going around 25c lower than a week ago. There was a nice run of well-bred, thin cattle, weighing 700 to 900 pounds, which were selling generally around $7.60 to $7.75.

CATTLE—CHICAGO STOCK YARDS.

Beef steers, good to prime heavy	$7.75 to $8.15
Beef steers, medium to good	7.50 to 8.00
Beef steers, common to fair	7.25 to 7.60
Beef cows, common to selected	4.80 to 7.30
Fat heifers, good to choice	6.50 to 7.90
Canners and cutters	4.00 to 4.75
Good to prime veals	5.00 to 10.00
Bulls	5.25 to 7.35

Cattle—Buffalo.

Cattle trade recuperated at Buffalo Monday substantially. On the opening day last week, the worst demoralized market for many months past on good weight steers prevailed, while last Monday, with the supply totaling 150 loads, about thirty-five of which were shipping steers, bulk being holdovers, market ruled mostly a dime higher on shipping steers. Swift, Stern and Sulzberger were the main support to the market, taking between 25 and 30 cars. Top steers sold from $8.60@8.70, as against $8.40@8.50 tops the preceding Monday. At the close of the market, these grades of steers were pretty well cleaned up. A few loads of very desirable handy weight steers found ready sale, while some in-between grades, lacking both quality and finish, were slow, but prices generally in this division remained steady. Females found ready sale at full steady prices, eastern and better country killers taking the heavy fat cows, while local interests got the big end of the butchering and cheaper grades. Stockers and feeders, with four or five loads on offer, found full steady trade, tops reaching $7.50 that were light. Bulls went at unchanged prices, notwithstanding the west showed from 25@50-cent lower range last week. Milchers and springers found ready sale at unchanged prices. Best handy steers brought from $7.90@ $8.40, best fat heavy cows $8@8.10, fancy heifers $8.10@8.75, with yearlings, including steers and heifers mixed, selling up to $8.75.

General opinion is that unless receipts come too liberally this week that prices next week will hold in fairly good shape, 'though some authorities are of the decided opinion that tendency is downward for the very heavy steers. At the present time preference appears to be for the handier steers.

CATTLE—BUFFALO STOCK YARDS.

Good to choice heavy steers	$ 8.40 to $ 8.70
Medium to fair heavy steers	8.15 to 8.35
Handy weight butchering steers	7.50 to 8.40
Yearlings	7.50 to 8.75
Fat heifers, inferior to choice	6.00 to 8.50
Fat cows, medium to choice	4.50 to 7.25
Canners and cutters	3.75 to 4.50
Bulls	5.00 to 7.50
Stockers and feeders	5.00 to 7.75
Milchers and springers	35.00 to 100.00

Calves—Buffalo.

Monday another heavy run of calves at Buffalo—2,200. General market quarter lower. Best veals $9@ 9.25, small lot $9.50, fair grades $8 25 @8.75, culls $8 down, feds $5@6.

Calf Quotations.

Calves, choice to extra	$9.00 to $9.25
Fair to good	8.25 to 8.75
Culls and common	7.50 to 8.00
Light thin	6.50 to 7.25
Fed calves	5.00 to 6 00

Hogs—Detroit.

There was a very liberal run of hogs this week. The aggregate showing 7,966 against 6,247 last week, showing an increase of 719 heads. The bulk of receipts were most satisfactory as to quality, running well into hogs of desirable weights at this season of the year. The tone to the market was good based on the general sympathetic influence of a decline all along the line. It is true, however, that in order to start the ball a rolling a concession of about 10c had to be made at the outset. This seems about the actual reduction of market levels, based on last week's trade. Nice, light butcher stock going at $8.70; pigs, $8.80; mixed, $8.65 to $8.70.

HOGS—DETROIT MARKET.

Fair to choice butchers	$8.75 to $8.90
Lightweights	8.75 to 8.90
Boars, according to weight	3.00 to 3.25
Pig	8.75 to 8.90
Stags	One-third off

Hogs—Chicago.

