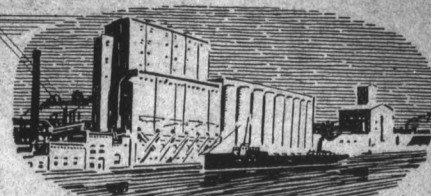


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BUSINESS FARMER



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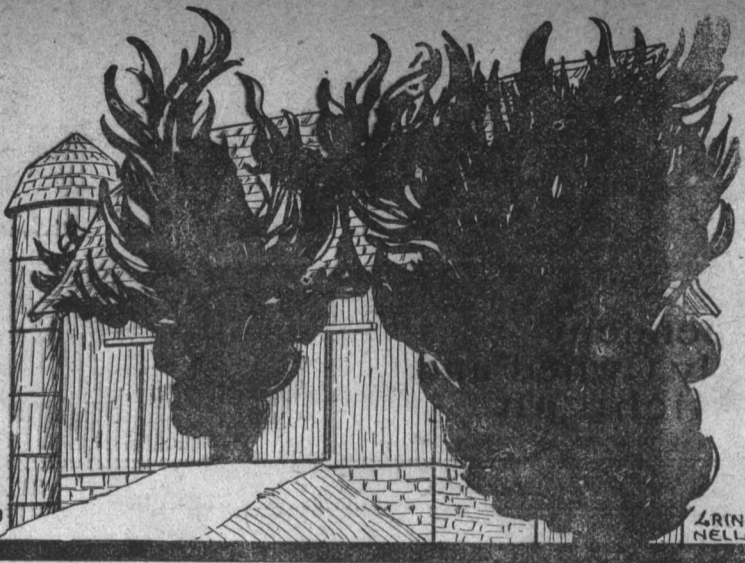
MT. CLEMENS, SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1920

\$1 PER YEAR



(Just to be a boy again!)

In This Issue:—Federal Judge Restores Sixteen Cent Milk—Governor Seeks Beet Conference—Protection for Buttons—Free Trade for Beans—Consumers' Boycott Brings Potato Prices Down—Why I Prefer the Farm to the City.



If your barns burned to-night?

What would
it cost
YOU
to replace
them?

HAVE you stopped to consider what it would cost to duplicate the buildings on your farm to day? With lumber, hardware, nails, roofing and paint at unheard of prices?

Even country carpenters are now asking a dollar an hour and are hard to find at that figure.

You Are Under-Insured

if you are not carrying twice as much insurance on your farm buildings today as you did last year!

Fire comes without warning and without pity to all. It is the common enemy of all and this big safe company, with a Million Dollar capital, backed and officered by men known to every business farmer in Michigan, stands ready to carry your fire, hail or windstorm risk, at the lowest possible rates.

It does make a difference in the insurance company you pick!

But if you are to-day insured in a good company or mutual, don't give up that insurance, simply take out a like amount in the Peninsular and then you will not be carrying any more insurance than present high prices demand.

Remember we do not insure all farm property at the same rate. The best risks have the lowest rates. We give the business farmer credit for his protective improvements.

Drop us a postal card to-day for rates and other information, sent free.

J. FLOYD IRISH,
Sec'y and Managing Underwriter

COLON C. LILLIE
President

PENINSULAR
FIRE INSURANCE CO.
OF AMERICA
Capital, \$1,000,000.00
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

Latest Facts on R. R. Situation

Pere Marquette Decides not to Accept Government Guarantee

(By the Farmers' National Council)

ADMISSIONS are leaking out day after day from railroad officials and financial writers as to what the return of the roads really means to the American people. The Farmers' National Council was regarded as radical in opposing the return of the roads and urging the two year extension of government operation. Events to date thoroughly justify the fight they made.

Mr. F. J. Lisman, financial writer in Commerce and Finance, discussing the railroad situation comments that if the Interstate Commerce Commission should say hereafter that it would allow the railroads, say 6 1-2 per cent on the capitalization, in order to restore their credits, "then it would be necessary to permit the companies to earn \$190,000,000 additional annually which is only an increase of about 3 per cent on the gross earnings which now are well toward \$6,000,000,000 a year."

Must Allow Companies Seven to Eight Per Cent

Mr. Lisman also says "In order to really give a broad basis of credit to the railroad companies it would be necessary to grant a rate level of which would permit the companies to earn from 7 per cent to 8 per cent. Every 1 per cent extra on fair valuation would amount to about \$200,000,000. While it would be in the interest of the shippers to have the railroad companies get this money, it is hardly to be expected that the Interstate Commerce Commission will take such a broad view as to permit this—there would be too many objectors."

No New Companies to be Organized

Mr. Lisman says, "it is absolutely certain that under the new law no independent railroad companies will be organized, either for the purpose of building branch lines or main lines because capital need not take any risk for the purpose of betting a return of 5 1-2 per cent at best, if successful, and less than that if not successful. Any new branch lines will have to be built by the municipalities or shippers themselves, or the communities will have to build good motor roads in order to get an outlet for their products."

The Market Letter of Goodbody & Co. for March 5th, last, says, "when the railroads have been valued as of the present, which none have as yet been—we would not be surprised to see roads like the New Haven, Rock Island, Southern Railway and Chesapeake & Ohio, earning from 5 to 20 per cent on their common stocks. We agree with Mr. John Moody's conclusion that, under the new law, the best railroad stocks should be worth as much in the future as they were before the war."

Guaranteed Compensation Close to Highest Earnings

Mr. Moody says: "It now looks as though this 5 1-2 per cent on the property investment would give the railroad stocks an average earning power of about 6.32 per cent as compared with 6.36 in 1910, 6.39 in 1907, and 6.72 in 1906, when the highest previous record of surplus earnings was made."

Under the terms of the bill, March 15th, was the last day on which the railroads could accept the extension of government guarantee for six months. The Pere Marquette which earned the largest surplus under government operation has decided not to accept a guarantee, as did the Southern Railway, though during 1919 it showed a deficit of nearly \$9,000,000. The United States Supreme Court has recently given a decision on the valuation of the Kansas City Southern Railway that when valuing the railroad the actual costs of acquiring condemned lands as of July, 1914, will have to be taken into consideration.

Mr. Lisman comments on this decision, "it probably would be a reasonable assumption that, taking the railroads of the United States as a whole, the increase in valuation will amount to about 10 per cent."

Mr. Sherley, director of Finance of the Railroad Administration, has reported that at least \$435,000,000 more must be provided to settle mat-

ters arising out of Federal control, than was claimed in the railroad bill.

These figures are estimates and are doubtless low, because the majority of the railroads have accepted the government guarantee of compensation and they can inflate expenditures to as high a point as possible and then secure a given dividend.

Railway Owners Admit 50 Per Cent

Freight Increase Needed

As the Interstate Commerce Commission is opening hearings to determine what changes in freight rates will be necessary to meet the one billion dollar advances for expenses and for wages to nearly 2,000,000 employes during the two years of government operation, the owners of the railroads are trying to make it appear that this advance has reduced the railroad net income to about 2 and 3-4 per cent, or half the minimum under the new transportation law. Railroad experts estimate that an increase in freight rates of approximately 25 per cent will be needed to take care of advances already granted and that if the Brotherhoods requests for fair wages are granted, rates will have to be increased 25 per cent more, making a total of 50 per cent over the present rates, that is, an increase of one-half.

Government Operation Would Prevent Large Increase

Continued government operation would have prevented large increases. It should be remembered that although costs of operation, including material and maintenance increased rapidly under government operation, the prices of the service rendered by these rates increased only an average of about 1-3 exclusive of increase necessary to meet payment of wage increases prior to the period of government operation. With the tremendous economies which were being effected under government operation no large increase would have been necessary to make the roads self sustaining. Every outlay by the railroads of \$50,000,000 involves an increase of 1 1-2 per cent in rates under private operation. Within the next two years the railroads will have to borrow approximately two billion dollars under private operation. For this they will have to pay about 7 per cent interest. Under government operation money could be secured at about 4 1-2 per cent, which would make a saving in interest on \$2,000,000 of \$50,000,000; and prevent thereby an increase in freight rates of 1 1-2 per cent on this single item of interest. The total interest charge would be reduced several hundred million under public ownership. Under private operation this burden falls on those least able to bear it.

Return of Roads to Blame

The increase in wages is not due entirely to private operation, though to some extent, but increases in interest charges, an increase in prices paid for material, supplies, equipment, etc., due to the provisions of the bill returning the railroads, which guarantees the roads a net return after they have paid maximum prices for material, supplies and equipment are directly attributable to private operation. Under government operation railroads are conducted to develop agriculture, manufacturing and commerce; under private operation, purely for profit making. An increase of 50 per cent in freight rates would mean a total increase in revenue of close to \$2,500,000,000; such an increase will require the farmers to pay the roads close to \$400,000,000 more a year for carrying farm products than at present rates. Furthermore if the increase in the cost of living, due to an increase in the freight rates is five times the rate increase, as stated by the Director-General of Railroads, and other authorities, the addition to the consumers cost of living burden will be fully \$10,000,000,000 a year, of which the farmers as large users of commodities transported will have to pay at least one-third. So the return of the railroads will cost farmers in increased prices at least \$3,600,000,000 and in higher freight rates on farm products \$400,000,000, a total of \$4,000,000,000.

Manufacturers Refuse to Attend Conference

Tell Governor Sleeper That They Have Sufficient Acreage for 1920 Operations

ONCE MORE the sugar manufacturers of Michigan have shown that they are the most colossal bluffers that ever came down the pike. In response to an invitation which Gov. Sleeper directed to the sugar beet growers and manufacturers to attend a conference at Lansing this week and endeavor to adjust the differences which now threaten to cut the production of sugar in this state by fifty to seventy-five per cent, they replied, to the effect that "nothing could be gained by such a conference; that they had all the acreage they could handle for their 1920 operations; and that the Governor was 'unduly alarmed.'"

Gov. Sleeper's invitation was sent out the latter part of last week at the behest of parties, it was announced "who were interested in having Michigan produce a normal supply of sugar." As soon as it was announced that the Governor desired a conference, Mr. C. E. Ackerman, manager of the Beet Growers' Ass'n, wrote a letter to Mr. Sleeper commending him for his action and offering to participate in such a conference. Mr. Ackerman also wired the Governor, Attorney General Palmer and the Saginaw Board of Commerce, that "thousands of acres of land which was plowed for beets is already being planted to other crops, and unless differences are adjusted very soon the sugar beet acreage will be short."

Mr. Ackerman received a letter last week from the Saginaw Board of Commerce offering the services of that Association as a mediator. Mr. Ackerman replied that the growers appreciated the interests of the Board but held that the only way the differences could be settled was by a conference between representatives of the sugar companies and of the farmers.

We adhere to this statement, and for that

The Future of Beans

IT IS extremely fortunate at this particular time when the beet growers are looking about for the best crop for their beet land that the bean market should recover from its long slump and prices increase. Beans are Michigan's old standby, and during average years they are a safer and more profitable crop than sugar beets. Reports from California, New York and Michigan are to the effect that the acreage will be cut forty to sixty per cent. We believe this is a correct estimate. This means that beans are going to be scarce,—it always happens after a season of plenty,—and prices will be high. Beans ought to make the best crop that the sugar beet farmer could plant. There is plenty of good seed available; the crop works well in rotation; and it doesn't require as much labor as beets. Why not, beet growers, just tell the sugar manufacturers to go to Halifax this year, and instead of sugar beets, plant beans,—or grain?

reason we are glad that the manufacturers have refused to attend a conference at the Governor's request, although we commend the Governor for his efforts to bring the producer and the manufacturer together. A conference such as suggested would merely be the means of patching up the difficulties as heretofore, and would be a virtual admission on the part of the growers that their organization had failed to produce results. The Beet Growers'

Ass'n is certainly big enough to handle this situation without outside interference, and it WILL handle it, if every member stands loyal to the organization.

The manufacturers claim their acreage is sufficient. While we cannot but admire their nerve for making such a statement at this stage of the game, their disregard for the truth is rather contemptible. There are only between 10,000 and 12,000 beet growers in Michigan, and today over 10,000 of them are members of the State Association. By their affiliation with the Association or by a definite promise these men have agreed not to plant beets in 1920 unless they get their price. So when the manufacturers claim their acreage is sufficient, they are telling downright falsehoods, and every beet grower knows it.

Beet Growers, you have the fight of your lives upon your hands. And yet victory is yours if you only know it. Why not have faith in your brother beet grower? If every one of you make up your mind to sign no contract and STICK to that decision, the manufacturers MUST meet with you or else their factories will not run. This is so plain and self-evident that it needs no emphasis. The manufacturers know this as well as you, and they are relying solely upon their ability to outwit you and outbluff you.

The western beet growers stood like a wall behind their demands, and they won! You beet-growers of Michigan cannot do less. If the western sugar companies can meet with representatives of the growers, the Michigan sugar companies can do the same, and it will be a blot upon organized agriculture, if the growers do not STICK, man for man, until the fight is won.

Federal Judge Restores Sixteen Cent Milk

MILK is back to 16 cents per quart in Detroit and farmers will receive \$4.05 per cwt., less surplus deduction, for at least the balance of April.

The restoration of the former price comes as a result of a ruling by Judge Arthur J. Tuttle that the provisions of Section 4 of the Lever Act are too vague as to what constitutes a fair price, and that it is unconstitutional. Judge Tuttle issued an order restraining

U. S. District Attorney John E. Kinnane from prosecuting the milk dealers for selling milk at 16c per quart.

Thus ends temporarily the dictation of the Federal "Fair Price" Board, and leaves the Milk Commission free to adjust the price as heretofore. How long this freedom may be enjoyed is a matter of conjecture, as Mr. Kinnane has intimated that he will appeal the case and Judge Tuttle has recommended that a legal board be appointed by the federal government.

THE FIRST battle in the struggle of the milk producers and distributors to maintain their right to charge a price for milk commensurate with the cost of producing and distributing it was precipitated last week when the distributors filed a petition with Judge Tuttle, federal judge, asking that an order be issued restraining the Fair Price Board from enforcing its ruling reducing the price of milk from 16 to 14 cents. Judge Tuttle refused to issue the injunction until he could examine the Lever law and pass upon its constitutionality.

Farmer Foots the Loss

The reduction in the price of milk amounts to 2 cents per quart or about 93 cents per hundred pounds. The creamery companies claim that they cannot distribute at a less margin than they have been getting, and the farmers claim they cannot produce milk at less than \$4.05 per cwt. The only difference between the two is that the creamery companies retain their own margin and take the reduction out of the farmers. But that's to be expected. The farmer has been the goat so long that he's be-

coming accustomed to it, and submits to the indignity without much complaint.

Imlay City Farmers Strike

As a result of the Fair Price Board's decision the distributing companies have reduced their price to the farmer to \$2.75 per cwt., for 3.5 milk. Of course, no dairyman, no matter how good and efficient a business man, can produce milk at this figure under present costs, and the continuation of this price for any length of time means ruination to thousands of milk producers. Most of the producers are submitting temporarily to the arbitrary dictates of the Board and have made no appreciable cut in the amount of milk they have been furnishing the companies, but a good many others have started reducing their herds and otherwise cutting down on their whole milk sales.

The most drastic action that has been taken was instituted this week when several hundred farmers in the vicinity of Imlay City went on a strike and refused to sell milk at the new price. The loss to them amounts to around \$2,000 a day, but they are cheerfully taking

their medicine, bitter as it may be. There is much current talk of a strike in other sections of the Detroit area. Were it not for the Lever act which prevents the milk producers from striking as a body, it is practically certain that the city of Detroit would be clamoring for milk at any old price within a fortnight.

At the special meeting of the Producers' Association last week, arrangements were made to create a fund for advertising purposes and to establish a "nest-egg" for emergency purposes. The question was asked as to whether or not this "nest-egg" was to be used to establish a distributing plant. Pres. Hull replied that he did not think the time was ripe to discuss the distributing proposition? While we have the utmost respect for Pres. Hull's foresight and ability, we can scarcely agree with him on this point. We believe that if the time was ever ripe or if the time will ever be ripe for the milk producers of the Detroit area to seriously discuss the establishing of their own milk plant in Detroit, that time is the present. We should like to hear from the milk producers on this point.

Northern Michigan a Rich Agricultural Empire

Potatoes, Sugar Beets, Live Stock, Fruits and Grains are Profitable Crops in Northern Section

By A. M. SMITH, Missaukee County

PROBABLY few people in our great country realize that lower Michigan, north of Grand Rapids is only partly developed even where it is considered fairly well settled, and that nearly the entire northern half of that great territory is as yet not half developed nor cultivated in any way.

There are many reasons why this great territory is as yet a partial wilderness. One is that lumbering interests held much of the territory and for years prevented the settler from gaining a foothold. Another is that vast areas of virgin prairie, ready for the plow were infinitely more inviting than the cut-over lands which require a large outlay of labor before they are ready for the crop. Another has been, that the one important money crop, potatoes, has been uncertain because of the seasons and fluctuating prices, which some years have been good and other years as low as 10 cents a bushel.

Then there has been a general impression abroad in the older parts of Michigan that the northern part of Michigan was practically worthless. We want to forecast the great changes which are imminent for this large area, an empire in itself, and will show why this is true.

First its location as to markets is excellent. Everybody realizes that a home market is the best market. Both by rail and water, marketing facilities to great cities from northern Michigan are excellent and within Michigan herself and at her doors are millions of people who must be fed. Then again we realize that the cheap prairie lands of the west are occupied. The land looker must turn back now in his quest for a cheap home. Nowhere can he find



No, this is not a scene in California. It is a typical view of a Northern Michigan orchard sloping down toward one of the thousands of lakes of the region.

his needs supplied better than in the territory comprising the cut-over lands of the lower peninsula of Michigan. Recent developments in agriculture along the lines of money crop such as potatoes and sugar beets and stock raising such as sheep, beef cattle and dairy cattle, makes the future prosperity of this great territory assured. As these industries should go along together, I shall deal with them in that way.

Stock raising and dairying in this territory is attractive for many reasons. On good soil pasturage is abundant and the business farmer settler has found out that if he will cut the brush off his land and seed it to grasses that he very soon has abundant pasturage which make dairy cows milk abundantly and beef cattle and sheep wax fat, and he also discovers that after three or four years he has a splendid cleared field

free from brush and briars, ready for the plow with a relatively small expense for labor in stumping and chunking up if he has hard wood land.

It is the opinion of the writer that many of the pine lands should not be cleared until the hard wood lands shall be exhausted. But it looks now very much as if the pine stumps were soon going to be worth for fuel all it costs to pull them and work them up into wood.

With the aid of dynamite and modern methods of clearing land the task of making a farm out of cut-over land is not as great as one would think.

The writer has done considerable of this kind of work and has made it a practice to take every stump before ever attempting to plow. Better 10 acres cleared than 20 half cleared, has been my motto. The truth of

this was impressed on me early in my farming career. I was clearing in the spring for a crop of potatoes, and as I was in a hurry to get to planting I left a few stumps. One of these was a big hemlock which a pound of dynamite would have blown out. When I dug my potatoes I measured the ground occupied by the stump and found that the same area near the stump had grown one bushel of market potatoes, worth when dug fifty cents. I then and there determined that "never again" would I cultivate a stump as I receive no increase from such labor.

I find that cattle keep down brush just as well as sheep after the brush has been cut off. Present prices for butterfat and good dairy cows make this branch of stock raising most attractive, although of course many prefer beef cattle and sheep and a man usually does best with the line he likes best. The stock raising industry fits in well too with the money crops, so increasingly important in western Michigan. Manure furnishing the humus and important fertilizing elements so much needed in the raising of potatoes and sugar beets is no inconsiderable part of the profits of stock raising. And the turning of cheap grass and rough feeds into beef, mutton and butterfat balance up the expense accounts incurred in the raising of the money crops. Most important to this great new area at present is the splendid outlook for the potato crop on which for so long the farmer of northern Michigan has depended to obtain money with which to meet his payments and pay his taxes and grocery bill.

For this crop so far as marketing (Continued on page 23)

"Why I Prefer the Farm to the City"—By One Who Has Tried Both

CHORES are finished for the night and have just read the article "How can we Keep the Boys and Girls on the Farm," by Mr. Fred Cressy.

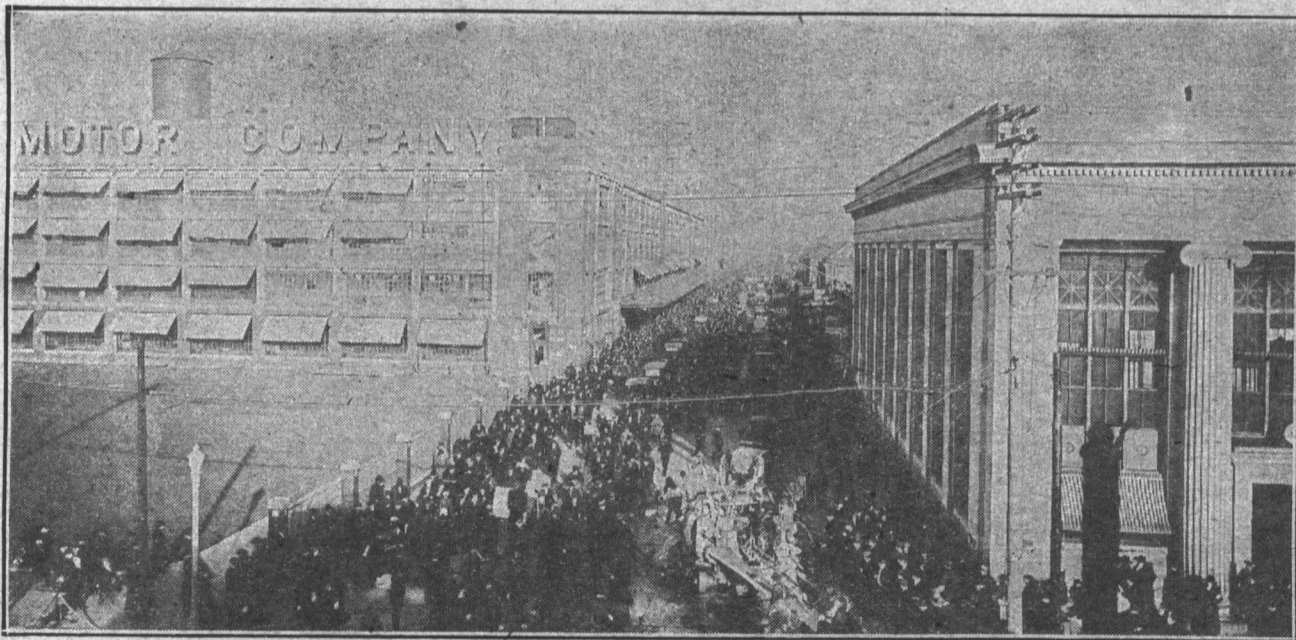
Want to say that Mr. Cressy knows of what he is talking. Any man (or woman for that matter) who has ever lived in the city will certainly agree with Mr. Cressy and I think a few of us can go him one better. From Mr. Cressy's letter, I surmise that he was born and raised on a farm. Myself, I was not that fortunate. Yes, I said fortunate, I know!

Ever since coming to the country and calling it "home," I have never let a chance pass when I could argue with a boy or man and relate to him my experiences, especially if he mentioned the word city. I am happy to say that I have succeeded in keeping at least one boy on the farm.

We all know that there is adventure in all of us, some have more; some less and I certainly had my share. And it is equally certain to crop out at some time or other.

We are unfortunate enough not to have either boys or girls of our own, but have always had a deep interest in them and hope that our recital will at least make some other man's boy think before he bids the "old farm" goodbye.

I was born in a little town on the Ohio-Indiana line in 1888, and it has been town or city ever since until the past few years. Was married in 1907 during the small panic and it was a



A partial view of the Highland Park plant of the Ford Motor Company showing a "few" of the 30,000 men employed there. Three hundred days out of the year this army of men punch their time clocks in the morning, sit at machines all day long as though they were a part of the machine, and at night flow out through the doors, like ants out of an ant-hole, and stand in long lines often in the pouring rain waiting their turn to board the street cars into which they are jammed like sardines, some of them to ride for an hour or more before reaching home. Hundreds of thousands of men work year after year under these conditions. Would you exchange the pure air, the sunshine, the birds and the flowers—yea, even the hard manual labor of the farm,—for this?

By R. E. BENNETT, Sanilac County

panic or practically so all the time I stayed in town. Not that I didn't make good money, for I did. I was an automobile trimmer and upholsterer and handy at other things, but, oh, that word "but." It's as bad as that word "if." Well anyway I (I'm going to take the blame if there is any) I wanted to wear good clothes, in other words, be dressy, wanted my house furnished of the best and always tried to keep up my end with the boys, no matter what the cost or whether the butcher and grocer got paid or not. Now, you will say "well that was his fault, he didn't need to do it. Could have saved if he wanted to." Say, take any young couple who are socially inclined, set them down among strangers where money talks or anyhow a show of money does (it's the same for a

short time) and if they can do any saving in any city, on any wages paid an un-skilled or even most skilled workers, they deserve all the credit and honor due any hero.

It can't be done.

Well, anyway we dressed good, ate good, took in shows, boat rides, and dances and other things of no need to mention, going farther in debt all the time. All this we thought we had to do, to make an impression on the neighbors to make them think that we were "getting along." Actually only fooling ourselves. Aren't most of us alike on that subject?

Then we awoke one day.

I was working at the Packard Motor Car Co. at Detroit and drawing from \$60 to \$83 every two weeks. This was in 1915. Good wages for then. I gave the wife \$50 every pay

day to run the house and believe me or not, I nearly always had to borrow money between times for carfare and lunches. Of course we were trying to buy or pay for a little home, but not succeeding at any alarming rate. At last we decided to try farming, (get that—at last—you know) the court of last resort, and any dub could farm! My idea—the wife knew better, she is a farmer's daughter. So we sold out, paid our debts and had—nothing left. Just a little measly hundred dollars.

Well, anyhow, we moved to Tuscola county, and bought an 80-acre tract of wild

and—and that is another chapter.

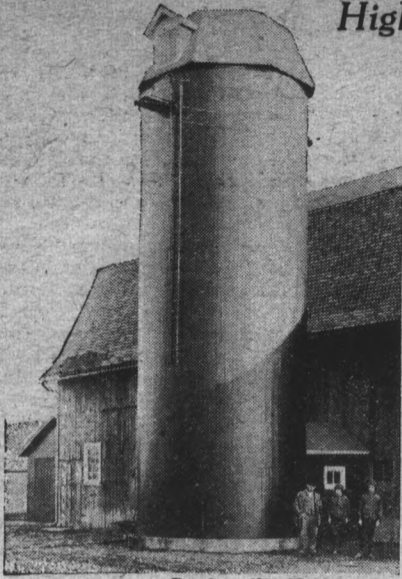
We are not there now.

The good wife and myself both agree that the city isn't and the job "ain't" that would bet us back and keep us there. We have accumulated more in the end, eat more real years than we did in all the time we spent in the city.

Let me urge you, Mr. Hired Man, you, Mr. Renter and also you, Mr. Owner, stay put on the farm. You'll have more in the end, eat more real food, wear just as good clothes, have oceans of less troubles, and be far more happy and contented than if you make your little sale, and moved to town, there to be just a little fish in a great sea full of other little fish, each trying to exist in half the room and on half the bounty that your maker intended you to have.

Recent Tests Show Feeding Value of Silage

High Cost of Dairy Food Makes Farmer More Dependent Upon Silo



—Courtesy the McClure Co.

Fred Rupprecht and sons of Richville, Mich. Mr. Rupprecht has 90 acres, and milks 12 Holstein cows. He has taken an old run-down farm and put it into a profitable state. He has just completed a most beautiful brick dwelling at a cost of \$8,500. The farm is equipped with all modern conveniences even to a series of electric lights in his silo chute so that the boys can get out silage even if dusk has fallen. Mr. Rupprecht is a reader of *The Business Farmer*.

THE INCREASING cost of grains, hay and commercial feeds makes it increasingly necessary for the dairy farmer to produce more succulent food on his own farm. The problem of preparing and storing sufficient food for the dairy herd during the winter months and when the pastures are dry is acute on the farm without a silo. But where the silo is available, the problem is largely solved.

There are comparatively few modern farms in Michigan which do not have one or more silos as a necessary adjunct to the business. A good many farmers find, however, that a single silo does not provide enough capacity for all the silage that is needed for both winter and summer feeding, and so we find on many farms the multiple silo which gives the farmer an abundant supply of silage against all emergencies.

The various types of silos on the market have been discussed so many times that the average farmer is fairly well acquainted with their construction and the peculiar advantages claimed for each. As time goes on improvement is made in the silo, all tending to minimize loss from spoilage, to increase quality of silage, and to add to the general attractiveness and usefulness of the structure. One of the most recent departures from the usual type of silo that has come to our attention recently are the silos on the farm of W. J. Brown, at Redford. Mr. Brown, who is a Detroit merchant, is developing one of the most modern farms in Michigan and the equipment is the finest procurable. Because Mr. Brown is financially able to purchase the best for his "play farm" does not lessen the interest in the type and quality of barns, silos, poultry houses, etc., which he is erecting. The barns on the Brown farm are stuccoed, and the owner desired a silo which would match the appearance of his other structures. So he purchased a popular make of wooden silo and applied the stucco, with the result that he has a silo that offers great resistance to heat and cold, that is solid and rigid and that insures good silage next to the walls, and last but not least, a silo that is attractive in appearance.

