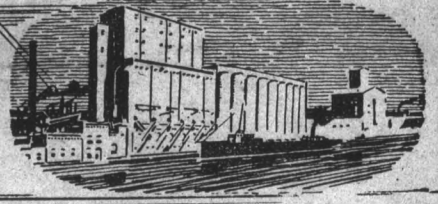


The Michigan BUSINESS FARMER



An Independent
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Edited in Michigan



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\$1 A YEAR

Co-operative Packing Plants Aid N. Y. Growers

Standardization, Careful Packing, and Intelligent Marketing Have Been Big Help to Fruit Men

FAILURE is sometimes the biggest boost towards success. Such was the case in this story I am about to chronicle—a story of the New York Fruit Growers' Packing Association in western New York.

For years the fruit growers took pot luck in selling their fruit—the fruit grown in western New York, in the narrow strip south of Lake Erie. It was every man for himself, and the marketing came hindmost. Some men sold to local hardware dealers, or keepers of general stores, in the small towns. These buyers in turn sold the fruit to their regular customers in the cities.

There were also cash buyers who came into the fruit section every fall at harvesting time, bought fruit, and sold it in some other section. Then there were speculators who bought fruit and put it in storage for higher prices. Since they bought expecting to make a little by selling at an advance, they naturally bought low to safeguard against a possible slump in prices. No body can blame them for that. You would do the same thing.

Then somebody not satisfied with pot luck, started the pot to boiling by telling the fruit growers they ought to get together, hire a salesman to sell their fruit and thus beat the market game. Not much sooner said than done. A co-operative selling association was formed and a manager hired to sell the fruit. The association was just about as short lived as the grass "that today is, and tomorrow is cast into the furnace," and met just about as hard a fate.

What was the trouble? Perhaps this incident related to me only a few days ago by a man connected with the present packing associations in western New York will give you the answer without any explanation from me:

"I was in the office of the salesman for that co-operative association when a buyer came in, who wanted to buy 100 cars of apples for the mining sections of Pennsylvania. He wanted five cars on trial. 'The apples must be uniform,' said he. 'I want all the apples in a barrel the same, and all the barrels the same. If the first five cars are packed uniformly, I'll take the other ninety-five without inspecting them, on your say so.'

"The salesman replied that he couldn't furnish the fruit; that he couldn't guarantee the apples to be uniform, even in the same barrel, and the buyer departed."

The situation was this: Those growers had put the cart before the horse. They had tackled the selling end of the problem before they had solved the growing and packing end of it. It might be expected that the fruit would be packed in as many different ways as there had been buyers in the past. Each buyer had said, "I want my fruit packed thus and so." Some wanted the barrels stove-piped, others wanted good heads and tails and poor middles, and some wanted honest-to-goodness packs.

I do not mean to say that some of the growers packed their fruit with intent to deceive anybody; they just put up their fruit according to what previous buyers had demanded. Even the state apple law, good as it was, did not help a great deal, for while it specified what standard grades should be, it left the gate open so far as ungraded fruit was concerned.

By E. A. KIRKPATRICK

With such an experience as this failure the growers settled back into a rut again. There they stayed until a county agent began to stir things up. "It is dangerous for anybody to be in a rut, when there is so much traffic on the roads," he said.

"What are you making on your orchard, take it year in and year out?" this county agent in Niagara county said to Ned Smith one day when Ned came into the office to order spray material. "Well, I don't know exactly," said Ned.

"Wouldn't you do better if you sold the orchard, put the money on interest and hire out by the month?"

What Ned answered, if I were to quote it, would comprise several blank spaces and an ex-

situation, and advised the organization of central packing associations for packing the fruit from all the orchards. Result, there are now, due to steady growth since the first was organized two years ago, twenty-five central packing associations in western New York, south of Lake Erie.

"How shall we proceed?" the fruit growers parried when the pomologist advised packing associations.

"The first thing you will need is a committee to build or buy a packing house," was the reply.

The committees were picked and houses provided. It was estimated that in each house 5,000 feet of floor space would take care of 20,000 barrels of fruit, not counting storage. Membership was selected that would furnish this

amount of fruit from each association—and membership was hand-picked. Each man was asked to subscribe his share of the money needed to build or buy a packing shed. For example, fifteen men were to put up \$300 each. The New York law on co-operative associations made financing easy. Say five of the men could pay cash. Each other man could sign a non-interest bearing note, for his share. These notes, we'll say, are then presented at the bank. After harvest is over, each man who has given a note has the amount of the note deducted from his sales returns.

The contract which each member signs specifies that he appoints the association his agent to sell all his fruit. In a few cases members were allowed to keep out early peaches, which they could sell to advantage close at home. But fruit to be kept out must be so specified, and a contract must be observed.

When harvest time comes, each member picks his fruit and, instead of packing it himself, sends it to the central packing house. When his fruit arrives there he is given a receipt for so many barrels, or bushels, as the case may be. Each man's fruit is run through the grader as a unit, and all is packed according to grades adopted at all the central packing houses. Each

barrel of fruit has on it the grower's number, so that the fruit can be traced back to the orchard, and also to help in making settlement for the fruit. After fruit is received at the packing house, it no longer belongs to the grower, but to the association. Payment is made when the fruit is sold, on the basis of so many barrels and eighth-barrels of certain grades of fruit.

All packing houses have the same standard grades, as I have already stated, and that is why they have succeeded. Even without a sales organization, this uniform grading system and packing method has resulted in much better prices for fruit. That is just what the organizers of the packing house system had in mind—to teach the growers to produce and pack better fruit, and not so much to try to buck the market for better prices. It is the old story of the man who makes a better mouse trap.

Better prices have come, however. It stands to reason that better fruit, carefully graded, will sell for more money. But there must first be something to sell. A few packing house associations have used local dealers who wanted good fruit, as salesmen. Before offering fruit for sale a meeting is held and price is agreed upon.



The Woods in Winter

When winter winds are blowing,
And through the hawthorn blows
The gale,
With solemn feet I tread the hill
That overbrows the lonely vale.

O'er the bare upland, and away
Through the long reach of desert
woods,
The embracing sunbeams chastely
play,
And gladden these deep solitudes.

Where, twisted round the barren oak
The summer vine in beauty clung,
And summer winds the stillness
broke,
The crystal icicle is hung.

Where from their frozen urns, mute
springs
Pour out the river's gradual tide,

Shrilly the skater's iron rings,
And voices fill the woodland side.

Alas, how changed from the fair
scene,
When birds sang out their mellow
lay,
And winds were soft, and woods
were green,
And the song ceased not with the
day.

Chill airs and wintry winds! My
ear
Has grown familiar with your
song;
I hear it in the opening year,—
I listen, and it cheers me long.

—Longfellow.

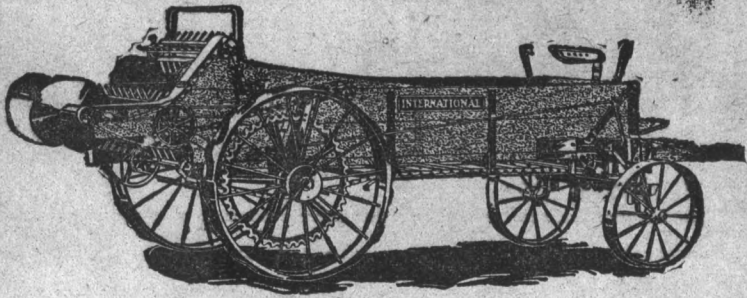
clamation point, all meaning, in short, "Decidedly not."

While the county agent was not convinced, he didn't press the matter, but before the year was over, he had set about, with the aid of state and federal farm management folks, to find out just what the fruit growers in western New York were making. This farm management survey lasted five years.

When the five years was up and an average of farm profits was struck, the county agent had a story to make the fruit growers sit up and take notice. The average fruit farmer in that section, in the five years, had made a labor income of \$184 a year. That is, \$184 after counting out five per cent interest on \$18,000, the money invested in the average farm in that section.

That started the pot to boiling the second time. The fire was almost put out when the pot boiled over several years before, but these figures kindled the flame. The fruit growers' first pull together failed miserably, for they had the cart before the horse; this time they decided to get the horse before the cart, and so called on the pomologist at the state college of agriculture for help. He came, studied the

The Easy-Pull Spreader



THE outstanding feature of the International Manure Spreader, among a number of exceptional features, is its light draft.

Equipped with roller bearings at seven points, it runs with almost the smoothness of a sewing machine.

Two rapidly revolving steel beaters tearing tough chunks of manure into bits; a heavy load carried on the main axle, to be moved steadily back to the beaters—these things ordinarily would tend to create heavy draft. But roller bearings in the new International Spreader smooth out the hard work and convert what otherwise would be "heavy draft" into a horse-saving, spreader-saving "Easy-Pull".

Your nearby International dealer will be glad to tell you more about this spreader.

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY

CHICAGO

OF AMERICA

USA



THIRD GOLD CONTEST NEWS

NO. 4.

JANUARY 4, 1921

NO. 4.

YAGER LEADS BUT ONLY BY FEW POINTS

J. E. Yager, Caro, the man who won \$50 in the 2nd Gold Contest is in the lead to-day, but with a total of only 55 points, having sent in all, less than \$15 in subscriptions. How would you feel to find out that Yager won \$150 in Gold, the 31st of this month (January) and he had sent in only \$15 in subscriptions to M. B. F.?

You'd feel like kicking yourself all 'round the mulberry tree and you will anyway if you don't get in and knock down one of these cash prizes!

The other leaders today are:	Points
2nd—Wm. Stadel, Marion	17
3rd—G. W. Utterback, Anderson, Ind.	13
4th—Jas. J. Doody, Dexter	12
5th—Thos. Flint, Jr., Tustin	9
5th—Mrs. Jos. Quinney, Columbiaville	9
6th—Jesse Nedry, Moddersville	8
6th—Gert Stroven, Jr., Fremont	8

Can you beat it, no one has even a fair start in this contest that has only three weeks more to run! Anyone can go in and be the winner by just half trying for new and renewal subscriptions in their neighborhood!

Subscriptions in this contest count as follows:
25c Six month trial counts 1 point—Send us 25c.
\$1 One Year Renewal counts 1 point—Send us 85c.

Third Gold Contest Manager,
THE MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMER,
Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

Enter my name in the Third Gold Contest for \$250, which closes at midnight, January 31, 1921. It is not to cost me a penny and I am to have as good a chance as anyone to win the prize money.

You can send me order blanks, samples, etc. I'll try to win.

Name R. F. D. No.
P. O. State

- \$1 One Year New counts 2 point—Send us 75c.
- \$3 Three Year Renewal counts 2 points—Send us \$1.75.
- \$2 Three Year New counts 3 points—Send us \$1.50.
- \$3 Five Year Renewal counts 3 points—Send us \$2.75.
- \$3 Five Year New counts 5 points—Send us \$2.50.

So you see we pay a cash commission in addition to the number of points you earn on everything except the 25c trials.

Mrs. John Elofson, who won the \$100 first prize in the 2nd Contest, was a busy farmer's wife, who got the subscriptions in her spare moments and over the telephone!

Your friends will gladly help if you tell them you are in to win the grand prize of \$150 Gold. Everybody loves a winner!

In this our Third Gold Contest, we will split \$250 in Gold among the seven winners. You can be one of them if you start today!

You don't need anything but a sample of our paper to start. Go to your telephone, call up every farmer, friend or relative you know, tell 'em you are making up a list for M. B. F. and what you are working for. Tell 'em you'll take their new or renewal subs. and collect later when you see them. Send in the list and I'll bet you can be in first place next week!

You can give the cash commission to your friends if you want to. You send in the names and we give you credit for the points.

Current Agricultural News

FARM BUREAU NOTES

THE SEED Department of the state farm bureau is in the middle of its rush season and has had to increase its warehouse space several times in the last few weeks. Seed is coming to the warehouse both on orders from members and on consignments from members. Some wool has had to be moved to make place for the bags. An arrangement has been made for the issuance of warehouse receipts on seed consignments.

More machinery has been installed. A large scarifier was installed last week. A new large type cleaning machine, the best that could be secured, has been ordered. All Grimm alfalfa and sweet clover is being scarified. The seed department states that sweet clover has a heavy hull rather impervious to moisture; many "hard shelled" seeds are found in most northern grown alfalfa. Germination tests from a number of Grimm lots have ranged from 47 per cent to 72 per cent, an average of 60 per cent. The other forty per cent was not dead but simply had too hard a coat to absorb moisture. Scarifying increased the germination over 30 per cent or to a total of over 90 per cent. Seed sown should germinate promptly before a crust forms on the soil or weeds smother the alfalfa seedlings. Scarifying insures prompt and complete germination.

Muskegon, Shiawassee and Cheboygan counties are the last to sign the agreement which make them a department of the state seed department, making a total of forty-two.

The elevator exchange reports that it has handled 301 cars since it started in the middle of October. It now has forty members.

The purchasing department states that its conservative estimate of the amount of money saved to members on purchases alone is \$20,000 since Nov. 1. This does not include the amount of money saved by giving members advice as to market conditions and when to buy.

Shippers should not be charged freight on the lining and false floors of cars except on the return movement reports the traffic department. The department has had to settle a claim in which a railroad charged freight on a net weight of 43,666 pounds whereas the actual weight of potatoes was 36,000, the difference being the weight of the lining and false floors. Rule 545, Perishable Freight Protective Tariff, provides, that there will be no charge for floors, racks, etc., when used in the protection of potatoes. Item 2875, Exceptions to the Classifications, Ann Arbor Railway, provides that shippers who avail themselves of the railroad's acceptance of shipments of actual weights must furnish the agent with a certificate showing the actual contents of the car and the actual weight. The agent then makes the notation on the billing that actual weight was furnished by the shipper and that the weight certificate is on file at the shipping point. A similar ruling applies to other railroads.

A dairy meeting is called for January 10th of representatives of every county. A dairy department has been authorized by the Michigan State Farm Bureau and plans will be placed before this meeting for consideration.

POTATO GROWERS TO MEET DURING FARMERS' WEEK

THE MICHIGAN Potato Growers who will be able to attend Farmers' Week at the Michigan Agricultural College will find that the program which has been arranged while of short duration will be full of things which should be of great interest to the potato growers.

Mr. Daniel Dean of New York state is a grower who has a national reputation. He usually grows from 40 to 50 acres of potatoes and secures yields which few Michigan growers are able to secure. He is a joint author of a potato book and is a forceful and convincing speaker.

He can only be with us for the Tuesday afternoon session, February 1st. Every potato grower who can possibly attend this meeting will find that it will pay him well to make the effort. We also will have Honorable Jason Woodman as one of the speakers, and every potato grower in Michigan knows his reputation as a potato grower and public speaker.

Dr. Coons will tell us about the control of potato diseases in storage and transit. There will be two films or moving pictures shown on Wednesday evening at the gymnasium. One of these will show potato growing in southern California where the work is practically all done by hand. The other will show potato growing in the famous Aroostook county, Maine section, where most modern methods of potato growing are followed.

In addition to the program as announced there will be a potato show which will be well worth seeing and studying. The growers who attend the two forenoon sessions of the potato meeting will find excellent general programs in the afternoons and evenings which they will without doubt be glad to hear and see.—C. W. Waid, Extension Specialist, M. A. C.

POTATO SITUATION IN MAINE

THE potato situation in Maine and especially Aroostook Co. is serious, as they are selling far below what it cost to produce them. The farm organizations are working hard for a tariff that will help a little, however the exchange is against the American farmer at present.

Every organization over the country should get busy and try and protect American agriculture.

Potatoes selling for \$1.50 to \$1.75 per 165 pounds and prospects looking bad.

There are more potatoes in the farmers hands now, than a year ago in Aroostook, in comparison with the yield a year ago in the state.