Chicago daily range of hog values, top figures for carload lots:

	Mixed Packing, Medium and Butchers, 195@255 lbs.	Heavy Packing & Selected Shipping, 255@400 lbs.	Light Packing & Selected Shipping, 135@195 lbs.
April 25	$8.65@9.05	$8.60@8.90	$8.75@9.05
April 26	8.55@8.95	8.45@8.85	8.65@9.00
April 28	8.30@8.70	8.20@8.50	8.40@8.75
April 29	8.20@8.65	8.10@8.40	8.30@8.62½
April 30	8.25@8.65	8.10@8.50	8.35@8.70
May 1	8.30@8.70	8.15@8.60	8.40@8.75
May 2	8.25@8.60	8.10@8.50	8.30@8.70
1912	$7.20@7.70	$7.25@7.72½	$7.15@7.60
1911	5.65@6.00	5.50@5.85	5.70@6.10
1910	9.35@9.65	9.30@9.72½	9.40@9.70
1909	6.85@7.35	6.95@7.35	6.80@7.20

The hog market for the week seems to demonstrate that a real unevenness and indefiniteness has existed. The market started out at the outset of the week in comparatively good tone, with a saggy condition coming into the situation about Wednesday. Thursday's run shows a reaction in the form of a real comeback hog market at 5c higher. On this date everything offered, from packing to butcher's stock was cleaned up readily. The shipping orders were fairly liberal, which caused action in the early market. Packers were good buyers a little later at the advance caused. Light hogs continued sales and met full strength of advance. Quite a number of heavyweight hogs were held over from Thursday's run. Friday shows the hog market very uneven, with sales being effected at 5 to 15c lower than Thursday. The general market at least 10c lower.

Light weight offerings showed most decline, butcher weights met less call and shared less reduction in price. The trade was a little low at the start but fairly active later at the decline shown. Offerings were pretty well cleaned up; quite a quantity of stale hogs were held over until Monday. A few speculators and shippers were the only buyers until late, then packers stepped in and secured their requirements at low prices. This forced the very best high class stuff to show the heaviest decline.

HOGS—CHICAGO STOCK YARDS.

Mixed packing	$8.30 to $8.42
Medium and butchers	8.45 to 8 50
Poor to good heavy packing	8.15 to 8.35
Lightweights	8.40 to 8.62
Selected 260-300-lb. packers	8.37 to 8.75
Pigs and throw-outs	2.50 to 8.80

Buffalo—Hogs.

Monday, with a supply of 125 cars—20,000 head, heaviest of the year—prices were declined generally 20 cents on best grades, while pigs went off 25@30 cents. Generally a one-priced deal of $8.60 for packers' grades and good weight yorkers, few light yorkers selling at $8.65, with bulk of strictly pigs fetching $8.75. Roughs mostly $7.60 and stags $6.50@ $7. Market for the past several days has been showing a downward tendency, the bad break will probably check receipts and a reaction may be expected.

HOGS—BUFFALO STOCK YARDS.

Extreme heavies, 280 up	$8.50 to $8.60
Heavies, 240 to 280	8 50 to 8.60
Mediums, 220 to 240	8.50 to 8.60
Mediums, 190 to 220	8.50 to 8.60
Mixed, 180 to 220	8.50 to 8.60
Yorkers, 150 to 170	8.50 to 8.60
Do light, 130 to 150	8.60 to 8.65
Pigs, 120 down	8.65 to 8.75
State hogs	8.40 to 8.65
Heavy ends	8.40 to 8.50
Roughs	7 50 to 7.60
Stags	6.50 to 7.00

Sheep and Lambs—Detroit.