Some Silage Facts

The experiment stations of four of our leading stock raising states have recently published bulletins concerning the feeding of silage in large and small rations to steers. One station compared cane with corn silage as a ration for calves. The experiment stations of our country have for thirty or thirty-five years been using silos. These early structures, however, were crude and hardly fitted for preserving fodder. They were, as a rule, square boxes built in the corner of the barn and either made of stone or boulders. They ranged from fifteen to twenty feet square and very little higher.

The silage spoiled in the corners and naturally they were unsatisfactory. These old silos, however, have long disappeared and now modern silos are in use, made of either tile, cement or wood. They are round and narrow in diameter but lofty in height running from 30 to 40 feet.

Up till about four or five years ago the stations that were studying silage rations compared this ration with a shelled corn, oil meal or cotton seed meal and hay ration, but in the last year or two the experiment stations almost without exception are comparing a ration somewhat as follows: say 16 pounds of shelled corn or ground corn, 2 to 3 pounds of cottonseed or oil meal, 25 pounds of clover and say 1 pound of alfalfa or clover hay. This, as a rule, has been compared with, say 50 pounds of silage, 2 to 3 pounds of cotton seed or oil meal and a pound of alfalfa or clover hay. In other words, instead of comparing a silage with a non-silage ration, they have concluded, almost without exception, that silage was the great cheapener of costs and they are comparing a half silage ration with a full silage ration rather than a comparison between a full silage ration and a non-silage ration.

It is interesting to note that the experiment stations have nearly ceased working on silage as a dairy ration for they have long ago established this fact and have shown its economy as a milk and butterfat producer. They are therefore turning their attention mostly to the amount of silage to use in the beef ration.

Later on in this article we will give the actual figures from the four experiment stations above mentioned. It is outstanding though, in these various experiments that the gains per day have been approximately the same for the combined corn and silage ration and the heavy silage ration lots. Some of the stations show better gains per day in the corn and silage lots. In average cases, however, the cost of manufacturing a hundred pounds of meat was from 20 to 50 per cent lower when the heavy silage ration was used. It is admitted that when the cattle were fed the heavy silage ration the flesh was not quite as hard as a rule, the buyer valued them at 25 to 50 cents per hundred lbs. less. But in spite of this handicap, a heavy increase in the profit was made with the heavy silage fed lot.

In the following tables attention is being paid to silage experiments which pertain directly to silage comparing same with steers fed a small amount of silage with shelled or ground corn.

Missouri	
Eight head per lot	Lot 1 Lot 5
(pounds)	(pounds)
Average initial wt.	836.12 820.95
Average wt. at end of 83 days	1114.66 1021.00
Average daily gain	3.35 2.39
Average daily ration:	
Shelled corn	15.29
Linseed oil cake	2.55 3.67
Corn silage	25.23 40.33
Clover hay	2.88 4.84
Cost of feed per steer	\$ 50.23 \$ 21.17
Cost per hundred lbs. of gain	\$ 15.95 \$ 10.69

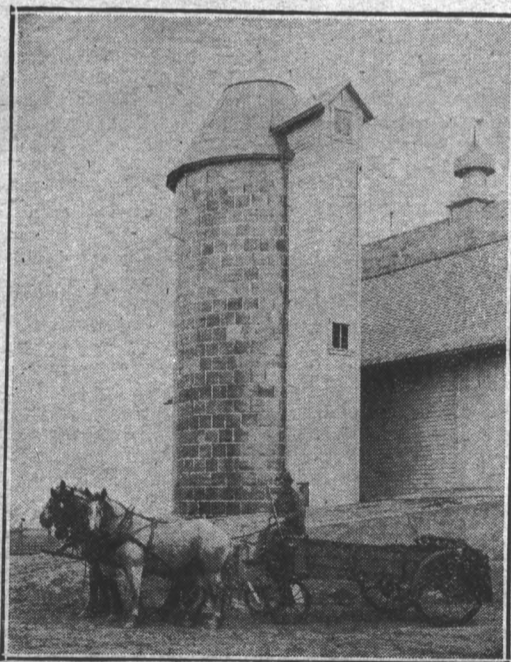
Kansas
Two year old steers fed for a period of 110 days, in lots of ten each.

	Lot 1.	Lot 4.
(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Average daily ration:		
Ground corn	15.31	
Alfalfa hay	13.	2.95
Linseed oil meal	2.72	2.69
Sorghum silage		60.55
Initial wt per steer	944.92	963.10
Final wt per steer	1309.44	1296.67
Average total gain per steer	364.52	333.57
Average daily gain per steer	3.31	3.03
Feed required to make 100 lbs. of gain:		
Ground corn	462.04	
Linseed oil meal	81.96	88.66
Alfalfa hay	392.32	97.43
Sorghum silage		1996.81
Feed cost per 100 pounds of gain	\$ 21.48	\$ 12.31

Iowa
Standard Corn Belt ration vs. "no grain" ration. Two year old steers fed from December 22nd, 1918, to May 26th, 1919—120 days. Five steers to the lot.

	Lot 1.	Lot 7.
(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Final weight	1360.1	1335.2
Average daily gain	2.98	2.74
Average daily feed:		
Shelled corn	15.	
Linseed oil meal	3.	3.
Corn silage	27.4	52.
Alfalfa hay	.9	1.5
Block salt	.03	.03
Feed required to make 100 lbs. of gain:		
Shelled corn	504.7	
Linseed oil meal	100.8	109.6
Corn silage	819.8	1899.1
Alfalfa hay	31.6	56.
Block salt	.88	.93
Cost of gain	\$ 22.60	\$ 16.08
Profit per steer	\$ 15.83	\$ 23.11
Cost of feed:		
Shelled corn, per bu.	\$1.45	
Linseed oil meal, per ton	70.00	
Corn silage	12.00	
Alfalfa hay	30.00	
Block salt	20.00	

It is interesting to note in the above experiment that the farmer who can sell his corn crop in the form of silage to his steers at \$12 per ton (counting the average yield for Iowa as ten tons to the acre) will make a good big profit, even though he comes out even in the operation of feeding his steers. In the above experiment it shows that the Iowa farmer can sell his crop to his steers at \$120 per acre and that he can still make a profit of from \$23.11, not including the hogs, up to \$27.32 if the hogs are counted.

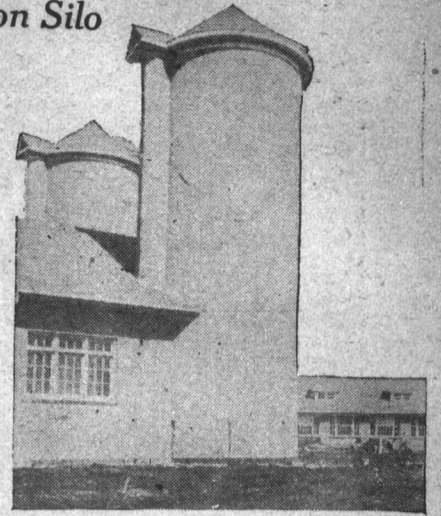


—Courtesy J. M. Preston Company.

Scene on a modern Michigan farm showing hollow tile silo. This type is meeting with approval in many of the corn belt states.

Wisconsin
Ten two year old steers to each lot. Average weight per steer, 920 lbs. Length of feeding, 112 days.

	Lot 1	Lot 2
(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)
Average final wt. per steer	1188.7	1179.5
Average daily gain per steer	2.4	2.33
Average daily ration:		
Shelled corn	12.4	
Cotton Seed Meal	2.7	3.5
Corn silage	32.8	56.4
Mixed hay	2.2	2.6



—Courtesy the McClure Co.
Scene on the W. J. Brown farm near Redford, showing wooden silo after it got its coat of stucco to match other farm buildings. The stucco idea is declared to be a departure in silo construction. The material serves to prolong the life of the silo and decreases the danger from frost. Moreover, it makes the silo very attractive in appearance.

Cost of average daily ration	\$.54	\$.37
Feed required per 100 lbs. of gain:		
Shelled corn	514.7	
Cotton Seed meal	113.8	152.2
Corn silage	1364.2	2422.0
Mixed hay	90.3	11.9
Cost of 100 pounds gain	\$ 22.64	\$ 16.03
Profit per steer, counting hogs	\$ 8.44	\$ 20.35
Profit per steer, counting hogs	\$ 19.86	\$ 25.33
Cost of feed:		
Shelled corn, per bu.	\$1.33	
Cotton Seed meal, per ton	65.00	
Corn silage, per ton	8.00	
Mixed hay, per ton	25.00	

Dr. C. W. Campbell, head of the Animal Husbandry Department at the Kansas Experiment Station, points out "that a comparison between the results obtained in lots one and four show that 1996.81 lbs. of silage fed in lot four replaces 469.6 pounds of corn fed in lot one. In other words, a ton of sorghum silage replaces 8 1-2 bushels of corn." He also mentions that the yield of corn on the college farm owing to the extreme dry weather of last summer, was only about 3 1-2 tons per acre but that the yield of sorghum silage was approximately 9 tons to the acre.

It is well to digest for a moment and note that at the time the Kansas station was feeding the above two year old steers they were feeding calves also. They show that the calves made a gain of 321 pounds each in 110 days. The steer made a gain of 354 pounds in the same period; the daily gain per calf being 2.92 pounds and per steer 3.22 lbs. In other words, they point out that, considering weights and costs, better gains can be made with the calves than can be made with two year old steers.

The above experiments are carried through on a straight profit and loss basis, careful watch being taken at all times that every part of feed that went to the steers was properly charged to them at the prices prevailing in that state at that time. These prices, of course, will vary in different states and in different localities in the same state.

There is another angle to this: How many pounds of beef were produced per acre? We have an idea that the average farmer is more interested in these figures than any other and none of the experiment stations have taken the pains to reduce their figures to a "per acre" basis. It is rather hard for a layman to do this, but it seems to me fair to take the broad proposition that a field of corn that produces 40 bushels of ears will produce ten tons of silage. Of course these figures will vary with different localities and different years, but, taking one year with another, the above estimate is probably fair. I know of many farmers who have secured twelve to fifteen tons or even more silage per acre. In fact, some of the experiment stations themselves reported

(Continued on page 23)

Farm Bureau Announces Plan of Wool Pool

Any Local Co-operative Association in Organized Farm Bureau Counties May Act as Assembler for That County

REMOVAL of the headquarters of the Michigan State Farm Bureau from Birmingham, where it has been for the last year, to Lansing, will take place April 30th. This action was prompted by the purchase of a large office building and warehouse at 221 No. Cedar Street, Lansing, recently. In addition to housing the general offices of the Farm Bureau, this Lansing building will also include the seed and wool departments of the organization. The spacious storage facilities of the warehouse are expected to be taxed this spring and summer following shipments of wool from the various counties for pooling at Lansing, which will begin within the next two weeks. Local assembling points are being established all over the state for the convenience of the forty-three odd thousand members of the organization. This wool will be handled on a co-operative cost basis. Other arrangements for the removal to Lansing than the desirability of having all the Farm Bureau departments under one roof are the excellent railroad facilities of that city, the geographical location and the proximity to the Michigan Agricultural College.

Preliminary to plans for activities pertinent to Home Economics and Boys' and Girls' Club work in the state which will be carried on by the Farm Bureau under direction of Mrs. J. C. Ketcham, member of the executive committee of the organization, names of chairman of Home Economics departments of the various county Farm Bureaus and names of the leaders of the Boys' and Girls' Club work in the various counties are desired so that co-operation may extensively be obtained. The various

counties are asked to send these names to Mrs. Ketcham at the secretary's office as soon as possible. Home Economics and club work occupy an important part in the educational program of the Farm Bureau, though up to the present time it has been possible to do little in this connection because of pressure of problems of a more imperative nature.

Membership campaigns of the Michigan State Farm Bureau were this week under way in Hillsdale and Jackson counties, coming to an end in the latter and with more than 2000 members seemingly certain. The total membership of the state organization now is close to 43,000.

Rules Governing the Pooling of Wool

In counties where the Farm Bureau membership campaign has been completed or is now under way, Kent, Tuscola, St. Clair, Allegan, Oakland, Barry, Van Buren, Gladwin, Lapeer, Genesee, Montcalm, Monroe, Macomb, Shiawassee, Eaton, Wayne, Ottawa, Washtenaw, Livingston, Berrien, Calhoun, Clinton, St. Joseph, Cass, Lenawee, and Jackson, the County Farm Bureau will appoint the firm, individual or co-operative organization to handle the assembling of wool.

Any co-operative organization, firm, or individual selected by the County Farm Bureau organization may assemble wool upon signing contract and complying with instructions and regulations issued by the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

In counties where the Michigan State Farm Bureau membership campaign has not been completed and is not now under way, county agents are requested to arrange for assembling wool in their respective coun-

ties by a responsible individual, firm, co-operative organization, Grange, Gleaner arbor, or other agency.

The assembling agent must sign a contract with the Michigan State Farm Bureau and comply with the instructions and regulations issued by the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

No assembling agent of the Michigan State Farm Bureau will be permitted to purchase wool on his own account or act as agent for any other individual firm or corporation in buying, handling, storing or marketing of wool.

All persons marketing wool thru the Michigan State Farm Bureau will be required to sign wool growers' contract and abide by all rules and regulations issued by the same.

County Agent or other Michigan State Farm Bureau representatives must secure signature of assembling agent upon assemblers contract as issued by Michigan State Farm Bureau and forward same, with full name and address PLAINLY WRITTEN thereon to the Michigan State Farm Bureau Wool Department, Lansing, Michigan.

Agreement and Contract with Wool Grower

The Michigan State Farm Bureau agrees:

1. To pay all transportation and labor charges, including trucking, handling, grading, sacking, shipping, salesmanship and all expenses incident to the proper handling and marketing of wool, including all book-keeping and clerical work.
2. To furnish the necessary sacks, and tags, storage facilities for proper handling of wool.
3. To carry such insurance as

may be necessary to protect the consignor against loss or damage by fire while wool is in possession of the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

4. To investigate and handle any claims for loss or damage to wool consigned to the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

5. To arrange for advancement to the consignor on application, of credit loans at six (6) per cent interest on wool consigned, in amount not to exceed seventy-five per cent of the estimated value of the wool so consigned, and to be deducted from final settlement.

6. Final settlement to be made within a reasonable time after all wool has been sold.

In consideration of this agreement the consignor agrees:

7. To accept the warehouse weights and grades as a basis for payment on all wool consigned, as may be fixed by the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

8. To accept as a basis for advance loans the estimated value as fixed by the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

9. To allow the Michigan State Farm Bureau to deduct such sum as may be charged against the wool for freight sacks, and other expenses, and for services as are necessary, from the final payment due the shipper.

Date

I hereby agree to ship not later than July 15, 1920, approximately

..... fleeces of wool to the Michigan State Farm Bureau to be graded, stored and marketed under the terms of the above agreement.

Name

Address

County

The Facts About Tax Exemption Clause of Rural Credits Law

FOR MANY years, we labored with the farmers of this country, for the purpose of inducing the government to provide some system by which long time farm loans, at reasonable rates of interest, could be obtained. After fifty years of effort, we at last have the Federal Farm Loan Act, under which farmers have been able to secure loans on long time payments and at a comparatively low rate of interest.

Under the Federal Farm Loan Act are also provided the Joint Stock Land Banks, which have their place, and have done much good towards financing our farmers, but the old enemies of rural credits have been at work. The Farm Mortgage Brokers' Association of America has brought suit to test the constitutionality of the Federal Farm Loan Act and now, while the suit is pending before the Supreme Court of the United States, operations of the entire Federal Farm Loan System have been practically suspended.

While the Federal and Joint Stock Land Banks are "marking time," the Mortgage Brokers are not; they are busy with their propaganda to have Congress destroy the Federal system as soon as the Supreme Court renders a decision favorable to the Farm Loan Act, which is anticipated by both its friends and enemies.

During the suspension of the Land Banks, Mortgage Brokers are reaping a rich harvest from the farmers in commissions, brokerage and other extortions and using a part of it to pay lawyers for legislation and others for propaganda to influence congress and public sentiment. To do this the old cry of "class legislation" is raised against the Farm Loan Act. Those who charge this should come with clean hands, but they do not, for all the interests which have been enjoying government favors and fattening off the farmers for years are now joining the mortgage brokers in a vicious attack on the most important act ever passed by Congress for the benefit of agriculture.

The great need of the government at this time for revenue is prominently put forward as a reason for the repeal of the tax exemptions on farm loan bonds, without which the con-

Personal Rural Credits

AT THE convention of agricultural editors a committee was appointed to study the McFadden Personal Credits bill now before congress. The committee consists of Mr. Carl Williams, editor Oklahoma Stockman and Farmer; Dr. Spillman, editor Farm Journal; C. W. Pugsley, editor Nebraska Farmer; Jas. Thompson, editor Iowa Homestead; Forrest Lord, editor Michigan Business Farmer. This committee already knows the need of a sound farm loan system, but it will endeavor to ascertain whether or not the McFadden bill will do the business. A report of its findings will be made at the next meeting of the Association which will probably be held in Washington city some time next month.—Editor.

tinuance of the farm loan system is impossible.

Mortgage brokers are spilling a few crocodile tears and much printer's ink over millionaires escaping taxes through buying these tax-free Farm Loan Bonds. We have in our possession their advertisements, and chuck full of mis-statements and appeals to passion and prejudice; and we also have their circulars forwarding these advertisements to other mortgage brokers, urging their use in their territory with the assurance that their private interest will thereby be promoted.

No thinking farmer will be fooled by these pleas; they know this gentry of old. They know it was the method used by the Mortgage Brokers who charged all the traffic could bear, and more, which made the Farm Loan Act a necessity. Mortgage brokers wish to farm farmers not to finance farmers. Their selfish interest alone is their present motive masquerading behind solicitude for the public treasury, and indignation over rich tax dodgers.

While farmers know all this, a good portion of the public does not, and it therefore, becomes necessary to counteract such specious propaganda.

Here are some facts: In the United States there are now outstanding some sixteen billions of tax-free securities, three-fourths of which benefits mainly city dwellers. Of this aggregate, tax-free Farm Loan Bonds issued by both Joint Stock and Federal Land Banks constitute less than two per cent; about one and two-

thirds per cent for Federal Land Banks and one-third of one per cent for Joint Stock Land Banks.

Why is there no outcry against this 98 per cent of tax-free securities? How much does it help the United States Treasury and hurt the rich tax-dodgers to remove the tax exemption from two per cent and leave the 98 per cent tax free? The answer is made that most of the 98 per cent is in state and municipal bonds, which cannot be taxed under the constitution. That was true until the adoption of the Sixteenth Amendment which reads: "Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes from whatever source derived," etc. This Sixteenth Amendment was before the New York Legislature in 1910, when governor Chas. E. Hughes, who was afterwards a member of the Supreme Court of the United States, sent a message to the legislature against ratification, solely on the grounds that incomes from state and municipal bonds would in his opinion become taxable by the United States government. His opinion carries much weight. Why has there been no attempt to tax incomes on these state and municipal bonds?

If there is any doubt about the power of congress to do so, why is it not put up to the Supreme Court for decision? Is it the old story that the chief beneficiaries of these bonds are organized and can make their influence felt at Washington, while farmers are not yet so organized and can, therefore, be discriminated against with impunity.

The farmer asks no special privileges. If there is a public necessity that there should be a reasonable tax levied on the incomes from all securities, the farmer would not object to including Farm Loan Bonds, but he is getting very tired of being singled out, discriminated against, made the goat and offered as the sole sacrifice to the public good. The recent decision of the Supreme Court, holding that stock dividends when paid in cash are taxable, but when paid in a stock certificate are not, will lose millions of revenue to the treasury, and this decision so favorable to the corporate class will be urged as an additional reason why Farm Loan Bonds should be taxed to help replace the loss in revenue.

Some of the bills affecting the Farm Loan Act now before congress are aimed against Joint Stock Land Banks only, others against the Farm Loan System as a whole, but the aggressive enemies of the system are behind all of these bills.

Limiting loans to \$10,000 does not enable the Federal Land Banks to meet the need for increased agricultural production, and there are other valid reasons why the dual system provided by congress in the Farm Loan Act, should be maintained. All friends of the act, therefore, should stand together and demand of congress that there be no tampering with the Farm Loan Act, but if, on account of imperative necessity for revenue, Farm Loan Bonds are to be taxed, then an identical tax should be laid on all other securities of whatever nature and kind, now tax-free.

The Farm Loan Act is now facing a crisis and farmers should speak in its defense both individually and through organizations and speak loud enough to be heard and heeded. Unless they do this and do it now the whole system of Rural Credits will be lost, or, what is worse, so hampered by malicious legislation that the farmers who need the financial assistance will be unable to obtain any real benefit therefrom.—*The Southern Planter.*

Consumers' Boycott Reduces Potato Demand

Movement by Detroit Hotels and Housewives to Stop Eating Potatoes Becomes Nation-Wide

THE CONSUMER has rebelled against the high cost of potatoes and from one end of the country to the other the order has gone forth, "eat no potatoes until the price comes down." This is no ordinary boycott. It is organized and is being encouraged by the Department of Justice and by the Bureau of Markets. Its effects are already being felt, and for the first time during the present year the Bureau of Markets reports potatoes, "weak and slightly lower."

The boycott had its incipency in Detroit where potatoes jumped from \$9 to \$13 per 150 pounds in three days' time. For a week or more Detroit consumers were forced to pay \$1.80 per peck for spuds. Later this price dropped to \$1.40 per peck, but that is far above the "fair" price fixed by the Federal Fair Price Board. This board rules as follows:

"Effective April 20 at 12 o'clock noon.

"The fair price board determines that the fair retail price of the best potatoes per bushel of 60 pounds, in this district is \$3.60 or 90 cents per peck of 15 pounds. Retailers should buy to sell on this basis.

"At this time purchasers are warned to use particular care that they are not defrauded by short weight or short measure.

"This price is subject to revision at the next or any subsequent meeting of this board."

The moving spirit back of the boycott in Detroit is Mrs. Frederick G. Ray, president of the Women's Federated Clubs, who presided at a meeting held in that city last week at which representatives of some of the largest hotels and eating houses of Detroit attended.

Farmer Not Blamed

The majority of the speakers at the conference agreed that the farmers were not to blame for the high prices. This shows progress for our city cousins. George Nedtweg, president of the Detroit Stewards Club said that much of the blame for existing conditions rested on the shoulders of the commission men. He cited the fact that "the farmer has not received more than \$4 during the past years and in many instances he has been paid less for a bag of 150 pounds. At that price we should get them for about \$7 at the most. Instead we pay \$13 to \$15."

Nedtweg also charged that "the railroad yards are filled with carloads of potatoes, and that owners willing-

Here's a Beet Grower Who Talks Business

I BEG SPACE in your worthy paper for a few lines, which may be of some benefit to the beet growers, and brother farmers, as well. The title being, "I refused to be soft pedaled."

Last evening a representative of one of the sugar companies called on me, and wanted the secretary of our Association and myself to go to the sugar factory's office and see the figures of the company for the purpose of showing us that beet growers are wrong and the sugar company is right. Now that would sound nice to a man who had lost his mind and was in a bughouse and needed a vacation.

Here is the point. Could any person get any intelligence from looking at a company's books and taking the balance figures from the ledger, and discover anything about the cost of production, not knowing anything about what the company had invested or anything about its overhead expenses, depreciations, etc.

Now was not that a bright suggestion? I would say no. I said to this agent, "what good would there be in that? They could mislead in their figures as well as in words, to one who would be foolish enough to fall for two or three hours of soft pedal stuff, from the sugar company."

I also asked him why the Company did not meet the Beet Growers' Association in Saginaw which would have been the proper place to present their figures and correct errors if any were made. He said, "they were not invited to the meeting; that the farmer just demanded the price."

Now when he found I was not going to fall for that he said the company showed him figures showing that the farmer could raise beets for \$60 per acre, outside the "hunky" labor and make 88 per cent and the Sugar Company was only making 23 per cent. What do you think of that, the poor Sugar Companies misused by the rich, heartless farmers, Ha! Ha!

I asked him to produce his figures for proof and his efforts in the proof for the Sugar Co. was about as near as one could come to buying a Hudson Six with a setting hen. When I produced the farmers' side of the beet business, I really believe that agent had a change of heart and is about to repent and join the big church, with the ten thousand beet growers, or at least be in sympathy with us.

Another agent told me the reason his company would not attend our meetings was they did not want the farmer to run their business. Do the farmers want the sugar companies to run both, the farmer and the factory. I for one surely object to being a silent partner in the deed. I have too much confidence in our Mr. Editor, Mr. Ketcham, Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Price and other gentlemen in the state and local associations as leaders to think they would want to be unjust to any one. I will close, believing the fight is won.—Geo. H. Histe, President of Coleman Association.

You are certainly to be commended for your refusal to be caught in the company's net. The books of a corporation doing a million dollars worth of business a year are about as illuminating as the moon on a cloudy night. A brief examination of the books would prove nothing. It would require hours, if not days of study by an expert accountant to discover the profits or losses of such a concern, the cost of manufacturing the sugar, the entries that might be made here and there for concealing the profits, etc. This show of frankness and honesty of purpose by the manufacturers is sham and hypocrisy and the farmers will not fall for it. The growers will be glad to examine the SWORN statements of the manufacturers when presented to the proper officers of their Association, but anything less than that will receive scant consideration.—Editor.

ly pay demurrage charges. That one car recently changed hands six times a day, each purchaser making a profit of approximately \$75, without one of them seeing the car—the bill of lading being sold. People outside Michigan—one of the best potato

growing states in the country—get the food cheaper than we do."

As a result of this meeting the following resolution was adopted and later posted in all the eating places in the city:

"Resolved, that the present mar-

ket price of potatoes is extremely inflated and unreasonable. Therefore, omit potatoes and help beat the market."

The publication of this resolution soon showed its effects in a slackened demand for potatoes. Retailers claimed that they could not sell for the prices suggested as they had paid more than that for their supplies. Commission merchants put up the same plea. But the consumer was obdurate and consumption rapidly dropped. The market immediately began to wobble and prices slumped off 50 cents to a dollar per 150 pounds. The high prices of Michigan stock had also encouraged the importation of Canadian spuds, large quantities of these arriving by boat from Windsor. As a result of these conditions the Detroit potato market is in a somewhat shaky condition this week.

Detroit Movement Spreads

The boycott idea quickly spread from Detroit to adjacent towns. In Mount Clemens it is estimated that potato consumption has been reduced a third, and similar results are reported from Lansing, Saginaw and other Michigan cities.

In New York federal agents raided the offices of the big packers and commission firms, and representatives of Wilson & Company, Swift & Co., Armour & Co., and the New York and New Jersey Produce Company were arrested for profiteering. One produce man was charged with having purchased 45,000 pounds of Maine potatoes and re-selling them at a profit of 62 per cent. Another was accused of having sold for \$13.50 a hundred, potatoes they had bought for \$6.75 a hundred.

Chicago Dealers Under Scrutiny

It is reported that thirty or more of the largest potato dealers in Chicago are to be indicted for profiteering. "Government action was contemplated following the exposure of the fact that dealers were holding big quantities of foodstuffs in railroad yards to maintain high prices."

Potato Shortage Acute

Reports from all sections of Michigan indicate an acute shortage of potatoes, both for seed and consumption purposes. It is stated that so many farmers have been lured by the high prices to sell their last spud that a seed shortage is imminent, and that Michigan may have a short crop this year if the farmers are obliged to depend upon home-grown seed.

"My Experience in Growing Fruit on Light Sandy Soil"

SANDY loam is the best soil for grapes. At any rate such has been my experience, and I am willing to verify this statement with an experience of several years standing.

In our country there were two kinds of soil, the sand "barrens" and the heavy clay soil farther back from the rivers. Along the streams, sometimes extending back for several miles, the white pine of commerce grew in serrated ranks, beckoning the axmen to come to the harvest.

This pine was long ago exhausted. Much of the land on which it grew is still untilled, left to grow up wild stuff which has many times been destroyed by fires till the old pine slashings of the last century are no longer in evidence.

These annual fires did great damage to the light soils of the timber country, rendering much of it unfit for farming purposes. Despite these drawbacks, however, some more venturesome than others have staked their belief in the virtue of light soils by squatting on these cutover ranges, and where the squatter has it in him to stick, and work out the right methods, fine farms have been the result.

Nevertheless there are numerous deserted ranches all through the one time lumber country, deserted because their settlement was made with too great faith in the productiveness of a soil none too strong at the out-

set, and much depleted of its original fertility by the forest fires which burned off the vegetable matter, the dropping of years, leaving only the bare, bleak sand, which was disappointing and bound to be till thoroughly renovated and nourished by the turning under of green manure in the shape of rye and red clover.