DECEMBER CROP REPORT

THE ACREAGE of wheat and rye sown this fall in Michigan is considerably less than last year. The acreage of wheat now on the ground is about four per cent less than the the average annual harvested acreage for the past 15 years. The acreage of rye was more than doubled during the war, reaching an estimated acreage of 900,000 acres in 1919. There was a marked decline last year, and a further decreased acreage was sown this fall, although it is still 50 per cent greater than the pre-war average. The December Crop Report for Michigan, issued by Verne H. Church, Agricultural Statistician, U. S. Bureau of Crop Estimates and Coleman C. Vaughan, Secretary of State, also shows that the average monthly wages paid by farmers during the past season were 25 per cent greater, and day wages from 15 to 20 per cent greater than in the previous year.

The acreage sown to winter wheat is estimated at 839,000 as compared with 922,000 sown last year, a decrease of nine per cent. Dry weather greatly hindered the preparation of the ground which, together with a shortage of labor, caused much to be sown late and appreciably decreased the acreage. Germination was slow and uneven, but ample moisture in November and mild weather have given the crop a chance to overcome the handicap with which it started. The condition is 89 per cent which is one per cent below the ten-year average, and three per cent less than last year on December 1. The amount of wheat marketed at mills and elevators in the State during November is estimated at 745,000 bushels, and the total amount since August 1, 5,744,000.

About four per cent less acreage of rye is estimated to have been sown this fall, the amount being 635,000 acres as compared with 660,000 last year and 900,000 two years ago. The condition figure is 92 per cent, the same as the ten-year average, but three per cent below the condition on year ago.

Reports Show Sugar Concerns Make Huge Profit

Dividends Declared in Past Four Years Range From Thirty to Over One Hundred Per Cent.

IN A RECENT issue we published a statement showing the profits that were earned by the American Sugar Refining Company for the past several years. This was no "estimate" such as the beet growers of the state were obliged to make last year in attempting to arrive at the cost of producing sugar from beets in this state, but was the actual cost taken from the books of the company and published in the *Wall Street Journal* to show investors the strength of the corporation. In this issue we present the financial reports of the Cuban-American Sugar Refining Co., and the Michigan Sugar Refining Co. These also are authentic reports from the books of the two companies.

Cuban-American Earns 100 Per Cent

The Cuban-American Sugar Co., are refiners of cane sugar. The par value of their common stock is \$10. According to the *Wall Street Journal* this company in the year ending Sept. 20, 1920 earned the largest balance for common stock in its history. The \$11,564,659 available for the \$10,000,000 common after allowing for dividends on the \$7,893,800 preferred, represented over 100 per cent and would have been \$2,000,000 greater, except for the reserve set up out of earnings to cover depreciation on refined inventories.

During the four years, 1917-1920, this company entirely wiped out its funded debt of \$8,211,000, increased its working capital \$6,000,000 and paid dividends on common stock aggregating 440 per cent, or \$44,000,000. Gross earnings of \$92,744,415 nearly doubled those of the previous year, while operating profits rose to \$22,282,658 from \$13,045,236. Profit and loss surplus was \$29,931,764, compared with \$3,894,157 on September, 30, 1914. Progress made during the past few years

is indicated by the following table (last three figures omitted):

	Gross	Operating profits	Bal. for common	Aggre. surplus
1920	\$92,744	\$22,282	\$11,564	\$29,931
1919	50,767	13,045	6,538	22,367
1918	40,089	10,249	3,674	16,823
1917	40,345	10,821	6,341	13,809
1916	27,344	9,625	7,682	9,559
1915	23,366	7,210	4,488	6,285
1914	15,560	4,446	2,153	3,894

Michigan Sugar Earnings

The Michigan Sugar Company is the largest beet sugar refining corporation in this state. It has had a consistent record of conservative management and fair dividends. During the war its earnings increased by leaps and bounds. Mindful of this fact the beet growers of the state have sought to secure a portion of those profits for themselves, and on two separate occasions secured an increased price per ton of beets which they would otherwise not have received had they not gone after it.

At all times the Michigan Sugar Company as well as other beet sugar companies of the state have resisted every effort on the part of the growers to secure a better price, always on the grounds that their earnings were not sufficient to pay the price asked. In all but the last contest staged over the price of beets the farmers stuck together and won out. Last year, however, the factories maintained the position so strongly that they could not afford to pay more for beets than they convinced enough growers of the fact to secure their acreage.

For the purpose of securing reliable information concerning the Michigan Sugar Company's earnings the editor of the *BUSINESS FARMER* purchased some of its common stock and finds it a very good investment, indeed. The balance sheet of this corporation as of June 30, 1920, is

reproduced on this page. It will bear careful scrutiny.

Looks Like Watered Stock?

The statement shows an actual property investment of \$7,738,184.83. "Good will, trade names, etc." have no tangible value, yet they are listed at \$3,742,924.32 as assets, and against this questionable item there is outstanding preferred stock to the value of \$3,703,500.00, on which dividends must be earned from low priced beets and high-priced sugar.

In reviewing the statement of this corporation the *Michigan Manufacturer and Financial Record* observes that the surplus of \$3,868,942.85 as applied to the common stock shows a book value of \$5.17, after allowing "liberally" for reserves, or \$3,375,684.39.

It is almost impossible to tell from the foregoing statement the exact amount of profits earned during the past several years. Certain facts are known, however, which will enable one to arrive at an approximate conclusion. For the year ending June 30, 1921, dividends amounting to 12 per cent have been declared on the common stock. As the accompanying statement shows nearly \$900,000 has also been added to surplus and how much to reserves can only be conjectured. The present surplus if declared as dividends would mean 50 per cent on the common stock. In gauging the financial strength and earning capacity of a corporation it is necessary to go beyond declared dividends to the surplus which is only earned but undivided dividends. The statement of the Michigan Sugar Company indicates that the net earnings of this corporation for the past two or three years must have exceeded 30 per cent.

Michigan Sugar Company Balance Sheet as of June 30, 1920

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
PROPERTY ACCOUNT:		Capital Stock: (Issued and Outstanding) 6 per cent Cumulative Preferred—	
Land, Building, Machinery and Equipment:		370,350 Shares	\$3,703,500.00
Manufacturing Plants	\$7,167,686.23	Common—747,110 Shares ..	7,471,100.00
Weighing Stations and equipment	113,732.03		
Rolling Stock, Factory Tools, Stable and other Movable Equipment	311,357.98		
Total Plant Equipment	\$7,592,776.24		
Farm Real Estate	145,408.89		
			\$11,174,600.00
Good Will, Trade Names, etc.		Amounts Payable, Including Local Taxes not due ..	77,478.77
Total Property Investment	\$7,738,184.83	Reserves:	
Investment in Other Companies (at cost)	3,742,924.32	For Depreciation	1,591,736.93
		For Inter-Campaign Repairs, Federal Taxes, etc.	1,783,947.46
CURRENT ASSETS:			3,375,684.39
Inventories of Products and Supplies on Hand:		SURPLUS:	
Process Stocks	\$ 30,178.27	Balance, July 1, 1919	\$2,978,006.43
By-Products	61,131.96	Add: Amount of Adjustment of Federal Taxes for previous year	17,099.91
Beet Seed	444,236.04		\$ 2,995,106.34
Material and Supplies	575,624.87	PRESENT SURPLUS:	
		Deduct: Dividends Paid:	
Accounts Receivable	240,282.49	Preferred	222,210.00
Bills Receivable	1,096,462.71	Common	747,100.00
			\$ 969,320.00
Advance Payments on Beet Seed Purchases and other Contracts	49,435.84		2,025,786.34
Deferred Installments on Land Sale Contracts	56,492.91	Profit for year ending June 30, 1920, after deducting Federal taxes	1,843,156.51
U. S. Government Securities—Bonds and Certificates	802,583.60		\$18,496,706.01
Cash in Banks and on Hand	2,242,554.97		
	3,151,067.32		

Farm Bureau Submits Questionnaire on State Issues to County Officers

A LEGISLATIVE department of the State Farm Bureau has been organized with A. M. Berridge in general charge and J. P. Powers active legislative agent. The department disclaims any intention to lobby, but will thoroughly investigate the various propositions up before the legislature, consult its members upon them, and lay the results before the legislative committees. A questionnaire was recently sent out to the offices of the local farm bureaus who were asked to indicate their approval of the following legislative program. Results of the referendum will be published in a later issue.

1st—That this department primarily is to reflect the desires of the county farm bureau; that it will, unless pressure of time forces it to exercise its own best judgment, submit controversial subjects to a referendum of county farm bureau officers, together with an analysis of the subject; further, that it will weekly submit to every county a report of activities of the legislature in detail, so far as is practical and indicate the sort of representation the individual farm bureau members are

Conducts Referendum on Important Issues to Present Farmers' Views to Legislature

receiving in the senate and house of representatives.

2d—That it will strive for greater economy in state government, investigating the various measures involving state funds that may be introduced, and favor or oppose thru personal efforts and publicity.

3d—That it will urge consolidation of all state boards, commissions and bureaus of the state doing related work, with elimination of duplication of any efforts of any boards, commissions or bureaus.

4th—That it will seek enactment of sane and equitable taxation, with protection for forested and reforested lands by taxation of them on a basis of their bare-land value, with the timber and products being taxed only at time they may be marketed.

5th—That it will endeavor to have provided improved methods of obtaining more accurate statistical knowledge of agriculture in Michigan through an annual rural survey to be made by township supervisors at the time of annual assessments of property.

6th—That it will advocate retention

of the state constabulary with the force increased from 163 to 200 men, on the same salary basis as at present, and the assignment to this force of the police duties that are now assigned to special wardens, deputies in the department of food and drugs, and Public Domain Commission.

7th—That it will earnestly urge the placing of an agricultural representative on all public boards and commissions that may be created, believing that the rural part of the state, representing as it does more than half of the wealth of the state, should have a voice in all public affairs.

8th—That it will advocate creation of a bureau of markets with adequate funds to enable it to serve the people of the state properly in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture in inspection and certification of all farm products that may be marketed or warehoused, as a subordinate division of a state department of lands and agriculture, including the following state agencies, all of which are doing an agri-

cultural or related work, and further any that may be created.

The Public Domain Commission, with game, fish, fire commission; the agricultural section of the statistical division of the Secretary of State's office, with transfer also of vital statistics from secretary of state to Department of Health; the Food and Dairy division of the Food and Drug Department, with the further transfer of the drug section to the Department of Health, and the liquor enforcement duty of this department to the state constabulary; the Orchards and Nurseries Inspection Bureau; the Seed Inspection Agency; the Fertilizer and Feeds Inspection bureau; State Geological Survey, with dissolution of the board of geological survey, and a coalition of this work with the survey activities which have been carried on by the Public Domain Commission; the Agricultural Fair Commission; the State Board of Parks; the Mackinac Park Commission; the State Board of Veterinarians; the Board of Swamp Land Commissioners; the Board of Fish Commissioners.

(Continued on page 11)

Ralston-Nolan Plan of Raising Federal Revenue

Measure to Come Before Congress Would Shift a Billion Dollars From Industry to Land

NEARLY EVERY farmer who reads a farm or other newspaper has heard of the Ralston-Nolan bill. He may know that this is a measure prepared and sponsored by a group of manufacturers and merchants. He may also know that its aim is to remove a billion dollars of taxation from industry and place it upon the privilege of holding land. The American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Grange, and other large farm organization, to say nothing of a score or more of farm papers have already announced themselves as opposed to the measure.

The subject of taxation is vital to the farmer and is going to be more vital during the next few years. Taxes are going to be heavy. Everyone will feel their weight, and everyone will do what he can to shift the burden from his own back to that of his neighbor. If federal taxes are not directly assessed against land they will be collected in some form and quantity from the holder of land. The farmer will be called upon to bear his share, of course, so it behooves him to become thoroughly acquainted with the entire tax situation and the various plans that are presented for raising the necessary federal revenue. We doubt if many farmers are well enough acquainted with the Ralston-Nolan bill to have an intelligent opinion upon it, and for that reason we are presenting here the salient features of the bill.

Present System Unfair

It is claimed by the proponents of the Ralston-Nolan bill that there is much inequality in the present method of assessing federal taxes. It is said that the total industrial values amount to \$140,000,000,000, and the total land values the same, but that the industrial values pay \$4,000,000,000 in taxes while the land values pay only \$600,000,000. If the tax burden were distributed as provided in the Ralston-Nolan bill, industry would then pay three billions and land values one and six tenths billions.

The authors of the bill state that

Who Will Pay the Taxes?

TAXATION will be the bugaboo of state and nation for the next few years. Never in the history of the present generation has the state or nation been confronted with such enormous demands upon the exchequer as are being felt on all sides today and will continue to be felt for a number of years to come. For self-protection, if for no other reason, the property owner should watch carefully the public appropriations and the methods of raising and spending them, and should denounce waste, inefficiency and discrimination with all the strength at his command. Tax problems will be thoroughly and clearly discussed in these columns. The accompanying is the first of many articles that will be published upon this subject.—Editor.

their measure will reduce federal taxes on business men, professional men, tradesmen, real estate men, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, shippers, builders, laborers, farmers, stockraisers, food producers, lumbermen, miners, etc., and will increase federal taxes on IDLE city lots, town lots, suburban tracts, farm lands, timber lands, coal lands, oil lands, potash deposits, iron ore lands, copper ore lands, lead, zinc and all other mineral lands, water-power sites, water fronts, terminal sites, etc.

Where the Farmer Comes In

The bill should have the support of the farmers, it is declared. Because it does not propose to tax any used land values under \$10,000, exclusive of improvements. It is stated that only ten per cent of the farmers own farms valued at more than \$10,000, after the value of all improvements such as buildings, fences, tiling, machinery, etc., are deducted. In an appeal for the support of the farmer the authors of the bill say:

"The Ralston-Nolan bill means more to the farmers, laborers and legitimate business men of the nation than any other bill now before Congress. It means more than merely making our vast unimproved lands and undeveloped natural resources (worth between \$50,000,000,000 and \$60,000,000,000 and now exempt from taxation) bear a

small portion of the crushing federal tax load. It means putting a 'damper' on the keeping idle of a vast empire of valuable agricultural and building ground, and the holding out of use of millions of acres of rich coal, oil, iron, copper, timber, water-power and mineral lands. It means a lessening of the heavy taxes that must now be passed on by manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers to the farmers and which inevitably have the effect of keeping up the high price of goods. It means a long step toward the solution of the farm tenant problem, not only through a great increase in the farmers purchasing power, but through the breaking up of railroad land grants, large speculative holdings and big landed estates. It means a halt to the ruthless 'profiteering' and gouging of the consumer, with a large reduction in the cost of coal, gas, food, clothing, shelter and all the necessities and comfort of life. It means wider opportunities, better markets, greater farm profits, and more abundant prosperity for all. It means, finally, the shifting of the tax burden from those least able to pay onto those most able to pay."

The supporters of the bill declare that "Wall street will leave no stone unturned to kill the Ralston-Nolan bill," and cites the action of the National industrial conference board, representing the "railroad kings, coal barons, steel magnates, oil, cop-

per, timber, waterpower and other powerful landed princes of America" in voting against the bill, as evidence of Wall Street's sinister influence. Despite the fact that some of the agricultural interests have gone on record against the bill, the authors turn to the farmers to support it on the following grounds:

"It exempts over 90 per cent of the farmers. Less than 10 per cent of farms have land values of \$10,000 or more, after deducting the value of buildings, fences, tiling, machinery, stock and all improvements.

"It will check the growth of farm tenancy. Big speculators, land grant railroads, and owners of cut-over timber tracts will be discouraged from holding a vast empire of fertile land out of use, thus making it easier for hundreds of thousands of tenant farmers to obtain homes of their own.