There is a liberal falling off in receipts for the last week. Figures show 3,106 against 4,838, a decrease of 1,732. The market has run along steady for the week, with sales being comparatively easy to effect on basis of quotations as shown. There is but very little difference in the actual tone and trading level as based on last week. About the top for good handy weight and classy lambs was $7.75. This was the basis on which trading was effected last week. Fair lambs going at $6.50 to $7.00, with light to common stuff moving around $4.50 to $6.00. The range of values on sheep was established around to $5.00 as top, with culls and common stuff sagging around $3.00 to $4.00. There was no keen attention shown to this department.

SHEEP—DETROIT STOCK YARDS.

Lambs, good to choice	$7.00 to $7.50
Do fair to good	6.00 to 7.00
Yearling lambs, choice	7.25 to 7.50
Mixed sheep	5.25 to 5 50
Cull sheep	3.00 to 4.00

Sheep and Lambs—Chicago.

Top prices and the range for bulk of sales of sheep and lambs

	SHEEP. Top.	SHEEP. Bulk.	LAMBS. Top.	LAMBS. Bulk.
This week	$6.80	$6.15@6.50	$8.85	$7.25@8.80
Previous week	7.10	6.15@6.50	8.90	7.50@8.85
Four weeks ago	7.40	6.15@6.85	9.00	8.50@8.75
1912	8.00	6.75@7.50	10.60	8.50@10.25
1911	4.75	3.90@4.30	6.50	5.00@5.40
1910	7.75	7.00@7.50	9.10	8.25@8.90
1909	6.60	5.75@6.25	9.40	7.65@9.00
1908	6.65	4.25@5.90	7.75	6.65@7.55

Sheep and Yearlings opened about steady, with buyers of a bearish disposition, only taking a few of the most desirable lots offered. The week closes with the market somewhat of an indefinite nature, with business being transacted on about a 10c lower basis, while there was several bunches taken which showed 15 to 20c decline over Wednesday's run. In face of sellers putting up a desperate fight against the decline, conditions were evidently against them and forced them to accept the weaker bids. Packers seemed the only competitors in this division, with none appearing to have urgent orders. Eastern dressed market was reported to be in bad shape. This had a bearish effect upon the trade at Chicago. The general quality of receipts fairly good, while but a few strictly prime arrivals were to be had. Low dressed stuff received the greatest setback, while there was a little inquiry for finished handy-weight lots. Prices were generally 15 to 25c lower than the close of last week. Moderate receipts are needed for the next week or more, if sellers are to check the rage of buyers.

SHEEP—CHICAGO STOCK YARDS.

Lambs, good to choice	$7.50 to $8.65
Do fair to good	7.00 to 8.25
Do cull to common	4.00 to 5.00
Yearling lam,s choice	7.50 to 8.00
Do cull to fair	4.00 to 5.00
Wethers, choice	6.00 to 7.00
Ewes, choice handy weight	6.00 to 6.75
Do choice to heavy	6.00 to 6 75
Cull sheep	3.50 to 4.50
Bucks	4.25 to 5.00

Sheep and Lambs—Buffalo.

Liberal supply of sheep and Lambs at Buffalo Monday—85 cars, or 17,000 —being 25@35 cars more than sellers generally expected. In the lamb end of the deal, trade was slow and full quarter lower than for the closing day of last week. No wool stock here to speak of, good to choice clipped lambs selling from $8@8.25, bulk of the top handy kinds, $8.25. Inferior to good culls $4.50@$7. All kinds of sheep were dull and 20@25 cents lower. Two loads of prime wethers, kind that sold last Saturday at $6.60, changed hands at $6.40, while it took a very choice handy class of wether sheep to bring $6.25@6.35. Mixed sheep $5.75@6, top for ewes $5.75, with majority selling from $5@5.50 and cull sheep mostly $4 down.

SHEEP—BUFFALO STOCK YARDS.

Quotations—Wool Stock.

Lambs, choice to extra	$8.00 to $8.25
Do fair to good	7.25 to 7.90

Clipped Stock.