In my experience on a forty of this land I found that where the common red clover would not grow the mammoth sort oftentimes succeeded, and there is nothing better for soil enrichment than a liberal crop of this large clover turned under.

A friend of the writer purchased a forty not far from a thriving little city. On this forty was a mound of several acres that had been so long neglected it had become a desert of drifting sand. While the rest of the farm was a valuable loam, this spot was useless. My friend wasn't to be balked, however, and he mapped out a plan of campaign that he believed would redeem the sand plot.

The first year he sowed rye, which in itself is a very poor substitute for clover. This he plowed under in early summer, renewing the rye with a seeding of clover. The succeeding season was dry. The rye did well, but no report from the clover.

It required four years to fetch that sandy spot into fertility. The fourth year a good catch of clover clinched the redemption, and thereafter the

few acres so long given over to non-production were the most valuable acres on the farm.

Knowing how, mixed with a little stick-to-itiveness does the work, and such work is destined in time to bring up the greater part of our light soils to productivity second to none. I raised 100 bushels of fine potatoes to the acre on "pine sand" with at least thirty stumps dotting the acre. Afterward, with the removal of the stumps and a few sowings of mammoth clover turned under, the land was second to none in all the country round, producing annually as large crops of everything as did the heavy clay soils in the immediate vicinity, and with one half the work that hot sun and continuous rains inflict upon the heavy land farmer.

One of these sand farms properly rejuvenated makes a better all around farm than does the heavier soils. More different crops can be produced on sand loam, made loamy by repeated clover fertilizing than on the clay lands. These soils can be worked late in the fall and early in the spring which is an advantage that will readily be recognized.

Speaking about grapes. The heavy-landers made a few essays at vinyarding with indifferent success, while on my sand loam the luscious fruit grew to perfection. My patch of Wardens was the envy of every

heavy land farmer for miles around, and I soon had enough customers among these to take care of all I had to sell.

The rolling sand hills are the natural home of the peach. While peaches can be grown on the heavy soils, and many of them are thus grown, the sand knolls, after having been fitted with the proper food, are the supreme delight of the peach grower. Elberta peaches, the great shipping fruit, grows to perfection for size and edibility on these hills.

A neighbor raised peaches on heavy soil. His Elbertas were not two-thirds the size, nor anywhere near as nicely colored as were mine grown on a sand hill the soil of which had been brought to a state of exceeding fertility by the proper administration of manures and culture.

It may be well to emphasize here the necessity of constant cultural methods to produce the most satisfying results.

While the cities, because of the high wages brought about by the war are growing just now at the expense of the country, there's going to be a reaction before long, and when that time arrives the sand lands of the one time lumber region will come into its own. Rightly farmed there is no better place for the conscientious and determined man than on one of these so often derided sand eighties.

Organic Matter Contained in Various Soils

What Animal or Vegetable Matter Assists Most in Renewing Soils Fertility

By M. M. McCool

Professor of Soils, Michigan Agricultural College

I HAVE prepared for the readers of this paper three articles on the subject of vegetable matter of soils. This is justifiable because of the tremendous importance a proper amount of this material in the soil has upon productivity. In fact everyone who has had experience in farming and especially in attempts at raising soil productivity realizes that the increase of this material in many and its maintenance in others is of utmost concern to the Michigan farmers. This is popularly spoken of as vegetable, organic matter and humus respectively. Suffice it to say that organic matter is derived from both animal and plant life and that the term humus refers to either or both of these when partially decayed or rotted.

The organic matter in soils is very complex. It exists in various stages of decomposition some being made up of undecomposed roots, stems and leaves of plants, some of partially decayed and some is composed of waxy material. The majority of the mass is composed of non-nitrogenous compounds. There are in addition, although in much smaller amounts, nitrogenous compounds from the decomposition of which nitrates are furnished to the plant; inorganic or mineral constituents. The latter exists as salts in the cells, as crystals, as incrustation and as organized bodies or part of living matter. Included among others are the phosphates, carbonates, and sulphates of calcium magnesium and potassium. When the organic matter decays or is leached in the soil some of these compounds become available for the crops, unless removed in some manner before being taken up.

Due to its influence on the physical condition of the soil organic matter is important. Some of these effects are increased somewhat of the water holding capacity, the absorption of gases, and numerous inorganic compounds; alters the tilth or makes good structure of soils, tending to bind together the particles of the coarse sands, thereby decreasing the porosity, the excessive aeration and percolation of water through them. It prevents the crusting of the surface of very fine sandy soils by heavy rains, and also materially decreases the erosion of soil by both rain and water.

The chemical effects of organic matter are none the less important than the physical. As indicated above, organic matter contains all the essential elements of plant food. Upon decomposition these are liberated and become direct sources of plant food. During the decomposition of organic matter there are formed several substances such as carbon dioxide and others that assist in breaking down mineral matter of the soil and thus increase the available plant food elements.

The organic matter content of virgin soils varies with climate and the moisture content, texture and depth from the surface and with the native vegetation. A large number of virgin soils taken from regions of widely different conditions of climate were found to possess the



This sandy soil produced about thirty bushels of wheat per acre when first farmed. Because of depletion of organic matter it is useless today.

amount of this valuable constituent as given in the following table:

	Sandy Soils	
	Surface	Subsoil
N. E. U. S.	1.66	.60
S. E. U. S.93	.41
No. Central	1.84	.76
So. Central	1.16	.55
Semi arid states99	.62
Arid states89	.64
	Loam and clay soils	
	Surface	Subsoil
N. E. U. S.	3.73	1.35
S. E. U. S.	1.53	.73
No. Central	3.06	1.07
So. Central	1.80	.65
Semi arid states ...	2.64	1.11
Arid states	1.05	.62

It is notable that these results show somewhat higher amounts of organic matter in soils of cooler regions, higher rainfall, fine texture, and larger quantities in the surface than in the subsoils.

Prairie soils invariably contain more organic matter than adjacent timber soils. This is due to the fact that grasses with their network of fibrous roots as well as stem and leaf growth, effective agents in the accumulation of vegetable matter, do not thrive on timbered areas. The chief source of the material in the timber are the leaves and twigs that fall on the surface of the timbered lands which decay or are burned by forest fires. The average amount of vegetable matter in a large number of timbered soils was 1.93 in prairie soils 4.5 per cent.

Soils of high water content usually contain large quantities of vegetable matter. This is active in two ways. In the first place it favors plant growth and in the second place where the soils are very wet much of the year the rate of decay is slower than it is in soils of somewhat lower water content. This effect is exemplified by a comparison of swamp and upland soils. A fair basis for judging and comparing different kinds of soil would be about as given in the table below:

Class	Poor	Good
Medium sand, per cent .1	2.85	
Fine sand, per cent ...2	4.5	
Loam, per cent3.5	6.5	
Clay, per cent4.5	7.5	

Organic matter to be effective in aiding crop production must decay. There are several conditions that affect its rate of decomposition in the soil, namely, mechanical condition, stage of decay, composition, temperature, moisture content of the soil, soil texture, tillage, nature of surface, lime, and depth from the surface.

Stable manure and plant residues decay more rapidly when finely divided than they do when in a coarse condition. Upon this principle in the main is based the practice of frequently working recently drained muck lands previous to crop production, as well as the disintegration of manure, cornstalks and other by-farm products.

The initial decay of manures, roots stems, and leaves of plants in the soil is more rapid than the later stages. It should be understood that a soil may be high in its content of

the more resistant material and yet be unproductive. In other words smaller quantities of active material in the soil may be more effective than larger quantities of old and less active stuff. However, the rate of decomposition of the older material may be speeded up as is shown later on.

The composition of the vegetable matter added to a soil affects the rate of decay. As a rule the rate decreases with an increase of the amount of fibre present. Inasmuch as plants at maturity and when ripe contain more of this than they do in earlier stages of development, it is not advisable to permit green manuring crops to become mature before turning them back to the land unless a slower rate of decomposition is desired. Moreover, corn stalks and cereal straws decay more slowly in the soil inasmuch as they contain less nitrogenous matter.

High soil temperatures result in a more rapid decay than low ones provided the soil is moist. The rate is quite slow when the temperature is forty degrees or less, but it may be more than two and one-half times as rapid at a temperature of about sixty degrees.

This factor or condition accounts for the very rapid depletion of vegetable matter in the soil of regions of long growing seasons, the temperatures suitable for decay being of much longer duration than it is in the soils to the northward.

Rotting of vegetables in the soil proceeds most rapidly when the water content is about the same as that for maximum plant growth and approaches that content at which tillage is not easily and effectively performed. It is commonly spoken of as the optimum water content. Either a very wet or a very dry soil is undesirable for this action. A deficiency of water in light soils doubtless sometimes accounts in a large measure for poor returns from spring applications of stable manure.

Decay takes place more rapidly in moist sands than it does in finer textured soils. This is due in part to the higher temperature in the spring, in part to better drainage but doubtless the excessive aeration is largely responsible for it. Such being the case a given amount of manure or crop residues do not endure so long in the light soils as in heavy ones. Of course provision should be made for repeating the operation at shorter intervals in case of the former.

Tillage operations hasten the rate of rotting of vegetable matter in the soil. This is due probably to the increased aeration of the soil, dissemination of germs in the soil and to the exposure of fresh surfaces. This, of course, means that soils long under cultivation contain much less of the valuable material than in the virgin state, the changes that it has undergone depending in a large measure upon the system of farming. Row or cultivated crops cause more rapid losses than do small grains or grasses.

We have taken samples of soil from more than one hundred farms in southwestern Michigan and have made chemical analyses of them. The

samples were collected from virgin that is uncropped and soils long under cultivation. It is impracticable to present the detailed results of these studies in this article but the conditions with respect to the changes in the vegetable matter content of the majority of the forms are striking. In many cases the cropped lands contain less than one-half as much as the virgin soils while in others less than one-fourth as much and in a few instances the cropped soils contained as much or more than the virgin. Where the latter condition maintained either much live stock has been fed or much manure shipped in from the stockyards.

A broad view of the situation may be obtained by an examination of the following figures:

Soil	Organic matter
Virgin, per cent	5.4
Cropped, per cent	2.8
Loss, per cent	2.6

It is notable that the systems of farming appreciably affects the loss of organic matter. Usually livestock brings results in a less striking decrease than grain farming. Of course, if livestock are raised and the manure voided carelessly handled and little of it returned to the land and the second growth of clover is removed by grazing, the losses entailed may be as large or larger than if grain farming is followed.

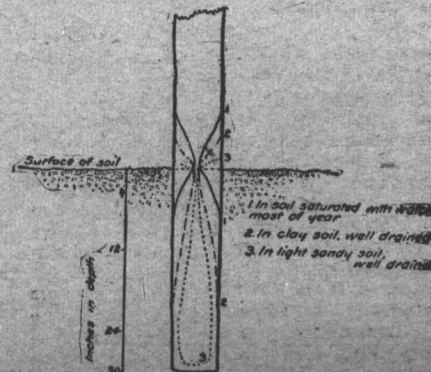
Another point to consider is that the rate of decay is less where the land is covered by vegetation than it is where it is devoid of it. Thus when we add the effects of tillage and that of uncovered soils we find that the practice of summer plowing is a very destructive one.

Sufficient lime in the soil favors rotting of organic matter. It is effective in this respect because it favors the development of lower organisms or forms of life that cause the decay of vegetable matter. It is especially valuable in speeding up to some extent the decay of old or rather inert forms. This should not be taken as a criticism of the proper use of lime. This will be discussed in detail later on.

The rate of decay as affected by depth from the surface of the soil is important. It has recently been shown that clover hay decays more rapidly if left on the surface of heavy soils than it does when incorporated in the furrow slice. Moreover, the rate rapidly decreases below the depth of ordinary plowing.

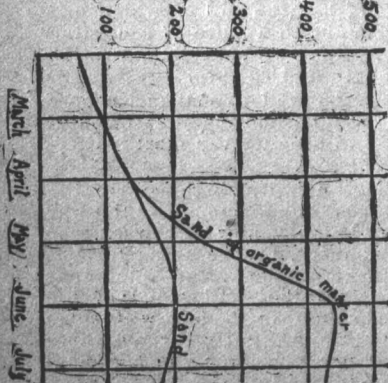
At the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station equal amounts of clover hay were added to two plots of rather heavy soil. In one case it was left on the surface, in the other it was incorporated in the soil mass by the means of a spade. The application was made on October 12 and on May 5 or 206 days later 66 per cent had decayed on the surface and 28 per cent where it was mixed with the soil.

With sands somewhat greater depths are required to effectively reduce the rate than with fine textured soils. Examination of fence posts that have been in soils of different texture and drainage throws light upon this subject. The accompanying figure after Tikken, illustrates the effect of texture, water content, and depth upon the rotting of organic matter.



Old fence posts indicate the rate at which organic matter decays at different depths in the soils of different texture and drainage.

Water-soluble salts



Soluble salts increase in amount in the soil from spring to summer and markedly with vegetable matter. Lack of this material limits crop production of many soils. To obtain it urea and fertilizer are frequently essential.

Protection for Buttons; Free Trade for Beans

Striking Illustration of Congressional Discrimination Between Manufactured and Agricultural Products

FOR LO, these many years, Congress has smiled with favor upon certain interests of the United States. When the manufacturing, industrial, commercial, mining, railroad and other interests generally associated with "Big Business" wanted any special legislation they sent their high-priced lawyer-lobbyists to Washington, and by a little "touching of the palm" here and a little manhandling there, they usually got what they went after. Times haven't changed greatly either. Every legitimate legislative assistance has been given the "infant industries" of the country, not alone while they were toddling upon the legs of immaturity, but long, long after they had begun to walk and support themselves. Congress has been kind to Big Business. Tariff land grants, oil and mining leases, etc., have been freely given. As a result industry has thrived and prospered as never before in the history of any country.

We have no word of censure for what has been done through legislation to assist the development of American industry. On the contrary we approve of it. The United States could not have enjoyed an era of such amazing prosperity had it not been for the supporting arm of a solicitous government. It may be all very true that every citizen has not received a proportionate benefit from this governmental paternalism. We rather think that it has been responsible in a measure for the creation of the great private fortunes of the country. Nevertheless, the mass of people have been benefited indirectly, and probably would not have had the government done otherwise.

But what Congress has done and still stands willing to do for the industrial interests of the country, it ought to be equally ready to do for others. But it is a matter of record that agriculture has been repeatedly snubbed by Congress, and labor has received but little more consideration. To be sure, there is the Department of Agriculture, to which every Congressman points with a reproving finger when agriculture accuses Congress of showing favoritism to others, but bestowing none upon husbandry.

"Ah, you forget, my good man," says Congress, "that we passed the Federal Farm Loan Act for the farmers." But if "my good man" has his wits with him he will retort, "Yes, you did after you had passed the Federal Reserve Act for the commercial interests."

We could cite a score of worthy measure of benefit to agriculture which have been pigeon-holed in Congress. We could mention others that finally became laws only because every agricultural interest in the country sent its representative to Washington who fought the bills through tooth and nail. When the commercial people want any favors of Congress they are received with wide open arms and a "what-can-we-do-for-you" pat on the shoulder. In every committee and on the floor of each house the commercial bill has its friends who tenderly nourish it along. But when an agricultural bill is introduced, Congress glares and says "what do you want here?" and if that doesn't take the wind out of its proponents sails, the committee tears it to pieces, or refuses to report it out "because the President might veto it."

"Piece-Meal" Tariff Bills

At every session of congress special or "piece-meal" tariff bills are introduced and hearings are held before the House Ways and Means Committee. If these tariff bills have to do with manufactured products little opposition is encountered from the "protectionist" members of the committee. It's a funny thing how the congressmen from rural districts will stand for any-

thing sponsored by their city colleagues, and the latter will stand for nothing or little that is sponsored by the rural solons. At least, that's the way it looks. A tariff bill levying a duty on the imports of an article that comes into competition with a domestic-manufactured article invariably receives the support of both rural and urban Republican members. But a bill levying a duty on agricultural products is often opposed by a protectionist who halls from the city on the grounds that it will increase the cost of living to the consumer.

Sponsors of special tariff bills on agricultural products are reminded that "it is a terribly hard job to get these 'piece-meal' bills through." So when the piece-meal bill goes to the morgue its friends are usually prepared for the obsequies.

Protecting the Pearl Button Industry

A striking example of the elasticity of "protection" and the difference in the reception given to bills of agricultural and industrial import, is found in a comparison of the present status of the respective bills protecting pearl buttons and beans.

H. R. 7705, "placing a duty on pearl buttons and shell buttons, finished or unfinished, of one and one-half cents per line per gross and 15 per centum ad valorem; etc.," passed the House September 2nd, was presented to the Senate September 3rd, and referred to the Finance Committee. Reported to the Senate by the Finance Committee March 22, without amendment.

Purpose of this bill is to protect the pearl button industry against the competition of cheap Japanese labor.

H. R. 7737, "on beans, not specially provided for, of 2 cents per pound, etc." This bill was introduced in the early part of last October. Hearings were held before the House Ways and Means Committee on October 13 and 16, representatives being present from every important bean state of the Union. This bill still reposes in the committee, and Mr. Fordney says that it will not be reported out during the present session of Congress.

The Relative Importance of the Two Industries

Some amusing things are disclosed in a comparison of the relative im-

By THE EDITOR

Special Tariff Bills Passed House of Representatives

SPECIAL bills have been reported out of the House Ways and Means committee and passed by the House of Representatives providing for a tariff on the following articles: Tungsten Ores, Magnesite; Zinc Ore, Pigs, Sheets and Dust and Zinc compounds; Pearl and Shell Buttons, Chemical Porcelain and Glassware, Laboratory Apparatus and Surgical and Dental Instruments; Dyestuffs.

(Please note that none of the above bills (which are the only special tariff bills passed by the House this session of Congress) are of any benefit to agriculture.)

Agricultural Tariff Bills Still Pending Before Ways and Means Committee

The Osborne bill providing for duty of 2 cents per pound on beans; a bill providing duties on cattle, sheep, swine, horses, mules; on corn meal, oats, rye, wheat and rye and wheat flour; on citrus fruits; on wheat and potatoes. All of these bills were introduced early in the session. They are still in the Ways and Means Committee of which Congressman Fordney of Michigan is chairman.

portance of the pearl button industry and the bean industry. For the following facts about the amount of money invested and the number of people employed in the pearl button industry, we are indebted to the American Economist which publishes an extract of the arguments presented in behalf of the bill by Senator Curtis of Kansas, as follows:

"The question of protecting the fresh-water pearl button industry in this country is not a new one. These producers have factories in 17 states and employ over 20,000 people and have invested in the business, exclusive of stocks of raw material and finished products on hand, about \$3,500,000. The production for 1914 was over 21,000,000 gross valued at \$4,379,844, which would be an average of 22.5 cents per gross.

"The cost of producing buttons in Japan is very much less than in this country, and in recent years the industry has been greatly developed in that country. In 1912 Japan exported 5,000,000 gross, and in 1916 her exports amounted to 15,000,000 gross. In 1917 and 1918 they exported to this country a cheap button sewn on cards, and these cheap buttons displaced domestic buttons of a better quality.

"The average price per gross of buttons imported in 1917 and 1918 was 20.4 cents per gross. The Japanese are sending large quantities of the cheaper grade of buttons to this country. In February, 1919, the domestic production was about 1,400,000 gross, while the imports from Japan amounted to 590,000 gross in that month. It is evident that unless the present duties on pearl buttons are increased the importation from Japan will greatly increase, and when conditions have changed in Germany and Austria, or upon the resumption of trade with those countries, large importations will come from their factories. The evidence produced before your committee clearly shows that Japan is flooding the American market with buttons made by the cheap labor of that country.

"In Japan the wages paid to those employed in the button industry is an average of about 15 cents per day, while in this country factories are paying from \$2.50 to \$3 per day for similar labor.

"Under the tariff of 1909 the imports of buttons from Japan were not very large, but in 1913 the amount imported from Japan reached the number of 284,437 gross, valued at \$56,392, but the reduction in duty, the change from specific to ad valorem, to 45 per cent ad valorem below the twenty-sixth line and 36 per cent above, caused a great increase the first year, and the importation in 1914 amounted to 739,961 gross, valued at \$185,149, and in 1917 the importations amounted to over 5,000,000 gross valued at \$918,000, and in 1918 the importations of buttons from Japan was of the value of \$1,145,000. This great increase in the importation of pearl buttons from Japan and the great decrease in the production in this country is ample evidence that in a short time the manufacture of fresh-water pearl buttons in this country will cease, unless it is given such protection as will enable the producers to compete with the buttons produced by the poorly paid labor of Japan."

Importance of Bean Industry

At the hearing on the bean bill last fall, Mr. Aaron Sapiro, attorney for the California Bean Growers' Ass'n, presented figures showing the importance of the bean industry which involves several times over the amount of money invested, the labor employed, and the value of the product, in the pearl button industry.

Mr. Sapiro testified that the bean lands of the United States represent a value of over \$250,000,000. In addition to that there are county warehouses and elevators for the purpose of handling beans, having an estimated value of about \$30,000,000. Then there are cleaners and hand picking equipment valued at \$15,000,000.

"There are a great many people employed in the bean industry in the United States. It is estimated that there are over 70,000 actual bean growers in this country—almost 30,000 in Michigan alone; and over 100,000 working on bean farms, devoted primarily to the bean industry. There are over 6,000 employed in warehouses; in cleaning and picking, over 10,000; and about 1,000 employes in clerical work.

"The average value of the bean crop in the United States has been around \$100,000,000 a year."

Additional Facts

It was argued by the bean delegates to the above mentioned hearing that there were special circumstances why the bean growers of the United States should be given protection against foreign competition. Facts were presented showing that after the Grain Corporation, through Mr. Kimball, had encouraged the pea bean growers to increase their acreage, Mr. Kimball had, acting in the name of the government purchased enormous quantities of pintos and Japanese Kotonashis, thereby forcing the pea bean growers to throw their supplies on the open and over-loaded market, causing them a great financial loss.

The Ways and Means Committee was urged to take these facts into consideration and help to make partial amends for the injury and injustice done growers by government.

Conclusion

The conclusion after a careful comparison of these facts is that the bean growers of the United States are being discriminated against. With or without the assistance of congressman Fordney the bean tariff should have received equal consideration with the tariff bills that have been reported out of committee. With so much in favor of the proposed bill and a committee chairman representing one of the most important bean sections of the United States it becomes more and more of a mystery why the bean tariff bill has not been reported out.



CURRENT AGRICULTURAL NEWS OF THE WORLD

NATIONAL SHIP BY TRUCK WEEK PLANNED

National Ship by Truck—Good Roads Week, to be observed May 17-22, inclusive, is being planned throughout the country, according to Washington headquarters of the Ship by Truck Bureau.

Tentative plans include motor truck tours lasting through the week and covering virtually every section of the country, according to reports received from sixty-five cities where branch offices have been established. Good roads organizations and associations interested in motor truck transportation will form the nucleus, it is said, of a temporary organization to promote activities during the week. Virtually every rural section of the country from coast to coast will be traversed by caravans of motor trucks during Ship by Truck—Good Roads Week, giving practical demonstrations of the utility of truck transportation and preaching the doctrine of better highways.

Other plans include essays by school children, sermons and the distribution of literature, all designed to arouse interest in a national program of highway construction along lines advocated by such organizations as the American Automobile Chamber of Commerce, the National Grange, the United States Chamber of Commerce, the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Motor Truck Sales Managers, and the Ship by Truck Bureau.

Endorsements from government officials, Senators, Congressmen and educators have been received.

Governors of various states are expected to issue Ship by Truck—Good Roads Week proclamations.

"We need a broadened policy which will concentrate Government funds on national highways releasing State and County funds for use on State and County roads," says Senator Charles E. Townsend, author of the Townsend Good Roads Bill, discussing the possibilities of the week. "Nothing could be more valuable," he continues, "than a national discussion of this question such as that proposed during the National Ship by Truck—Good Roads Week."

Professor R. C. Atkeson, Washington representative of the National Grange, says: "I heartily approve the general idea involved in Ship by Truck Week and the study and attention that will thereby be directed to the problems of highways, transportation and distribution."

MANY CARS OF LIME FOR FARMS

During the month of February Cass county farmers bought 365 tons of ground lime from the Solvay Process company of near Detroit for use in fertilizing their farms. At the same time 470 tons were bought by Van Buren county farmers, 337 by Berrien farmers and 315 tons went into Barry county.

Figures for March are not yet out, but it is known that seven carloads of this lime were bought by five Wayne county farmers, who bought direct and estimate that the seven cars made a total of over 300 tons.

Much of this purchase will go to starting a field of alfalfa, while some will be used in sweetening the soil and enriching it for other crops. The effects of this outlay will be noticeable for several years, with the expense paying for itself the first year in most cases.

COURT PROTECTS PURE PAINT MAKERS

The Federal Trade Commission has ruled that the Penn Lubric Oil Co., trading as Midwest Linseed Oil and Paint Co., Kansas City, Kan., respondent in a formal complaint issued by the Commission, refrain from certain unfair methods of competition in the manufacture and sale of oils, greases and kindred products.

The Commission's ruling is on the following practices: (1) Falsely representing by letterheads, advertisements, etc., office or factory or

equipment or place of business; (2) selling linseed oil which has been mixed with low grade mineral oil and other ingredients as "Commercial Raw Linseed Oil Not Sold or Intended for Medicinal Purposes", without indicating to the purchaser that the same is adulterated; (3) selling or advertising for sale linseed oil when the product sold or advertised has been adulterated with baser mineral oil, chemicals or other ingredients, unless it is clearly and distinctly shown to the purchaser the true character of the product offered; (4) selling or offering to sell in any manner paints, oils, greases, etc., which have been adulterated or which contain adulterated ingredients, as and for pure products.

BANKERS SUPPORTING DAIRY CATTLE MEN

Financial backing for dairy men who wish to build up their industry through the introduction of purebred foundation stock has been guaranteed in at least one Michigan county. At a recent meeting of Guernsey breeders in Berrien county, the First National Bank of Watervliet went on record as ready to loan up to \$50,000 to men who want to purchase purebred Guernsey stock.

Berrien is already one of the leading Guernsey counties of the whole middle west, and the plans now call for the importation of at least 100 additional head of purebred females. This foundation stock is expected to give a tremendous boost to the industry in this section of the state.

"There is no better way to develop the livestock interests of the state than on the co-operative community basis," says J. A. Waldron, Dairy Extension Specialist at the Michigan Agricultural College. "Co-operative purchase of foundation stock (as the

Berrien county breeders are planning at present) purchasing and interchanging of high class, tried sires; co-operative marketing of dairy products; and advertising and marketing of surplus cattle, are among the possibilities of community work.

"The outlook for purebred cattle breeders of the state is unusually bright at the present time. Present conditions in the dairy industry demand that producers use the most efficient 'machines' possible and the demand for high class stock is certain to increase."

GLEANERS NEGOTIATING AT SCOTTVILLE, FIFE LAKE

A farmers' mass meeting was held in Community hall at Scottville and Nathan F. Simpson of the Gleaner Clearing House Ass'n of Grand Rapids presented a proposition of joining with the Gleaners in the ownership of the Scottville Produce Co.

L. A. Siple of Greenville addressed a large gathering of Gleaners at Fife Lake in the interests of the Gleaner Clearing House Association. It is probable the Fife Lake Gleaner Warehouse association will become an integral or a co-operative part of the proposed \$1,000,000 state Gleaner Clearing House organization with headquarters in Grand Rapids.

VERMONTVILLE FARMERS TO BUY ELEVATOR

The newly organized farmers' co-operative Citizens Elevator company of Vermontville, has completed negotiations for the C. A. Anderson & Son elevator there. The first payment of the price agreed upon, \$15,555, having been paid last week. The elevator will be turned over to the new company July 1.

Late Michigan Crop Report

THE outlook for winter wheat and rye is somewhat better than the average of past 10 years as shown by recent reports furnished to the Michigan Co-operative Crop Reporting Service. The joint report issued by Coleman C. Vaughan, Secretary of State and Verne H. Church, Field Agent, U. S. Bureau of Crop Estimates, for April 1, also shows that these grains have wintered well under the prevailing favorable weather conditions, although the production indicated is not as large as that of last year. The supply of farm labor is far short of farm needs and much less than the normal supply. However, the demand has not increased over last year, and it is only slightly greater than normal for the reason that wages are higher than most farmers can afford to pay. The majority of farmers will do what work is possible without hiring, so that many farms will not be worked to their full capacity and many will not be worked at all this year. This condition will undoubtedly cause a reduced crop production in Michigan this year.

Winter Wheat

The condition of winter wheat is 86 per cent, or 6 per cent less than on December 1, and 9 per cent below the condition of last year's crop on the corresponding date. It is still three per cent better than the ten-year average for April 1. There was a relatively heavy snow covering throughout the winter, but on rolling and hilly lands high winds caused the snow to drift badly, leaving the tops of hills bare. There was considerable damage done last fall by the Hessian fly in many southern counties. On the whole, the crop is in a satisfactory condition except in occasional localities. March was unusually favorable for the crop.