"It will lower the price of all manufactured products. All taxes on industry, unlike taxes on land values, are always shifted from producer to consumer in higher prices on goods. Like a snowball that grows bigger and bigger as it is rolled along, so does every tax on a product of industry grow larger and larger as it is passed from one business man to another, until it finally falls with accumulated force on the consumer. When taxes on industry and the fruits of industry are reduced therefore, and placed on land values where they cannot be shifted, the farmer will be able to purchase his goods at a much lower price.

"It will break the monopoly of coal, oil, iron, timber, waterpower, and all natural resources. Legitimate competition in industry will be revived; the great source of 'profiteering' will be destroyed. The farmer will thus be able to make an additional saving in the cost of everything he buys—food, clothing, fuel, household goods, machinery, tools, fences and building materials—of not less than \$300 to \$500 a year."

(Additional information upon this subject will be given in a later issue)

New York Dairymen Enter Distributing Business in Great Metropolis

Discover That Only Way to Hold Whip Hand Over Their Business is to Own Distributing Machinery

IN THE LAST few years the state of Michigan has given birth to some notable co-operative successes. Some of these have been established by such pioneer farm organizations as the Gleaners and the Grange, and more recently by the Farm Bureau. One of the most successful of the state's numerous co-operative ventures is the Michigan Potato Growers' Exchange which has served as a pattern for potato producers in many other states. Relatively important advances have been made in Michigan by those engaged in the production of potatoes, grain and beans. Scores of warehouses and elevators have been purchased or built by farmers engaged in the production of those crops, and while temporary losses have been met in many cases as a result of the world-wide depression, generally speaking the position of the co-operative associations is strong and will be the means of bringing to their members considerably higher prices than they would otherwise receive. There are two great agricultural industries in Michigan, however, which have not made so substantial progress toward co-operative reform. We speak of the sugar beet industry and the dairy industry. While it is true that strong organizations have been formed, the really dominating factor which has made other co-operative ventures a success in Michigan, namely, outright ownership of the means of marketing—are lacking.

Not to our knowledge do the members of the Michigan Milk Producers' Ass'n own a single condensary, a single cheese or butter factory, a single weighing station or a single distributing plant. There are isolated cases where the producers of a

SLOWLY but surely the organized dairymen of the United States are discovering that there is only one solution to the marketing problem, and that is the outright ownership of plants to distribute fluid milk and manufacture the surplus into by-products. Scores of small cities throughout the country are being successfully served by farmer-owned distributing plants. The dairymen serving the larger industrial centers are now falling in line. The opportunity is ripe now in Michigan for the formation of farmer-owned distributing plants to serve the larger cities of the state. Will the organized producers grasp the opportunity or will they let it slip by unnoticed?—Editor.

single community have subscribed money to build local creameries which while they have not brought to the farmer all that he should have for his milk, have at least provided him with an outlet at times when otherwise he would have no market. If farmers are to co-operate to eliminate wastes in distribution and to locate the most favorable market for their products it is fundamental that they should own or control the machinery of distribution.

What Other States Have Done

Reports from other states shows encouraging progress among milk producers towards this much desired end. Heretofore, investments have been confined to factories for the manufacturing of dairy by-products or possible to weighing and receiving stations.

But dairymen supplying the large industrial centers have learned that this only partially meets the problem. They have learned that no amount of arbitration between their organization and the organized distributors of milk will insure them a profitable price when it suits the wishes of the distributors to pay them less than that. The dairymen of New York state have been partic-

ularly impressed with this fact, and the history of their organization has been a continual round of broken promises by the distributors and retaliatory strikes. It now appears, however, that they have seen the light and are to actually enter the distributing business in the city of New York. The New York Herald describes the proposed venture as follows:

"R. D. Cooper, president of the Dairymen's League, has announced that the Dairymen's League Co-operative Association, Inc., has obtained an option for the purchase of the properties, equipment and business of the Levy Dairy Company, a large wholesaling concern. The company has a milk station and pasteurizing plant at Nineteenth street and Avenue B and leases or owns twenty-six milk shipping stations in this state and Pennsylvania.

"Funds to make the purchase will be raised by a campaign among farmer members of the Dairymen's League, the offer to purchase stock being made first to farmers who supplied milk to the Levy company.

"This is the first step in the development of co-operative milk sales in this city by the Dairymen's League, Charles A. Weiant, formerly

president of Borden's Farm Products Company, Inc., has been appointed manager of city distribution for the league."

Southern Illinois Farmers Organize Company

Still another venture along this line is to be tried out by the dairymen of southern Illinois who supply the city of St. Louis with a large part of its milk supply. The Globe Democrat of St. Louis in its issue of Dec. 5th, gives us the following information concerning the project:

"Donley A. Brooks of Marine, president of the Southern Illinois Milk Producers' Association and Fred Henke of Edwardsville, representing the Illinois State Agricultural Association have gone to Minneapolis, Minn., where they will spend several days studying methods of the Twin City Milk Marketing Company in view of the organization of a \$500,000 corporation to handle 70,000 gallons of milk produced daily in the Southern Illinois field and sold principally in St. Louis. The company will probably be known as the Southern Illinois Milk Marketing Company.

"The plan is being handled by the State Agricultural Association and necessary finances will be raised thru the sale of stock to milk producers. Headquarters and the central plant will be located at East St. Louis with a number of receiving stations at the principal producing centers.

"At the present time a plant is under construction at Highland, backed by a \$250,000 corporation, where milk will be bottled for St. Louis consumption. The plan is to haul the milk to St. Louis in motor

(Continued on page 9)



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Carl J. Gustafson, Owner of Willow Grove Farm, near Aberdeen, South Dakota

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GOODYEAR
CORD TIRES

The Michigan BUSINESS FARMER



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Poverty

COME WITH me. I will show you poverty. I will take you down the broad boulevard with its beautiful lights and its handsome, happy homes, to a street that turns off toward the river. The pavement ends, the lights grow fewer, the houses become smaller and closer together. Watch your step, for in the gloom you may catch your toe on a broken sidewalk or litter left by the children at play. It is very quiet and mysterious down here. Except for an occasional gleam of a kerosene lamp or the wail of a hungry baby you might imagine the little hovels to be nothing more than huge empty dry-goods boxes thrown promiscuously from a dump wagon. There is no music, no laughter, not even the friendly purr of a motor to break the silence of the night and give you a comforting sense of companionship. After a little while you come near to the river. You can tell by the cold cutting wind that sweeps in from its icy bosom. Then, too, you observe through the gloom that here at your feet is the beginning of a swamp. You hear the soughing of cat-tails and the rustle of reeds. You turn and walk a short distance along the edge of the swamp. Soon you perceive a row of little houses. Squatting as they do at the very feet of the swamp they remind you of fishermen's shacks that might have been pulled up from the river the previous spring to await the coming of another season of ice and spearing.

You knock at the door of one of these shanties. There is a shuffling inside, a hurried straightening of things and while you wait the opening of the door you note that one of the two front windows of the little house has been broken and a piece of cardboard loosely placed does duty as a window pane. Soon the door is opened. A woman stands before you with a babe in her arms. From either side half a dozen pair of eyes of a half a dozen different ages peer at you inquiringly. You state your mission. You are getting up some Christmas packages for the children of the city. Does the woman wish you to remember her little ones, and if so, will she kindly tell you their sex and ages. Instantly there is a subdued clapping of hands. "Santa Claus, Santa Claus," murmur the children. You are admitted from the cold and whilst the mother, eager to give you the information lest you become impatient and depart too soon, hurriedly mutters the names and the ages of the children, your eyes sweep the unkempt room which is no larger than the clothes press in your own commodious home. The floor is bare. That is to be expected, of course. But there is something else that is bare and it gives you quite a shock when you make the discovery. It is the feet of the children. Two of the older ones are wearing shoes several times too large for them, but there are great holes in the stockings through which nakedness is revealed. Several of the children appear to have no undergarments. Little scrawny,

yes, and we must confess,—dirty necks and bosoms show themselves where illy-made frocks or rompers gape open at the top. You reflect that this is winter and you wonder how these little children withstand the cold when the mercury is low. From an adjoining room another child, all unmindful that a visitor is present, enters with a cracker in his hand. Instantly there is a great hullabaloo. All the children pounce upon him, seeking to deprive him of the morsel of food. The mother finally succeeds in separating them and in the wails that follow you learn that the children had only crackers for supper, a very poor meal, indeed. The mother makes some confused explanation about it being so cold she didn't have the heart to send the boys down town for the bologna. * * * *

Here is poverty, the direst kind of poverty. It exists in Mount Clemens, it is found in Detroit. All great cities are cursed with it. And thousands of future American citizens are growing up within its blighting environs, cold, hungry and miserable.

His Excellency, Gov. Groesbeck

MR. SLEEPER is out. Mr. Groesbeck is in. And all eyes turn expectantly to Lansing. The people of the state are generally agreed that Michigan faces two possibilities,—either one of the most progressive administrations in its history, or—keen disappointment. It is perhaps unfortunate for Mr. Groesbeck that he enters upon his new duties in an atmosphere of great expectation. It is not always easy for performance to scale the dizzy heights of prophecy, and what has been predicted for the Groesbeck regime will not be attained without a deal of vision, hard work and the utmost co-operation between the executive and the legislature. One thing is certain, Mr. Groesbeck will be his own boss. He will counsel with others, as indeed he has already done. He will be open to conviction and will be patient with those who disagree. But in the end he will have his own way. He is of the type who will please others when he can, but always himself first. That type of public servant makes mistakes and enemies, but casts them aside and goes straight on. Mr. Groesbeck has been a doer as attorney general. He will be a doer as governor. He will not be content to follow the beaten path trod by his predecessor, but will blaze his own trail. We expect him to make some rather radical recommendations to the legislature looking to the simplification of state government and greater economy. Having an intelligent grasp of the needs of the state gained from an active experience and a close observance he should be able to direct the course of legislation along safe, sane, but nevertheless progressive lines. Here's to you, Gov. Groesbeck.

Are You Making the Most of Life?

LIFE IS the most varied thing in the world. It is easy to perform to the uttermost any single duty of life, but only a super man can combine all the qualities of right living in a perfect existence. Life is not altogether what you yourself make it as the optimistic philosopher likes to assure us, but it is what God and the rest of the world make it. Smiles may cheer the living after the pangs of sorrow suffered for the dead have spent themselves. But they cannot charm the powers of disaster and disease, nor cheat the grave of the dying. All the virtues of a correct life may discourage but they will not entirely hinder the forces of evil employed in evil hands from injuring your rights, your happiness and even your faith in mankind. The most optimistic soul must have its moments when the sunshine of hope is lost behind the clouds of doubt and despair. No fatalistic theory this, which bids a man yield himself to ignoble whims and passions and remain a slave to a plastic conscience. You cannot make of life all that you would but you can make much of it. In the dawning of each new year it is well to plumb the inner man to its utmost depths and gauge the past year's thoughts, ambitions and achievements. Has all been well with you? Has all been well with those about you for whose happiness and well-being you are in a measure accountable?

Has your own life been blessed to fullness with deeds of generosity, charity, kindness, love? Have you spoken aught to wound the hearts of your family and your friends or to cause them to have less regard for you? Courtesy and kindness are second nature to no one. They must be cultivated. The heart that is full of compassion for others is a fertile field for sowing the seed of these virtues. Plant them. Nourish them. Cultivate them. And the harvest will be an abundance that will bless you and your posterity. You did not make the most of life in the year just closed if you spoke crossly when you could have spoken kindly; if you were mean where you could have been generous; if you cursed your neighbor when you could have forgiven him; if you refused your family the little joys of life when by a trifling sacrifice on your part you could have made them happy. In short, if you were guilty of a single commission or omission as a result of which any other was deprived of one jot of happiness the black mark of failure has been chalked up beside your name. Turn over the leaf. Write upon it, "Resolved. that I will in this year 1921 make the very most of life and that I will overlook no opportunity to render a service to those about me."

Prosperity Ahead!

THE TRADE barometer reads, "fair weather and blue skies ahead." The auto manufacturers are positive that the New York and Chicago automobile shows will revive the public's interest in automobiles and enable them to once more start up the wheels of idle factories. Textile manufacturers say that the public has gone about as long as it can without clothes and that spring will see a demand for garments which will require all clothing making facilities to fill. Steel makers remind us that six month's delay in making necessary machinery repairs and improvements will mean a general rush from all quarters for steel products when the brake is finally released from industry. And the United States Chamber of Commerce is sure that the slightest improvement in farm product prices which will increase the farmer's purchasing power will instantly scatter depression to the four winds.

Nearly every business man in the country has become a self-appointed prophet and is seeking to peer into the dim recesses of the future to see what they hold of good or evil. Either all these hopeful seers actually discern a glimmer of light in the distance or else they are a set of colossal bluffers. For they all agree that the worst is over and the turn in the road is just ahead. It matters not so much what they may predict for the future, but if every last man in this country from the most powerful down to the weakest would firmly resolve that he would do his individual part in restoring prosperity, we would have prosperity. No longer would the wheels of factories lie idle, nor the avenues of trade remain congested. No longer would farm prices slump or sleep, nor labor be out of a job. As if by the wave of a magic wand, everything would move forward. Industry is like a mighty chariot which when once set in motion moves of its own accord. Once stopped it is a discouraging job to get it under motion again. A few cannot budge it. But let enough get their shoulders to the wheel to give it a start and the whole nation will get behind to lend it momentum. And that's about what is likely to happen the next few months.

Did you ever fast? Have you ever felt the pangs of hunger gripping your sides until it seemed that you just had to go into the kitchen and devour everything in sight? Well, that's what the general public has been doing the last few months,—fasting. It is getting gaunt and empty for everything from food to furs. It can't withstand the famine much longer. Sooner or later its wants must be filled and when the demand comes it'll keep us all busy feeding the ravening wolves.

Is money tight with you? Cheer up! Inside of six months you can expect to see your local banker on his knees begging you to borrow money.

He doesn't live,—the man who never broke a New Year's resolution.



What the Neighbors Say



IF WE ONLY UNDERSTOOD

Could we but draw back the curtains
That surround each other's lives,
See the naked heart and spirit,
Know what spur the action gives,
Often we would find it better,
Purer than we judge we should.
We would know each other better
If we only understood.
Could we judge all deed by motives,
See the good and bad within;
Often we would love the sinner
All the while we loathe the sin.
Could we know the powers working
To overthrow integrity,
We should judge each other's errors
With more patient charity.
If we knew the cares and trials,
Knew the efforts all in vain,
And the bitter disappointment;
Understood the loss and gain,
Would the grim eternal roughness
Seem, I wonder, just the same?
Would we help where we now hinder,
Should we pity where we blame?
Ah, we judge each other harshly,
Knowing not life's hidden force,
Knowing not the fount of action
Is less turbid than the source.
Seeing not amid the evil
All the golden grains of good
We should love each other better
If we only understood.

—Contributed by Mrs. McC., Bad Axe,
Mich., R. F. D. 7.

BERRIEN COUNTY AG'IN STATE POLICE

I HAVE been a subscriber of your farm magazine since the first copy published, and am firmly impressed with the fairness shown by you in all public matters. Therefore I ask you to present one from Berrien County's attitude on the state constabulary. It is undoubtedly known that they did duty in this section the past season and the results of their services was such that the citizens asked their removal by a protest petition which was acted upon by the governor. Therefore they considered their past experience with them most frankly understood.

Berrien county is one of those in the lead in membership of the Farm Bureau, yet we find the publicity department telling that it is only the ignorant and uninformed of the workings of the constabulary who are objecting to them. The people believed in the bureau, even more when being informed that the coalition committee was dead. Can it be possible the soul yet lives like that of the well known deceased John Brown? Could it be possible it was the spirit that prevailed at the Grange Convention, Grand Rapids? Would also add, our would-be farmer statesmen had no need to have been alarmed at the proposed resolution presented by Genesee County Grange. Pure democracies don't go Red; only autocracy. Let us not make this an autocratic government.—E. D. Buchanan.