Lambs, choice to extra	$7.95 to 8.15
Do fair to good	7.25 to 7.85
Do culls and common	4.50 to 7.00
Yearling, choice	6.75 to 7.25
Do cull to fair	4.00 to 6.50
Wethers	6.00 to 6.40
Mixed sheep	5.75 to 6 00
Ewes, choice	5.00 to 5.75
Cull sheep	2.50 to 4.50
Bucks	3.00 to 4.75

Wool.

The wool market continues on an unsettled basis as a result of the discussion of the Tariff Bill by Congress, which provides for drastic cuts in the duty on goods and state free wool. The trade did not expect a total removal of the tariff on wool, it being generally held that the bill passed by the Democratic House of Representatives last year marked as great a reduction as would be proposed at this time. During the Democratic campaign last year free wool was not advocated. This brings President Wilson's free wool demand as a decided surprise. The result of the above upon manufacturers has caused them to cease buying only such stock as they need for immediate use. Stocks of old wool in the market are light. This is given out as having prevented a still sharper decline in prices. It is plain that the tendency is towards lower prices. It is believed by some that the bill will be so amended in the Senate as to provide some measure of protection for the wool growers.

The Underwood bill not only provides for a removal of the duty on wool but also places on the free list partially manufactured products, such as Noils, Top Waste, Ring Waste, Garnetted Waste, Shoddies and Carbonized Wool. These partly manufactured products will certainly displace a large amount of short staple domestic wool and as a result, provide competition for domestic clothing wools. The selling value of wools of last year runs about as follows on the different grades: ¼ and ⅜ wools, 27c to 27½c; ½ Blood, 24c to 25c; fine Delaine, 22c to 24c. The concensus of opinion is that with free wool, American bright ½ and ⅜ unwashed will sell at 20c to 22c, with fine Delaine wools in the same range of values.

COAL.

The coal situation is responding quickly and firmly as the season is advancing. Even though the domestic trade is quet, the lake trade opens up and the output of the mines is handled without creating any surplus of the good grades of coal.

From all indications, labor trouble is going to have a big influence upon coal prices, throughout the year. We must not consider alone, strikes in this country, but those in foreign countries. At the present time there is a strike in Belgium, thus making room for American coal. The strike in the West Virginia field is about closed, but just how long these men will be satisfied is hard to tell. Many large buyers are placing their contracts now, for future deliveries, as there is only one chance out of a hundred of the price of coal going lower and about one hundred chances to one of circular prices advancing. Right at the present moment many grades of the high-class coal are all sold and other operators have their months tonnage sold out by the fifteenth of the month. Conditions of this kind springing up every minute, ought to open the eyes of our progressive farmers and make arrangements to buy and store their winter's supply of coal, within the next 30 days.

The anthracite situation is brightening up and a free movement of coal is expected this month.

Kind of Coal.	F.O.B. Mines.
Hocking 3-inch rescreened lump	$1.75
Hocking 1¼-inch screened lump	1.60
Ohio 4-inch special lump	1.75
Ohio 1¼-inch special lump	1.60
Pomeroy 2½-inch lump	1.65
Cambridge 1½-inch lump	1.60

The above grades of coal take a Hocking freight rate.

Virginia special 10-inch block	$1.50
Peerless White Ash 4 inch block	1.75
Virginia Logan 4-inch block	1.65
Yukon 3-inch splint	1.55
Yukon egg	1.50

The above coal takes a Virginia or Kentucky rate, or 25 cents over Hocking.

Michigan 4 inch lump	$2.75
Michigan 3-inch lump	2.65

Average freight rate to Michigan points, 70 cents per ton.

Pocohontas lump or egg	1.85
Pocahontas stove	1.65

Freight rate, 45 cents over Hocking rate.

Anthracite Coal.

Chestnut hard coal, gr. tons	$5.95
Equivalent to net tons	5.35

Egg and stove size, 25 cents less.