The estimated amount of wheat marketed at mills and elevators in the state during March is 514,000 bushels, or a total of 10,362,000 bushels since August 1, 1919.

The outlook for the United States

is less flattering, as the condition is only 75.6 per cent as compared with 99.8 one year ago, and 84.1 the ten-year average. This low condition combined with the marked decrease in acreage indicates a total winter wheat crop of only 483,617,000 bushels last year.

Rye

As is usual, rye shows a better condition than wheat in the state, being 92 per cent as compared with 95 per cent on December 1, 96 per cent one year ago, and a ten-year average of 88 per cent. Practically no complaint regarding the outlook for the crop was received from any section.

Rye promises a total crop in the United States of 75,841,000 bushels as against 88,478,000 bushels last year, the condition being 86.8 per cent. The average one year ago was 90.8 per cent and the ten year average, 89.0 per cent.

Breeding Sows

The usual inquiry relative to the number of breeding sows on farms shows that there are three per cent less than last year and five per cent less than the usual number. There was an increase immediately following the war, but the relatively high price of feeds in comparison with the price of pork has discouraged the increasing of herds and caused the reduction for the United States as a whole is ten per cent.

Labor Supply and Demand

The supply of labor on Michigan farms is only 80 per cent of that of one year ago and 60 per cent of normal. Notwithstanding this marked shortage, the demand is only about equal to that of last year. The wages are too high to warrant the hiring of the amount of labor needed to fully operate the farms.

The supply for the United States as a whole is 87.3 per cent of last year and 72.4 per cent of normal, while the demand, like the situation in Michigan, is about the same as last year and only slightly more than normal.

STATE THRESHER LAW RULED VOID

The state law requiring threshers to file monthly reports with the secretary of state showing how much grain, the different kinds, and the acreage they threshed, has been declared unconstitutional by Judge Collins of Owosso. He directed a verdict of not guilty in the case of W. A. McAvoy, who operated his machines after his state license had been revoked for failure to make the report.

The defense attacked the law as confiscatory in that it did not pay threshers for making out reports. Carl Young, president of the Michigan Federation of Labor, and J. C. Scannell, secretary, swore that the law was of no benefit to the laboring classes.

The prosecution claimed the law was adopted in 1917 as a war measure, at the request of the federal government, which desired statistics on the nation's food resources. The attorney general's department was represented at the trial.

FARMERS SHOW THE WAY

According to the bureau of markets, department of agriculture, the farmers of the United States have organized nearly 200 mutual fire insurance associations which have in force policies totaling \$6,000,000. Practically all of this business is done on a co-operative, non-profit basis and the companies have been uniformly successful. They pay their losses promptly and they give their members a chance to obtain insurance protection practically at cost, says the February Sunset.

The farmers were forced to go into the co-operative fire insurance business because the commercial fire insurance companies either declined to write policies covering country property or else charged prohibitive rates. They were doing well and making good money on their city business. This attitude of the commercial companies was a good thing for the farmers—it compelled them to save money on their insurance through co-operation.

Property owners in the cities are continuing to pay the commercial companies a fat profit. Some day they'll take, organize co-operate and put that profit into their own pockets. The farmers have shown them how to do it.

STATE OWNED FLOUR MILLS IN NORTH DAKOTA

Five state owned flour milling plants will be erected by North Dakota, according to plans announced by J. H. McGovern, manager of the State Mill and Elevator association. They will have a total capacity of about 5,500 barrels of flour production and storage capacity of about 2,500,000 bushels.

Four of the plants will include mills with capacities of from 500 to 700 barrels and elevators of approximately 250,000 bushels capacity. The fifth will include two milling units of 1,000 barrels each for spring wheat and a third unit of 1,000 barrels for macaroni wheat. The terminal elevator will have a capacity of 1,500,000 bushels.

The terminal elevator will be equipped to unload six cars simultaneously. It will include 32 concrete bins, each with a capacity of 43,600 bushels and 31 inter-space bins, each with a capacity of 13,000 bushels. The cleaning house will have ground dimensions of 60 by 120 feet and will be 140 feet high.

A COMBINATION SALE

Mr. Vernon E. Clough of Parma, Michigan held a combination sale April 7th. Eleven pure bred Holsteins and his entire herd of grade cows were sold. The list of purebreds consisted of 5 cows, 4 heifer calves and 2 bull calves and sold at an average of over \$200 per head while Mr. Clough's herd of grade cows averaged \$101.66 2-3 per head which goes to show which is the most profitable cattle to stock your farm with.

Mr. Clough reports he is well satisfied with the receipts from his sale.

Steels

Make the Maxwell Thrifty

SEVERAL million dollars have been expended to provide more elegance, more refinement, more comfort to the current Maxwells.

It is in ever so many ways a superior appearing car; superior, too, in action.

But not a single pound of weight has been added to burden the work of its great engine!

Therefore, despite the many processes of improvement, it doesn't cost a penny more to run a Maxwell than it did a year ago.

The underlying principle of every Maxwell is to give economic transportation.

This means light weight. But it means strong steels, as well.

It is no easy trick to provide both lightness and strength in metal.

Such a rare combination means high cost steels.

And, you would find, if you compared a Maxwell with *any* car, that it equaled that car pound for pound in fine metals.

How such steels affect your pocketbook is obvious.

1. They are light in weight and hence give more mileage on a gallon of gasoline.

2. As they are fine steels they give *long and uninterrupted* wear.

Which are but two of many reasons for that definite tendency of world-wide friendship towards Maxwell.

In six years nearly 400,000 have found their answer to the motor car question in a Maxwell.

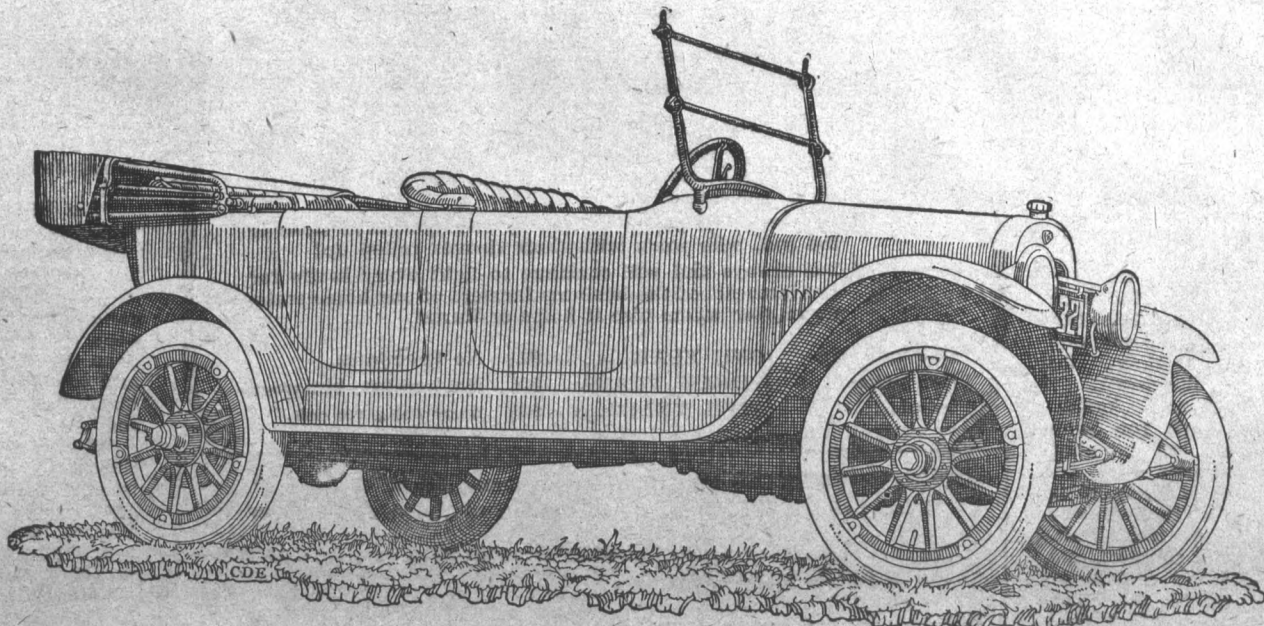
This year 100,000 Maxwells are being produced.

This will supply but 60% of the demand.

MAXWELL MOTOR COMPANY, INC.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN



More miles per gallon
More miles on tires



CHAPTER XI.

TO ALL intents it might have been a tiny bull ring, that pit in the heart of the Blind Brigand's domain. Ten feet in depth and thirty in diameter, with level floor and perpendicular wall, its natural formation had required little work at the hands of man to complete its symmetry. The sackcloth men, the hacendados, the gendarmes—all were present, save for the Cruel Just One and the mestiza, and all were lined about the rim of the pit, as an audience, to gaze down upon some bull-fight or gladiatorial combat within the pit.

At command of the stern-faced leader of the sackcloth men who had captured them, Henry and the Jefe descended down a short ladder into the pit. The leader and several of the brigands accompanied them.

"Heaven alone knows what's going to happen," Henry laughed up in English to Leoncia and Francis. "But if its rough and tumble, bite and gouge, or Marquis of Queensbury or London Prize Ring, Mister Fat Jefe is my meat. But that old blind one is clever, and the chances are he's going to put us at each other on some basis of evenness. In which case, do you, my audience, if he gets me down stick your thumbs up and make all the noise you can. Depend upon it, if it's he that's down, all his crowd will be thumbs up."

The Jefe, overcome by the trap into which he had descended, in Spanish addressed the leader.

"I shall not fight with this man. He is younger than I, and has better wind. Also, the affair is illegal. It is not according to the law of the Republic of Panama. It is extra-territorial and entirely unjudicial."

"It is the Snake and the Bird," the leader shut him off. "You shall be the Snake. This rifle shall be in your hands. The other man shall be the Bird. In his hand shall be the bell. Behold! Thus may you understand the ordeal."

At his command, one of the brigands was given the rifle and was blindfolded. To another brigand, not blindfolded was given a silver bell.

"The man with the rifle is the Snake," said the leader. "He has one shot at the Bird who carries the bell."

At signal to begin, the bandit with the bell, tinkled it at extended arms length and sprang swiftly aside. The man with the rifle lowered it as if to fire at the space just vacated and pretended to fire.

"You understand?" the leader demanded of Henry and the Jefe.

The former nodded, but the latter cried exultingly:

"And I am the Snake?"
"You are the Snake," affirmed the leader.

And the Jefe was eager for the rifle, making no further protests against the extra-territoriality of the proceedings.

"Are you going to try to get me?" Henry warned the Jefe.

"No, Senor Morgan. I am merely going to get you. I am one of the two best shots in Panama. I have two score and more medals. I can shoot with my eyes shut. I can shoot in the dark. I have often shot and with precision, in the dark. Already may you count yourself a dead man."

Only one cartridge was put into the rifle, ere it was handed to the Jefe after he was blindfolded. Next, while Henry, equipped with the tell-tale bell, was stationed directly across the pit, the Jefe was faced to the wall and kept there while the brigands climbed out of the pit and drew the ladder up after them. The leader, from above, spoke down:

"Listen carefully, Senor Snake, and make no move until you have heard. The Snake has but one shot. The Snake cannot tamper with his blindfold. If he so tampers it is our duty to see that he immediately dies. The Snake has no time limit. He may take the rest of the day, and all of the night, and the remainder of eternity ere he fires his one shot. As for the Bird, the one rule is that never must the bell leave his hand, and never may he stop the clapper of it from making the full noise intended of the clapper against the sides of the bell. Should he do so, then will he immediately die. We are here above you, both of you, Senors, rifles in hand, to see that you die the sec-

"Hearts of Three"

By JACK LONDON

Author of the "Valley of the Moon," and other stories.

Synopsis of Preceding Chapters

FRANCIS MORGAN, a New York millionaire, becomes bored with society and decides to take an extensive fishing trip. Regan, Francis' broker plans to ruin Francis through his Wall Street holdings. Regan pays Torres, a dark-skinned visitor from the Caribbean Islands who knows of a treasure buried by a pirate ancestor of Francis, to lure young Francis away. The lure works and Francis starts out alone. He lands on an island whither he has been beckoned by a girl on the shore. The girl mistakes Francis for a lover with whom she has quarreled. Francis explores another island where he meets a young man who gives his name as Henry Morgan and proves to be a relative of Francis. He is also hunting for the treasure. They form a partnership. Francis learns that Henry is the lover of the girl he met and that her name is Leoncia Solano. Francis returns to the first island where he is captured by Torres and the Jefe Político of San Antonio. They proclaim him to be Henry, whom they wish to hang for a murder he did not commit. They are about to hang him when Henry appears. They release Francis and throw Henry into prison. The Solanos and Francis release Henry and they escape to the boat that Francis has chartered. They are pursued by Torres and the Jefe with his soldiers. They land on an island where they procure horses and start through the hills with the Jefe and his gang in pursuit. Torres with the Jefe and his gendarmes succeed in capturing the Morgans and their friends, but as they are about to torture Henry and Francis they are surrounded by a band of men. These men are followers of a blind-man, called "The Cruel Just One," who lives in the hills. The men take their captives before their leader.

and you infract any of the rules. And now, God be with the right, proceed!"

The Jefe turned slowly about and listened, while Henry, essaying gingerly to move with the bell, caused it to tinkle. The rifle was quick to bear upon the sound, and to pursue it as Henry ran. With a quick shift he transferred the bell to the other extended hand and ran back in the opposite direction, the rifle sweeping after him in inexorable pursuit. But the Jefe was too cunning to risk all on a chance shot, and slowly advanced across the arena. Henry stood still, and the bell made no sound.

So unerringly had the Jefe's ear located the last silvery tinkle, and so straightly did he walk despite his blindfold, that he advanced just to the right of Henry and directly at the bell. With infinite caution, provoking no tinkle, Henry slightly raised his arm and permitted the Jefe's head to go under the bell with a bare inch of margin.

His rifle pointed, and within a foot of the pit-wall, the Jefe halted in indecision, listened vainly for a moment, then made a further stride that collided the rifle muzzle with the wall. He whirled about, and, with the rifle extended, like any blind man felt out the air space for his enemy. The muzzle would have touched Henry had he not sprung away on a noisy and zig-zag course.

In the center of the pit he came to a frozen pause. The Jefe stalked past a yard to the side and collided with the opposite wall. He circled the wall, walking cat-footed, his rifle forever feeling out into the empty air. Next he ventured across the pit. After several such crossings

during which the stationary bell gave him no clue, he adopted a clever method. Tossing his hat on the ground for the mark of his starting point, he crossed the edge of the pit on a shallow chord, extended the chord by a pace farther along the wall, and felt his way back along the new and longer chord. Again against the wall, he verified the correctness of the parallelness of the two chords by packing back to his hat. This time, with three paces along the wall from the hat, he initiated his third chord.

Thus he combed the area of the pit and Henry saw that he could not escape such combing. Nor did he wait to be discovered. Tinkling the bell as he ran and zigzagged and exchanging it from one hand to the other, he froze into immobility in a new place.

The Jefe repeated the laborious combing out process; but Henry was not minded longer to prolong the tension. He waited till the Jefe's latest chord brought him directly upon him. He waited till the rifle muzzle, breast high, was within half a dozen inches of his heart. Then he exploded into two simultaneous actions. He ducked lower than the rifle and yelled "Fire!" in stentorian command.

So startled, the Jefe pulled the trigger, and the bullet sped above Henry's head. From above, the sackcloth men applauded wildly. The Jefe tore off his blindfold and saw the smiling face of his foe.

"It is well—God has spoken," announced the sackcloth leader, as he descended into the pit. "The man uninjured is innocent. Remains now to test the other man."

"Me?" the Jefe almost shouted in his surprise and consternation.

"Keep M. B. F. coming!"

YOU WANT THIS WEEKLY IN YOUR MAIL BOX EVERY SATURDAY, BECAUSE—

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- It is a practical paper written by Michigan men close to the sod, who work with their sleeves rolled up!
- It has always and will continue to fight every battle for the interest of the business farmers of our home state, no matter whom else it helps or hurts!

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"Greetings, Jefe," Henry grinned. "You did try to get me. It's my turn now. Pass over that rifle."

But the Jefe, with a curse, in his disappointment and rage forgetting that the rifle had contained only one cartridge thrust the muzzle against Henry's heart and pulled the trigger. The hammer fell with a metallic click.

"It is well," said the leader, taking away the rifle and recharging it. "Your conduct shall be reported. The test for you remains, yet must it appear that you are not acting like God's chosen man."

Like a beaten bull in the ring seeking a way to escape and gazing up at the amphitheatre of pitiless faces, so the Jefe looked up and saw only the rifles of the sackcloth men, the triumphant faces of Leoncia and Francis, the curious looks of his own gendarmes, and the blood-eager faces of the hacendados that were like the faces of any bull-fight audience.

The shadowy smile drifted the stern lips of the leader as he handed the rifle to Henry and started to blindfold him.

"Why don't you make his face the wall until I'm ready?" the Jefe demanded, as the silver bell tinkled in his passion-convulsed hand.

"Because he is proven God's man," was the reply. "He has stood the test. Therefore he cannot do a treacherous deed. You now must stand the test of God. If you are true and honest, no harm can befall you from the Snake. For such is God's way."

Far more successful as the hunter than as the hunted one, did the Jefe prove. Across the pit from Henry, he strove to stand motionless; but out of nervousness, as Henry's rifle swept around on him, his hand trembled and the bell tinkled. The rifle came almost to rest and wavered ominously about the sound. In vain the Jefe tried to control his flesh and still the bell.

But the bell tinkled on, and, in despair, he flung it away and threw himself on the ground. But Henry, following the sound of his enemy's fall, lowered the rifle and pulled the trigger. The Jefe yelled out in sharp pain as the bullet perforated his shoulder, rose to his feet, cursed, sprawled back on the ground, and lay there cursing.

Again, in the cave, with the mestiza beside him at his knee, the Blind Brigand gave judgment.

"This man who is wounded and who talks much of the law of the tierra caliente, shall now learn Cordilleras law. By the test of the Snake and the Bird has he been proven guilty. For his life a ransom of ten thousand dollars gold shall be paid, or else shall he remain here, a hewer of wood and a carrier of water, for the remainder of the time God shall grant him to draw breath on earth. I have spoken, and I know that my voice is God's voice, and I know that God will not grant him long to draw breath if the ransom be not forthcoming."

A long silence obtained, during which even Henry, who could slay a foe in the heat of combat, advertised that such cold-blooded promise of murder was repugnant to him.

"The law is pitiless," said the Cruel Just One; and again silence fell.

"Let him die for want of a ransom," spoke one of the hacendados. "He has proved a treacherous dog. Let him die a dog's death."

"What say you?" the Blind Brigand asked solemnly. "What say you peon of the many beatings, man new born this day, half-Maya that you are and lover of the woman wonderful? Shall this man die the dog's death for want of a ransom?"

"This man is a hard man," spoke the peon. "Yet is my heart strangely soft this day. Had I ten thousand gold I would pay his ransom myself. Yea, O Holy One and Just, and had I two hundred and fifty pesos, even would I pay off my debt to the hacendado of which I am absolved."

The old man's blind face lighted up to transfiguration.

"You, too, speak with God's voice this day, regenerate one," he approved.

But Francis, who had been scribbling hurriedly in his check book, handed a check, still wet with the ink to the mestiza.

"I, too, speak," he said. "Let not the man die the dog's death he deserves, proven treacherous hound that he is."

The mestiza read the check aloud. "It is not necessary to explain," the Blind Brigand shut Francis off. "I am a creature of reason, and have not lived always in the Cordilleras. I know the Chemical National Bank of New York, and through my agents have had dealings with it aforesaid. The sum is for ten thousand dollars gold. This man who writes it has told the truth already this day. The check is good. Further I know he will not stop payment. This man who thus pays the ransom of a foe is one of three things: a very good man; a fool; or a very rich man. Tell me, O Man, is there a woman wonderful?"

And Francis, not daring to glance to right or left, at Leoncia or Henry, but gazing straight before him on the Blind Brigand's face, answered because he felt he must answer: "Yes, O Cruel Just One, there is a woman wonderful."

CHAPTER XII.

AT THE precise spot where they had been first blindfolded by the sackcloth men, the cavalcade halted. It was composed of a number of the sackcloth men; of Leoncia, Henry, and Francis, blindfolded and on foot. Similarly escorted, the hacendados, and the Jefe and Torres with their gendarmes, had preceded by half an hour.

At permission given by the stern-faced leader, the captives, about to be released, removed their blindfolds.

"Seems I've been here before," Henry laughed, looking about and identifying the place.

"Seems the oil-wells are still burning," Francis said pointing out half the field of day that was eaten up by the black smoke-pall. "Peon, look upon your handiwork. For a man who possesses nothing, you are the biggest spender I ever met. I have heard of drunken oil-kings lighting cigars with thousand dollar bank notes, but here are you burning up a million dollars a minute."

"I am not a poor man," the peon boasted in proud mysteriousness.

"A millionaire in disguise!" Henry twitted.

"Where do you deposit?" was Leoncia's contribution "In the Chemical National Bank?"

The peon did not understand the allusions, but knew he was being made fun of, and drew himself up in profound silence.

The stern leader spoke:

"From this point you may go your various ways. The Just One has so commanded. You, senors, will dismount and turn over to me your mules. As for the senorita, she may retain her mule as a present from the Just One, who would not care to be responsible for compelling any senorita to walk. The two senors, without hardship, may walk. Especially has the Just One recommended walking for the rich senor. The possession of riches, he advised, leads to too little walking. Too little walking leads to stoutness; and stoutness does not lead to the woman wonderful. Such is the wisdom of the Just One.

"Further, he has repeated his advice to the peon to remain in the mountains. In the mountains he will find his woman wonderful, since woman he must have; and it is wisest that such woman be of his own breed. The woman of the tierra caliente are for the men of the tierra caliente. The Cordilleras women are for the Cordilleras men. God dislikes mixed breeds. A mule is abhorrent under the sun. The world was not intended for mixed breeds, but man has made for himself many inventions. Pure races interbred leads to impurity. Neither will oil nor water congenially intermingle. Since kind begets kind only kind should mate. Such are the words of the Just One which I have repeated as commanded. And he has especially impressed upon me to add that he knows whereof he speaks, for he, too, has sinned in just such ways."

And Henry and Francis of Anglo-Saxon stock, and Leoncia of the Latin, knew perturbation and embarrassment as the vicarious judgment of the Blind Brigand sank home. And Leoncia, with her splendid eyes

of woman, would have appealed protest to either man she loved, had the other been absent; while both Henry and Francis would have voiced protest to Leoncia had either of them been alone with her. And yet, under it all, deep down, uncannily, was a sense of the correctness of the Blind Brigand's thought. And heavily, on the heart of each, rested the burden of the conscious oppression of sin.

A crashing and scrambling in the brush diverted their train of thought as descending the canyon slope on desperately slipping and sliding horses, appeared on the scene the hacendado with several followers. His greeting of the daughter of the Solanos was hidalgo-like and profound, and only less was the heartiness of his greeting to the two men for whom Enrico Solano had stood sponsor.

"Where is your noble father?" he asked Leoncia. "I have good news for him. In the week since I last saw you, I have been sick with fever and encamped. But by swift messengers, and favoring winds across Chiriqui Lagoon to Bocas del Toro, I have used the government wireless—the Jefe of Bocas del Toro is my friend—and have communicated with the President of Panama—who is my ancient comrade whose nose I rubbed as often in the dirt as did he mine in the boyhood days when we were schoolmates and cubicle-mates together at Colon. And the word has

come back that all is well; that justice has miscarried in the court at San Antonio from the too great but none the less worthy zeal of the Jefe Politico; and that all is forgiven, pardoned, and forever legally and politically forgotten against all of the noble Solano family and their two noble Gringo friends—"

Here, the hacendado bowed low to Henry and Francis. And here, skulking behind Leoncia's uncle, his eyes chanced to light on the peon; and, so lighting, his eyes blazed with triumph.

"Mother of God, thou hast not forgotten me!" he breathed fervently, then turned to the several friends who accompanied him. "There he is the creature without reason or shame who has fled his debt of me. Seize him! I shall put him on his back for a month from the beating he shall receive!"

So speaking, the hacendado sprang around the rump of Leoncia's mule; and the peon, ducking under the mule's nose, would have won to the freedom of the jungle, had not another of the hacendados, with quick spurs to his horse's sides, cut him off and run him down. In a trice, used to just such work, the hacendados had the luckless wight on his feet, his hands tied behind him, a lead rope made fast around his neck.

In one voice Francis and Henry protested.

"Senors," the hacendado replied,

"my respect and consideration and desire to serve you are as deep as for the noble Solano family under whose protection you are. Your safety and comfort are sacred to me. I will defend you from harm with my life. I am yours to command. My hacienda is yours, likewise all I possess. But this matter of this peon is entirely another matter. He is none of yours. He is my peon, in my debt, who has run away from my hacienda. You will understand and forgive me, I trust. This is a mere matter of property. He is my property."

Henry and Francis glanced at each other in mutual perplexity and indecision. It was the law of the land as they thoroughly knew.

"The Cruel Just One did remit my debt, as all here will witness," the peon whispered.

"It is true, the Cruel Justice remitted his debt," Leoncia verified.

The hacendado smiled and bowed low.

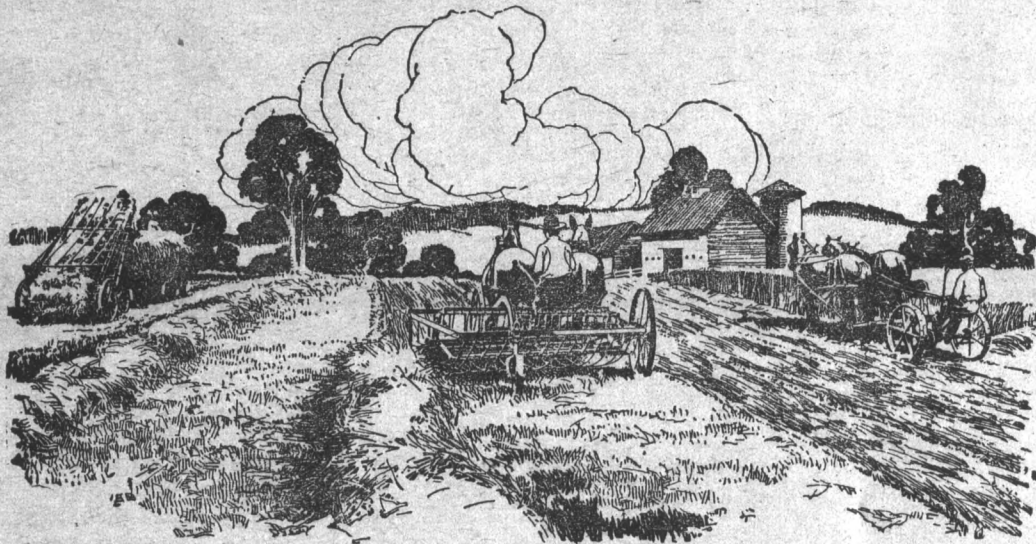
"But the peon contracted with me," he smiled. "And who is the Blind Brigand that his foolish law shall operate on my plantation and rob me of my rightful two hundred and fifty pesos?"

"He's right, Leoncia," Henry admitted.

"Then will I go back to the high Cordilleras," the peon asserted. "Oh, you men of the Cruel Just One, take me back to the Cordilleras."

(Continued on page 21)

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The Michigan BUSINESS FARMER



An Independent
Farmer's Weekly Owned and
Edited in Michigan



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Prussianism Out-Prussianized

THE ACTION of the Federal Fair Price Board in fixing the price of milk below the cost of production is equivalent to the confiscation of property.

What is the difference between this kind of confiscation and the confiscation practiced by the Germans in Belgium? We can see none.

The arbitrary ruling of this Board in reducing the price of milk from 16 to 14 cents regardless of the cost of producing the milk is the most damnable prostitution of justice that has ever come to our attention. It is a reversion to the old Prussian doctrine that might makes right. Because it is practiced by a commission clothed with authority by the government of the United States makes the doctrine no less obnoxious and no less dangerous to liberty and justice.

The Lever law which makes it possible for such a Board to be appointed and to exercise autocratic powers was a war-time emergency act. Had it not been for the precious squabble over the League of Nations covenant the treaty of peace with Germany would have been signed long ago and the Lever act repealed. Technically we are still at war, and technically the Attorney General of the United States who is a candidate for President, has the power to appoint boards to control the prices of food products and make the consumer, who is also a voter, believed that some great service is being performed in his behalf.

The autocratic powers of the Fair Price Board would arouse the envy of a Czar or Kaiser. Indeed, the decree "that on and after April 15th the price of milk SHALL BE, etc." sounds like a royal manifesto addressed to ignorant serfs instead of an order issued to a body of honest, law-abiding, and intelligent American citizens. Once more, Prussians, you have been out-Prussianized!

Legislative Checks

STRANGE to say the Illinois Agricultural Association is opposing the adoption of the initiative and referendum in that state. The claim is made by the spokesmen of the organization that the people of the cities outnumber the people of the country and would therefore hold the balance of power in a popular election upon an amendment to the constitution. They assert that they are satisfied to leave the important work of revising the constitution to their regularly elected representatives.