Guess it doesn't make much difference to some folks what the people want. If a few farm leaders say, 'Let's retain the Constabulary, and spare the civil officers from the annoyance of earning their salaries.' I suppose the legislature will listen. The State Police will be retained, and civil authorities will continue to shirk their responsibilities. Since the writer told the Grange convention that the State Police were of no benefit to Mt. Clemens and Macomb county, Major Marsh has come here himself and personally conducted several raids on gambling houses and whiskey dens, taking into custody one of the most notorious gamblers of this section. While I appreciate this clean-up and want to acknowledge the part played by the State Police, I am satisfied that the civil officers would have done as much under a little pressure from the Governor.—Editor.

TARIFF WILL NOT HELP FARMERS

I HAVE READ with interest the various letters published in the M. B. F., on farm problems. In your issue of the 25th I find one article on what tariff will do for the farmers. As matters now stand I believe it will do the opposite, at least for the present crop. Most of this crop, meat, etc., is out of the hands of the farmer, and no doubt the profiteer will hail with delight to have

this act become a law. This would give him an excuse to get another crack at the consumer, of course, farmers included. Press information informs us that one Massachusetts factory has bought and received 1,500,000 pounds of wool at 20 cents per pound delivered. Millers have bought 4,500,000 or more bushels of wheat over in Canada which have been delivered. Worlds of beans are here, no doubt a lot from Japan. Hides are brought from Russia, butter from Denmark. Mr. Fordney knows that we have treaties with other countries which cannot be set aside immediately without receiving retaliation from these countries. Why was the bean tariff pigeon-holed? Why doesn't he see to it to have manufactured goods brought down on the level with the farm products? Why should the farmer be the goat and work for nothing or little? Perhaps all that Mr. Fordney's bill will do for the farmers is to buy a spray to lay on their graves. The profiteers have killed the farmers and landed us where we are now so give us a decent burial at least. I believe the bill will not become a law and no doubt Mr. Fordney has the same belief. Yours for fair play to all.—G. C. A., Tawas City, Mich.

It is possible and fairly easy to restore farm prices by tariff legislation. It would be difficult if not impossible to bring down the prices of the commodities

ties the farmer buys, by legislation. Hence, good sense dictates that the former procedure be followed as an emergency measure. I disagree with your conclusions that the enactment of a tariff will benefit the profiteer or speculator more than it will the farmer. What are a million and a half pounds of wool compared to the hundred million or more pounds still in the hands of the farmer. What are five million bushels of wheat compared to the three hundred or more million bushels still in the hands of the farmers or possibly the millions yet to be imported from Canada? What are the few hundred cars of beans in the hands of elevators and jobbers compared to the millions of bushels still held in the farmers' names? Probably over half of last season's crops are still held by farmers. Of the other half that has been sold the major part has been exported or consumed. A small amount may be in the hands of the middlemen and they will unquestionably benefit along with the farmers from the adoption of the Fordney tariff. Such a condition can never be prevented, however, under our present complex marketing system.—Editor.

FREE PASTURE

I FULLY agree with C. E. R., Thompsonville, and would like to see all land declared open for free pasture that is not fenced. I should think woven wire fence would be better than a three wire fence as that would turn all kinds of stock. I surely hope to see such a law passed so that this idle land might be pasturing thousands of head of stock.—A. F. L., Curran, Mich.

If this proposition appeals to you so strongly why not take the matter up with your representative. Possibly something practical could be worked out along that line.—Editor.

Farmers Service Bureau

MICHIGAN PRODUCE AGAIN

I am one that shipped to the Michigan Produce Company and never got any returns. On the first day of September I shipped a coop of eighteen fat hens. I waited over two weeks and did not hear from them; then I wrote to them but got no answer. They got the chickens all right for the coops came back but they will not settle. On the 26th of October I shipped a veal calf weighing 112 pounds to the Farmers' Produce Co., and I have never heard from them, so I am putting the matter in your hands to see what you could do about it as I think something should be done.—L. H., North Bradley, Mich.

I'm sorry, L. H., I'm afraid you're "out" one veal and a coop of chickens. I referred this to the postoffice inspector who replied with this sound advice: "I agree with you that there ought to be some protection for farmers who ship to these concerns, but the farmer ought to be a little more careful himself and not ship to people he knows nothing about just because they offer him a cent or two above the prevailing market price." The government's case against both these concerns is now in the hands of the grand jury. One of the members of the Farmers' Produce Co., has been arrested for operating without a license. The day of reckoning is near at hand. But that doesn't help the farmers to get the money that is rightfully theirs. I suggest that all the farmers who have been stung by these two concerns place their claims in our hands and authorize us to institute civil action against both concerns for the recovery of their money. For each farmer to do this on his own account would be too costly.—Editor.

MAKING ENDORSER PAY NOTE

Can a bank collect a note from a man who endorses a sale note and the man who gave the note skips the country? The man and wife have a joint deed of 40 acres but the wife's money bought it in full. Can they hold the property for the amount?—A. T., Cutcheon, Mich.

The bank could recover judgment against the endorser of a sale note where the maker "skips out" if there is no other invalidity connected with it. A "40" owned by husband and wife in their joint name is not liable on a judgment against the husband alone; unless he puts his property in such a deed to avoid the payments of his debts since the note was signed. However, upon the death of the wife such property becomes absolutely the husband's and liable for all his debts that are not outlawed. Prop-

erty so held by husband and wife may be transferred to any third person or to either husband or wife.—W. E. Brown, legal editor.

INDIVIDUAL CANNOT CLOSE THE HIGHWAY

I own a farm eighty rods back from the public highway, but do not reside on it. Some years ago, before I purchased it, our township purchased a strip of land two rods wide, across the land in front of mine. The records of this purchase were burned in a fire which destroyed the house of the highway commissioner of our township. Since then the farm in front of mine and across whose land the road exists has been sold. The present owner contends that, as there is no record of this road on their deed, the road should, and can be closed. He also placed a gate across the opening of this two-rod road onto the public highway, thus making it necessary for anyone traveling back to my farm to stop and open the gate. Practically the only portion of our highway improvement money spent on this road recently was spent in placing a culvert across it about two years ago. He cultivates the land and plants crops up to the wheel track, but has a fence only on one side of this two-rod road. As a favor would you kindly tell me through the columns of your paper, if, when driving cattle back to pasture on my farm, is it necessary for me to keep them in the center of the road so they will not destroy his crops? Also, can this road be closed, and can I compel him to remove the gate?—S. E., Sand Lake, Mich.

As I understand your letter the township has established a legal highway of two rods in width and made all the entries in the records of the township that was necessary to establish the highway. In such case he can not close the same. You could compel him to remove the gate. If it was an application for a private road and was lawfully established you have the right to use it as a highway and also to prevent the gate if you fence the way so that cattle from the highway do not get onto his premises. You are only bound to keep your cattle, etc., going over the patch, onto the two-rod strip. If the highway in either case was lawfully established it would be good even though the records are burned.—W. E. Brown, legal editor.

RENTING ON SHARES

Aside from the consideration of a contract what are the rights and obligations, as established by law or custom, of two parties to a crop share plan, the general agreement to be as follows: The owner to furnish the farm and such other materials as is required of him and to receive 1-3 and the tenant to furnish the labor, equipment, etc., and receiving 2-3 of the proceeds. Now then the items to be considered would be these. Owner: buildings, fences, land, materials for re-

(Continued on page 9)

HELP FOR THE FARMER IS IN SIGHT

THE FARMERS have, in recent years, had very great difficulty in conducting, successfully, the various operations connected with the producing of the food which all must receive or suffer from hunger, starvation, in some portions of the old world being the terrible result of lessened food supply.

It is most encouraging to note that president-elect Harding has announced his plan whereby he proposes to aid farmers in their efforts to produce the needed supply of food.

He says, most truly, "The agriculture of the United States is the basic industry of the country and in which every person in America has a deep concern."

The earnest interest which our President-elect has shown, in this matter, gives assurance to the "tillers of the soil" that he will stand by them and give effective aid when he becomes the nation's executive.

The lure of the city has, as is well known, caused a portion of the farming class to migrate to the cities and, thereby, the necessary help, to cultivate the soil and gather the crops, has been so greatly lessened that food products have been much restricted and this result will necessitate the "return to the soil" of a portion of those now engaged in manufacturing industries.

The excess, in numbers and in the toll taken by the many "middlemen," calls loudly for redress and the 1,000,000 of Farm Bureau members, when fully organized, will remedy this faulty condition by eliminating the unnecessary portion of the middleman thereby bringing producer and consumer into a more near and proper relation.

The closing of factories in the city of Detroit has thrown out of employment 75,000 men and in other cities like conditions prevail and these men, being dependent on their daily wages, for the supplying of the needs of themselves and of their families, the serious question arises, from what source will those needs for food, clothing and fuel be now supplied?

These conditions cannot fail to cause the "lure of the city" to fade and the "lure of the farm" to again brighten resulting in the "pendulum of industry" returning, again, to its normal condition.

The property of the farmer, consisting mostly of real estate, cannot be concealed and, in consequence, he is, in some cases paying more than his just share for the support of government and, in this connection, it may not be out of place to refer to the unwise extravagance, in many ways, now so generally indulged in by the individual, the community and the state.

Some of our state institutions also, have "caught the fever" and are asking for large sums of money whereby to enlarge their buildings and for other purposes.

It is to be hoped that the members of every incoming legislature will, while properly financing our State Institutions not fail to remember that many citizens will find it a severe task to meet their portion of the annual tax levy, and no unnecessary tax-burden should be placed upon them.—J. T. Daniels, Shiawassee County.

Where have we heard that phrase before "agriculture is the basic industry?" If I wot not every man who has aspired to a high position at the hands of the electorate, have dwelt long and touchingly upon the importance of agriculture and the need of its getting a square deal. Yet in most cases they are only weasel words for they are soon forgotten after the pledge-maker is elected. We will be charitable enough to believe that Senator Harding is sincere and will give honest, sincere and sympathetic attention to the agricultural needs.—Editor.

It is certainly a fine paper and sticks up for the rights of the farmer and is a very useful paper to take. I would not be without M. B. F.—A. J. M., Carson City, Mich.



The Farm Home

A Department for the Women



THIS IS OUR BUSINESS

YOU ARE without doubt much interested in the present discussion on the subject of immigration of which the papers and current magazines are full. While men are out of work all over our country and factories are either closing down altogether or reducing their output and the number of those employed, it is a pertinent question: Shall we admit thousands more to this country? An army of unemployed is always a dangerous thing in any community.

Recently in Detroit there were literally hundreds of men seeking work shoveling snow, after the heavy fall of the previous night. They were out on the streets begging for work, some with tears running down their faces. It was not a cheerful sight and made one's heart ache with sympathy. The bill to restrict immigration passed the House December 13, and will now come up before the Senate. It provides for a cessation of immigration for 22 months.

Here is a condensed report of what the Hon. Harold Knutson, of Minnesota had to say. It is well worth your reading.

"Mr. Chairman, my parents came to this country as immigrants, and in the very nature of things I would be inclined to oppose any proposition looking toward the suspension of immigration to this country for the period of two years were it not for the fact that I realize the imperative necessity for some legislation along this line.

"A great objection to the people who are coming to this country at the present time is that they are unskilled, common labor. Very few are willing to go into the rural sections and help solve the farm-labor shortage. We have no place for that sort now. These immigrants come

here and settle in the large and congested centers, where the problem of housing is already acute. We are not getting the class of immigrants that we did 10, 20, 30 or 40 years ago. Most of those who came prior to 1900 went into farms or took up land. They became producers, while those that we receive now, or at least 80 per cent of them, will become consumers and will contribute comparatively little toward the material development of this country.

"I do not know when there has been a proposition before this congress that I have considered of greater importance than this, because my feeling is that something must be done, and done at once. We can not allow the governments of Europe to dump their bolsheviks and communists onto us. We have no place for them. We have more of that kind now than we know what to do with. We ought to deport those that we have. I sincerely hope when this measure is put upon its passage that there will not be a dissenting vote."

MAKING AN AFGHAN

HERE IS a suggestion for making an afghan. Having on hand two old army sweaters of dark grey wool and a box of odds and

ends of bright colored wool, I decided to make an afghan. It is so attractive that I will tell you how to do it. I raveled the sweaters and taking a pair of No. 4 needles set up 100 stitches, 150 stitches would give about 1 1/4 yards without the border. Knit 4 ridges (8 rows) of the main color, then take a bright color and purl across knitting back, purl across again and then take up your main color and knit 4 ridges. Continue this plan until you have the desired length. Your afghan will be banded across with bright colors. I used blue, a bright deep shade, bright green, old rose, orange and red. Then you may crochet a border all around. My needles are about 1-4 of an inch in diameter.

BOOK REVIEW

The Sandman's Mountain by Louis Dodge

This is a charming and imaginative tale for little folks which any of us might enjoy reading.

Giddy was going fishing with his uncle and was lying in the hammock when the thought came to him that he might go down the road to meet him. The road seemed strange. It led to a lonely mountain where he fell in with Mayor and Missus Bear

and their son and daughter, Ananias and Sapphira. Later he penetrates the mountain and finds a marble staircase which leads to all the earth's treasures. Then he finds a smuggler's cave. It is an Arabian Night's for the little folks.

Indian "Old Man" Stories by Frank R. Linderman

Many old and young readers will enjoy Mr. Linderman's "Indian Why Stories," and the charm of them lies in their being real and not invented. They are delightfully told with a touch of irresistible humor. Illustrated in colors.

NOVELS WORTHY OF MENTION

In Chancery by John Galsworthy

A new book from this author is always an event in both England and America.

No Defence by Gilbert Parker

That stalwart Canadian who produced one of the finest novels ever written in America called "The Right of Way."

THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE

DO YOU remember that little talk we had about a woman for cabinet member? Well, last week I read that Mr. Harding was likely to appoint Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton of Warren, Ohio to the post of Secretary of Education, which is the name of a new department to be created to take care of work which has been somewhat scattered. If President-elect Harding chooses Mrs. Upton we will believe that she is well fitted to fill the position.

"Do you give thanks for this or that?"
No, God be thanked, I am not grateful

In that cold, calculating way, with blessings ranked

As one, two, three, and four—that would be hateful.

I only know that every day brings good above my poor deserving;

I only feel that in the road of Life true love

Is leading me along and never swerving.

Whatever gifts and mercies to my lot may fall, I would not measure As worth a certain price in praise, or great or small;

But take and use them all with simple pleasure.

For when we gladly eat our daily bread, we bless The Hand that feeds us;

And when we tread the road of Life in cheerfulness,

Our every very heart-beats praise the Love that leads us. —Van Dyke.



DEAR CHILDREN: Going thru my mail the Monday after Christmas I found a bulky envelope and opening it I found a crocheted necktie and a nice long letter from the little girl who won the prize in our fair letter contest, Eathel Fay Sharp. In the letter she said:

"I belong to The Children's Hour in the M. B. F. and through our page I have received letters from 36 girls and boys. I have sent each one of my M. B. F. friends a hand-made Christmas present so that meant quite a bit of work. I am enclosing a necktie for you as a token of friendship and Christmas love. I am twelve years old. I sent you my picture a while ago so you know what I look like. I would not live without the M. B. F. I love our page and have made many friends thru it. Your niece, Eathel Fay Sharp, Akron, Mich."

I cannot begin to tell you how pretty the tie is. When I took it from the envelop I thought how nice I would look when I put my best clothes on and wore my new tie, then I thought about how much time and care it had taken to make it and I decided to put it away with other treasures I have, which are dear to me, and keep it to always remember Eathel by.

I wrote to Eathel the day before Christmas telling her she had won the "mystery prize" and the same day I sent the prize to her. I have not heard from her as to whether

she received it or not. The prize was a flash light.