The prices are f. o. b. Buffalo.

FLOUR AND FEED.

The market on flour and feed is practically the same as last week. The mills report sales are made without any great effort from the salesman standpoint and conditions in general point favorably to a larger volume of business in the feed and flour line, for the next 30 days.

Shelled corn is selling basis 60½c per bushel delivered on a Detroit freight basis.

Kind	Price per bbl.
"Blend" flour, ⅛-paper sacks	$ 5.25
Spring patent	4.50

Toweling sacks or wood barrels 20c higher.

	Per ton.
Coarse corn meal	24.60
Cracked corn	25.00
Chop feed	21.00
Coarse middlings	22.00
Fine middlings	24.50
Bran (standard)	21.00

The above prices are f. o. b. Detroit, Mich., on car lot shipments.

Tankage, averaging 60 per cent protein, $41 per ton f. o. b., Chicago

GRATIOT COUNTY JUNIORS.

A Junior Agricultural club has been organized by some of the citizens of Middleton and vicinity for the townships of New Haven, Newark, North Shade and Fulton in Gratiot county.

The aim of this organization is to get and keep the boy and girl more deeply interested in the farm. The home crop contest for corn, sugar beets, beans will be held for the boys, and garden products, poultry contests will be open to both boys and girls while sewing, baking, canning contests will be held for girls.

It is hoped that the corn and beet contests will be cared for by the county Y. M. C. A. The other plant contest will be conducted along similar plans. The garden products must be in plots not smaller than 2x4 rods instead of the acre as for corn and beans.

Next fall the contest will be held in Middleton and many liberal prizes will be given. The complete list of prizes is not ready to be given out but the following are a few of them. Others will be in proportion.

Best 10 cars of corn ten ($10) dollars cash.

Best 12 sugar beets ten ($10) dollars cash.

Best results from one acre of beans five ($5) dollars cash.

Best display of poultry five ($5) dollars cash.

Best display of baked goods five ($5) dollars cash.

Best display of canned fruit and vegetables five ($5) dollars cash.

Best display of fancy work five ($5) dollars cash.

Best dressed doll (girls 10 yrs. of age or under) five ($5) dollars cash.

These are all cash prizes and all boys caring to compete in the county Y. M. C. A. will be allowed to retain their corn and beets.

In addition to these suitable 2nd and 3rd prizes will be given. A complete list will be furnished later.

Any boy or girl in the four named townships under twenty years of age that is not at the head of a family is eligible to compete. All that needs to be done is to see the teacher in district where you are living and sign an enrollment blank, pay a fee of ten cents to help meet the running expenses of the association and go ahead with whatever line you are interested. For any further information write or see W. A. Roberts of Middleton, who is the Secretary and Treasurer of the organization.

A LAMB SHOW AT THE LIVE STOCK MEETING.

The officers and executive committee of the Michigan Improved Live Stock Breeders' and Feeders' Association recently held their annual meeting and perfected arrangements for the twenty-third annual meeting of the association, to be held at the Agricultural college, East Lansing, January 14-15, 1914.

The topics to be discussed and speakers to handle them, were carefully gone over, as a result some of the ablest men in the country will undoubtedly appear on the program next winter.

As it is impossible, because of the limited space in the judging pavilion, to hold a show of more than one class of live stock each year, it was decided to put on a lamb show next winter in place of the barrow show held this year.

Three prizes will be offered for the best wether lambs sired by pure-bred rams of each one of the following breeds: Southdown, Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxford, Dorset, Rambouillet, Cotswold, Lincoln and Leicester, making in all 27 prizes to be competed for by native lambs.

In addition to the above, three prizes will be offered for the best black-faced western lambs and also for the best white-faced western lambs.

WILL SAND PRODUCE CROPS?

This is the question which is interesting the owners of thousands of acres of western Michigan land just now, and if energy and science can answer it, it will mean the rapid development of this territory.