We find it hard to understand the position taken by the Illinois Farmers' Association. The farmers of Michigan have employed the initiative and referendum to good advantage on a number of occasions and it goes without saying that they would not be willing to part with this effective check upon legislative abuses. Here in Michigan, as well as Illinois, the

city population exceeds the rural population, and while we would not care to trust all of our city cousins to vote right on constitutional amendments, enough of them will do so to insure the adoption of good and needed amendments and defeat undesirable ones.

It must be that our Illinois neighbors are proceeding on the theory that there is nothing in common between the people of the towns and the people of the farms. Such an attitude shows a regrettable lack of faith in human nature and ignorance of the similarity of views between many urban and rural folks as expressed in elections of states where the initiative and referendum are in effect.

There has been considerable progress in recent years in bringing the people closer to the government. Not only has this resulted in arousing the people to a greater appreciation of their responsibilities as citizens and a greater interest in government affairs, but it has likewise been the means of securing some very important changes in local and state government. The movement has had its enemies and they are as busy as ever trying to make the form of government less popular and less accessible to change by bodies of voters. We hope that our Illinois friends have not been deceived by the enemies of popular government and will take no action that will cast any reflection upon the initiative and referendum.

Settling Strikes

THE STRIKING switchmen are returning to work, and production and transportation are slowly coming back to normal. The strike has demonstrated our absolute dependence upon the railroads. It has also demonstrated our absolute dependence upon the men who operate the trains and throw the switches.

Much has been said of the necessity from a public policy viewpoint of protecting the interests of investors in railroad securities and insuring the roads of sufficient returns to enable them to maintain their equipment in a serviceable condition. But much more might be said of the advisability from a public policy viewpoint of protecting the interests of the denim-clad men who work for the railroads.

The average person would hardly have thought it possible for switchmen to tie up the transportation of the country in such a manner. Had the engineers quit, or even the firemen, it would have been easy to forecast the result. But the throwing of a switch seems to be such a trifling operation. Anyone could throw a switch! But we now know that anyone couldn't throw a switch and that the movement of trains is as much at the mercy of the switchman as the engineer; as much at the mercy of the engineer as of the dispatcher; and as much at the mercy of the dispatcher as of those who own the trains and pay the dispatcher, the engineer and the switchman.

There has been a pronounced tendency on the part of the American people to reward brains and money at the expense of labor. But the switchmen's strike reveals plainly that this is not only an unfair but a dangerous policy. The switchmen claim that they cannot live on the wages they have been receiving and there is ample evidence that this is true. While the going out on a strike without giving the employers any notice or any opportunity to adjust the grievances was wholly inexcusable and injured the cause of the strikers in the eyes of the public, it nevertheless had the effect of impressing upon the public the expensive folly of ignoring the interests of the wage earners.

If it is the public's business to guarantee rail owners a dividend on their investment, it is equally the public's business to see that the rail workers receive a wage which will enable them to live comfortably and save a little money. If there is dispute over how large this wage should be, the whole matter should be left to a court of disinterested persons, and every possible effort made to adjust the differences by mediation. Until some such tribunal is provided by the government and some such policy is recognized by all parties concerned the nation will continue to suffer from periodic strikes.

When Words Fail.

WORDS FAIL to express the honest anger that burned in the heart of every listener when J. W. Cusick of the Federal Fair Price Board, called the farmers a "bunch of clackers" at a session of the Board on Tuesday evening of last week. Faces went white at the insult. Hands clenched and men muttered hard words under their breath. But inflated with the conceit of his authority Cusick continued to pour out abuse and insults which under other circumstances and in other surroundings would have been promptly resented with blows.

Cusick is the same man with whom the writer had a verbal battle several months ago. He was a member of the Wayne County Fair Price Committee before which the writer appeared to take issue with statements made by the Committee about farmers and to defend the prices and practices of farmers. Every person on the committee with the exception of Cusick was polite, courteous, gentlemanly and receptive. But Cusick had a preconceived notion that all farmers are profiteers, and at every opportunity vented his spite against them. It was for this reason that we opposed and tried to prevent his appointment to the Federal Fair Price Board. His antics as above described show him to be utterly unworthy to act as a representative of the government in a judicial capacity, and incapable of rendering a fair decision.

"It Isn't so Bad"

WHEN WE get a little pessimistic and think that things are kind of going to the dogs, we turn back to some of the cheery letters we have received from our readers and say to ourselves, "things aren't so bad after all". It takes a heap of courage for the man and the little family on the farm to be contented during these days of high living costs and labor shortage, with the city spreading its temptation of high wages, easy living and the pleasures of life all about them. Many a strong man has surrendered to the will o' the wisp, sold his every earthly possession at auction and gone to the city to take an "easy" job and revel for a few brief weeks in the bright lights. Then,—disillusionment,—a distaste for the new job and a great, heart-rending longing for the old farm. Country folks drift cityward, 'tis true, but many there are who drift back, determined never again to wander from the peaceful farm home. It's a bit old-fashioned, we must confess. There's nothing fancy about it. In fact, both the inside and outside, the furniture, the carpets and the wall paper are plain,—as plain as the gingham apron which mother wears. But in every nook and corner, and about every piece of furniture from the old four poster in the spare chamber to the what-not in the parlor, there lingers a pleasant memory of days that have gone before. This is home, and no matter how poor and humble the fittings, it will always be home to those who have lived long years beneath its roof. Hope is never dead and courage is never lost where the love for home is strong in the hearts of men and women.

Paint Up!

THE MISSOURI College of Agriculture calls attention to the fact that despite the increased cost of paint no farmer can afford to let his buildings go through a season without the protection which the paint affords. We are reminded that \$16 will buy enough paint to cover a barn thirty feet long, sixteen feet wide and sixteen feet high. This paint should last four years, so that the annual cost of keeping such a building protected from the elements is but \$4.

Paint is insurance and it is the cheapest insurance against the wear and tear of the seasons that the farmer can buy. Every business farmer carries fire insurance, although he may never expect his barn to burn. How much more essential is insurance against the depreciation of his buildings which is constantly taking place. Paint is high but the cost of lumber, nails and labor is higher. Therefore, save money by painting up!



What the Neighbors Say



IF THE FARMER SHOULD STRIKE

I have been reading in M. B. F. and other papers a great deal on the labor question both pro and con and also of the strikes that are occurring on every hand and so am going to ask a question and then endeavor to answer it as viewed by a farmer.

Question: If the farmers would go on a strike for six months beginning April 15th what would happen? It seems to me the farmers are the one class who should strike if anyone should for the buyer puts the price on everything the farmer has to sell and the seller puts the price on whatever he has to buy so there you are.

Now if the farmers would quit let's see what would happen: In the first place they would dispose of their live stock and while there would be an over production of meat for a while, when the strike was over there would be a meat famine for years to come and before six months there would be no stock yard strike as now but the strikers would be looking for a job at whatever wages they could get.

There would be no fertilizer or farm machinery bought so these factories would close without a strike and men would be begging for jobs.

There would be no crops grown so there would be no need for elevator men nor freight handlers, either railroad or steamboat so that there would be no strike of either as there is today but thousands of men would be walking the streets hunting for jobs.

The farmers wouldn't be buying automobiles so I presume that there would be no shortage of cars as they tell us now so the factories would cut down production throwing thousands of men out of employment.

With the farmers producing nothing and buying nothing the railroads and boat lines would be put out of business throwing thousands of men out of work.

And now last, but not least, with production cut off the result would be prices so high that none but the rich could buy and perhaps not them as there would be nothing to buy.

In conclusion will say the farmer is in the best position of any man in the world to strike and stay put for as a rule he can grow enough for his own needs so need not worry but he is patriotic enough to stay on the job twelve hours a day every day in the year. Strikers, remember every time you strike you are not only hurting yourself but the farmer also.
—T. R., Cass County.

You have admirably expressed what the results would be if the farmer should strike, but you could go even farther. For my part, I can think of no earthly calamity so terrible in its consequences as a strike of the farmers. When a gang of factory workers strike, they may return to work at any moment. Production has been merely suspended and the wheels of industry go on as before. But if the farmer should strike for sixty days, say from the first day of May to the first day of July, he would throttle agricultural production for an entire year, and, oh, what suffering there would be! I think it is the knowledge of the enormous responsibility which he bears that keeps the farmer steady and rational.—Editor.

STICKING TOGETHER

As I am a reader of the M. B. F. and quite interested in the sugar beet fight, I would like to have a little information about a few things. Last winter in Jan., the Mich. State Farm Bureau had a drive in Tuscola county, also in my township, and almost every farmer signed up and joined it, so did I, as I understand that it is a union something like miners or R. R. unions, that means "stick-to-itiveness brings success," but now quite a number of these men and also members of the Beet Growers' Association, sign up beet contracts, under the old price, and now I would like to know, is it right to join a union and not stand by it? Wouldn't it be right to make them cancel their contract?

Several townships in Bay county have organized a farmers' union and they make everyone that joined the union, cancel his beet contract, or be called a slacker and expelled out of

the union. The majority of farmers in my township who joined the union, feel the same as myself, "No beets under the old contract."—A. H., Tuscola county.

There is a war-time emergency act on our statute books called the Lever Law. Until the Treaty of Peace with Germany is approved by Congress and signed by the President, any persons who conspire or agree with other persons to interfere with the production and transportation of necessities, "for the purpose of enhancing the price" will be held guilty of violating this law and be liable to imprisonment. Had it not been for the recommendation of Attorney General Palmer that the beet growers of Michigan sign no contracts pending an investigation of the sugar beet situation, it is probable that those of us in Michigan who have encouraged the growers to stand for a square deal, might have come within the arm of this law.

It is never justice to force a man to do anything against his will even though the object desired may be worthy and entirely to his benefit. One of the reasons for the great public condemnation of labor unions, and strikes is that the leaders attempt to coerce employers and non-union men who would take their places in the shop. Farm labor must depend upon absolute justice to all concerned if it is to attain its highest measure of usefulness. The man who does not remain loyal, "for the good of the organization" which he has joined, if for no other reason, is deserving of the contempt of his fellow members. Those who are signing up beet contracts on the old basis are so few in number that it hardly pays to bother with them. They will be heartily ashamed of themselves when the time comes that those who have been loyal win the fight.—Editor.

"GIVE US THE GOOD OLD DAYS"

Will say there are two voters in this place, an old man and an old woman. Will never vote for an army general. We have had too much militarism already. Johnson, Lowden or Edwards, whoever seems to be the best, someone who will make the times different. Our backs are bending under the load of unnecessary taxes. I refer to the one hundred and one hired men that prohibition has created, state constabulary, and everything that goes with it. Am tired of such reform.

Give us back the good old times, twelve or fourteen years ago. Times have been getting worse ever since they started tampering with the liquor laws. Now a person has to be as good as dead before the doctors will give them an ounce of liquor.

When people used to doctor themselves with quinine and half a pint of liquor they would need no doctor, but where the doctors made pennies then he makes dollars now. Oh, such graft, and most of them voted for prohibition to fill their own pockets.
—J. S. L., Brown City, Mich.

Hoot, mon, take a drink o' cider and forget it. You'll never have back the old days, you know, even if you turn every grocery store in the land into a saloon. Prohibition wasn't actually the reason for the creation of the State Constabulary. It was just the EXCUSE. Had it not been for prohibition during these after-the-war days you would have had to maintain a standing army of soldiers that would make the Constabulary look like a boy scout troop in comparison.—Editor.

A NEW PARTY

When part of a scaffold breaks down the proper thing to do depends on whether that particular scaffold is still needed. There were rotten Republicans in Lincoln's day. Some of them got into office and a few broke down. As the party was still agreed on the vital issues of the day it would have been foolish to demolish it because it contained defective material. But today no important issue unites either the Republican or the Democratic party. Neither now gives firm support to progressive statesmen. Each contains good material, but each has served its purpose and ceased to be useful. Therefore, tear them down and use their progressive elements to build a new progressive party.

A few will refuse to join such a party because it is not progressive enough. Don't sneer at them, however "radical" or "visionary" they seem. Among such are being hatched ideas which, when developed, will become the practical, progressive reforms of tomorrow.—Stacy Brown, Ionia Co.

Mind you, we are as well acquainted as you with the failings of the two old parties, and should a leader come forth with a new platform and a new party which could give some promise of bettering conditions, we would be strongly inclined to follow him, knowing all the time that the new party would eventually go the way of all political parties. Hiram Johnson recently said, "I have had enough of a third party movements," and there are no real leaders in America today who have the courage to inaugurate a new party. Some day we shall scrap all political parties and make it a free-for-all.—Editor.

The Week's Editorial

WOULD YOU EAT, NEXT WINTER?

WITH TYPICAL American concern for trouble until it thunders at the front door—typical American unpreparedness—we are sleeping on the threshold of a summer crisis which is leaden with possibilities of food shortage next fall and winter that will pinch us all disastrously. There is no greater "paramount issue" challenging public opinion today than the shortage in farm labor. The farmer realizes it, but vainly pleads for help. In thousands of instances he is planning to plant only a portion of his fertile acres because crops require labor—nor can crops be argued or threatened or cajoled into accommodating themselves to seven-hour days and five day-weeks—nor will nature join a Soviet. The food manufacturer realizes it because he is finding it difficult to make adequate contracts for native products. The food wholesaler realizes it because when he tries to look ahead and anticipate his markets he discovers that nothing is certain this year except uncertainty. As for the rest of us—if we fail in our "realization" now, we will make up for it in an intensified "realization" later when the food supply shortens, prices inevitably go still higher as an inevitable result and rations ultimately all but disappear. * * * It is all very well for Congress to make larger appropriations (as last week) "to investigate and encourage the adoption of improved methods of farm management and farm practice". Everything that can be done to inject effi-

ciency into agriculture is a valuable contribution to a better farming net result. Furthermore, every progressive marketing improvement which eliminates unnecessary way-stops in the journey of food from the farm to the consumer leaves just that much more money on the farm to permit the larger farm earnings which are necessary if the farm is to compete successfully with urban industry for help. But today we are face to face with a condition, not a theory. We must have action; not philosophy. The American farmer—the Michigan farmer—must have farm help or America—Michigan and all the rest—will wake up in the grip of a deadly food shortage when the final 1920 harvest has been gathered in. * * * During the war, it was "patriotic" to help the farmer with his crops. Human need for food did not end with the armistice. To help the farmer with his crops is more vitally essential today than it ever was before. Organization to that end is a crying, driving need. This is the really imminent "labor problem". If you doubt it, ask any average Michigan farmer for testimony. So far as life and livelihood are concerned, it is vastly less menacing for factories to close for want of help than for fields to go untilled. There is no blinking this axiom—nor its present and prospective application. A state-wide conference—in which the farmer, for once, shall have his say and day—is an immediate necessity as The Herald views the situation. Answer is not easy; but some answer must be found.—Grand Rapids Herald.

THE CAUSE OF SOCIAL UNREST

The letter of Mr. Bengal goes to prove that the seed sown by the German propagandists before and during the war found in his case the good soil and brought forth a hundredfold.

He says the main cause of social unrest in this country is that our people have found out that they have been the tools of England, pulling her chestnuts out of the fire. Let me ask him what is the cause of social unrest in every country on earth? Was there ever a great war that did not cause social unrest? Millions of men taken from manufacture, commerce and agriculture, placed in army and navy; all the resources of the country concentrated on war, material and army supplies, then suddenly returned to peaceful pursuits. This will unsettle conditions anywhere.

It may be true that Mr. Cameron does not know of an instance where German soldiers intentionally poisoned wells but he could not have been everywhere and men who would shell open lifeboats where poor wretches had taken refuge after their vessel had been torpedoed; men who would drop bombs on defenseless women and children in unfortified towns and cities; men who began the horrible use of poison gas which did poison wells and water ponds, would scarcely refrain from doing anything even intentionally putting poison in a well. Will Mr. Bengal explain the killing of Edith Cavell?

He asks why Germany had not attacked Holland, Switzerland or Luxemburg. Everything points to a belief that Germany intended the annexation of Holland but did not care to stir up things knowing this would cause trouble with England. Berlin wisemen said our wisest course is now to build up our resources. But the next generation will see a greater Germany, possessing in all probability the Netherland, striking south to Trieste on the Adriatic and including Palestine and a considerable portion of Asia Minor as well.

The late Dr. Emil Reich said shortly before the late war, "The time is not remote when Holland will be called to defend her title to Java against an Asiatic enemy and must have aid or lose her eastern colonies." "Alliance," he said, "with Germany would preserve the integrity of the Dutch possessions and the price would be Holland's acceptance of rule as an individual state of the German empire."

"As to Luxemburg, it was practically dominated by Germany and Germany could await the proper time. Switzerland, with her mountain defenses was not easy to conquer as history shows. Why did not Germany strike France through Switzerland? Those same mountains and not her love of the Swiss stood in the way. Why did she not confine her operations to her own border? Because she knew she could conquer Belgium and never intended to restore it, but intended Belgium to be a German state.

Let us take a look at German history of recent years. In 1862 we find William I, grandfather of William II (now an exile in Holland) struggling to induce the Prussian Diet to grant him money with which to double his army. Failing in this he invited into his ministry the then young reactionary leader, Otto Von Bismark, and to him entrusted the task of uniting the German states into an empire with Prussia as the dominant power. Bismark in 1863 said in the most famous speech he ever made, "Not by speeches and by majority votes are the great questions of the day decided but by blood and iron."

In 1863, chiefly by Bismark's contriving, Prussia and Austria went to war against Denmark and took the duchy of Lauenburg and the provinces of Schleswig and Holstein. In which the Keil canal and the German naval base were built. Austria was to administer Holstein and Prussia Schleswig. Prussia paid Austria \$1,800,000 for the duchy of Lauenburg. Bismark approved of the whole affair because he believed it would lead to war with Austria and that a great German nation under Prussian domination could

(Continued on page 25)

SAMSON

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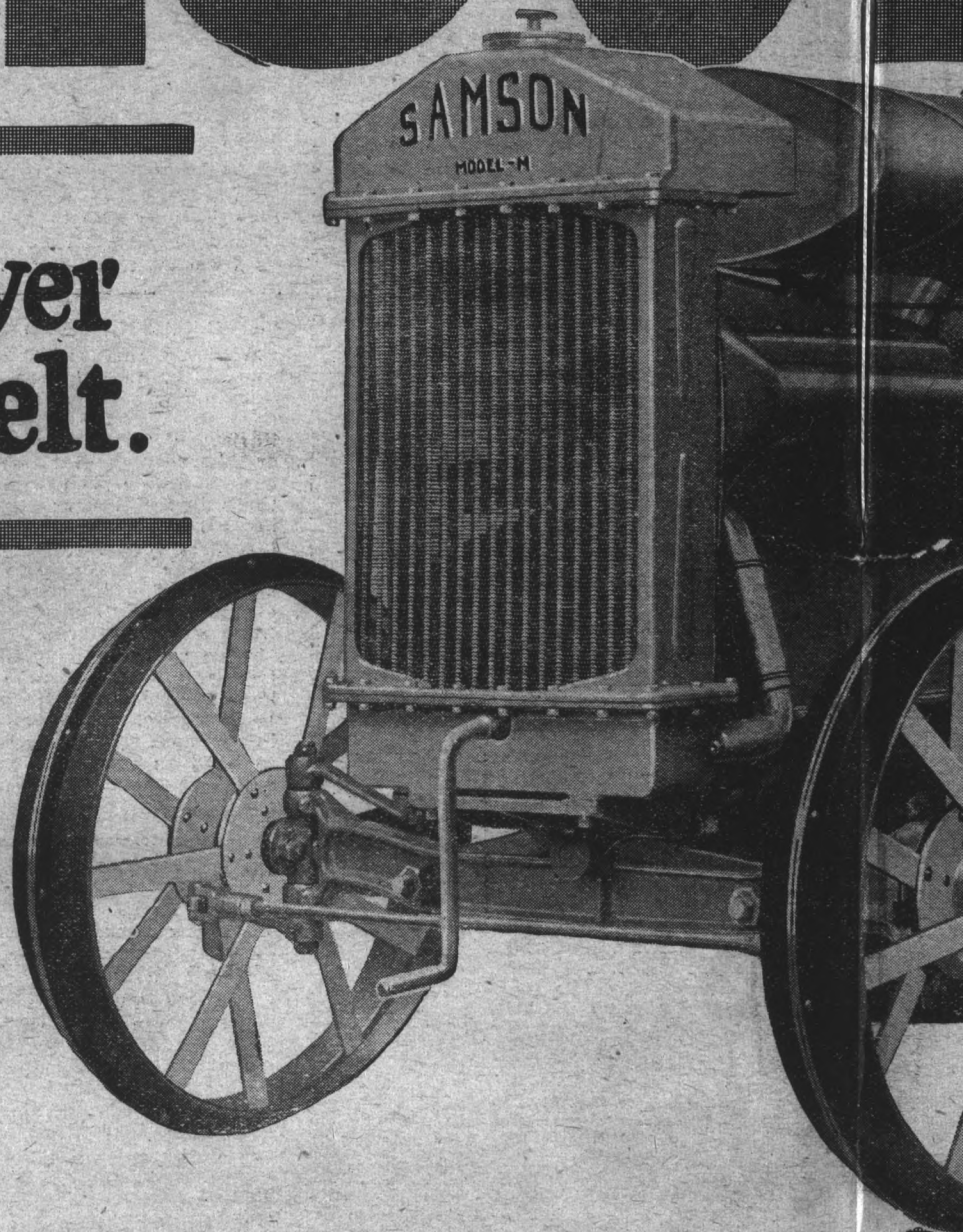
You want a tractor that will take the place and perform the duty of a barn full of horses, without costing you a fortune or a big part of your crop to buy and maintain. That is exactly the kind of tractor you get in the SAMSON MODEL M.

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Every working part is enclosed and protected against dust, mud or rain. It has no lost motion, for it is built and lubricated throughout like a \$3000.00 automobile, insuring great efficiency, ease of operation, maximum length of life and service. The price—the unheard of figure of \$840.00—is due to correct designing, engineering and quantity production.

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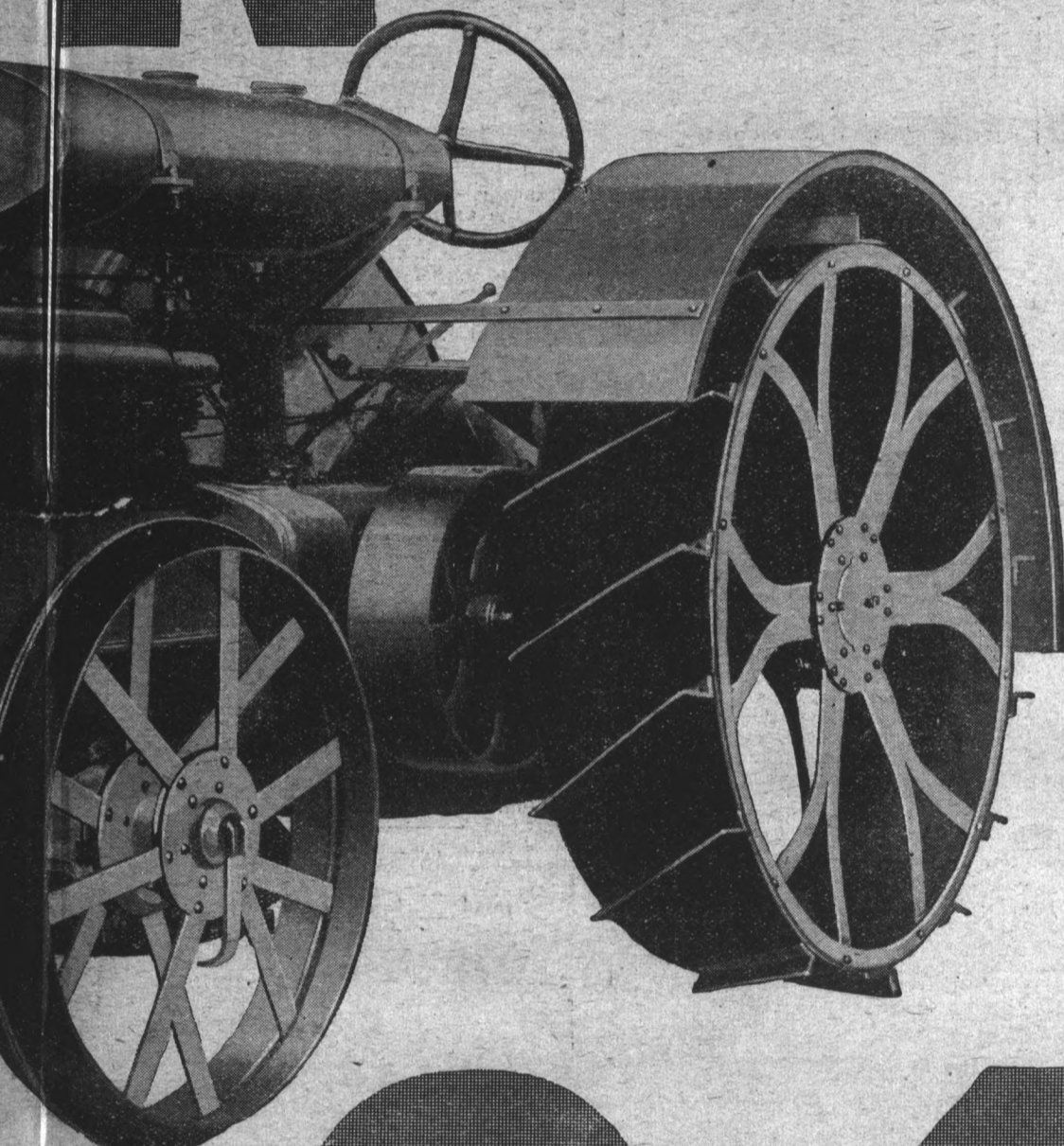
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MARKET FLASHES

WEEKLY MARKET AND TRADE CONDITIONS

The strike continues to be the dominating influence in the industrial and agricultural situations. For the better part of a week switchmen have been returning to work, but many are still out and it will be some time before the freight and passenger movement becomes normal. The losses resulting from the strike cannot be estimated, and nearly every person in the strike territory had to help pay the bill. For a time THE BUSINESS FARMER was uncertain whether or not it could secure enough power to run its issue last week. Every other industry in Mount Clemens was closed, but the Detroit Edison Company held that the publication of a farm paper was an essential industry and we were allowed to run uninterrupted. This week it was necessary to take some of our type pages to Lansing and have them "electrotyped." Although we have a complete equipment for making "stereotyped" curved plates from which the majority of our pages are printed, we have no facilities for "electrotyping," and pages which contain fine half-tone engraving must be electrotyped to print up well. The Detroit plant which does this electrotyping was obliged to close down, and it was at considerable extra expense that these pages were taken by automobile to Lansing where a shift of electrotypers worked until midnight Saturday night to "plate" them.

In Detroit over 80,000 men were out of work more than a week because of the inability of some of the plants to secure coal and of the Edison Company to supply all its patrons with electric current. Scarcely a city in the entire state escaped some effects of the strike.

Excepting for the financial loss and inconvenience due to the strike everything is running along about the same as usual, and business is quick to respond to the renewal of train operations. A more alarming situation impends, however. The rail chiefs have issued a statement that unless certain wage demands are granted 100,000 railroad men will strike by April 28th. The wages asked look high in comparison with former years, but will stand a comparison with wages paid for skilled workmen in other lines of industry. One naturally wonders where all the wage demands and increases are going to end, whether or not employers can continue to advance wages and the prices of their products without any limit. Naturally the farmer is affected by almost every wage increase. A part of it comes out of his pocket in the long run. There is no particular danger in inflated prices and wages providing everybody is affected alike. But when one class benefits at the expense of another, you have a fine condition for strikes, if not something infinitely worse.

There have been no important changes in the markets. Trading has been from hand to mouth, the supplies received during the past week being scarcely sufficient to establish a market price. There have not been within fifty per cent of enough receipts to care for the immediate cash demands, and those in need of grain and other products have simply been obliged to do without. The grain markets all opened strong the first of last week. Then corn slumped a little, and oats got a bit shaky. But as soon as it was learned that there was to be no immediate improvement in the strike situation, these grains stiffened and prices have ruled higher ever since. The bears have found it discouraging business to gamble on lower prices when there are two buyers for every seller.

The position of all farm products is encouraging, and while the increase in receipts which will follow the settlement of the strike will probably cause temporary decline, these will be of no moment and the market should immediately right itself and advance. There is no getting around



DETROIT—Wheat scarce. Corn, Oats and Rye higher and firm. Beans in demand and higher. Hogs and Cattle lower.

CHICAGO—General trend of all grains point to higher prices. Hogs higher.

(Note: The above summarized wires are received AFTER the balance of the market page is set in type. They contain last minute information up to within one-half hour of going to press.—Editor.)

the fact that the country has not the supplies to meet the demands, and this being true, prices cannot be lower until the new crops are harvested.