I am going to start a new contest now and give another prize. All of you boys and girls who made New Year resolution this year write a letter to me telling me about them. The one who, in my estimation, made the best resolutions shall receive a prize. We will not let Eathel enter this contest because she has just won a prize and it would not be fair to give her a chance to win this one. Do you think so? After you have read this sit right down and write me about those resolutions so all of the letters will be in early and we can close the contest sooner than we did our last one. Goodbye.—UNCLE NED.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

Dear Uncle Ned:—I have read many of the boys' and girls' letters and I thought I would try my luck. I am not a farmer girl but I am much interested in the M. B. F. My father is the mail carrier of Pentwater R. F. D. 1 and he often brings home the paper. I am always waiting for it and many times I have asked if it has arrived yet. Papa taught school nine years and then he took examinations for a mail carrier. Often times I go with him to sort out mail and I help him put it up. The postoffice is very interesting to me. I

enjoy going down to help him. For pets I have a cat, heifer, cow and a Shetland pony. We also have a western pony and we often ride her. She used to live in the far west, but she is as gentle as a kitten now. Perhaps some of the boys and girls would like to know what our little pony did Christmas night. We took her to the church and she is a very small pony so we took her inside and she carried old Santa's bag which was full of peanuts and popcorn and she stepped up a few steps onto the stage. Then Santa began throwing popcorn and peanuts at the crowd. Then she went out the back way and we took her home. I wish some of the boys and girls would write to me and I would surely answer them.—Vera Squires, Pentwater, Mich.

Dear Uncle Ned:—I am a girl 10 years old. I have two brothers and no sisters. One brother is 20 and the other 18 years old. I go to school at Bitley which is 3 miles from my home. I ride horseback to school. It is all woods and no houses along the road. I am in the fifth grade at school. We have a summer resort on Nichol Lake. I have lots of playmates in the summer but none in the winter. We have a sawmill, a buzz saw and feed grinder. We have 4 horses, 2 cows, a calf, one pig and 40 chickens. For pets I have 4 dogs, 4 cats, 3 pigeons and a canary bird. Can you swim, Uncle Ned? I can. I have gone swimming ever since I was 4 years old. My brothers taught me to swim. If some of the girls and boys will come and see me next summer I will go swimming with them. My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it very much. My father killed a deer

this year not very far from home. There are lots of fish in Nichol Lake. They are spearing ciscos tonight. I guess my letter is too long now but I want to tell you that mother and I saw a bear in about a mile of home. Will close now so goodbye.—Eynide Underwood, Japs Camp, R. R. 1, Bitley, Mich.

Dear Uncle Ned:—As I was reading The Children's Hour I read some real nice letters so I thought I would write. I am a little girl, ten years old. I am in the fifth grade at school. My teacher's name is Asa Kelly. I like him very much. My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it very much. I live on a ninety acre farm. We have four calves, two horses, two colts and fifteen cows. I live one mile from school. For pets I have two cats. Their names are Topsy and Tabby. I have one brother and one sister. I will bid you all goodbye hoping some little girl will write to me. I will answer it very gladly.—Gretchen H. Omior, Coopersville, Mich., R. R. 4, Box 10.

Dear Uncle Ned:—I am a boy 13 years of age and am in the 7th grade at school. We live on a farm of 120 acres. We have 5 horses, 3 cows, 2 sheep, 3 pigs 120 chickens and some doves. For pets I have a horse by the name of Bob. I also have a little wagon and saddle. I have five sisters and no brothers.—Aiger Rasmussen, Greenville, Mich., R. 3, Box 67.

What is it that occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment and not once in a thousand years? Answer: the letter M.

Dear Uncle Ned:—I am a boy 9 years old and in the third grade at school. My father takes the M. B. F. and likes it very well. For pets we have a dog, two cats and a pair of guinea pigs. We live on a forty acre farm. We have three horses, five cows, one calf, five pigs and about sixty chickens. I am 4 feet and 5 inches high and weigh 60 pounds. I will close with a riddle. It is this: Father, mother, sister and brother but can't catch each other. Answer: wagon wheels. I remain your friend, Arthur Boehm, Auburn, Mich., R. F. D. 2.



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pairs, fertilizer, fuel and equipment for buildings. Renter: horses, cows, sows, ewes, hens, seed, machinery, labor, fertilizer, milk hauling and hauling produce to market. Please state what and in what proportion and in what condition each party is required to furnish their respective parts and the respective division of the proceeds. Now then I want to put before you a somewhat different proposition. It contains elements that are somewhat puzzling. Suppose the renter we have been discussing was given permission to sublet this farm to a third party. On the third share system each of the three parties receiving a third of the proceeds and increase the general terms being the landowner providing the farm, the second tenant the furnishings, equipment, stock feed, etc., and the third party the labor. Under these new conditions who should furnish the following items and in what amount: Labor for repairing fences; labor for threshing, feed for stock; feed for work horses; operating expenses, fertilizer (commercial); horse shoeing; oil; twine; veterinary bills; male services for breeding, etc? If a cow should die or a horse must the third party replace it? If not how? If a breeding ewe dies how is it replaced. To keep the original number good is it replaced from the increase or by the owner of the breeders or must the third party replace it? Or does the manner of its death make a difference? Are one-half of the first tenant's obligations still binding on him?—N. T. W., Middleton, Mich.

It is usual for parties to provide in their contract for all of the items your letter mentions. If nothing is said in the lease the owner should furnish material for repairs but he is not required to furnish fertilizer. He is not required to furnish fuel but the tenant, unless restricted by contract, may use the timber suitable for that purpose, for fuel and repairs. Unless the owner agrees to furnish equipment he is not obliged to furnish only such as was there when the lease was made. If the tenant agreed to do all the work and labor I am of the opinion that it includes the delivery of such of the products to market as are sold to be delivered to market. On such conditions I would be of the opinion the owner would be entitled to 1-3 of the products of animals. Unless agreement otherwise I am of the opinion that the tenant would furnish the fertilizer, machinery, labor, etc. However, it would be a rare case that such an uncertain condition would arise for the most inexperienced would be likely to make some kind of a bargain that would be binding upon both parties. The third party would furnish everything without an agreement otherwise. He would not, however, replace anything unless agreement to that effect. —W. E. Brown, legal editor.

BEWARE THE AUTO-KNITTER

I have a letter from Auto-Knitter Hosiery Co., Inc., saying if I will buy an Auto Knitting machine from them they will pay me \$1.50 per dozen pair of socks for all I will make for them and replace the yarn in them. They also claim with one of their machines an experienced hand can make a pair of socks in 20 minutes and very easily in a half hour. If they will do as they say they will I would very much like to get one of the machines but I am afraid they would go back on sending yarn or not pay me as much for my work or not take it at all. What would you advise? Would it be a safe investment to send them \$75 cash with order on their money back guarantee?—Mrs. H. B., Decker, Mich.

Do not buy an "auto-knitter." We have never heard of anyone except an expert who could do with this machine what the manufacturer's claim. We have heard of a good many who couldn't. In the last four years we have had innumerable complaints against this company which persistently refuses to make good on its guarantee.—Editor.

COMPELLING PARTIES TO BUILD FENCE

I have 320 acres of land in Alpena county I intend to fence this some day for cattle and sheep pasture. All of the land owners around me have large tracts of land and are not utilizing it to any purpose. Can they be compelled to build their share of the fence now or could I set my fence in from the line and compel them to build and warn them against trespassing? What way would you pursue? The township road is built within two miles of my land. This land is not cleared up or settled very extensively. It is cut-over land. Just before I get ready to go onto the land and start a stock farm, what course will I have to go through to get the road put through? —W. H. R., Oakland County, Mich.

The Supreme Court of this state decided in substance that before the duty to build and keep in repair any portion of a partition fence it must appear, first, that the adjoining proprietor improves his land; second that either by consent or by action of the fence viewers a portion of the partition fence between them has

been assigned to him to keep in repair. The statute, Sec. 2212, of C. L. 1915, provides: "When in any controversy that may arise between occupants of adjoining lands as to their respective rights in any partition fence it shall appear to the fence viewers that either of the occupants had, before any complaint made to them, voluntarily erected the whole fence, or more than his just share of the same or otherwise become proprietor thereof, the other occupant shall pay for so much as may be assigned to him to repair or maintain, the value of which shall be ascertained and collected in the manner provided in this chapter."

Sec. 4288, C. L. 1915, provides that the highways may be laid out by the commissioner of highways of any township within his township upon the written application of seven or more freeholders of such township. He shall also have power to lay out and establish highways on section lines, through unenclosed and unimproved lands, without the applications above mentioned.—W. E. Brown, legal editor.

FEEDING UNWHOLESOME FLESH TO HOGS

Has a farmer who is raising hogs for market any right to feed the hogs flesh from a dead horse, not knowing what caused the horse's death? If he hasn't any right what is the penalty?—A. P. M. Montrose, Mich.

The law regarding the feeding of unwholesome flesh to animals or fowls reads as follows:

"No person shall feed to animals or fowls the flesh of an animal which has become sick, or offal or flesh that is putrid or unwholesome."

Regarding the penalty it goes on to say, "Whoever shall do any of the acts or things prohibited by this act, or in any other way violates any of its provisions, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars and the costs of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the county jail not more than ninety days or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court."—Associate Editor.

LIABLE FOR GUARANTEE

If A sold a cow at auction to B and the cow was supposed to freshen at a certain date and the cow failed to freshen until six or eight weeks afterwards can B collect anything from A for his loss? A honestly thought the cow would freshen at that time but did not guarantee anything.—C. A. L., Marlette, Mich.

One does not have to say that he guarantees or warrants a thing to make it a warranty. If A made such representation that B had a right to rely upon them and did rely upon the representations in making his bid for the cow, A would be liable to him for the damages.—W. E. Brown, legal editor.

NEW YORK DAIRYMEN ENTER DISTRIBUTING BUSINESS IN METROPOLIS

(Continued from page 4)
trucks. The building will be ready for occupancy early in 1921.

"The company under consideration is an entirely different organization. The principal idea is to have a means of disposing of surplus milk when the St. Louis consumption is low. Dairymen say the St. Louis distributors will be provided with milk and that the surplus will be converted into butter, ice cream, cheese and other dairy products.

"In the near future, it is said, a department of the State Agricultural Association will open offices at East St. Louis and begin a campaign of placing stock among the farmers. Henke is one of the largest of the southern Illinois producers.

"Henke says there are now about 10,000 milk producers in the nine counties in the organization. He declared that 7,000 belong to the association and believes the stock will be rapidly raised. On an average of \$100 from each dairyman the capital will be oversubscribed.

"The East St. Louis office will be maintained for about a year and will then become the office of the milk marketing company. Henke said that, with the railroads centering at one place before going into St. Louis, the handling of the milk will be an easy matter."

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MARKET FLASHES



TRADE AND MARKET REVIEW

FOR SEVERAL weeks past, business analysts the country over have been predicting that with the "turn of the year" the general business outlook would improve. The year has turned and, so far, conditions certainly do look better. A marked improvement in the demand for staple products such as cattle, hogs, fresh and cured meats, hides, wool, leather, pig iron, steel and lumber is noted. Selling prices, for all of the commodities mentioned above, are still at the extreme bottom of the recent decline, it is true, but the fact that a reliable demand is beginning to develop is taken as a good omen by those who have been watchfully waiting for something in the nature of a market to develop.

The last days of the year saw some of the cheaper grades of soft wood lumber selling at the lowest prices that have been known for many years; this was, however, the result of the closing out of several carloads of low-grade building lumber that the owners were anxious to move out of the path of an oncoming spring trade.

The signs of business improvement that are apparently in evidence this early in the first month of the new year, are not regarded seriously by those who are familiar with the hopeful indications which usually follow long periods of business depression, similar to that which this country is passing through at this time; that the work of readjustment in comparative values has not yet run its course is universally conceded and it is also a recognized fact that the foundation for a permanent improvement cannot be laid until a uniformity in the selling prices of all of the necessities of life has been established. When the turn for the better does finally come, it will be several weeks before the wheels of industry and commerce will attain the velocity and momentum required in the making of normal daily production records. Business recovery is sure to be tardy and spotted but nothing can happen which will stifle and repress the unconquerable spirit of American enterprise.

Locally, here in Michigan, the industrial outlook is far from encouraging at this writing; with the announcement that the Ford Motor plant, at Highland Park, has closed for an indefinite period, the army of the unemployed in Detroit and vicinity is increased by the addition of some 40,000 men. There is every reason to believe that Mr. Ford has done his level best to avoid the necessity of taking the step referred to; that he will resume operations at the earliest possible moment and that every other local manufacturer will take the same course, goes without saying. Until that time arrives, all that laboring men can do is to make the best of the situation and see that they are ready for business when the call for action comes.

Recent developments, in connection with the New York stock market, seems to indicate that bottom prices for all standard dividend-paying stocks have been uncovered and a gradual improvement in selling values, with perhaps an occasional reaction, is looked for. The crepe hangers who have been predicting insolvency and complete demoralization for several of our leading and most reliable industrials, will in the opinion of the writer, be called upon at an early date to completely revise their views.

WHEAT

WHEAT PRICES PER BU., JAN. 4, 1921			
Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 Red	2.00		2.06
No. 2 White	1.97		2.04
No. 2 Mixed	1.97		2.04
PRICES ONE YEAR AGO			
	No. 2 Red	No. 2 White	No. 2 Mixed
Detroit	2.46	2.46	2.43

The new year opened with wheat showing somewhat greater strength

Edited by H. H. MACK

GENERAL MARKET SUMMARY

DETROIT: Wheat showing some strength. Beans unchanged. Advances expected in oat and corn prices.

CHICAGO: Grains advance on export buying. Cattle higher. Hogs weak. Sheep steady.

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

than usual. It was a significant fact that previous advances in the wheat market depended almost entirely on the export situation, but market observers noted that in the almost total absence of export demand the market was in a strong and advancing position with the opening of the current week. For a long time the traders have been pooh-poohing at the thought of the farmers holding their wheat, but each week that has passed has only served to emphasize that the holding movement is widespread. With the coming of the new year the wheat buyers find that there has been an enormous reduction in supplies, recent weekly receipts falling nearly 2,000,000 bushels below the normal. The wheat situation is still largely a matter of financing as it is no longer doubted that domestic supplies are going to fall short of the world's demands. It wouldn't be surprising to note an early burst in the price of wheat which may react to lowest levels yet seen on the crop for the balance of January and possibly February. However, market experts who have authentic information of the world's supplies and demands are still predicting \$2.50 wheat before the next crop. The passage of the bill reviving the War Finance Corporation has been a very bullish factor in the wheat deal, and was largely responsible for March and May wheat going to new high levels for the season. Then, too, there is a decided improvement in the milling demand although no inclination is shown to stock up heavily. Continued withholding of wheat is bound to be reflected in considerably higher values within another sixty days.

CORN

Opinions differ greatly as to what is in store for corn. Heretofore this grain, as well as oats, has showed a marked tendency to follow wheat over most of the bulges and down all

CORN PER CWT., JAN. 4, 1921			
Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 Yellow, old	.88		.96%
No. 3 Yellow, new	.79	.71	
No. 4 Yellow, new	.76		
PRICES ONE YEAR AGO			
	No. 2 Yell.	No. 3 Yell.	No. 4 Yell.
Detroit	1.50	1.48	1.44

the toboggans. Corn is back to the pre-war level, largely on account of the lack of export demand and the comparatively large crop. It is still affected, however, to some extent by the wheat market and is showing sympathy at present with the stronger tone of wheat. It is not believed that corn will go lower unless the bottom should drop out of wheat. If wheat advances corn is likely to follow suit though in a lesser degree. There are still some hopeful souls who are predicting better than \$1 corn to the farmer before another crop.