The Muskegon Chamber of Commerce has just decided to take a hand in solving the problem. A part of Louis P. Haight's farm in that vicinity is to be used for experiments and the work will be pushed as fast as possible.

Uncle Sam is also at work on the farm, and has been for the last three years, trying to solve problems confronting every settler in the Jack Pine and Scrub Oak regions of this part of the state. Two or three years more of this work is expected to demonstrate just what crops, and what form of rotation, will produce the most money from the sandy soil, which here abounds. The Muskegon men behind the new movement, are to be congratulated on their breadth of view. The development of this land means the development of the neighboring towns, and the closer we knit the rural district with their local townships, the more likely we are to see real progress in both.

THINKS WOOL PRICE WILL GO UP AGAIN.

The price of wool at Corunna is quoted at 20 cents a pound, three cents less than last year and two cents less than the average price of the last four years. Dealers attribute it to the uncertainty over what congress will do with the tariff.

PACKING PLANT FOR BAY CITY.

The Chicago corporation which holds a large tract of grazing land in Otsego county, Michigan, has through its agent, D. D. Young, purchased a big tract of land in Bay county near Bay City, and it is said that a large packing plant will be erected thereon tis year.

RIGHT OF WAY ALL SECURED.

It is said that all of the right of way at Allegan for the proposed interurban road from Allegan to Battle Creek has been secured. The option on the Michigan Central line is good until August 1, by which time the Michigan United Traction Company would be ready to "hook up."

HORSE TRADERS TO MEET.

The Central Michigan Horse Traders' association will hold its annual meeting either at St. Charles or Birch Run the middle of July. Between 500 and 600 dealers attend these meetings each year, when upwards of 1,000 horses change hands.

AN ELECTRIFIED FARM.

Milking by electricity through vacuum pressure is the modern method employed by Clayton Thomas, whose fine farm is situated south of Owosso. Thomas is probably the only farmer between Owosso and Jackson who draws power from an interurban railway to light his farm dwelling and barns, run his milking machines, washing machines and heat the electric flat iron in the house.

When the road was buying up the right of way between Lansing and Jackson, Mr. Thomas gave them the free right of way across his farm. The track runs along his farm line for half a mile. One of the provisions of the agreement was that there should be no third rail along the farm, and another that he should have all the electricity he needed at a flat rate.

Mr. Thomas owns 280 acres of land, does general farming and also keeps 38 cows, which are highly profitable. Last June he installed a milking machine which is run by electricity, milking two cows in four minutes. The machine has a capacity of 30 cows and is operated by vacuum pressure, the vacuum being furnished by air pumps. The air is pumped into two tanks for storage and is used to operate the units, a motor supplying the power. It cost Mr. Thomas $405 to install this machine, and he is preparing to put another in his other farm barn.

To supply his large herd of cows with food, Mr. Thomas has erected four silos, and is about to erect two more, which he just purchased. He has also bought a tractor steam plow, which turns four furrows, and does away with the work of six horses.

The farm is a good producer of revenue, largely due to the application of scientific methods.

Mr. Thomas is supervisor of Bennington township.

FOUR ACRES FOR SCHOOL FARM.

The board of education of Ishpeming has closed a deal for the purchase of four acres in the northern part of the city. The land will be tilled by schoolboys. More than 50 boys from the high school and eighth grade have signified their intention of taking part in the cultivation of the tract. The land is well adapted for farm purposes. All of the work will be done by the boys, who will plant, harvest, and market the crops, and in return will receive a certain will be planted this spring. It is percentage of the profits. Vegetables intended to plant fruit trees and strawberry plants in the fall. The Ishpeming Y. M. C. A. had a farm in the Carp valley last summer, and a number of the younger boys, belonging to that institution, worked on the land, receiving a part of the profits. Each boy was allotted a certain area, and the seeds were provided by the association. The scheme will be tried again this year.