WHEAT A SCARCE ARTICLE

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 Red	2.82	2.80	3.10
No. 2 White	2.80	2.78	3.08
No. 2 Mixed	2.80	2.78	3.08

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 Red	2.55	2.50	2.51
No. 2 White	2.53	2.47	2.48
No. 2 Mixed	2.53	2.47	2.48

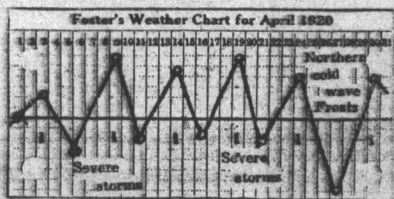
Wheat is not to be had on some markets for love nor money. The strike has added to the chronic shortness of wheat supplies at consuming points and no advance that has been recorded the past week has been sufficient to bring out the needed supplies.

While the condition of winter wheat has been slightly improved because of the recent rains, it is by no means satisfactory and will not register but little more than the 75.6 condition reported by the government, which was the second lowest on record. The late spring has delayed seeding of spring wheat and the acreage will be below normal for both this reason and the reason that farmers cannot get help to put in the crop. Taken altogether the wheat situation does not look altogether bright from the consumer's and dealer's viewpoint, but the farmer who has the crop will make some money out of it this year. It looks as if considerable spring wheat will be planted in Michigan this year, providing the planting conditions are favorable.

The farther the season advances the more certain it becomes that wheat prices have not reached their high levels. Domestic demand is good and there is no let-up in exports. It is reported from Argentina that an embargo is about to be placed on exports of wheat from that country which means that Europe must depend upon the United States and Canada for a much larger supply than at first expected.

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

As Forecasted by W. T. Foster for The Michigan Business Farmer



WASHINGTON, D. C., April 24, 1920—Warm waves will reach Vancouver about April 27, May 2, 7, 12 and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. They will cross crest of Rockies by close of April 28, May 3, 8, 13; plains sections April 29, May 4, 9, 14; meridian 90, upper great lakes, Ohio-Tennessee and lower Mississippi valleys April 30, May 5, 10, 15; great lower lakes and eastern sections May 1, 6, 11, 16, reaching vicinity of Newfoundland about May 2, 7, 12, 17. Storm waves will follow about one day behind warm waves, cool waves about one day behind warm waves.

These disturbances will control weather conditions of North America from about April 27 to May 16. Temperatures will average about normal and rainfall of these twenty days, in all sections, will average about same as for past two months. In sections where cropweather has not been satis-

CORN SCARCE AND HIGHER

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 Yellow	1.77	1.74	1.82 1/2
No. 3 Yellow	1.77	1.74	1.82 1/2
No. 4 Yellow	1.72	1.72	1.82 1/2

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 Yellow	1.69	1.61 1/2	1.82 1/2
No. 3 Yellow	1.69	1.61 1/2	1.81 1/2
No. 4 Yellow	1.69	1.60	1.79

Either farmers are too busy with spring crops to market the balance of their corn, or else they are not satisfied with the price. Perhaps also they haven't any more corn to market. Anyway, dealers aren't getting the corn and the price goes up a notch or two each week. Farmers who determined to hold out from selling their corn for less than \$1.50 are able to realize that figure and in some sections considerably more, but even this price does not bring out the corn. Various guesses are made as to what the acreage will be this year, some predicting that it will be the largest acreage on record. The yield for 1919 was a huge one, and many wisecracks predicted that this would mean low prices, but the supplies mysteriously disappeared and the trend of the market has been exactly the opposite to what was generally expected. Corn prices would be higher right now were it not for the threat of the government to investigate an alleged "corner" in the market. If there is anything that will frighten traders or anyone else for that matter it is the threat of an investigation, which, though it may prove nothing at all, casts a shadow upon all transactions. The dealers involved in the alleged conspiracy include some of the biggest traders in Chicago.

It is reasonable to suppose that corn will maintain its present levels and possibly reach higher ones the next sixty days. There may be a drop when supplies that have been held up in transit on account of the strike reach the market, but this will be of only short duration.

Michigan farmers had such good luck with corn last year that many of them are tempted to increase their

acreage this year. While we do not think that corn would be as good a cash crop as others we could mention, we do not think any farmer would be taking a very long chance on increasing his acreage. The almanac shows that the 1920 season should be good corn weather and does not indicate a killing frost in Michigan until the middle or latter part of October.

OATS IN DEMAND

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 White	1.13	1.05 1/2	
No. 3 White	1.12	1.04 1/2	
No. 4 White	1.11		

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
Standard	.74	.73	.80 1/2
No. 3 White	.73 1/2	.72	.79
No. 4 White	.72 1/2	.70	.77

There's no longer any guess work about the future of oats. While the export demand has dropped off owing to the high prices, the scant supplies have been so depleted that difficulty is encountered in getting enough for the normal daily needs of domestic consumers. Detroit quotes best grade of oats at \$1.13 per bushel.

There is considerable uncertainty as to the acreage to be planted to oats this spring. The unseasonable April weather has been prevalent all over the United States and seeding has been delayed for several weeks. It is pointed out that this does not augur well for a good crop in the early seeding sections, as early seeded oats always do better than late seeded oats. However, the seeding season in Michigan is late enough not to be materially affected by the backward weather and if normal weather should prevail until the middle of May Michigan will have a normal acreage or better of oats. Of labor all crops oats require the least labor, and this fact will command oats to a good many farmers this year.

RYE CONTINUES UPWARD

Rye is strong and higher being quoted at \$2.08 for No. 2 on the Detroit market. It is believed that this market will decline the least of any of the grains when the strike is settled and transportation resumed because of the continued heavy export demand.

BEANS ADVANCE AGAIN

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
C. H. P.	7.50	7.25	7.50
Red Kidneys	113.00	113.00	114.50

Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
C. H. P.	7.50	7.50	8.00
Prime	6.75	7.00	7.25
Red Kidneys	110.25	110.00	10.75

There is no denying the fact that beans are "picking up." The market has registered three advances of a total of \$1 per hundred in the last two weeks and there is a strong feeling in the bean states that the long anticipated "boom" has arrived. It will not be wise to place too much credence in this belief, however. The antics of the bean market the last two years has taught us all to be moderate and cautious in our discussions on the subject, and the present strength may only be the result of another "speculation." We do not believe this is the case, but we are satisfied to "go easy" and note whether or not the advance is sustained.

A Los Angeles dispatch says, "The demand for beans is improving somewhat, and as beans are about the cheapest food on the market today, it is expected that the price will advance."

Our readers who have waited patiently for many months in hopes of better bean prices can get a ray of encouragement out of the latest developments, and we are anxiously awaiting further developments in the hope and belief that prices are soon to advance to a point where the farmers can make some money on the balance of their crop.

W. T. Foster

POTATOES LOWER AND DULL

SPUDS PER CWT., APR. 20, 1920		
	Sacked	Bulk
Detroit	8.00	
Chicago	7.60	7.75
Pittsburg	6.17	6.10
New York	6.00	
PRICES ONE YEAR AGO		
Detroit	2.10	2.00
Pittsburg	2.25	2.20
New York	2.50	2.40
New York	2.25	2.20

The boycott that started in Detroit and is rapidly becoming national, turned up the toes in potatoes. Just when "King Spud" was getting to be an expert aviator along came this boycott and whipped the wind out of his sails but it took the "fair price board" to put the final touches to his downfall. The board ruled that he shall not fly above the \$3.60 per bushel limit, so the farmers who have their potatoes yet may be left to hold the bag.

There is a dull market reported at nearly all points and in Detroit in particular, as dealers there report that they cannot sell potatoes even at the "fair" price which would be at a loss to them as they claim to have paid more than \$3.60 a bushel for their present supply. We believe this to be true. Shippers are directing their cars to other points where the market is slightly better.

HAY

HAY PRICES A YEAR AGO			
	No. 1 Tim.	Stan. Tim.	No. 2 Tim.
Detroit	35.50 @ 39	34.50 @ 35	33.50 @ 34
Chicago	33.00 @ 39	36.00 @ 37	34.00 @ 35
New York	50.00 @		47.00 @ 49
Pittsburg	40.50 @ 40	39.50 @ 39	37.00 @ 38
HAY PRICES A YEAR AGO			
	No. 1	No. 1	No. 1
	Light Mix.	Clover Mix.	Clover
Detroit	34.50 @ 35	33.50 @ 34	33.50 @ 34
Chicago	31.00 @ 32	30.00 @ 31	29.00 @ 30
New York	41.00 @ 41	40.50 @ 40	39.00 @ 40
Pittsburg	34.50 @ 35	33.00 @ 34	31.00 @ 32
HAY PRICES A YEAR AGO			
	No. 1	No. 1	No. 1
	Light Mix.	Clover Mix.	Clover
Detroit	33.50 @ 34	32.50 @ 33	29.00 @ 30
Chicago	29.00 @ 30	27.00 @ 29	25.00 @ 27
New York	39.00 @ 40	37.00 @ 38	33.00 @ 33
Pittsburg	32.00 @ 33	33.00 @ 34	31.50 @ 32

There has been an improvement in the rail situation this week, especially in the west and although trade is far from normal at any point, the end of the trouble is in sight. The situation has been without precedent in the history of the hay trade and coming as it has after months of unusual weather conditions, and consequent slow deliveries, it has forced prices to record levels. When the strike is settled and weather conditions are propitious, hay will move to market in large quantities and values will fall rapidly; it is to the interest of shippers to market their available holdings as rapidly as possible, but to avoid taking on new stocks at present prices.

DETROIT PRODUCE MARKET

Supplies of farm produce are small and there is not much improvement in receipts, although it is said that the movement of cars is a little more active than it was last week and some vegetables are getting through. A few cars of potatoes have been received, but far from enough to put any pressure on the market and there is not much doing. It is the same in other vegetables, not enough coming in to make a market and prices largely nominal. The fruit trade is almost lifeless. Receipts are confined to a small movement of box apples and strawberries that reach the market by express. Poultry trading is dull and no change is noted in the price list. Both supply and demand are small. There is not much doing in dressed hogs or calves. Some of the latter are getting to market, but hogs are very scarce. Butter is dull and offered a little lower. Sales of eggs on the Detroit butter and egg board were at 41 3-4 cents for strictly fresh.

Apples—Western, boxes, \$4.50 @ 5.50; Baldwin, \$3 @ 3.50; Greening, \$3.25 @ 3.50; Steele Reds, \$3.50 @ 4 per bushel.

Popcorn—Shelled, 9c per lb. Dressed hogs—Best, 25 @ 26c; heavy, 20 @ 22c per lb.

Calves—dressed, fancy, 24 @ 25c; No. 2 18 @ 22c per lb.

Live poultry—Spring chickens, best, 42 @ 44c; leghorns, 42 @ 44c; hens, 46 @ 48c; small hens, 44 @ 45; roosters, 25 @ 27c; geese, 30 @ 35c;

ducks, 40 @ 45c; turkeys, 44 @ 45c per lb.

Hides—No. 1 cured calf, 55c; No. 1 green calf, 55c; No. 1 cured kip, 32c; No. 1 green kip 28c; No. 1 cured hides, 25 to 45 lbs., 30c; 5 lbs. and up, 29c; No. 1 green hides, 25 to 15 lbs., 27c; 45 lbs. and up, 17c; No. 1 green bulls, 20c; No. 1 cured bulls, 15c; No. 1 horsehides, \$9.50; No. 2 horsehides, \$8.50; Tallow: No. 1, 13c; No. 2 11c. Sheep pelts 50c @ 3.50; No. 2 hides 1c and No. 2 kip and calf, 1 1-2c off.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET

The Commercial Bulletin says: The railroad strike has tied up transportation, the effect being to hold up wool buying again to a greater or lesser extent. There has been some business accomplished during the week, however, mainly on the part of those who had fine wools, especially staple lots, to offer at firm prices. Some buying of the new clip is reported from Nevada at 50 to 54c, shearing at length having got started in this state. Elsewhere through the west there has been little or nothing doing.

Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces—Delaine, unwashed, 97c @ \$1; fine unwashed, 74 @ 76c; half blood, combing, 83 @ 85c; 3-8 blood combing, 69 @ 70c; Michigan and New York fleeces, fine unwashed, 80 @ 82c; 3-8 blood, unwashed, 67 @ 68c; Wisconsin, Missouri and average New England, 1-2 blood, 72 @ 75c; 3-8 blood, 63 @ 65c; 1-4 blood, 60c.

Virginia, Kentucky and similar—1-2 blood, unwashed, 85 @ 86c; 1-4 blood unwashed, 67 @ 68c.

Scoured basis: Texas: Fine 12 months, \$1.90 @ 1.95; fine 8 months \$1.65 @ 1.70. California, northern, \$1.90 @ 1.95; middle country, \$1.70 @ 1.75; southern, \$1.50 @ 1.60; Oregon eastern No 1 staple, \$2 @ 2.10; eastern clothing, \$1.70 @ 1.80; valley No. 1, \$1.70 @ 1.75. Territory: Fine staple, \$2.05 @ 2.15; 1-2 blood combing, \$1.85 @ 1.95; 3-8 blood, combing, \$1.30; fine clothing, \$1.75 @ 1.85; fine medium clothing, \$1.65 @ 1.75.

Pulled: Delaine, \$2.05 @ 2.15; AA \$1.80 @ 1.90; A supers, \$1.65 @ 1.75; Mohairs, best combing, 60 @ 65c; best cardings, 55 @ 60c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS

DETROIT—Cattle: Market for canners steady; all others 50c lower than Friday's close, some going over unsold; best steers, \$13 @ 13.25; best handy weight butcher steers, \$10.50 @ 11.50; mixed steers and heifers, \$9.50 @ 10.25; handy light butchers, \$8.75 @ 9.25; light butchers, \$8.25 @ 8.50; best cows, \$8.50 @ 8.75; butcher cows, \$7 @ 7.50; cutters, \$6 @ 6.25; canners, \$5 @ 5.50; best heavy bulls, \$8.50 @ 9.50; Bologna bulls, \$8; stock bulls, \$7 @ 7.50; milkers and springers, \$65 @ 125. Veal calves; market dull and \$1.50 lower; best, \$17.50 @ 18; others, \$10 @ 15. Sheep and lambs: market dull and much lower; quotations are for clipped stock, prices at the close were: Best lambs, \$15.50 @ 16; fair lambs, \$13 @ 14; light to common lambs, \$10 @ 12.50; wool lambs, \$17; fair to good sheep, \$11 @ 12; culls and common, \$5 @ 7. Hogs market fairly active; pigs, \$16; heavy, \$16.25; mixed, \$16.75.

CHICAGO—Cattle: beef steers, 25 and 50c lower; top, \$15; bulk, \$12 @ 14; she-stock 35c lower; bulk \$8.50 @ 10.25; canners and cutters, mostly \$4.50 @ 5; calves, 50 @ 75c lower; bulk, \$15 @ 16. Hogs: higher, advance of heavy hogs mostly lost; top, \$16.75; bulk, \$15.15 @ 16.50; heavy packing sows, \$13 @ 13.50; pigs, \$14.50 @ 15.50. Sheep: steady; 25c higher; top woolled lambs \$21.75; bulk, \$21 @ 21.75; top shorn lambs, \$18.75; bulk, \$18.25 @ 18.75; sheep steady.

EAST BUFFALO—Dunning & Stevens report: Cattle: steady. Hogs, strong, heavy, \$16.50 @ 17.50; yorkers, \$18.25 @ 19; pigs, \$18 @ 18.50. Sheep: strong, clipped lambs, \$20 @ 21.50; yearlings, \$16 @ 18; wethers, \$15 @ 16; ewes, \$13 @ 14. Calves, \$7 @ 22.50.

AUTO THIEF GIVEN THREE YEAR TERM

Automobile thieves who appear in federal court will be shown no leniency, Judge Arthur J. Tuttle intimated April 5th when Robert Edwards, first man in Michigan to plead guilty under the Dyer Act, was sentenced to three years in Leavenworth penitentiary for stealing a car in Detroit and transporting it to Toledo where he sold it. The federal law prohibits the transportation of stolen machines from one state to another.

Automobile owners have been the prey of the automobile thief and in many cases victims of exaggerated damage claims. People that are slightly injured pretend that they are seriously hurt and allege that they are injured in the back and spine, have headaches and cannot sleep.

Automobile owners are organizing to fight those unjust claims and excessive verdicts are now more often appealed. Every automobile owner should co-operate in punishing the automobile thief and to prevent the unjust and exaggerated damage claims.

WILL NOT RAISE A BEET

I want to thank you as a farmer for the good work you are doing for us farmers. If there were more men like you to work for our interests we would get a square deal. I am a beet grower but I will not raise a beet under the old contract although I live within one-half mile of the station. I favor Frank Lowden for president and Milo Campbell for governor. With the best wishes for you and your paper, I remain—Irving M. Vernon, Genesee County, Mich.

Geographical Sisters

Miss Rose asked her eighth grade: "What are the sister states?" Mabel answered: "I am not sure, but I should think they were Miss Ouri, Ida Ho, Mary Land, Callie Fornia, Louisa Anna, Della Ware, Minnie Sota, and Mrs. Sippi."

Sugar Beet Growers, Attention

The time is soon here to plant beets and over 10,000 organized growers have been asking in vain for a conference with the Sugar Trust. Will we b break? No we will stick, and to a man. Sure; we have our organization incorporated and are in shape to put this fight to the end.

We Will Build Our Own Sugar Factories

First we will get a petition to Congress for a special tariff on beans. We are having 1,000 copies printed and will get a few copies out to every one of our locals and to every elevator and to every Farm Bureau Local and have the Locals get all the farmers to sign, and when this is done we will call them in and bind them all together in one monster petition and send it on down to Washington with a couple of our members. We want not less than 75,000 signers on this petition. Talk this to your neighbor.

While this is going on plant beans, plant potatoes, plant corn, plant spring wheat, plant oats, plant barley, plant cabbage, plant cucumbers, and if you have any time left go fishing and plan on what you will say to your neighbor when he calls on you to go in and lend a portion of your credit to build your own sugar factory. Your association is gathering the plans and the data for the organization of farmer-owned sugar factories. These plans will be uniform and will soon be sent to all the local organizations to be handed out to all the members.

Get your neighbor to read THE MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMER so that he also will be informed

Farmers let us arise from our knees and stand to our full height and dignity as business men. Let us unite with our brother farmer and loan our credit to our association and then we can go to any bank with the best security on earth and get all the money we want at the lowest rate of interest and secure all the profits of the domestic sugar business, for which we are now begging a mere crumb thereof at the present time on our bended knees.

Arise, brothers, arise! Why stand we here idle? Our brothers in the west are already in the game and will have one plant ready to slice beets this fall and think they will have two more ready for business this year. If you go west this year go to Fort Lupton and see what farmers can do and when you come back you will have a brighter view of life.

The farmer who fails to recognize or appreciate the rapid development of this movement is the fellow who is again going to be the one to let out an awful howl next spring. Why fuss and complain like an old scold and then appeal and implore a greedy and heartless corporation to be charitable, to you? Will you always be an object of charity to them in the future so long as you give them your notes at 7 per cent for the seed and labor and wait for your pay for your beets until they sell the sugar they make from them, and pocket half of the money is their profit. Think this over. Your note without interest will get you all the profit thru your association.

MICHIGAN SUGAR BEET GROWERS' ASS'N, C. E. ACKERMAN, Manager



The Farm Home

A Department for the Women

I gave a beggar from my little store a wealth of gold;

He spent the shining ore, and came again and yet again,

Still cold and hungry, as before.

I gave a thought and through that thought of mine,

He found himself, the man supreme, divine,

Fed, clothed and crowned with blessings manifold,

And now he begs no more.

WHERE is the beggar who formerly asked for a piece of bread at our back door? The short hours and big pay have induced them to go to work and the further fact that even though they be crippled they can find lucrative positions has made the thread-bare excuse of their deformities of no account.

Here in the city there is a rain-bow shop in which are sold the articles made by ex-soldiers who were taught this work through the occupational therapy classes, and it was wonderful to see the useful articles offered for sale and at prices which competed with the factory made articles. There were wonderful baskets of all shapes and sizes and for all occasions. Baskets for fire wood stained a rich brown—baskets for fruit and baskets for flowers as well as the regular market baskets and the newer shopping bags woven of the same material but which hang on the arm and are stout enough to carry almost anything.

Then there were most wonderful woven rugs of rags—and they are so popular just now while it has been shown that men are often more adept at bead work than women and the beaded bags shown were works of art.

Some men who find themselves injured for life are not easily adaptable to this line of work and prefer to specialize in a business course which makes it possible for them to compete with the men who are physically sound at desks, while others prefer to work at piece work in the factories where they need not leave their bench to earn just as much as their fellow men.

It's all in the attitude. The man who wills can do anything and the relatives who encourage them in letting others earn their living are really doing them just as much injury as the woman who hands out bread and butter at her back door to the man who is just as able to work as the housewife or her men folks.

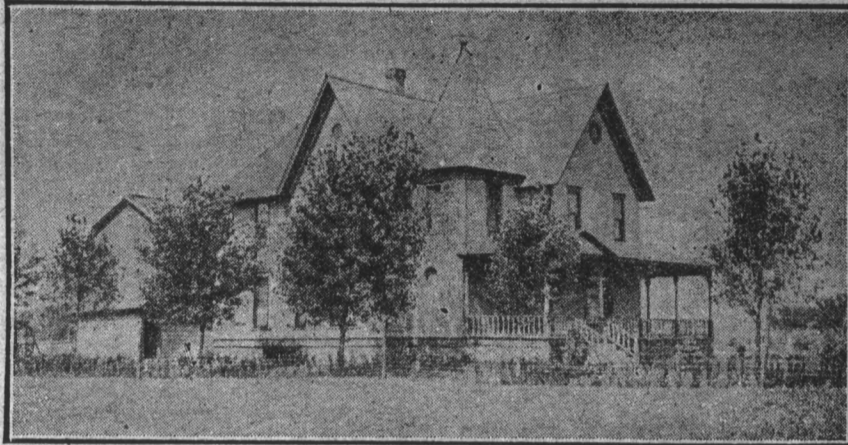
Statistics show that in Detroit alone twenty-nine blind persons and 45 cripples were placed in industrial plants in the last year and are now earning full wages on equal terms with normal workers. And the wonderful thing about this statement is that the placements were all made by a man who is totally blind himself, and who was able when it was found necessary, to prove his arguments by actual demonstration.

RAISING BERRIES FOR PROFIT

BERRIES rank with small fruits in the matter of profits and they are more easily cultivated by the women of the farm than fruit. With present prices for small fruits more and more will they appeal to the women of the farm. And right now is the time for planting. We are fortunate in securing some expert advice for our readers on time of planting, manner of preparing the soil, etc., prepared by the Agricultural Department of the United States.

With the scarcity of help on

Edited by MABEL CLARE LADD



We are glad to show another comfortable and attractive farm home this week—that of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Minks, of Pierson, Mich. Plenty of windows for sunshine and air and trees in the yard not only provide shade but form a dividing line between yard and fields.

the farm, more and more will the agriculturists resort to raising those crops which can be cared for by the family without outside help.

First let us consider the strawberry.

Time to plant—March and April.

Age of plants—One year old plants give the best results.

Preparation of soil—Strawberries grow in many kinds of soil. Any good, well drained garden soil, well prepared, will produce strawberries. A layer, 1 inch deep, of well-rotted manure should first be thoroughly spaded into the soil. Then finely ground bone meal at the rate of 1 pound to 25 square feet of space, and tobacco stems at the rate of 3 pounds to the same space should be carefully raked into the soil. Wood ashes spread over the soil just thick enough to be seen can be used in place of bone meal and tobacco stems.

Setting plants—The rows

should be 2 feet apart and the plants 1 foot apart in the rows. The holes should be deep enough to place the plants at the same depth they were before and large enough to spread the roots out well. In transplanting the soil should be placed a little at a time around the roots and pressed down firmly. Care should be taken not to get any soil in the crown.

Care of the bed—Clean culture is of prime importance. The strawberry bed should be hoed frequently so as to keep the bed free of weeds and the upper two and one-half inches of soil loose and dustlike. Throughout the first summer all lower stems should be cut off. The cut should be made as close to the plant as possible. To prevent rain from splattering sand and soil on the fruit, a thin layer of straw or pine needles should be spread over and between the rows in December. This layer should be thin enough for the plants to grow through it the following spring.

Harvesting—A strawberry bed carefully prepared and cared for should produce at the rate of a quart of berries to the plant the following season.

Raspberries, Blackberries, Dewberries

Time of planting—March and April.

Location in the garden—The plants do well in a cool shady section of the garden. They could be planted next to the fence, or in corners not used for the growing of vegetable crops.

Preparation of the soil—Like the strawberry, these fruits grow best in well drained, carefully prepared garden soil.

Setting the plants—

The rows should be 4 feet apart and the plants placed 3 feet apart in the rows. The plants grow rapidly and would soon crowd if placed closer together. The holes should be large enough to spread the roots out well and should contain rich mellow soil to induce new growth. Any bruised section of the root should be cut off as nearly horizon-

tal as possible with a sharp knife. The plants should be set three to 4 inches deeper than they had previously been. The soil should be pressed firmly about the roots. As the new sprouts form the soil should be pulled toward the plant until the hole is completely filled.

Care of the patch—The patch should be hoed frequently to save moisture and to kill weeds. Shoots called suckers, which sprout from the roots of red raspberries and blackberries, must be kept under control, or the patch will in time become a dense thicket and the fruit will decrease in quantity and quality and will be hard to pick. The rows should be kept 8 to 10 inches wide.

The patch should receive a light application of stable manure or commercial fertilizer each year. It is a mistake to think these berries require no fertilizer. Immediately after the fruit is gathered, the canes that have borne fruit, should be cut out and burned. These old canes are of no value to the plant and are likely to harbor insects and fungous diseases. In the spring red raspberries are pruned as follows: The weak canes are cut out and the strong ones are cut back to 4 feet. During the early part of the summer black raspberries and blackberries are pruned as follows: The tops of the new canes are cut back 2 inches when the canes are 3 feet high. This is done to make the canes branch. A branched cane will produce more fruit than a straight cane. Since all the new canes will not reach the desired height at the same time, the patch must be gone over more than once. The canes should be thinned out to 5 canes to each plant. Very little pruning is required for dewberries.

Pragapating—Red raspberries and blackberries send up shoots from the horizontal roots. These shoots make new plants and can be transplanted into new rows in the garden in September. In digging up the plants care should be taken to remove a part of the horizontal root.

If the tips of the long canes of black raspberries and dewberries are covered with mellow soil the last of August, they will take root and produce new plants that could be transplanted into rows in the garden the following spring.

Diseases—These fruits have a number of diseases and insect enemies. These can be partially controlled by cutting out and burning all the old canes and any new canes that are diseased. Spraying with Bordeaux mixture is also practical. The first application should be made when the new canes are 6 inches high. A second and third application should be made at intervals of 10 to 14 days. "Control of garden insects" will tell how to make Bordeaux mixture.

Harvesting—Berry patches carefully cared for should bear for 10 to 15 years.

FOR THE BRIDAL SHOWER

GUESSING games galore have always been used for the amusement of the guests at a shower for the bride-to-be, but the other day we came across a new one. The happy bride-to-be has just finished high school and was very fond of literature and made a specialty of this study. The friends and classmates used the following game of "Questions and Answers to be Answered by the Titles of Shakespearian Plays," very successfully. If you do not know of a shower you will wish to attend in the immediate future, cut out and keep these suggestions and games and you will find your scrap book a very good friend when you wish to entertain.

QUESTIONS

1. Who were the lovers?
2. What was their courtship like?

IRIS SCARF—This corner motif of the Iris is very graceful and attractive. It is suitable for scarfs, sofa pillows, tea cloths, chair backs. The flower is embroidered in long and short stitch, outline and leaves in satin stitch.

3. What was her answer to his proposal of marriage?
4. At what time was the wedding?
5. Of whom did they buy their engagement ring?
6. Who were their best man and bridesmaid?
7. Who were the ushers?
8. Who gave the wedding reception?
9. In what kind of a place did they live?
10. Like what was her disposition?
11. What did they give each other?
12. What caused their quarrel?
13. What was told them that caused a chilly feeling?
14. What Roman ruler tried to effect a reconciliation between them?

ANSWERS

1. Romeo and Juliet.
2. Mid-Summer Nights' Dream.
3. As you like it.
4. Twelfth Night.
5. Merchant of Venice.
6. Anthony and Cleopatra.
7. Gentleman of Verona.
8. Merry Wives of Windsor.
9. Hamlet.
10. Tempest.
11. Measure for Measure.
12. Comedy of Errors.
13. Winter's Tale.
14. Julius Caesar.

SPRING APPETITES

NOW IS the time to increase the fruit ration, that craving for something different can be more easily satisfied in the spring with fruit than any other food.

Did you every try making a short cake by using canned peaches. Make the regular short cake, then use the canned peaches, without much juice and if you want it extra fine, use whipped cream also on the top. It makes a delicious dessert for spring.