OATS

OAT PRICES PER BU., JAN. 4, 1921			
Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
No. 2 White	.50%	.48%	.60
No. 3 White	.49	.48	
No. 4 White	.46		
PRICES ONE YEAR AGO			
	No. 2 White	No. 3 White	No. 4 White
Detroit	.80	.88	.87

Oats are very much in the same position at this time with corn. Export interest is slight, and except for the holding movement, the price would undoubtedly be somewhat below its present level. Oats are down to their pre-war level, which is generally conceded to be too low, and any changes in this market may reasonably be expected to be upward.

RYE

Rye is showing some independent strength owing to lack of supplies and a spurt in the export demand. The market advanced three cents in Detroit Monday and further gains are in order. Holders of rye should

A Last Appeal for Europe's Starving

THE RESPONSE to the appeal which I published in last week's M. B. F., for funds to help feed the starving children of Europe, has not been very encouraging. Why more has not been received I do not know. But I do not intend to believe until I absolutely have to that there is a solitary reader of THE BUSINESS FARMER who will deliberately ignore this call in the name of suffering humanity. My dear friends I know well enough that I would not have to make this appeal a second time if you had thoroughly read and taken to heart the article which was published last week. The amount which I would ask you all to contribute is so pitifully small and it will go such a long way toward saving some little one from starvation

that I am sure you will not hesitate any longer. Remember that no large sum is asked from anyone. Twenty-five cents, a half dollar, a dollar, is all that each person in moderate circumstances are expected to give. Surely, you can spare that much. Will you not, before you forget it and without further delay, reach your hand in your pocket, fold your contribution in the coupon printed below and mail it to me by the next mail so that I can turn it over to the relief committee before the end of the campaign? I make this last appeal in the name of the three and a half million children who must starve to death in central Europe unless you and I will help to feed them.—Forrest Lord, Editor.

Clip This Coupon and Help Save a Child From Starvation

EDITOR BUSINESS FARMER,
MOUNT CLEMENS, MICH.

Enclosed find \$.....as my contribution to the Hoover European Relief Fund.

Signed

Address

not overlook the effect which the revival of the War Finance Corporation is likely to have upon the German and Austrian demand for this cereal. Credits granted to these two countries should enable them to increase very largely their purchases of our breadstuffs and rye is their favorite.

BEANS

BEANS PER CWT., JAN. 4, 1921			
Grade	Detroit	Chicago	N. Y.
C. H. P.	4.00	4.50	5.00
Red Kidneys		9.50	
PRICES ONE YEAR AGO			
	C. H. P.	Prime	Red Kidneys
Detroit	7.35		

The bean market has recovered from the new low point reached with the closing of the old year and is again quoted on the Detroit market at \$4 per cwt. There is not much doing as yet in this market, the comparatively warm weather of December has not been conducive to heavy consumption. Even the bears in this market are forced to admit, however, that beans are too low and should be the very first to recover in case of a general price advance in farm products. Unemployment is on the increase which can be taken as a bullish factor, and should make itself manifest in the near future. This market will stand watching closely, lest the same kind of situation develop as did back in 1917 when the farmers sold most of their beans at around \$3 per bushel and the elevators and jobbers sold most of theirs at better than \$7 a bushel. Remember the production is way off, and something has got to happen in this market soon.

POTATOES

SPUDS PER CWT., JAN. 4, 1921		
	Sacked	Bulk
Detroit	1.53	
Chicago	1.60	1.60
New York	2.00	
Pittsburg	1.53	1.66
PRICES ONE YEAR AGO		
Detroit	3.50	3.25

Again arises the old question, "Why does the consumer have to pay \$1.60 per bushel for potatoes when the farmer can get only 50 cents of less?" We consumers here in Mount Clemens have been paying 40 cents a peck right along and recently there was a slight advance. We note from our crop correspondents' reports that prices to the farmers throughout the state are running from 35 to 75 cents a bushel. Farmers, you ought to have a warehouse down here in Detroit in which you can store your potatoes in the fall and get the advantage of the winter price. That's the only way in years of overproduction that you can get a decent price for your spuds.

HAY

[No. 1 Tim.] [Stan. Tim.] [No. 2 Tim.]			
Detroit	26.00 @ 27.25.00 @ 28.25.00 @ 29		
Chicago	25.00 @ 27.24.00 @ 28.22.00 @ 29		
New York	33.00 @ 37.30.00 @ 38		
Pittsburg	29.50 @ 29.27.50 @ 27.25.00 @ 28		
[No. 1] [No. 2] [No. 4]			
	Light Mix.	Clover Mix.	Clover
Detroit	25.00 @ 26.23.00 @ 24.22.00 @ 23		
Chicago	24.00 @ 25.22.00 @ 23		
New York	32.00 @ 35.29.00 @ 33		
Pittsburg	26.50 @ 26.25.00 @ 26		
HAY PRICES A YEAR AGO			
	No. 1 Tim.	Stan. Tim.	No. 2 Tim.
Detroit	30.50 @ 31.29.50 @ 30.28.50 @ 29		
	No. 1	No. 2	No. 4
	Light Mix.	Clover Mix.	Clover
Detroit	28.50 @ 29		28.50 @ 29

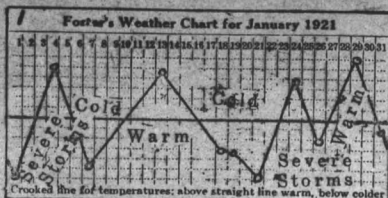
Holiday dullness continues to rule the hay markets but with the advent of the coming week trade is expected to be renewed on a healthy scale. Meanwhile receipts and stocks are small and prices are holding firm.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS

Western cattle markets are again suffering from an over-supply and all kinds are quoted lower; commission salesmen are again sending out warnings to shippers to prevent, if possi-

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., January 8, 1921.—During first part of week centering on January 18 a wave, of comparatively low warmth, will drift southward from Alaska, moving in the direction of New Orleans, and all the country west of Meridian 90 will change to warmer. Mild storm forces will cause this temperature to change, and temperatures will not reach high degrees. This western temperature condition will drift leisurely eastward, reaching Atlantic coast sections within about four days. The storms following will be rather quiet,

not much rain or snow. The cold wave following will be the most radical feature of these storms. Precipitation will be less than usual. From January 10 to 21 will be your time to get your outdoor affairs arranged for bad weather during last week of January, which will be more elaborately described in next bulletin. But I warn you now that very severe storms and bad weather will prevail during the week centering on January 26. Coldest weather of January will drift eastward across the continent from 20 to 24. The good crop weather from January 8 to 24 promises good effects on winter grain and will be favorable to live stock. The next general change of rainfall will occur in April, and its effects will be particularly important to all northern Europe and all of America east of the Rockies' crest.

W. T. Foster

ble, demoralization of prices. Arrivals in Chicago, up to Friday night, were 11,000 head larger than for the same period of the week before. Steer cattle scored a big break in Chicago, on Monday and Tuesday saw a further drop but on Wednesday the trade righted to somewhat and a few sales were made that looked a trifle higher than on the day before. One of the reasons for the low price list last week has been the extremely common quality of the offerings in all western markets. No long-fed steers of extra quality have come to hand in Chicago for several days and the better grades of handy killing cattle are conspicuous by their absence; the big markets are still receiving a flood of nondescript cattle that are of doubtful value.

The demand for stockers and feeders is still light because of the unreasonable freight rate, back into the country. The belief is coming to be country.

One of the hardest things to sell on the live stock list is the dairy cow; the business of dairying has been harder hit in this country than almost any other agricultural lines and the milch cow is feeling the full force of the blow. Eastern trade in milkers has seldom been worse than it is at present and the outlook for the coming summer has very little of encouragement in it. The veal calf is coming back into his own again and prices for both live and dressed calves are sharply higher.

The last week of the year began with sheep and lambs active and higher than on the close of the week before, the lifting force being a drop in receipts at many of the leading markets. Chicago's showing for Monday of last week was 11,000 smaller than on the same day of the week before. Tuesday got a big run but sales held well, the top for fat western lambs being \$12.75 per cwt., the highest price paid for a long time.

An extremely light run of hogs in Chicago on Monday of last week and fewer than was expected at many other markets sent prices sharply upward on that day. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the belated hog trains made the grade and Monday's gain was all lost and some more with it. Shipping demand was strongly in evidence throughout the west on Monday but Tuesday's and Wednesday's "left overs" headed the shippers back and the trade stalled off, badly, as the advent of the holiday approached. The big packers were not much in evidence on Monday until late in the afternoon coming in then

to bid 30 to 40 cents lower than the average of the morning and doing the same thing on Tuesday and Wednesday; in fact, this mode of procedure has been the regular order of exercises for the packinghouse contingent ever since Nov. 1.

On Friday of last week, the Chicago market opened with too many hogs in sight for the market immediately preceding a holiday and first half of the day's trade was carried through at prices only five cents per cwt. higher than the season's low point. The afternoon hog market, on Friday, was helped out greatly by a string of belated eastern orders that practically cleared the yards and helped the day's general average up to \$9 per cwt. The close on Friday of last week in Chicago, was fully 25 cents higher than the opening for mixed hogs and yorkers and the decks were practically clear for Monday's business. On Monday of this week, Chicago got only 36,000 hogs where 45,000 had been estimated; the trade was active and, for the most part, 25 cents higher than the close of the week before.

Local Market Conditions

Detroit cattle receipts have been far below the needs of the trade for the last two weeks and local killers, who depend upon buying their cattle in the Detroit stock yards, are decidedly hungry for cattle; less than 600 came to hand on Monday of this week and estimates for the remainder of the week indicate a very light run. Veal calves were off a dollar, from last week's firm close, the best bringing \$17 per cwt. Sheep and lambs were in light supply, on Monday, and the top for lambs was \$17 per cwt. Mixed hogs finished last week at \$9.75 but, with less than 1,500 on sale on Monday of this week, prices were a trifle stronger.

FARM BUREAU SUBMITS QUESTIONNAIRE TO CO. OFFICERS

(Continued from page 3)

9th—That it will urge state aid for northern counties annually facing grasshopper plague and an agency for correlation of the combative efforts of these counties, as the territory infested annually is enlarging and menacing greater agricultural production.

10th—That it will advocate the submission by act of legislature to the people of the state of an amendment to the state constitution, providing for optional county commission form of government.

11th—That it will seek adequate appropriation for enforcement of the seed inspection law that is now among the state statutes but virtually inoperative, and because of enforcement constitutes a menace to agriculture in Michigan.

12th—That it will favor adequate appropriation to enable the Michigan Agricultural College to maintain a place among the progressive and worth while agricultural colleges of the country.

13th—That it will relinquish claim of the Michigan State Farm Bureau to any state aid, such as was given the past two years and voice appreciation in behalf of the farmers of the state for the assistance lent in the building of their organization.

Sow Seeds of Success In Your Garden

Write Today for Isbell's 1921 Catalog

Some vegetable gardens pay their owners \$100 in returns for every \$5.00 spent. They are a constant source of big profit. They give pleasure to everybody in the home—old and young alike. They yield the finest vegetables and yield lots of them, because they are planted with—

Isbell's Seeds
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Isbell's Gardens Pay—for the same reason that pure-bred cattle produce thoroughbred off-spring. Every ounce of Isbell Seed is tested. Isbell Seeds are produced in the North where earliness, hardness and sterling qualities are bred into them. Isbell's 1921 book on seeds and gardening tells what and how to plant and what to expect from the crop. It's one of the most authoritative catalogs in America. Ask for your copy. Mail coupon.

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334 Mechanic St., Jackson, Mich.

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Standard sorts and everbearing
Send List for Prices
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We can make that OLD FUR COAT, ROBE and LADIES' FURS look as good as new.

We guarantee Quick Service and first class Workmanship.

In business 20 years at this work and still going.

We tan your cow and horse hides and make Fur Coats and Robes.

Our Catalogue is Free.

THE

BLISSFIELD TANNERY

Blissfield, Michigan

WOOL WANTED

We manufacture 100 per cent virgin wool goods for wool owners, returning all the goods your wool will make, you pay for the making. "Pilgrim Mother" yarn, downy batting, fleecy blankets.

Goods also sold direct from factory to user. Write for circulars and details.

WOOLEN MILLS, Reed City, Mich.

Established 1883

CLOVER & TIMOTHY 5⁸⁵ SU.

Greatest Grass Seed Value Known. Investigate. Alsike Clover and Timothy mixed—finest grass grown for hay and pasture. Cheapest seeding you can make, grows everywhere. You will save 1-3 on your grass seed bill by writing for free sample and big Seed Guide, offering Field Seeds, all kinds. Write today.

* Western Mutual Seed Co. Dept. for Chicago, Ill.

Will You Introduce a Friend or Neighbor?

HERE'S AN INTRODUCTORY COUPON—Tear it out and hand it to a friend or neighbor who is not a subscriber. It is worth just 25c to him, because we will send The Business Farmer on trial to any new name for six months, for this coupon and a quarter (25c) in coin or stamps.

25c

This Coupon is worth twenty-five cents to any NEW subscriber introduced by an old subscriber. . . .

The Michigan Business Farmer, Mt. Clemens, Mich. Friends:

I want to introduce a NEW subscriber and for a quarter (25c) enclosed in coin or stamps you are to send our weekly every week for six months.

To

Address

Introduced by your reader:

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A. R. LYMAN introduced GRIMM alfalfa. Get your seed direct from him. LYMAN'S GENUINE GRIMM will not winter kill like common varieties. Produces wonderful crops year after year without replanting. Because of its stooling habit 40% less seed is required. LYMAN'S GENUINE GRIMM seed is scarified for your protection. A certificate of genuineness furnished with every order. Get my free booklet "How I Discovered Grimm Alfalfa" and free seed sample.

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FIVE CENTS PER WORD, PER ISSUE.
20 words or less, \$1 per issue, cash with order, or 7c per word when charged. Count as one word each initial and each group of figures, both in body of ad. and in address. Copy must be in our hands Saturday for issue dated following week. The Business Farmer, Adv. Dept., Mt. Clemens, Mich.

FARMS & LANDS

112 ACRE EQUIPPED FARM NEAR BIG RR town. 42 cattle, 20 tons hay, 100 bu. oats, 50 bu. potatoes, 20 cords stove wood, quantity corn, full implements, etc., included if taken now; loamy tillage, spring-watered pasture, abundance wood, variety fruit, sugar grove; good 8-room house, basement barn, poultry house, etc.; \$3800 takes all, easy terms. Details this and 102 acre equipped farm, only \$1000 down, page 21. Illustrated Catalog Bargains, 33 states. FREE. STROUT FARM AGENCY, 814 BE. Ford Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

FOR SALE—IMPROVED MICHIGAN FARM 120 acres, located in Huron Co., Mich., two miles to school and town. There are 108 bearing fruit trees in orchard. Soil is dark loam with clay sub-soil, good drainage. All of farm in cultivation. 42 acres are now in hay. Two artesian wells. Improvements consist of good house, barn, shed, hen house, granary, and fenced with woven wire. Some barbed wire. Price is \$175 per acre with possession March 1st. For further information write or see CHAS. W. DUTCHER, Owendale, Mich.

LANDOLGY SPECIAL NUMBER JUST OUT containing 1921 lists of clover land in Marinette County, Wisconsin. If for a home or as an investment you are the kind of buying good farm lands where farmers grow rich, send at once for this special number of *Landology*. It is free on request. Address SKIDMORE-RIEHLE LAND CO., 398 Skidmore-Riehle Bldg., Marinette, Wis.

ONE OF THE BEST STOCK FARMS IN Tuscola county for sale. 190 acres, 100 cleared, 60 hay, 25 rye. Orchard. Three big barns. Cow shed. Granary. Good 10 room house. Silo. Hen house. Fine spring water. 3 miles north of Silverwood. Address, JOSEPH CHANTING, Silverwood, Mich.

FOR SALE—80, 160, 240 OR 320 IN farms to suit party. No better land. Free from stone. Good water. For sale cheap. 2 miles north, 4 miles east of Imlay City. ROBERT DOWLING, R 3, Imlay City, Mich.