Why not tempt the appetite with lamb or mutton instead of the regular beef and pork ration for a change. Mutton and lamb, the food products of sheep, provide a tasteful, nutritious meat than can be prepared in a large variety of ways for the table. Mutton broth is a time honored diet for the invalid, and to many a baby it has brought rosy cheeks. During convalescence broiled and stewed mutton and lamb bring back the lost ambition and banish the "tired feeling." The man with a delicate taste calls frequently for his broiled mutton chop, baked potato and pickled walnuts no does he forget the savory juices of the leg o'mutton with mint sauce and green peas.

Mutton is superior to lamb for use in broths because for its weight it contains more nutriment. As it is cheaper, it is also more commonly used for stews. Almost every housewife is familiar with the method of making stew and of roasting, broiling and preparing in the ordinary way, but perhaps you will be glad of the following recipes for broth, sauce and jelly to serve with the lamb or mutton and ways of using the leftovers:

Mutton Broth.

- 3 pound of mutton from the neck.
- 2 quarts cold water.
- 3 tablespoons rice or barley.
- 1 teaspoon salt.

Cut the meat into small pieces, place in a kettle and cover with water. Heat gradually to the boiling point and season. Cook slowly until the meat is tender, strain and when cool remove the fat. Reheat to the boiling point, add the rice or barley and cook until tender. If barley is used soak over night in cold water.

Pot Pie.

Any stew may be converted into a pot pie by spreading over the stew a dough and baking for about ten minutes.

- 1 cup flour.
- 2 teaspoons baking powder.
- 2 level tablespoons shortening.

Dye Old, Faded Dress Material

"Diamond Dyes" Make Shabby Apparel Stylish and New—So Easy Too.

Don't worry about perfect results. Use "Diamond Dyes," guaranteed to give a new, rich, fadeless color to any fabric, whether wool, silk, linen, cotton or mixed goods,—dresses, blouses, stockings, skirts, children's coats, draperies,—everything!

A Direction Book is in package. To match any material, have dealer show you "Diamond Dye" Color Card.

One-half teaspoon salt.
Cold water to make stiff batter.
Sift flour, salt and baking powder together. Then work in shortening and add water.

Casserole of Lamb.

Line a casserole slightly greased with steamed rice. Fill the center with finely chopped mutton, season highly with salt, pepper, celery salt and onion juice. Cover with rice. Cook in the oven with casserole covered. It may be browned at the last. If served in casserole water stock or gravy should be added when filling the dish.

Stuffed Biscuit.

Left-over lamb or mutton. Biscuit dough.

- 2 cups flour.
- 4 teaspoons baking powder.
- 1 teaspoon salt.
- 3 teaspoons fat.
- 3-4 cup of water or milk.

Combine the biscuit dough and roll on board half inch thick. Cut as for biscuit. Spread half of each biscuit with melted fat. Place a small amount of the meat, which has been ground and mixed with gravy and seasoning, on the biscuit. Fold over as for Parker House rolls. Bake and serve with gravy.

Mint Sauce and Mint Jelly.

- 1-4 cup finely chopped mint leaves.
- 1 tablespoon powdered sugar.
- 1-2 cup vinegar.
- 1-2 teaspoon salt.

Combine the ingredients and let the mixture stand in a warm place until the flavor of the mint has penetrated the liquid. Either the dry or the fresh mint or spearmint may be used.

Mint jelly can be made by stiffening mint sauce with gelatin. One-half tablespoon of gelatin soaked in cold water enough to cover it is used with a cup of mint sauce made as described.

"HEARTS OF THREE"

(Continued from page 13)

But the stern leader shook his head.

"Here you were released. Our orders went no further. No further jurisdiction have we over you. We shall now bid farewell and depart."

"Hold on!" Francis cried, pulling out his check book and beginning to write. "Wait a moment. I must settle for this peon now. Next, before you depart, I have a favor to ask of you."

He passed the check to the hacendado, saying:

"I have allowed ten pesos for the exchange."

The hacendado glanced at the check, folded it away in his pocket, and placed the end of the rope around the wretched creature's neck in Francis' hand.

"The peon is now yours," he said. Francis looked at the rope and laughed.

"Behold!" I now own a human chattel. Slave, you are mine, my property now, do you understand?"

"Yes, Senor," the peon muttered humbly. "It seems when I became mad for the woman I gave up my freedom for, that God destined me always afterward to be the property of some man. The Cruel Just One is right. It is God's punishment for mating outside my race."

"You made a slave of yourself for what the world has always considered the best of all causes, a woman," Francis observed, cutting the thongs that bound the peon's hands. "And so, I make a present of you to yourself." So saying, he placed the neck-rope in the peon's hand. "Henceforth, lead yourself, and put not that rope in any man's hand."

While the foregoing had been taking place, a lean old man, on foot, had noiselessly joined the circle. Maya Indian he was, pure-blooded, with ribs that corrugated plainly through his parchment-like skin. Only a breech-clout covered his nakedness. His unkempt hair hung in dirty-gray tangles about his face, which was high-cheeked and emancipated to cadaverousness. Strings of muscles showed for his calves and biceps. A few scattered snags of teeth were visible between his withered lips. The hollows under his cheek bones were prodigious. While his eyes, beads of black, deep-sunk in their sockets, burned with the wild light of a patient in fever.

He slipped eel-like through the circle and clasped the peon in his skeleton-like arms.

"He is my father," proclaimed the peon proudly. "Look at him. He is pure Maya, and he knows the secrets of the Mayas."

And while the two reunited ones talked endless explanations, Francis preferred his request to the sack-cloth leader to find Enrico Solano and his two sons, wandering somewhere in the mountains, and to tell them that they were free of all claims of the law and to return home.

"They have done no wrong?" the leader demanded.

(Continued next week)

DE LAVAL THE EVERLASTING CREAM SEPARATOR

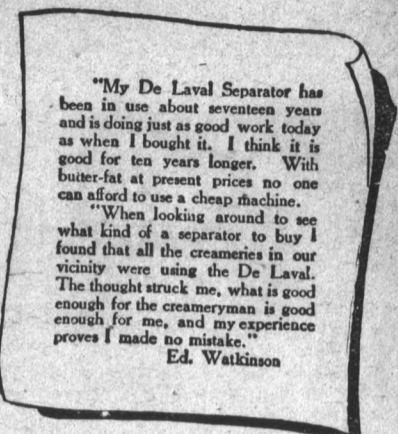
There are thousands of voluntary letters in the De Laval Company's files similar to this letter from Mr. Watkinson, of Iowa, bearing out the statements made in connection with the long service of De Laval Cream Separators.

"My De Laval Separator has been in use about seventeen years and is doing just as good work today as when I bought it. I think it is good for ten years longer. With butter-fat at present prices no one can afford to use a cheap machine."

"When looking around to see what kind of a separator to buy I found that all the creameries in our vicinity were using the De Laval. The thought struck me, what is good enough for the creameryman is good enough for me, and my experience proves I made no mistake."

Ed. Watkinson

In fact, by averaging up the years of use, it has been found that the average life of a De Laval is more than 15 years; and that during that time they have required little attention or repairs, and have produced the highest possible quantity and quality of cream with the least time and effort.



That is why there are more DeLaval's in use than all other makes combined. Sooner or later you will buy a De Laval.



The nearest De Laval agent will be glad to demonstrate a De Laval. If you do not know his name, write to nearest De Laval office.

The DeLaval Separator Co.

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50,000 Branches and Local Agencies the World Over

GUARANTEES CROWS WILL NOT PULL YOUR CORN

One Dollar Buys Enough to Treat One Bushel of Shelled Corn



References: Greenville State Bank Greenville Commercial Bank

KRO-ENEMY is a compound made by a farmer to prevent crows from pulling up the growing corn. It is easily applied to seed corn and is ready for use twenty-four hours after treatment of seed. The corn can be used in any style planter and has been used successfully for the past three years.

If KRO-ENEMY is as good as we say it is, you cannot afford to be without it. If KRO-ENEMY would not do what we say it will, we could not afford to guarantee it. Treat your corn as directed and if you are dissatisfied with results before June 25th, 1920, return the empty can and your money will be refunded.

KRO-ENEMY COMPANY, Greenville, Michigan

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BETTER THAN RED CLOVER FOR SOILING AND A VALUABLE HAY CROP

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THE C. E. DEPUY CO., Pontiac, Michigan



The Children's Hour

DEAR CHILDREN: Received such a splendid drawing this week but it was in colors, so can't award a prize or publish it. Be sure and have the drawing which you submit for prizes in black and white only.

One little reader inquired how many subscribers it would take to secure the song "Star of the East." Only one, my little friend, one new one at one dollar. Send in your subscriber with the remittance and advise me that you wish this prize and I shall be very glad indeed to send it to you.

One little subscriber writes this week: "Talk about hikes, they're my hobby." It's a wonderful hobby for girls as well as boys to have. The boys have organized "hikes" through the work of the Boy Scout movement and the girls can organize themselves into a club for the study of wild flowers or wild birds, either of which will give them an excuse for tramping through wood and field—feeding mind and body at the same time. Be sure and take a sandwich and a cookie or two with you for you will want them. Personally I like to take some potatoes and roast them, eating them with green onions and my bread and butter sandwiches.

Here is a lovely little story of the wild flowers this week. Perhaps it is a bit early, but you can read it and I am sure it will encourage you to get out and get acquainted with the flowers just as soon as they bloom.—
Affectionately yours, LADDIE.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

Dear Laddie—I like "The Children's Hour" very much. I think your letters to the children's page are very interesting and the children also write fine letters. I will be 14 years old the 16th of April. I go to the Goodrich school and am taking the eighth grade. My hardest study is geography. My reading is the "Rhyme of The Ancient Mariner". There are two rooms in our school. The first ten grades are taught. I have three sisters. My little sister who was about two and a half years old passed away last fall. It is lonesome without a baby in the house. She had a pretty face and pretty brown curls. We live on a 140-acre farm. It is bounded on the south by Campbell's lake. Our house is on the south side of the road. On the northwest side of the house we have a pine grove. The tallest of our pine trees is about 8 feet. We girls have an organ. I have taken ten lessons on it and I intend to take ten more this summer. How many subscribers would it take to earn "The Star of the East" in sheet music? I am sending you a picture of two little girls on a teeter which I drew. My sister Bernice sent you a letter a few days ago. Your friend, Mary Clark, Walker-ville, Mich.

Dear Laddie—We hope our friends will enjoy reading this letter, and that we win a prize. We are two friends living on adjoining farms. We read the "Children's Hour" and think it is very interesting. We are in the 7th and 8th grade at school and in the same room. We have the best and most enjoyable friends in school. We saw the letters of our friends Henrietta Droste and Mary Gross in the M. B. F., and think they are good letter writers. We live 3-4 of a mile from the village of Westphalia, which is going to be a city some time, for they are going to have the railroad built through here soon. Hoping to see the letters of our friends and this letter in print, we remain, Mary Fedewa and Verena Martin, Westphalia, Mich.

Dear Laddie—I am a girl 10 years of age and am in the 4th grade. I live on a farm of 80 acres. We have 8 cows and 6 calves. For pets I have 2 rabbits, 2 cats and 1 dog. I go to the Arn school and have a mile and three-quarters to walk. We take the M. B. F. and like it fine. I like "The Children's Hour" page the best. Well I will close and leave room for some more.—Florence Rudell, Munger, Mich.

Dear Laddie—I am a little girl 8 years old and in the 3rd grade at school. My teacher is Miss Ames. I live on an 80-acre farm. We have 3 horses, 5 cows, 2 calves, 3 pigs and 40 chickens. I like to read the stories and letters in the M. B. F.—Lois L. Parks, Weidman, Mich.

Dear Laddie—My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it dandy. I am 14 years old and in the 8th grade. I read the letters from the boys and girls and like to hear their stories, what they write. We have 8 cows, 5 horses and 5 pigs. For pets I have a dog and 4 cats. We live on a 104 acre farm and keep about 50 swarms of bees and about an acre and a half of berries, grapes, plums, peaches and other fruits. As this letter is getting exceedingly long I will close, hoping to see my letter on "The Children's Hour" page.—Marie Blatt, Brown City, Mich.

Our All-The-Year-Round-Garden Family

(A story of two woods flowers; by Ellen Eddy Shaw)

THIS SPRING two new children were born into our All-The-Year-Round Garden family. One little boy belongs in the country, and the other little boy belongs in the city. If you look at the names of these two children you will know right straight off that Patty is the country boy and Holly, with his fancy name, must be a city lad.

If you are a country boy or girl, go out some fine spring day to a sunny little hillside, or slope in the woods, and there you will find little Patty. Patty's whole name is hepatica.

When you are poking among the dead leaves, what you must look for first is a little plant with large, old tough leaves, reddish in color. Push these aside and down underneath are some tender, new little green leaves and Patty's head bent over, protected by those big, tough, last year's leaves.

Take up one or two hepatica plants carefully, also some of the wood soil, and when you get home plant them in a fish bowl or some other glass vessel, with the wood soil about

them. Put the bowl in a sunny window, with perhaps a piece of glass over the top, and as the days go on you will see little Patty's head prick up, you will see the new leaves start, you will see one of the loveliest blossoms a little plant ever had, and lo and behold there is Patty, your country boy!

Holly is a fern with bright leaves that look like Christmas holly leaves. It is the best little fern for indoors, and will last better than almost any other fern.

Be sure you keep Holly very clean and nice. You must wash his face, washing both the front and back of the leaves, just as mother washes your face and behind your ears. Keep the soil in which Holly is planted moist but not wet and soggy. Give him a nice sunning every once and a while, and if there is a gentle spring rain, put little Holly boy outdoors and let the rain wash his face.

So Patty and Holly are our two little spring boys belong now in the same "All-the-Year-Round Garden" family with little Marie Gold, our French orphan.

Dear Laddie—I have been reading the children's page in the M. B. F. Papa takes your paper and likes it very much. This is the first time I have written to you. I am a girl 11 years old and in the 6th grade. I live on an 80-acre farm. We have three pigs and eight little pigs, three horses, six cows and about 75 chickens. For pets I have two cats and one dove. As my letter is getting long I will write a story, hoping I will win the prize. Dossia W. Barger, Butternut, Mich.

Dear Laddie—We take the M. B. F. and like it very much. I am a girl 12 years old and in the 7th grade at school. I have not been going this week because a cyclone tore down our school house. I have solved the puzzle in the M. B. F. I think the other animal is "antelope". We have one cat and three kittens. The cat's name is Tabby. Well as my letter is getting long I will close, hoping to see it in print.—From Dorothy Trick, Assyria, Mich.

Dear Laddie—I am a girl 11 years old and in the 5th grade. There are about 100 pupils in our school. My teacher's name is Mrs. Grace Hulet and I like her very well. I live on a 150-acre farm. We have nine pigs, four cows, four

calves and 50 chickens. I have two brothers. We take the M. B. F. and like it very well. I am interested in "The Children's Hour" and the boys and girls letters.—Yours very truly, Verena Leona Terry, Dryden, Mich.

Dear Laddie—I'm 12 years of age and in the 7th grade. We are having a spring vacation now. I live on an 80-acre farm. My father has three horses, four cows and two old pigs and ten little ones. I have three brothers and two sisters. My father has taken the M. B. F. for quite a while. I like to read the letters and stories that the children write. Hope some of the girls will write to me and that I will see my letter in print.—Hazel Holer, Plainwell, Mich., R. 1.

Dear Laddie—I am ten years old and in the 4th grade at school. My teacher's name is Miss Olga Burg. I live on a 200 acre farm. We have seven head of horses and one little Shetland pony. We have eight head of cattle. I have two sisters and two brothers. We have two dogs, one is a Shepherd that goes after the cattle, and the other is a little water spaniel and the boys like to play with him. We have an Overland car.—Dorothy Rinehart, Scottsville, Mich.

Dear Laddie—As I have never written to you before decided to do so. My brother wrote to you a long time ago and his letter was printed, so that encouraged me to write also. I am a girl 14 years old and in the 8th grade. I am planning to go down to my brother's this summer and take care of my little nephew. Upon taking two consecutive letters from each of the words in this week's puzzle I find the fifth animal to be an "antelope." I would like to get letters from some of the girls.—I remain a friend, Esther Sasterline, Marion, Mich., R. 2.

Dear Laddie—I have been reading the letters in the M. B. F. for some time, but I have never made an attempt to write myself. I am a girl 14 years old, five feet tall and weigh 108 pounds. I live on a 120 acre farm and we have four horses, 25 head of cattle, 19 pigs, about 50 chickens and three geese. We have a camera and I like to take pictures with it. I am taking music lessons. Well I must close now, hoping to see my letter in print.—Velma Brickner, Yale, Mich.

Dear Laddie—This is the first time I have written to you. I am 14 years of age and passed the 8th grade last year. I do not go to school now. My father takes the M. B. F. and we all like it very much. I have one sister and five brothers. I live on a 200-acre farm. We have lots of stock, over 100 chickens and one dog, his name is Brownie. Will close, hoping to see my letter in print.—Helen Cook, Weidman, Mich., R. 2, Box 65.

Dear Laddie—This is the second time I have written to you. My father takes the M. B. F. and I like to read the letters in "The Children's Hour". I am a girl 13 years old and in the 6th grade. I live 3 3/4 miles from the school. My teacher is Sister Bertha. I have seven sisters and four brothers. I will close, hoping to see my letter in print.—Emilie Spitzley, Pewamo, Mich., R. 1.

Dear Laddie—This is the first time I have written to the M. B. F. I am 11 years old and I am in the 5th grade. I go to Juhl school and my teacher's name is Miss Helen Juhl. She is my cousin. We have 24 cows and are milking 21 at present. We send our milk to the Borden's condensary. We have three horses and about 90 chickens. We have a Ford car. I have four brothers.—James Anton Juhl, Sandusky, R. 1.

Dear Laddie—This is the first time I have written to you. We live on a 110-acre farm. I am a girl 13 years old and in the 6th grade. We haven't had any sickness, but there has been a lot of it around here. I have a brother 12 years old and a sister Beulah and she is 11 years old, also two little sisters, Wilma is four years old and Margie is three. I will close for this time.—Beatrice Conley.

Dear Laddie—We take the M. B. F. and like it very much. I am a boy 8 years old and am in the 2nd grade at school. I have two brothers and two sisters. Their names are Leona 15, Bernice 10, Clarence 13, Orville 5. We have three cows and four calves. We have a dog, his name is Rover. My letter is getting long so I will close.—Mayne VanCamp, Rapid City, Mich.

Dear Laddie—My father takes the M. B. F. and he thinks it is a good paper. We live on a large farm about one mile from Trenton. I have two brothers, one is seven years old and the other is 11. I am 13 years old and in the 7th grade. My teacher is Florence I. Erving. I think she is a very good teacher. Hoping to see my letter in print.—Hazel Newman, Trenton, Mich.

Dear Laddie—I am a girl 13 years old and in the 7th grade at school. I like to go to school. My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it fine. I like "The Children's Hour" and the stories too. I have one brother and no sisters. We have a pet dog named Collie. I like to send in puzzles.—Myrtle Siver, Millington, Mich.

Dear Laddie—I live on a farm of 100 acres and have about 100 chickens, also have three horses, four cows and one calf. We take the M. B. F. I like to read the letters in it. I hope to see my letter among the rest.—Yours truly, Lucile Fouch, Traverse City, Mich.

Dear Laddie—I read the letters in your paper and thought I would write one. I am nine years old and in the 5th grade. My birthday is on the 13th of May. I have four sisters and four brothers. We have six cows and five horses. I am going to have a garden this summer.—Ethel Toner, Kinde, Mich.

According to Webster

A Swedish lad in a Kansas City school was told by his teacher to write a sentence containing the word poulitice. He handed in this one:

"High school girls often write poulitices."

"You are thinking of poetry instead of poulitices, aren't you, Oscar?" smiling inquired the teacher.

"No, ma'am," replied Oscar, stoutly. "I looked it up in the dictionary, and this is what it says: 'Poulitice—a soft composition.'"

EIGHT BIRDS

BY WALTER WELLMAN

Print in the names of two birds (reading downward.) Each bird's name must have six letters. If you use the right birds, you will also complete the names of six other birds which will read from left to right.

Answer to last week's puzzle: MAN plus DISH plus GONE plus A minus H minus CANE equals MADISON. LINE plus COAT minus TEA plus PLAN minus PA equals LINCOLN.

Uncle Rube Spinach Says:

(Letters to Uncle Rube should be addressed care of The Michigan Business Farmer.)

HERE'N THERE AN' EVRYTHING

WELL, WELL, would ya believe it? at last there's been a cabinet meeting an' the president (himself) was there—in fact, according to reports, he called the meetin' an' had all his, well I wuz goin' to say advisors but as the president (himself) takes no advice, I don't jest hardly know what to call these fellers that wuz called together by the president (himself.) But you know that fer some little time we've had no such thing as cabinet meetin's, the president wa'nt able to go, he wouldn't let the vice president act, Secretary Lansing tried to do a little somethin' an' lost his job an' seems like evrythin' wuz kinda muddled up considerable. But now there's been a meetin' an' while they don't seem to've been much of anything done, we have the gratifying news that the president felt no bad effects from the meetin' and that he feels good.

Well we're darned glad that the president feels good whether the rest of the country does or not, now if he would act as good as he feels mebbe they might be somethin' done down at Washington that would help straighten things out a little.

When I git sick an' can't do my work, by gosh the company unfeelin'ly jest stops my pay—no work no pay with me an' darned if I have any one that's s'posed to take my place when I'm sick, like the president has if I did have I'd tell him to go ahead an' manage things 'till I got on my feet agin.

But the president don't do business that way, he tells 'em to let business go to, well to hold things up 'till his head gits to workin' agin, an' then he'll tend to it himself. That's what some evil minded persons might call one man government, anyway I jest like to ask what's th' use of payin' a vice president a quite a bunch of money when he ain't to be allowed to do anything in times like we've been passin' through since early last fall. What's the use of a vice president anyway? an' furthermore, what's the use of a congress or a senate or a cabinet when one man has got head enough to run the whole dum country an' is willin' an' anxious to do it?

An' there's another thing I'm worryin' considerable about an' that's that garden seeds an' sich. Congressmen ain't sending out many of 'em this year, there seems to be a kind of a shortage of 'em an' what's folks goin' to do?

You know it's been the custom of the government to buy hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of seeds an' turn 'em over to our congressmen to send to their constituents (guess that's what they call 'em but I could never jest git through my head what the word meant) well anyway they sent 'em with their compliments, which of course made 'em, the seeds, valuable, cost the govern-

ment thousands of dollars more for mailin' of 'em an' ninety per cent of 'em were never planted an' ninety per cent of them that wuz planted wouldn't grow, but congressmen didn't care fer that, it wuz their way of making the people back home think they were bein' favored, or remembered by the great man they had elected to represent (or misrepresent mebbe would hit it closer) them in congress.

Well mebbe it's a darn good thing there's a shortage of seeds, it'll save expense, worry, the clutterin' up of the mails with a lot of useless stuff an' there won't be so many people fooled by the silly nonsense of receivin' a few little packets of worthless seeds which their congressman never saw an' knows nothin' about.

Ain't ya gettin' kinda sick an' tired of hearin' about strikes an' such? Gosh! First it's one bunch of fellers strikin' an' then another bunch of 'em'll bust loose an' every time there's a strike or even talk of a strike, up goes everything we have to buy an' down goes everything the farmer has to sell, can't ship the stuff an' there's no market for it except mebbe a small home demand, oh strikes sure is a wonderful invention, men and women by hundreds of thousands perfectly satisfied with their jobs an' their wages, are thrown out of employment, hundreds of thousands of dollars in wages are lost every week, debts are incurred, sickness an' distress, poverty an' death follow in the wake of every big strike an' yet this great government that is able to send five million of the flower of our country into war, even into foreign countries, seems unable to cope with a thing that can and does bring disaster to the best country on the face of God's green earth.

Dont'cha kinda think that strikes an' their attendant evils are becomin' a little too darned common for the good of every class an' every trade an' every kind of business? Hadn't there ought to be some way provided to settle questions of wages, hours an' conditions between employers an' employees without tyin' up the whole country?

Should a few men, comparatively speakin' be allowed to throw hundreds of thousands of men who want to work, out of employment for even a day?

There's something wrong somewhere when conditions like the present are allowed to exist, men are selfish an' capital is heartless an' the nation suffers an' there seems no way out, but mark my words, the time's a comin' when there'll be a way, when strikes an' all their attendin' evils will be unknown, when neither labor nor capital can tie up the industries of the country an' believe me, that time is not far off, the people are gittin' tired of this darn foolishness. Cordially yours.—UNCLE RUBE.

TESTS SHOW FEEDING VALUE OF SILAGE

(Continued from page 5)

the yield as high as 20 to 22 tons per acre. But, assuming, as above stated, that the yield of silage be ten tons to the acre, then the following figures can be worked out:

Wisconsin produced per acre of land, corn lot, 230 pounds; silage lot, 499 pounds. Missouri produced per acre of land, corn lot, 376 lbs.; silage lot, 654 pounds; Iowa produced per acre of land, corn lot, 256 pounds; silage lot, 746 pounds; Kansas produced per acre of land, corn lot, 294 pounds, silage lot, 648 pounds.

The above figures mean, in composite, that the cattle that were fed corn, in fact what is commonly called the "corn belt" ration, show that the production of beef per acre of land is 290 pounds. A composite or average of the silage fed lots for the four states will show a production of 637 pounds of beef per acre. In other words viewing the matter from a "per acre" basis, which we have an idea is the way the average cattle fatterer would prefer to view it, by

the use of a heavy silage ration the four experiment stations mentioned above have been able to produce over twice as many pounds of beef per acre of land. These figures mean that on the average farm that will grow corn, cane or kaffir corn, that it is possible to double the production of beef per acre of land by the intensive use of silage, according to the figures that prevail at the present time. In other words, they are not taken from experiment station records of some years ago but they are taken from experiment station records for 1919.

The experiment stations have done a wonderful work and deserve the greatest commendation for the clear manner in which they have presented the various feeding problems. After all, they have recognized that they are the servants of the public and that they are doing a work laid out for them to do. That is, they are doing a class of experimental work that the average farmer would not be able to undertake, and they are doing it in a careful, scientific and authoritative manner.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN A RICH AGRICULTURAL EMPIRE

(Continued from page 4)

is concerned we believe the day of uncertainty is a thing of the past. There are several reasons why this is true. These are a uniform system of grading, a larger consumption on account of the growth of our cities, due to the fact that city laborers eat more potatoes because they have more money with which to buy, and a growing use for potatoes in making potato starch and flour for which there seems to be an unlimited demand by bakers. And farmers are learning that it costs money to grow potatoes, and they are no longer fooled by the dealer who in the past has told him "there's money in spuds at twenty-five cents per bushel." He has learned by sad experience that he must have one dollar per bushel for his spuds "to make it pay," to grow spuds.

An enormous crop of spuds next year might make them cheap but we are not looking for cheap spuds, because we are not planning on working for nothing and we believe that a surplus will quickly be absorbed by starch and flour factories.

And we also know that as yet potato growers as a whole have not awakened to the fact that there are not many crops of potatoes in land and that they must either use fertilizer both stable and commercial or break a piece of new ground.

And so, it appears to the writer

that the new conditions are going to make the cut-over lands of northern Michigan both valuable and attractive for the soil, and climate are both well adapted to the growing of potatoes, and the remarkable fact that this great area has much good clay loam soil yet untouched, as well as lighter soils, insures a development which rightly fostered and directed will make it one of the richest agricultural districts in our country. And when we add to the potato industry the sugar beet industry it must be evident to the dullest mind that here are two great money crops which are absolutely essential for human food and which flourish abundantly in this territory once considered a barren, worthless waste. A neighbor of mine netted \$140 per acre from his crop of beets, i. e., after paying for seed, fertilizer and labor at twenty-four dollars per acre. And then he had considerable cow feed from the tops. Some beet growers made nothing, but in Missaukee county the growers who had their lands ready for beets and who put them in early did well. Of course the potato growers did better, far better last year.

In Missaukee county this year, probably two thousand acres of beets will be grown, besides the usual large acreage of spuds, and we believe that with these money crops, along with stock raising and dairying the cut-over lands of Michigan will be demonstrated to be increasingly desirable and valuable.

It Does More and Goes Farther Than Any Product Known



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Tix-Ton ANTISEPTICS

the year around keep stock healthy and free from disease germs, worms, and ticks. A \$7.50 Drum makes \$60.00 worth of medicated salt, or stock conditioner—saves you big money.

Send \$3.00 for a box of "TIX-TON-MIX" by parcel post. It will medicate a barrel of salt. For hogs, sheep, cattle, horses, and poultry.

PARSONS CHEMICAL WORKS, Grand Ledge, Michigan
Leona Park Farms Experiment Station

BUG PROOFED BINDER TWINE 14 3-4c

For Standard 500 foot, carlots, f. o. b. Chicago, on credit

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TERMS—Settlement by note without interest payable September 1st or October 1st.

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CONSUMERS CORDAGE CO.,

Minneapolis, Minn.

BREEDERS ATTENTION!