FIRST CLASS FARM HOME, STATE RE- ward road, 3-4 mile market, schools, churches. For particulars address owner, JOEL G. PALMER, Orleans, Mich.

MISCELLANEOUS

MALE HELP WANTED—GET A GOOD JOB—Work for Uncle Sam. Men and Women needed. \$1400, \$1600, \$1800 at start. Railway Mail Clerk and other "exams" soon. Let our expert, former U. S. Government Examiner, prepare you. Write TODAY for free booklet D10. PATTERSON CIVIL SERVICE SCHOOL, Rochester, N. Y.

BUY FENCE POSTS DIRECT FROM FOR- est. All kinds. Delivered prices. Address "M. M." care Michigan Business Farmer, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

MAPLE SYRUP WANTED—WANT FIVE gallons or less of good pure syrup, put up in gallon cans. In writing state quantity and price, Box F. The Business Farmer, Mt. Clemens.

BLACKSMITH SHOP SUITABLE FOR GAR- age cheap. Terms. REED REALTY CO., Carsonville, Mich.

WANT THE CHEAPEST, HANDIEST BELT power? Then ask me about the LITTLE TWIST-ER Power Transmitter for Ford and Dodge cars FRANK R. WEISBERGER, Salina, Kansas.

INCUBATORS AND BROODERS—ORDER early to insure delivery, don't pay retail prices, buy thru us and save money, any reliable make. Lowest jobbers in central west. NORMAN POULTRY PLANT, Chatsworth, Ill.

WANTED—A BUSHEL OR TWO OF EXTRA good hickory nuts, write quantity and price, Box G. The Business Farmer, Mt. Clemens.

CERTIFIED PETOSKEY SEED POTATOES grown in Presque Isle County. For list of growers write E. S. BREWER, County Agricultural Agent, Onaway, Mich.

TOBACCO—KENTUCKY'S FINEST LEAF, 4 yrs. old. Chewing and smoking. Postpaid: 2 lbs. \$1.00, 7 lbs. \$3.00, 10 lbs. \$4.00. KY. TOBACCO ASS'N, Dept. M, Hawesville, Ky.

NOTICE—I WILL GLADLY TELL ANYONE how to prevent a puncture or a blow-out in their auto tires. Please address C. COYKENDALL, Houghton Lake, Mich.

CLOVER AT SACRIFICED PRICES

BUYERS CAN SAVE BIG MONEY NOW
Big clover growers of the middle west came to us and made bedrock prices to move their crops. They needed cash. We had the money to take their seed. This means lower prices to you because this fine lot of clover will not be hoarded for higher prices, but passed on at a legitimate profit to early buyers. Big volume on a small profit is our aim. Every bag is high testing, guaranteed seed sold on an absolute money back guarantee. This lot will save you money. Write for samples and big seed guide—all free. American Mutual Seed Co. Dept. 427 Chicago, Ill.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS, \$3.75 PER 1000 history and illustrated book gives all details about most vigorous true to nature product. stock now grown, book free. MAYER'S PLANT NURSERY, Merrill, Michigan.

The Collection Box

LOOKING UP COOPS

Subscribers living in eastern Michigan still complain that they have not received return of poultry crates shipped to Detroit. This matter has been repeatedly laid before the American Railway Express Co., at Detroit, which has as many times advised us that careful investigation shows no accumulations of coops at the Detroit terminal. The latest information received under date of Dec. 4th, was that an investigation would be made at the various transfer points between Detroit and eastern Michigan towns to ascertain whether any coops were being held up.—Editor.

STILL THEY COME

I see by the paper that there are a lot of other people roped in by the Chicago Portrait Co. I was one of them. I gave them a note for \$25 which is due the first of December. Do you think it would be advisable to pay this note or not? They sold frames at different prices around here.—A. C. Port Huron, Mich.

We wrote to Mr. C. that his payment of the note would depend somewhat upon the circumstances under which it was obtained from him. If the holder of the note can show value received the note would probably be collectable. It would be a matter for a court to decide, and the question arises whether you would care to go to the expense of going to court and possibly being obliged to pay the note in the bargain. In the future look before you leap.

CHICAGO FIRM SETTLES

Among the score of mail order houses against which we receive complaints none are so prompt and courteous in investigating and adjusting complaints than Phillipsborn, of Chicago. Why they should delay so long in settling complaints until their customers get wary and put their claims in our hands for collection is something we cannot understand.

Last April, Tom B., of Cheboygan, sent an order to this firm for a suit of clothes, enclosing a money order for \$18.86. The clothes arrived; they were several sizes too small, so Tom B. fired them back and asked for a return of his money. No reply. He wrote several more letters which were also ignored. Finally, on Nov. 16th, he asked the *Collection Box* to try its hand with case. One letter did the business. A few days later, Tom's grateful mother wrote us that the

check for the full amount had been received, and assured us of the life-long friendship of herself and family. Ah, well, "he profits most who serves best."

TIRES UNSATISFACTORY

I have an account I wish you could collect for me with the Master Tire Co., Chicago, Ill. In June I sent them an order for \$17.56 for two tires at \$9.45 each, with a discount of 5 per cent if two tires were ordered which I did. They were guaranteed 5,000 miles. We waited until the middle of August before they came, writing them several times in the meantime and paying 95 cents express on them. I put one on the car and drove less than fifty miles and had a blow-out. The other tire was not properly beaded and could not use it so I sent them back by insured parcel post. Have written them several times to return money but they do not send it and have failed to get any more tires in return.—E. J. C. Linden, Mich.

The Master Tire Company in a reply to our complaint advised us to write our subscriber to call at the express office at Linden, as they were sure the agent had the shipment. "We finally received the two tires," says Mr. C.

PORTRAIT CO. THREATENS SUIT

Mrs. C. F. B., of Harrison, Mich., one of the several scores of our readers to be inveigled into purchasing a "painting" from the Chicago Portrait Co., has received a notice from the "Inland Collection Agency," that unless payment is received within a certain specified date suit will be instituted. Printed in legal form with "State of Illinois, County of Cook," appearing under the heading, "final notice before suit," the paper is a very impressive document, intended to send the chills down the spine of the recipient and bring before her vision a picture of a courtroom, jail and gallows. In most cases the "notice" has the desired effect. A shyster lawyer or a bogus "collection agency" has little difficulty in bulldozing the average person into signing away their birth-right. But we hope our readers who have been stung by the Chicago Portrait Co., will have the good sense to know that the "Inland Collection Agency," is probably a faked name used by the Chicago Portrait Co., to scare their dupes into settling accounts which they know could never be collected in an American court of justice.

Veterinary Department

Dr. W. Austin Ewalt, editor

WARTS

Have a yearling heifer that has a cluster of warts on her nose as large as a man's fist, and also smaller ones coming. Please advise a cure thru your columns.—A Farmer, Lamb, Mich.

Remove the entire cluster with a sharp knife properly sterilized, after which apply silver nitrate to the bleeding surfaces. Fowler's solution of arsenic applied once a day, and given in one ounce doses morning and night will remove warts in the early stage.

SWELLING AROUND KNEE

I have a mare that has a bunch on each side of knee on left front leg, probably a year old, but is soft and about the size of an apple on outside, smaller inside. I have used 3 or 4 bottles of Save-The-Horse on it, but it hasn't reduced it yet. Can you advise one what will cure it? Did you ever use any Gombault's Caustic Balsam and would you recommend it? My cats are troubled with a distemper and I don't know what to do for them.—S. C. J., Bronson, Mich.

If this enlargement is soft it should be lanced provided it is external to the capsular ligament and packed with gauze saturated with tincture iodine. If it is not external to the ligament, then the fluid should be drawn off by means of an aspirator and a solution composed of equal parts of tincture iodine and alcohol injected. This should be done by a competent veterinarian. Gombault's Caustic Balsam or any other local preparation will not reduce the en-

largement for it contains a quantity of fluid.

Mixed infection vaccine is the only treatment to be relied upon for the cure of distemper in cats and dogs.

COW'S UDDER HARD AND INFLAMED

I have a cow that came in last May. She often has one quarter or the other of her udder hard and inflamed. She also gives gargety milk at times and she does not always have an inflamed udder to do so.—Z. O. S., Mayville, Mich.

Give two drams of potassium iodide twice daily dissolved in a little warm water. In severe cases where the udder is hard I would recommend giving a good cathartic at the start consisting of magnesium sulphate two pounds, powdered ginger and gentian, equal parts one ounce, powdered nuxvomica and capsicum equal parts one dram; dissolve the entire contents in two quarts of hot water and give slowly at one dose.

PIGS WON'T EAT

I have some pigs which I wish to fatten but they will not eat either corn or rye mash. I have fed them small pieces of coal but that does not seem to benefit them. Can you give me any advice as to why they will not eat and what I could give them that will make them eat? They are March and June pigs.—J. B. N., Baroda, Mich.

Give them a complete change of food; feed anything that is easily digested. Also give them access to an outside yard. Give one dram of powdered gentian twice daily.



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Jan. 10, Holsteins. Harry T. Tubbs, Elwell, Mich.
Jan. 14, Aberdeen-Angus. Michigan Aberdeen-Angus Ass'n., East Lansing, Mich.
Feb. 1, Poland Chinas. Witt Bros., Jasper, Mich.

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Andy Adams, Litchfield, Mich.
Ed. Bowers, South Whitley, Ind.
Porter Colestock, Easton Rapids, Mich.
John Hoffman, Hudson, Mich.
D. L. Perry, Columbus, Ohio.
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Are you using a first class herd sire?
You can't afford to use a poor one.

We have good ones of all ages listed at reasonable prices.
Let us know your needs.

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H. W. Norton, Jr., Field Secretary
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Sired by a Pontiac Aggie Korndyke-Hengerveld DeKol bull from a nearly 19 lb. show cow. First prize junior calf, Jackson Fair, 1920. Light in color and good individual. Seven months old. Price, \$125 to make room. Hurry!
Herd under Federal Supervision.

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A bull calf ready for service. Combines show type and production.
Herd sire, Model Kig. Segis Gilsta, whose granddam is Gilsta Ernestine, the only cow of the breed that has six times made better than 30 lb. butter.

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(In Government Accredited List.)

offers choice yearling registered sires from our 34 lb. (average 2 nearest dams 37 pounds) King Korndyke Artis Vale bull for \$150 to \$250.

BRANDONHILL FARM

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Ortonville, Michigan

Mr. Dairyman: Space will not allow full description of my young bull born March 29th, 1920, except to say he is a perfect individual, light color, and well grown. If you can find an animal to compare with him for \$300, I will make you a present of him. My price \$200 for a limited time only.

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FOR SALE—2 REG. HOLSTEIN BULLS ready for service from 19 1-2 and 24 1-2 lb. dams. Price \$100 and \$125. Herd on accredited list.

Wm. GRIFFIN, Howell, Mich.

7 HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN BULLS 7

From a State and Federal Accredited Herd, Sired by

WALKER LYONS 174771

whose twenty nearest dams have records averaging 30.11 pounds of butter from 592 pounds of milk. These bulls are from dams with records up to 26.3 as Jr. four year olds and are priced from \$100.00 to \$200.00. Age, 9 months to 2 years.

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WHO WOULD LIKE HIM?

His 6 nearest dams average 23.99 lbs. of butter in 7 days. His Sire's 14 nearest dams average 25.46 lbs. of butter. His dam is a nearly 23 lb. granddaughter of King of the Pontiacs made at just 3 years of age.
His sire is 25 lb. 3 year old Grandson of the \$50,000 bull. Calf is nicely marked and large for his age and is priced at only \$75.00. F. O. B.

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Your problem is more MILK, more BUTTER, more PROFIT, per cow.
A son of Maplecrest Application Pontiac—182462—from our heavy-yearly-milking-good-but-ter-record dam will solve it.
Maplecrest Application Pontiac's dam made 85,103 lbs. butter in 7 days; 1344.3 lbs. butter and 23421.2 lbs. milk in 365 days.
He is one of the greatest long distance sires. His daughters and sons will prove it.
Write us for pedigree and prices on his sons. Prices right and not too high for the average dairy farmer.
Pedigrees and prices on application.
R. Bruce McPherson, Howell, Mich.

Yearling Bull For Sale

Bull born Sept. 28, 1919, evenly marked and a fine individual. Sired by my 30 lb. bull and from a 20 lb. daughter of Johan Heng. Lad, full sister to a 32 lb. cow. Dam will start on yearly test Nov. 15.

ROY F. FICKIES

Chesaning, Mich.

PRICED TO SELL

SIX HEAD REGISTERED HOLSTEINS
Two yearling heifers, bred to grandson of Traverse Princess Weg. Price \$150 each.
Three heifer calves, ages 5, 4 and 2 months old. Price \$125 each.
One bull 8 months old, dam has 7 day A. R. O. 18.77 butter 427.8 milk. Next dam 15.11 butter, 387.7 milk. Sire's dam 22.43 butter, 503.2 milk. Price \$125.
Pedigrees sent promptly on request.
This stock is all nicely grown.
H. E. BROWN, Breedsville, Mich.

SOLD AGAIN

Bull calf last advertised sold but have 2 more that are mostly white. They are nice straight fellows, sired by a son of King Ona. One is from a 17 lb. 2 yr. old dam and the other is from a 20 lb. Jr. 3 yr. old dam, she is by a son of Friend Hengerveld De Kol Butter Boy, one of the great bulls.
JAMES HOPSON JR., Owosso, Mich., R. 2.

Howbert Minita Ormsby

REGISTERED HOLSTEIN HEIFER, BORN APRIL 18, 1919

well marked, good condition. Sired by a 27 pound bull. Dam a well bred Ormsby cow. Herd Tuberculin tested under State and Federal Supervision.

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(Federal accredited herd.)

Bull old enough for service. His dam's 7 day record 20.85 lbs. butter, 467.80 lbs. milk 305 days 16,281.1 lbs. milk, 654 lbs. butter. Two A. R. O. daughters. His sire a 24 lb. grandson of Colantha Johana Lad.

Also 3 heifers 7 months old not related to bull. ALL FOR \$500.00

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WOLVERINE STOCK FARM REPORTS GOOD sales from their herd. We are well pleased with the calves from our Junior Herd Sire "King Pontiac Lunde Korndyke Segis" who is a son of "King of the Pontiacs" from a daughter of Pontiac Clothilde De Kol 2nd. A few bull calves for sale. T. W. Sprague, R. 2, Battle Creek, Mich.

TWO BULL CALVES

Registered Holstein-Friesian, sired by 39.87 lb. bull and from heavy producing young cows. These calves are very nice and will be priced cheap if sold soon.

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BULL CALF BORN MARCH 27, 1920, VERY nice, straight and well grown, sired by a son of Flint Hengerveld Lad whose two nearest dams average over 32 lbs. butter and 735 lbs. milk in 7 days. Dam is a 20.61 lb. Jr. 2 year old daughter of Johan Hengerveld Lad 68 A. R. O. daughters. Price \$150. F. O. B. Flint. Pedigree on application.
L. C. KETZLER, Flint, Mich.

FOR SALE—TWO BULL CALVES, A HOLSTEIN and Durham about 3 months old. Both are heavy milking dams. Not registered. \$50 each if taken at once.
CHASE STOCK FARM, Marlette, Mich.

FOR SALE

LARGE REGISTERED HOLSTEIN COW five year old, well marked and a good milker, also her bull calf born Oct. 27; sired by a son of Johan Hengerveld Lad, one a 22 lb. two year old dam. Price \$250 for the pair.
R. H. BARNHART, R. 1, St. Charles, Mich.

FOR SALE—REGISTERED HOLSTEIN COW. Three heifer calves. 1 bull calf.
R. J. BANFIELD, Wixom, Mich.

TO SETTLE AN ESTATE

7 registered Holstein cows, 5 yet to freshen, bred to a 30 lb. bull. \$1,200 takes them.
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A Bull Good Enough to Head Any Herd
PRINCE FLINT MAPLE CREST 208466 a 4 yr. old son of Maple Crest Korndyke Hengerveld, once known as the greatest butter bred bull in the world. His dam, Flint Pieterje Eleanor and her dam have yearly records of over 25,000 lbs. of milk and over 1,200 lbs. butter in 1 year. This bull is a good individual and was purchased when a yearling for \$650.
Write for price.
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Special Shorthorn Offer!

For the next 30 days we will make attractive prices on females with calves by side, bred and open heifers. Bred to our great imported herd sire Imp. Scottish Emblem 680-312. Also a few choice roan Scotch bulls of serviceable age by Imp. Scottish Emblem. A great opportunity to secure the blood of this great bull. Come and see them or write
H. B. PETERS & SON
Elsie, Mich.

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Why buy Bulls that come from Herds you know nothing about?

For the next thirty days we are going to offer the best lot of Bulls ever sold in Mich. Prices ranging from \$200 to \$500.

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Herd at Prescott, Mich. Tawas City, Mich.

SCOTCH SHORTHORNS 5 GOOD BULLS

Priced right, also my herd bull.

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BUY SHORTHORNS FROM AN ACCREDITED HERD, that are

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WHAT DO YOU WANT? I represent 41

SHORTHORN breeders. Can put you in touch with best milk or beef strains. Bulls all ages. Some females. C. W. Crum, President Central Michigan Shorthorn Association, McBrides, Michigan.

W. S. HUBER, Gladwin, Mich., offers for sale a choice bull calf, sire, Robert Clay by Washington Clay. Dam, Charlotte's Gem by Maplelane Dan Oxford out of Charlotte B 2nd.

SHORTHORNS

5 bulls, 4 to 8 mos. old, all roans, well fed. Dams good milkers, the farmers' kind, at farmers' prices.
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THE VAN BUREN CO. SHORTHORN BREEDERS' Association have stock for sale, both milk and beef breeding.
Write the secretary.
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SHORTHORNS COWS, HEIFERS, BULLS

offered at attractive prices before January first. Will trade for good land.

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KENT COUNTY SHORTHORN BREEDERS' Ass'n are offering bulls and heifers for sale, all ages. Sell the scrub and buy a purebred.
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offers eight Scotch Topped Shorthorn Heifers from seven to twenty-two months old and one roan bull nine months old. Also two younger bulls.
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Villager breeding.

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We can furnish registered bulls from 12 months and older, best of breeding and at a very low price, have also some extra good Herd headers. We have also a large line of registered Hampshire Hogs, Gilts, Sows and Boars.
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King Repeater No. 713941 heads our herd. A grandson of the Undeclared Grand Champion Repeater 7th No. 386905. We have some fine bulls for sale and also some heifers bred to Repeater. Tony B. Fox, Proprietor.
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150 HEREFORD HEIFERS. ALSO KNOW of 10 or 15 loads fancy quality Shorthorns and Angus steers 5 to 1,000 lbs. Owners anxious to sell. Will help buy 50c commission.
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bulls ready for service. Tuberculin tested.

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Fine heifer calves 6 months old—\$200.

Fine bull calves 6 to 8 months old—\$100.

All papers transferred.

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From tested and untested dams. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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Car lot shipments assembled at GLENWOOD FARM for prompt shipment.
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THE BEST BRED POLAND CHINA PIGS Sired by Big Bob Mastodon at the lowest price.
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BIG BOB MASTODON

Sire was champion of the world. His dam's sire was grand champion at Iowa State Fair. 8 choice spring gilts bred that are pictures, sired by him. Also some sows bred to him for March and April. Priced low and guaranteed in every way. Get my prices.
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We are now offering a few choice big type Poland China Boars, from Big Smooth Jones, one of the breed's best sires, from Dams by such noted sires as Grand Master, Hillcrest Wonder, Mastodon Wonder and Hillcrest Bob.
You can't get better breeding. Individual they will please you. Price \$50.
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BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS WITH QUALITY Nine fall gilts out of litters of eleven and thirteen, for sale.
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BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS. SPRING PIGS of both sex for sale at reasonable prices. Registered in buyer's name.
Sired by Big Long Bob.
MOSE BROS., St. Charles, Mich.

BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS A few choice spring boars and gilts sired by "Half Ton Lad," a good son of "Smooth Half Ton" Champion of Michigan in 1918. Gilts will be bred to Jumbo's Mastodon 2nd, son of Big Bob Mastodon for March and April farrow.
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BARGAINS IN BIG TYPE POLAND CHINA bred gilts and older sows. Also fall pigs and young Shorthorn bulls. Robert Neve, Pierson, Mich.

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I have a fine lot of spring pigs sired by Hart's Black Prince, a good son of Black Prince, grand champion of the world in 1918. Also have a litter of 7 pigs, 5 sows and 2 boars, sired by Prospect Yank, a son of the \$40,000 Yankee, that are sure Humdingers.
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LEONARD'S BIG TYPE P. C. SPRING boars, bred sows and the best litter of fall pigs in the state. Come and see or write.
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B. T. P. C. SPRING BOARS, Sired by WIL- ley's King Bob, out of Grand Daughters of Disher's Giant. All immunized with double treatment.
John D. Wiley, Schoolcraft, Mich.

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of Big Type Poland China hogs, which represents the work of 25 years of constructive breeding. Everything goes including our three great herd boars, Mich. Buster by Grant Buster, A. Grant, Butler's Big Bob. Two of the best yearling prospects in Mich. Modern type, high arched backs, great length, big bone. Come and pick up what you want. Our prices are right.
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LSPC FOUR CHOICE SPRING AND FALL boars left. A few extra nice gilts left bred for April farrow.
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WALNUT ALLEY BIG TYPE P. C. 3 fall sow pigs grand daughters of the Senior Grand Champion sow of Detroit, 1920, \$12.50 each. Also bred gilts priced right.
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BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS Early fall pigs for sale, either sex. These are real ones. Write for breeding and price.
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BIG TYPE POLAND CHINA BOARS Long, heavy boned spring boars. Sired by Brewster & Son's great herd boar, Girtsdale Timm. Stock all double immunized.
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Boars—Ready for Service Big type, large bone and rugged, with plenty of quality. This is your chance to buy high class individuals at reasonable prices.

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of choice breeding and the right type. Panama Special, the Principal 4th, Orion Cherry King and Great Orion families.
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spring pigs by Walt's Orion, First Sr. Yearling
Detroit, Jackson, Gd. Rapids and Saginaw, 1919
Phillips Bros, Riga, Mich

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Duroc sows and gilts bred to Walt's King \$2949 who has sired more prize winning pigs at the state fairs in the last 2 years than any other Duroc boar.
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Choice individuals; shipped to you c. o. d. express paid and guaranteed right or your money refunded. All stock registered in buyer's name.

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AM OFFERING SOME HIGH CLASS SPRING DUROC BOARS

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Herd Boar—Reference only—No. 129219

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FOR SALE—Reg Duroc Yearling Boar weighing 600 lbs. A bargain at \$75. Spring boars weighing 200 to 250 at \$40 and \$50. These are real boars. We still have spring sows at \$40 and \$50. Stock double immunized for cholera.
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DUROC—JERSEY SERVICE BOARS, \$50.00 Fine early fall pigs, 1,000 lb. herd boar.
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WE OFFER A FEW WELL-BRED SELECT- ed spring Duroc Boars, also bred sows and gilts in season. Call or write.
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O. I. C. AND CHESTER WHITE SWINE. ONE choice boar of Prince Big Bone breeding. A big type fellow, priced to sell. Some fall pigs left. Bred sows and gilts.
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June and July boars and open gilts each one a guaranteed breeder. Recorded and express paid in full for the next thirty days.
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OTTO B. SCHULZE, Nashville, Mich.

MACK'S NOTES

Rumor has it that speculators have recently made heavy purchases of wool in South America and Australia, on American account; this report if true, foreshadows a recovery in wool prices. The managers of the farmers' big wool pools are looking for a better market, early in the new year.

The horse trade begins to show some signs of returning prosperity; there is, however, no well-established demand for anything but drafters. Animals weighing from 1,500 to 1,700 pounds, sell readily in the Chicago market for \$250 to \$265. The grade known as "chunks," averaging from 1,300 to 1,450, bring from \$150 to \$185. Some fairly good, second hand horses bring around \$35 each and no demand exists for slim-waisted, long-legged, trotting-bred animals.

All of the leading western live stock markets have been featuring bargain sales of female cattle of late and the result is a lower price schedule in this department than has been known since 1912. Canner cows have sold below \$3 per cwt. in Chicago on several market sessions, of late and Omaha has cleared hundreds of fairly good beef cows for prices ranging between \$4 and \$5 per cwt.

C. E. Heinemann who has been for many years secretary of the National Live Stock Association with headquarters at Chicago has resigned from that organization and gone with the Institute of American Meat Packers. Mr. Heinemann is a cultured, courteous gentleman of the old school; tactful and conservative to a degree but always bristling with information concerning the subject he has in hand, he will reflect great credit upon any organization with which he is connected.

Recent developments seem to point to an early revival in the demand for hides. Packers have made important sales lately and many interior butchers, with nearly a year's "take-off" on hand have disposed of their holdings. The tanners are beginning to nibble and good judges of the hide market are predicting increasing activity from now on.

The latest report of the United States Bureau of Markets shows that cold storage stocks of meats and lard in the United States, including holdings in both cold storage warehouses and packing house plants, on Dec. 1 amounted to 695,676,000 lbs., a decrease of 21,949,000 lbs. as compared with Nov. 1, 1920.

Perhaps the largest cow testing association in the United States was organized in Geneva, Illinois, recently by Temple Lovett of the department of dairy husbandry of the University of Illinois. Farmers entered more than 1,000 cows from their herds in an association to determine the producing value of their stock.

Rag Apple Korndyke VIII, Holstein bull, the purchase of a half interest in which for \$50,000 is alleged to have started the financial difficulties resulting in the bankruptcy of E. J. Countryman, former cashier of the insolvent Union State Bank, and E. M. Detweiler, was sold recently at bankrupt's sale for \$1,100.

Members of the Corn Belt Meat Producers' association, while in convention assembled at Des Moines the other day, went on record as opposed to establishing co-operative commission firms at the stock yards of the country for buying and selling farmers' live stock. The larger and more influential feeders were strongest in their opposition to the plan, urging that the adoption of the plan would antagonize interests at the yards whose friendship had been and would continue to be of great value to the farmers. It was also pointed out that the undertaking would duplicate organizations of a similar nature that were giving good satisfaction and thus add to rather than lessen the burden of expense incurred in connection with marketing operations.

BERKSHIRES

Good bred Berkshire Glits for April farrow to \$50. One Shorthorn bull \$125. Fall Berkshire pigs \$10 and \$15 each. One Hampshire Down ram lamb \$35. All above stock eligible for registry.

PRIMEVAL FARM, Osseo, Mich.

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BOAR PIGS \$15.00

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We are offering some good sows and glits, bred for March and April farrowing. Also a few choice fall pigs, either sex. Write or call

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See our exhibit at the Ohio and Michigan State Fairs.

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All registered stock and in fine healthy serviceable condition.

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JOE MURRAY & SON, Brown City, Mich., R 2

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FOR SALE, FLEMISH GIANT RABBITS. DOES, breeding age, \$6. Three months old pair, \$5. Registered does \$12 each. Stock pedigreed. Quality guaranteed.

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AIREDALE PUPS TWO MONTHS OLD from registered stock Pedigrees furnished. Make fine watch dogs for homes and poultry. Males \$15. Females \$10

R. G. KIRBY, R 1, East Lansing, Mich.



EWALT'S SIR HECTOR
A. K. C. No. 244685
Service Fee \$15.00

Crop Reports

MONROE (N. E.)—We are having real winter weather now; with a nice coat of snow on the ground. It will help the fields of small wheat. We have had a bad fall in general, lots of rain and when it froze up, roads were nearly impassible. They are bad yet. Lots of corn in the fields yet and lots is being wasted. When spring comes there will not be as much corn in cribs as last year. It is cheap so they throw it out and let the stock eat stalks and all. Very little going to market; a few hogs, poultry and some hay. The markets are very uneven; it depends on a buyer getting an order to be filled. Our grain buyers will not buy unless on a big margin, which does not leave the prices of hauling, still they want war time prices on lumber, posts, fencing and coal. The sooner we all swallow our loss and try to do business the best we can the better for everyone. All one can hear when a bunch of farmers get together is taxes; it is true we are caught very hard around here by the acreage tax on the Dixie Highway (and can not use it) and our improved road tax in county has gone right to the limit and some will be unable to pay. They will holler but not go to vote or get together and see that they get value received for money spent.—G. L. S. Newport Dec. 28.

INGHAM—It's a dark foggy morning; snow about all gone. Everybody busy with holiday affairs. The farmers and a few in the village have organized a stock company; are to build an oil and gas station to supply autos and the farm trade with gas and oils. Will commence building about the 15th of this month. The market for calves here last week was 12c. Shipped by Co-operation they brought 16c. A little profit, eh? Not much doing but chores. Quite a good many farms are offered for sale here, and good ones.—C. J. M., Williamston, Jan. 1.

MONTCALM—The farmers are doing chores and cutting wood. A few drawing potatoes, some visiting, others entertaining visitors. The weather is fine, not very cold, with just enough snow to make pretty good sleighing, but none to spare. A few of the farmers are selling poultry and live stock, but most of them are holding their wool, potatoes and beans for higher prices. Not much building being done, only a few necessary things. Material too high and money too scarce. The holidays were very pleasant and everybody seemed to enjoy them very much.—G. B. W., Lakeview, Dec. 31.

GRATIOT—Farmers are selling some grain and hay to raise money to pay taxes, for they say that death and taxes must come and they certainly come high. Well it has stormed every day for the last three weeks. Have had some sleighing but it is thawing now, so it won't stay long.—J. W., North Star, Dec. 30.

WEXFORD—Plenty of winter for this time of the year. Snow is from 1 1/2 to 2 feet deep. Today it thawed some which made good sleighing. Not much produce hauled at present. Getting up wood seems to be the order of the day. Strong talk of wages being cut by first of year by some lumber firms and above the Straits some lumber firms say they will raise wages the first of year. We all know it is out of reason to cut wages when cost of living is so high.—S. H. S. Harrietta, Dec. 30.

GRAND TRAVERSE—Are having some winter; lots of snow but not much sleighing. Farmers are getting wood and quite a few hogs are being butchered. Everything that farmers have to sell is so cheap, there is not much being sold.—C. L. B., Williamsburg, Dec. 30.

MIDLAND—Farmers are doing chores and getting up wood, most of which is being sold. Weather conditions remain about the same; cold enough to keep the snow on the ground. There are about six inches now, with promises of more in the very near future. Fairly good sleighing. Some potatoes have been sold, but at present there is no market for them. Not a great deal of building being done. A few auction sales, with cattle going very low. For reasons which are not generally understood, the Farm Bureau has fallen into disfavor among a few of the small farmers. It is hoped, however, that the difficulty will soon be straightened out.—C. L. H., Midland, Dec. 29.

COOK COUNTY, (Ill.)—We are having about 2 to 4 inches of snow with real winter weather of from 2 to 5 below zero, but the milk trucks that haul the milk daily are still traveling. As this is a dairy country all the young hogs are sold on the market on special market days, at about 8 to 10 weeks of age and are selling from \$2 to \$5 each. No hog cholera around and all cattle are healthy. Horses selling moderately. Help is now plentiful. People are hauling fire wood from the forests. Much drainage is being planned for next year as many carloads of drain tile are being shipped in. Drainage has been practically at a standstill for the past 2 or 3 years on account of the help question.—D. F. T., Mt. Prospect, Dec. 28.

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