If you are planning on a sale this spring, write us now and CLAIM THE DATE!

This service is free to the live stock industry in Michigan to avoid conflicting sale dates

LET "BUSINESS FARMER" CLAIM YOUR DATE!

What are You in the Market for? Use this coupon!

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

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| AUTO INSUR. | GAS ENGINE | LIME | SEEDS |
| BEE SUPPLIES. | GUNS | MANURE SP'D'R | SPRAYERS |
| BERRY BASKETS | FANNING MILL | NURSEY STK. | SILLO |
| BUILDING SUP. | FERTILIZER | MOTORCYCLES | TANNERS |
| BICYCLES | FUR BUYERS | MILKING MACH. | TRACTORS |
| BINDER TWINE | FARM LANDS | AUTO TRUCKS | VET. SUPPLIES |
| CHEM. CLOSETS | FORD ATTACH'M | PAINT | WAGONS |
| CLOTHING | FURNITURE | PLOWS | WATER SYSTEM |
| CULTIVATOR | HORSE COLLARS | POTATO MACH. | WASHING MACH |
| CREAM SEP'R | HARROWS | ROOFING | WINDMILL |
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(Write on margin below anything you want not listed above.)

Name

Address R. F. D. State.....

THE MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMER Service Bureau, Mt. Clemens, Mich.



What the Neighbors Say



(Continued from page 15)

only come after a war with Austria. Within a few months Bismark got Napoleon III to promise to remain neutral in case Prussia attacked Austria. He also made a treaty with Italy which provided that Italy should join Prussia in war against Austria if Prussia began the war within three months for the sake of reforms in the German confederation. Bismark immediately introduced into the Diet of Frankfort the governing body of the German confederation, a new plan for the federation of the German states. To keep his Italian treaty good he picked a quarrel with Austria over its administration of Holstein; declared the old confederation dissolved; attacked Austria, and called upon the other German states to do likewise. None of the more important states did so and four of them sided with Austria. Prussia, being prepared, defeated Austria in seven weeks and all Germany was at the mercy of the Prussians.

Prussia now annexed the kingdom of Hanover, four duchies and the free city of Frankfort, bringing under the Prussian king practically all the people along the north coast from the Russian border to Holland. Blood and iron had won much but not all Bismark had hoped for, four southern states being still outside the confederation. Bismark believed war with France would accomplish this. Read: Hagen's "Europe Since 1815," PP 289-290. In his reminiscences Bismark frankly tells how he brought this about and planned it so that France should declare war and Prussia should pose before Europe as defending herself against a wanton aggressor.

Everything worked as Bismark had planned. France was quickly defeated and the four German state joined with Prussia. France was compelled to give up Alsace and Lorraine and to pay Prussia the largest indemnity ever exacted of any nation.

William II, now plain Bill, said on his accession to the throne in his speech, "The Soldier and the Army, not Parliamentary majorities have welded together the German Empire. My confidence is placed in the army." Later at the centenary of the firm of Krupp at Essen the emperor said "The history of this army is a piece of Prussian and German history. Krupp guns have been with the Prussian lines and have thundered on the battlefields which made ready the way to German unity and won it at last."

William, not willing to be overshadowed by the man who had made the empire, broke with Bismark, but his belief in the policy of Blood and Iron was as great as Bismark's. He now began building with feverish haste a war machine of such magnitude that it startled the whole world. He blustered and shook his mailed fist until all nations began to look on Germany with distrust.

When the Council at Hague was formed to try to prevent wars and to provide a means of settling disputes among nations without recourse to arms Germany would have nothing to do with it. German dreams of world dominion were so apparent that at the outbreak of the world war Germany was practically isolated among the nations. She had, however, individuals like Mr. Bengal who thrives of blood or because their minds had been poisoned by German propaganda were loyal to her and even now in the hour of her degradation and defeat occasionally indulge in such "sob stuff" as Bengal's letter. Poor, disillusioned mortals! Fortunately, many of the more dangerous types are in our federal prisons awaiting deportation.

I consider it an insult to the intelligence of the American people to say they entered the war because England tricked us. We entered it because we could no longer endure German insults and German aggression.

He asks what we gained by entering the war. We gained a consciousness that we did our duty in a trying hour. We defended our honor; we paid our debt to France; we saved the world from black disaster.

We gained nothing in spoils; we asked nothing; we are content to await the plaudits of future generations. He ends by saying he is not

pro-German. That he is ashamed of it counts for something. Let us hope he becomes 100 per cent American.—S. W. Morrison, Tuscola County.

THE FARM BUREAU

It has been said, and reasserted, numberless times that the farmers cannot, or will not, unite for their mutual benefit and make the union of effort a success.

The history of efforts, in the past, gives ground for the above assertion to be true, but the changed conditions of this present day give reasonable hope that the effort to unite the producing class, for mutual good is to result in a reasonable degree of success.

It is a well authenticated belief that the farmer does not receive his proportion of what the consumer of his products pays for the same, this because of the excess of the number of the so-called "middleman" each one of whom takes a big toll as the commodity passes through his "tote-house."

We farmers have been regarded, as to some extent, autocratic, and there may be grounds for this belief, but let it be remembered that the farmers calling is largely responsible for this as his determination in dealing with his domestic animals and with the soil which he cultivates, is near called in question and the very natural result is that he becomes somewhat unfitted to compromise his

views with the views of his fellow-men and for this reason it is somewhat difficult for farmers to unify their efforts.

There is one other, and a far more potent cause, why farmers cannot unite closely and set the price of their food products and it is that if this be done the consumer of food, in many instances being unable to pay the price, would suffer from hunger, the price having been set too high. The farmers have food at "first hands" while our fellow-men of other callings must depend upon us for their food supply and if we, selfishly, should place the price too high, some might suffer from hunger, even to the extent that their "breast bone would scratch their back bone" as a public speaker expressed it, recently.

However, the present effort to unite the farmers for their mutual benefit is, we believe, a start in the right direction and is to result in bringing a benefit to the farming class of our citizens to which now is and has been for many years justly their due, and every farmer is, in duty bound to unite with the "Farm Bureau" and help this worthy cause.—J. T. D., Clinton County.

Yes, sir, times have changed. It wasn't so very long ago that every farmer instead of "going it alone", but now he won't stand still until he's hitched. All traditions about the jealousies and the "splendid isolation" of farmers have been smashed to smithereens. And it is fair to assume that any legitimate movement, such as the Farm Bureau, which promises relief to agriculture, with the assistance of farmers working co-operatively, will get all the farmer support it needs.—Editor.

STRONG FOR CAMPBELL

I wrote sometime back and criticized Campbell a little and also sent in some information from Agricultural College on Lupines. Since I wrote I have learned considerable about both.

Milo Campbell spoke at our Grange "The East Casco Grange", and I can honestly say it was the best address I have ever heard, and I have heard Bryan, and he is some speaker.

I was talking to a German Smithy and he went on to tell about farming in the old country. He said they sowed Lupine in rye about the time the rye started to blossom, and it grew so rank by fall when they plowed it under one had to use a sort of a cart and chain they rigged up to put on the plow in order to plow it under. The next year they would get an enormous yield. I also wrote to Nungesser & Dickenson but they had no Lupine, but quoted Serredella at 15c per pound.

Most every one that has taken your paper admits it is dandy.

When we farmers get John C. Ketcham in Congress it will take a page to give us the national news. I will hustle around and get about twice as many new subscribers with no more effort.—N. J. R., Kibbie, Mich

If every farmer in Michigan could hear Milo Campbell there would be no question about his success at the polls. There ought not to be any question, as I believe the farmers will stick together just as loyally to elect a governor as they have on other matters. We hope the Agricultural College will be able to show that lupine and serradella are practical soil builders, and through them much of our light land may be reclaimed.—Editor.



Results

Just as you cannot tell whether or not tested seed corn is worth while until you have tried it and compared results, so you cannot realize the actual economy of Unicorn till you have measured the increase in milk produced.



Why Use Tested Seed Corn?

It costs more—but you know that it is really an economy because it gives better results.

So it is with a dairy ration.

Unicorn is tested. Thousands of dairymen have proved that it reduces the cost of milk production.

Tested seed corn is economical because of growing results—Unicorn is economical because of milk results twice-a-day.

CHAPIN & CO., CHICAGO

UNICORN DAIRY RATION

Dairymen Will Advertise Product

AT A SPECIAL meeting of the Michigan Milk Producers Ass'n, at the Board of Commerce in Detroit last week, a resolution was unanimously adopted instructing the State Association to collect 1 per cent of the amount received by farmers for their milk to create a fund for advertising milk and its products.

The meeting was attended by several hundred delegates and members and the vote for the resolution was unanimous. D. D. Aitken, who for the past several years has been trying to get the milk producers to see the wisdom of advertising their product, was present and gave a stirring talk upon the subject.

Mr. A. C. Anderson, acting as secretary of the Milk Commission, read a resolution that had been adopted by the Commission that morning, the resolution setting forth the fact that inasmuch as the Commission had offered to turn its affairs over to the Fair Price Board and stand dissolved and that the Board had made no acknowledgment of this offer but had on the contrary absolutely ignored the Commission's advances, the commission held that it was still in existence and set forth its judgment that the price of milk for April should continue the same as the price for March, viz, \$4.05 per cwt.

It was explained that the fund which the producers might create for advertising purposes would be met with an equal sum by the distributors, and that probably a total of \$40,000 to \$50,000 would thereby be raised. Some questions were asked as to the money already expended for this purpose, and Pres. Hull said that a statement would be published giving the full information.

Board of Health to Assist

The Board of Health has agreed to assist the producers and distributing companies in acquainting the consumer with the food value of milk. In a statement upon the subject of milk as a food and the need for a constant supply of pure milk, Dr. Henry Vaughan, public health commissioner, said:

"The board of health has no interest in the price of milk as such, but we are vitally interested in the possible effects of an arbitrary lowering of the price to the producer. And I am fearful that the enforced reduction to 14 cents a quart will react against both quantity and quality.

"In 15 years of constant effort the board of health has succeeded, by educating the producer in cleanliness and care, in making the milk coming into Detroit as clean as any in the United States. There will be, of course, no drop in this respect with the decrease in the return to the farmer, because with the average haul of five hours, the producer is under the necessity of keeping his milk clean and free from germs if he wishes to deliver it, fresh and usable in Detroit.

"But there is the question of butter fats. At the present time our Detroit milk supply contains something like 3.7 or 3.6 per cent butter fats. This is considerably higher than the state requirement and it has resulted along with the cleanliness of the milk in aiding materially in the reduction of the Detroit infant mortality figures by more than 80 per thousand of births in the past 10 years. That means, with a normal birth rate of 30,000 a year in Detroit, a saving of more than 2,400 lives per annum.

"I feel great apprehension that this record will be endangered by anything that makes it necessary to reduce the quality of our milk supply. And if the reduction in the price to be paid the producer reduces the quantity coming into Detroit that, too, would be a serious menace to the children."

The advertising campaign will be largely along educational lines. The Board of Health will issue signed statements as to the value of milk as a food and studies will be undertaken in all the schools and clubs of the cities. The campaign also contemplates the use of sign-boards and newspapers.

The resolution authorizing the expenditure of money for this purpose, follows:

WHEREAS, Michigan farm conditions are most critical. The heavy removal of people from the farms to the industrial centers owing to the attraction of high wages, has seriously threatened food production. Vacant farm houses, abandoned farms and reduced acreage is the report from all corners of the state; and

WHEREAS, the residents of our cities are seemingly asleep to the conditions that prevail in regard to food production. Carelessness, neglect, and even open hostility toward farmers are all too common in the minds of many city consumers. Many of our industrial leaders have lost sight of the fact that Michigan's prestige as a manufacturing center cannot be maintained unless those who produce food are likewise prosperous and progressive; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Milk Producers' Association is especially concerned over the impending crisis in this important industry. Top prices in feeds and almost impossible farm labor conditions are driving many men out of the dairy business and unless immediate and drastic means are used to counteract, we shall face in the summer months such a shortage of dairy products that actual want, if not famine, may stalk through our city streets and riot and ruin run their mad course; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Milk Producers' Association would be recreant to its duty, to its members and to the consuming public did it not bend every energy to bring this critical situation of the milk industry to the people of the city and to invite their earnest co-operation in avoiding disastrous consequences to all concerned. Assistance must be given the dairymen to encourage increased production, to improve the quality of their product, and to guard against its contamination. City consumers must be enlightened as to the excellence of milk as a nutritive and to its comparative cheapness when its food value is considered.

THEREFORE, be it Resolved, that we show our good faith in meeting this critical situation by instructing the Board of Directors of the Michigan Milk Producers' Association to arrange for the collection of one per cent of the proceeds of our milk for the purpose of more effectively meeting the situation above described, through proper advertising, more intensive and such other means as may be found necessary and particular.

PRODUCE MARKETS IN APRIL (By U. S. Bureau of Markets)

THE PRICE trend is upward, although considerable irregularity appears. During the past four weeks, apples, cabbage, sweet potatoes and tomatoes have kept rather closely to their levels of March 15, but celery, onions and potatoes have advanced, the last two mentioned, rather violently. Shipments in practically all lines have decreased, 6,629 cars moving during the second week in April compared with 8,416 cars during the corresponding period in March.

Potatoes Reach High Levels

The upward trend which started the middle of February carried prices of No. 1 sacked white potatoes to a range of \$5.35 to \$5.70 per 100 pounds in consuming markets by the middle of March. The advance continued during the past four weeks reaching \$7.50 to \$8.35. Prices at Minnesota shipping points also were about \$2 higher f. o. b. at \$7 to \$7.30. New York round whites No. 1 gained about \$2.50 to \$3 advancing by the middle of April to a range of \$7.50 to \$8.65 sacked per 100 pounds. Maine Green Mountains in New York City were about \$2.25 higher by April 15, bulk per 100 pounds. The majority of these price changes have taken place about the middle of April when supplies in the large cities were not sufficient to meet requirements. About one-half the present shipments are from Maine and the balance chiefly from

the middle northwest. Total shipments of the late northern crop, 115,107 cars, compared with 114,726 to the middle of April last year.

Apples Steady

Demand has continued fairly active for barreled and boxed apples with few price changes. The markets were strong during the latter part of March. At New York shipping points Baldwins A 2 1-2 from cold storage sold at \$8 to \$8.25 per barrel f. o. b. The same stock in consuming markets ranged \$8 to \$9.50. Ben Davis sold at 7.50 to \$8.25 in midwestern markets. Northwestern boxed Winesaps extra fancy, at Yakima and Wenatchee brought \$3 to \$3.25 f. o. b. Consuming markets ranged \$3.50 to \$4.25. The markets remained fairly steady during the first two weeks in April, but price ranges of both barreled and boxed stock were about 25c lower than during the last two weeks of March. Cold storage holdings on April 1 were 712,296 barrels, a decrease of 49 per cent from the 1,381,660 barrels in storage on March 1, but 46.4 per cent more than were held April 1 last year. Holdings of boxed apples on April 1 were 2,951,394 boxes, a decrease of 43.5 per cent from the 5,-

232,320 boxes held March 1, but 109.3 per cent more than were in storage April 1 last year.

Onions Make Sharp Advance

Recent price gains have brought onions into about the same market position as potatoes. Supplies of both vegetables were too light to meet normal consumption, and the situation furnished a similar basis for higher prices. Eastern Yellow gained \$2.25 to \$2.50 in eastern markets reaching \$8 to \$9, sacked per 100 pounds. Middlewestern Yellow varieties were \$2 to \$2.25 higher at \$8 to \$9. The new onion crop has started to move from Texas. Acreage is estimated at 12,240 and the crop is said to be one of the finest that Texas has produced. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in securing crates. Also the movement has been retarded by recent railroad troubles. Yellow Bermudas No. 1 and 2 in standard crates sold at \$3.50 to \$4.25 f. o. b. shipping points. Consuming markets were at different levels. Philadelphia at \$6.50 to \$7, Chicago at \$4.25 to \$4.75 and Kansas City at \$5.50 to \$6. Shipments of Northern and Bermuda onions were 20,233 cars to date this season.

Bargain List of Used and Rebuilt Engines, Threshers, Hullers, Etc.

(Subject to Prior Sale)

ENGINES	THRESHERS
12 H. P. Advance	18 x 34 Russell
16 H. P. Russell	28 x 40 Red River Special
15 H. P. J. I. Case	28 x 48 Avery
18 H. P. Buffalo Pitts	30 x 48 Russell
18 H. P. Port Huron	30 x 50 Buffalo Pitts
18 H. P. Advance	31 x 48 Gear-Scout
18 H. P. Russell	32 x 52 Advance
20 H. P. Russell	32 x 52 Red River Special
20 H. P. Baker	32 x 54 Huber
20 H. P. Huber	33 x 50 Peerless
20 H. P. J. I. Case	33 x 54 Russell
22 H. P. Advance	34 x 56 Buffalo-Pitts
25 H. P. Russell	36 x 60 Russell
16 H. P. Rumely Double	36 x 60 Reeves
20 H. P. Rumely	34 x 56 Rumely

CORN HUSKERS—1 12 Roll Advance
HULLERS—1 No. 4 Matchless; 1 No. 1 Birdsell

This is the smallest stock of used and rebuilt machinery we ever had on hand at this time of the year, and only the first to get in their orders will be able to get the machinery delivered.

Remember that transportation facilities are very bad; cars have to be ordered two weeks ahead at times, and such delays as this make it all the more important for you to buy now and get your machinery on the ground.

Better be safe, than sorry.
If you don't see what you want on this list, write us about it. We get in different makes and sizes of machines every week.

The Arbuckle-Ryan Company,
222-234 Cherry Street
TOLEDO, OHIO

Another Proof!

Mar. 4, 1920.
The Michigan Business Farmer,
Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Gentlemen:
I wish to state that the results have been very satisfactory from the ad in your paper. I am very much pleased. You will no doubt hear from me in the near future again. I have some bulls I wish to advertise as soon as I can get the proper circulars and mailing material ready.
Check enclosed. Yours truly,
EDW. B. BENSON,
Hill Crest Farms, Munson, Mich.

that M. B. F. Livestock ads bring results



FRANCO
POCKET ELECTRIC FREE
....FLASH LIGHT

For Two NEW Subscribers to M. B. F.

Every man, woman or child in the country ought to carry an electric flash-light at night and here is the handiest size of all. Flat, just-a-hand-full yet throws a powerful light, brighter than a clumsy lantern. We have secured a limited number of these lamps from one of the best makers in America. They are never sold at retail for less than \$1.50, some dealers charge \$2, but until our supply runs out we will send one complete flash-light, including nitrogen bulb and Franco battery for only two NEW subscribers to The Michigan Business Farmer at \$1 each. Send \$2, two new names and the lamp will come by prepaid parcel post. Address, Premium Manager, The Michigan Business Farmer, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Strong Stock for Strong Chicks

By AGNES HILCO

THERE is somewhat of a delusion among many farm poultry raisers as to what constitutes a strong healthy flock, and one that will give eggs strongly fertile and produce chicks that will have vitality enough to make a sturdy fight against disease. I have had several incidents come under my observation that has shown me this. Some farmers think their hens are extremely vigorous, when the eggs from them will prove far from good—a large percentage being infertile and when the chicks hatch they show weakness right from the start.

Take them all in all I believe half the ordinary farm flocks where no special attention is given to breeding will not have the vigor that they should have. A friend of mine set eggs in a large incubator from three different farm flocks. One was good, and the chicks hatched were vigorous and grew off evenly and made broilers in as short a time as could be expected. One other was not so good, and the chicks from this flock had but few ready broilers to sell with the other lot, while the last flock was so poor that what chicks were induced to live grew very unevenly and none were marketable with the first flock, and few with the second. Two of these flocks were orpingtons, one white and one buff, the first and second, while the last was barred rock. They should have come along together had they been of equally sturdy stock.

I can call to mind several flocks that I have known which were not vigorous enough to produce strong chicks, and invariably the chicks had been subject to disease at every chance to get it, and they never seemed to thrive as they should. Now there is no valid reason why anyone should have a flock of this kind. It is easy to get strong stock, and the most common causes of failure in this respect is from inbreeding and keeping cockerels with serious faults. A big rooster is not always a strong

one, and quite often we will keep a cockerel that is a brother to many of the pullets, and we continue to keep our own stock for a few years until our flock is degenerating. I do not believe there is anything that will sap the vigor quicker, even while it leaves the hens looking like good strong stock. I bought eggs one year for my incubator from a fine looking flock of barred rocks and nearly half of them were infertile and the germs in many others were so weak that they died in the shell before filling it. If I had these alone I might have blamed the incubator, but I could not get enough of her, so I bought some of her neighbor, and these showed good fertility and stronger chicks, though I had considered the other flock as finer. Both were on free farm range. Investigation showed that the infertile eggs came from a badly inbred flock, and though they were large fine looking fowls they were losing their vitality.

It is not always the case that a flock is lacking in vigor when the eggs are infertile, for it may be one or more of the males that are kept with them. Then many times the ration has somewhat to do with the fertility of the eggs and the vigor of the chicks. One thing I have found is almost always the case, and that is that eggs running heavily infertile will produce chicks that are hard to keep healthy. Statistics, too, show that the number fertile and the number that live after being hatched are very much in the same ratio. Fertile eggs produce chicks that are hardy, while infertile eggs produce chicks that are weak in constitution. I am speaking of the lots now, of course, for infertile eggs do not hatch at all, but a lot that has a big percentage infertile may hatch a percentage of those left, but the percentage is sure to be less than of those more strongly fertile, and those which do hatch are weaker. It pays to be sure the stock is vigorous.

POULTRY BREEDERS' DIRECTORY

Advertisements inserted under this heading at 30 cents per line, per issue. Special rates for 13 times or longer. Write out what you have to offer and send it in, we will put it in type, send proof and quote rates by return mail. Address The Michigan Business Farmer, Advertising Department, Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

POULTRY

DAY OLD CHICKS HOMESTEAD FARMS

A co-operative work in Pure Bred Practical Poultry. Chicks and eggs delivered at your door prepaid. Standard Heavy and Laying Breeds. You will be interested in the Extra Quality White Leghorns inspected and certified as Heavy Producers by the Poultry Extension Specialist of the Agricultural College.

Live and healthy Chicks and satisfactory hatch from eggs guaranteed.

Send for new Catalog with illustrations; it will help you raise your Chicks. Also it explains the Homestead Farms plan of co-operation.

STATE FARMS ASSOCIATION
Desk 2, Kalamazoo, Michigan

ORPINGTONS AND LEGHORNS

Two great breeds for profit. Write today for free catalogue of hatching eggs, baby chicks and breeding stock.
CYCLE HATCHER COMPANY, 149 Philo Bldg., Elmira, N. Y.

For Sale—Imported Gray African geese in trials. R. I. Red cockerels bred to standard. Few settings eggs. Mrs. Mabel French, Ludington, R.I.

FOR SALE MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS.

ducks, either sex, \$4 each at 'once. Old ducks weigh 10 pounds.
CHASE STOCK FARM, Marietta, Mich.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS

PURE BRED BARRED ROCK COCKERELS from fine layers. Satisfaction guaranteed.
ROBERT BOWMAN, JR., Pigeon, Mich., R1

BARRED ROCK EGGS FOR HATCHING from strong husky breeders.
W. O. COFFMAN, Benton Harbor, R 2, Mich.

JOHN'S Big Beautiful Barred Rocks are Hen hatched, good layers, grow quick. 30 eggs, \$3.50; 50, \$5 postpaid; cockerels, \$4 to \$6. Circulars, photos. John Northon, Clare, Mich.

PURE BRED BARRED ROCKS. GOOD LAYERS. That narrow, straight snappy barring. Score cards on hens and pullets to 94 points. Am an old timer in the business. Eggs for hatching, \$2.50 per 15. Satisfaction guaranteed.
A. D. STECKLE, Freeport, Mich., Box 110

LEGHORN

S. C. White Leghorn Hatching Eggs, \$2 for setting, \$5 for 50; \$9 for 100. Day old chicks, \$10 per 50, \$18 per 100, E. Altenbern, Allegan.

S. C. BUFF LEGHORNS, BABY CHICKS, EGGS for hatching. Hens, Cockerels. Farm raised. Good laying strain.
J. W. WEBSTER, Bath, Mich.

GRABOWSKIE'S S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS Stock and eggs for sale. Circular free.
LEO GRABOWSKIE, Merrill, Mich., R 4

WYANDOTTE

30 Years a Breeder of Silver Laced and White Wyandottes. Fine lot of young stock at \$3, \$4 and \$5 ea. Clarence Browning, R2, Portland, Mich.

White Wyandottes, Dustin's Strain, culled by experts for utility, size and color. Eggs 15 for \$2.00, 50 or more 10c each, by mail prepaid.
VANO FARM, Hartford, Mich.

LANGSHAN

BLACK LANGSHANS OF QUALITY Bred for type and color since 1912. Started from pen headed by Black Bob. First prize cock at International show at Buffalo, Jan. 1912. Eggs \$3.50 per setting of 15. Winter laying strain.
DR. CHAS. W. SIMPSON, Webberville, Mich.

BABY CHICKS

CHICKS AND EGGS Rose and Single Comb R. I. Reds, Barred Plymouth Rocks. Superior color. Profile layers. Prepaid by parcel post and safe delivery guaranteed. Illustrated catalog free.
INTERLAKES FARM, Box 4, Lawrence, Mich.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

FOR SALE One registered shorthorn cow, 4 years old. One registered heifer, 3 years old. 1 registered bull, six months old. Will sell cheap if taken soon.
G. M. WEAVER, Fife Lake, Mich.
R. F. D. No. 1

FOR SALE—FINE REGISTERED PERCHERON on mare, six years old, black, weight seven-hundred.
E. P. KINNEY
East Lansing, Mich.

MICHIGANA FARM breeds and sells good Durocs
O. L. FOSTER, Mgr. Pavilion, Mich.

INCREASE YOUR INCOME and help your friends by selling them Michigan's Own Farm Weekly. Liberal commission and all supplies free. Write today. The MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMER, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

---poultry breeders!

Start your advertising NOW, whether you have anything to sell right now or not, get your advertising in these pages

WHERE YOU KNOW IT WILL PAY

Write THE MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMER, Breeders' Directory,

Mt. Clemens,

for special rates or better still send copy, we will put it in type and quote you for 13, 26 or 52 times.

WASHTENAW COUNTY CONSIGNMENT SALE

at Ypsilanti, Mich.

Saturday, May 1st, 1920

90 HEAD

Registered Holstein-Friesian Cattle
The kind you are looking for

- 1—32-lb. Cow.
- 1—30-lb. Cow.
- 4—Daughters of 30-lb. Cows.
- 2—29-lb. Cows.
- 3—Daughters of 29-lb. Cows.
- 1—Daughter of 1123-lb. yearly record Cow.
- 1—26-lb. Cow.
- 1—25-lb. Cow.
- 1—24-lb. Cow.
- 2—23-lb. Cows.
- 1—20-lb. 2-year-old Daughter of 30.96-lb. Cow from 30-lb. Sire.
- 1—19-lb. Daughter of 19-lb. 2-year-old by 30-lb. Sire.
- 2—Sisters of 32-lb. 4-year old.
- 2—Cows bred to 38-lb. Bull.
- 1—30-lb. Bull.
- 1—29-lb. Bull.

WONDERFUL INDIVIDUALS WITH REAL BREEDING
ABOUT ONE-HALF OF THESE CATTLE
UNDER STATE AND FEDERAL TEST.

D. L. PERRY, Auctioneer. R. AUSTIN BACKUS in the Box.

Get a Catalog and you will be at the Sale.
Free Transportation to Sale Pavilion

Address Glen Bird, (Secretary), Ypsilanti, Mich.

THEFT!



Keep Your Car Locked

AUTOMOBILE and truck thieves have become so common in Michigan that no man who owns a car is safe to leave his machine unattended without the protection of a good lock.

There are many types of automobile locks on the market, some attach to the steering gear, some to the transmission lever, some fasten around the wheel and most of them do prevent much thievery

—but no lock has been invented which will absolutely guarantee the automobile owner against the possibility of having his car stolen, wrecked or misused!

CITIZENS' MUTUAL THEFT

FIRE, LIABILITY and COLLISION INSURANCE

alone stands between the automobile owner and his loss by theft or accident. Its cost is so low in comparison with the assurance of protection it gives the owner that no man can afford to drive an automobile which is not protected by this company.

We have in every section of Michigan a competent agent of this company who is not only present to write up your application but is your friend when trouble overtakes you in your automobile.

If you will tell us on a postal card the make and model of your car we will gladly quote you our lowest rates for protection and send you any other information gratis.

WM. E. ROBB, Secretary.

--are YOU carrying dependable auto insurance ?

Statement, April 15, 1920

Number of Claims paid to date	3,192
Amount Disbursed for Claims	\$417,192.45
Cash Surplus	81,640.50
Total Assets	119,172.32
Net Membership	44,133

Rates Based on Cost
Consistent with Safety

CITIZENS MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY

Michigan's Pioneer, and the Largest Mutual Auto Insurance Company in the World!

HOWELL, MICHIGAN