

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

The Independent Farm, Home and Market Weekly, for Michigan Business Farmer

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\$1 PER YEAR.—No Premiums—Free List of Clubbing Offers

WHEAT PRICE IN MICHIGAN

Advice From Food Administration
Shows That the Wheat Price
Should Not Drop Below \$2
Anywhere in This
State —

A statement just received from the United States Food Administration absolutely proves the statements we have made in previous issues of M. B. F. that no farmer should be expected to sell his wheat for less than \$2 a bushel anywhere in the state of Michigan. The letter follows:

"Your letter of the 26th addressed to Mr. J. H. Barnes at New York, handed to me for reply I think the price in Detroit should be 2 cents a bushel over the basic price at Chicago, or in other words:

No. 1—Detroit, \$2.00.
No. 2—Detroit, \$2.17.
No. 3—Detroit, \$2.14.

"To get value F.O.B. point of shipment, take the price in most available terminal market (New York, Philadelphia or Baltimore, and deduct therefrom the export rate of freight, and one (1) cent for commission.)

"I find that in this way a shipment from Mt. Clemens to New York, Philadelphia or Baltimore would net about \$2.13 for No. 2 Red wheat with the other grades at discounts stated. "FOOD ADMINISTRATION GRAIN CORPORATION, H. D. IMRIE, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT."

This information comes direct from headquarters. With this as a basis every farmer in the state can determine for himself the EXACT price his dealer ought to pay for wheat. In next week's issue we will endeavor to give our readers the freight rates from the principal shipping points in Michigan to the primary markets. In the meantime, ask your agent to tell you what the export rate is to the above named terminal markets.

In this connection it is interesting to note that farmers of New York state have been meeting with the same difficulty in getting a fair price for their wheat from local dealers as Michigan producers. THE RURAL NEW YORKER referred the matter to the Food Administration and was advised as follows:

"The millers of the United States are signing an agreement with the Food Administration that they will pay only the relative prices compared to the zone points, less freight and expenses, etc. This will be uniform throughout the United States, so a farmer or dealer in any particular vicinity can figure the expenses, freight, etc., under the zone point—Baltimore, for example—and can then tell just what he ought to receive for his wheat if it makes a certain grade.

"If he is not satisfied with the price offered at his local station and is not satisfied that the grade is right, he can ship the wheat himself to the Government at, say Baltimore, and when it has been unloaded, the Government will remit the proceeds to him on the Government price plus 1 per cent Administration charge.

"FOOD ADMINISTRATION GRAIN CORPORATION."

This is the first intimation we have had that the Government intended to provide for direct dealing

PRACTICAL ARTICLES BY PRACTICAL FARMERS.

We are pleased to announce the addition of Mr. Nathan F. Simpson, former warden of Jackson prison, and Mr. Colon C. Lillie, one of the state's leading agricultural authorities, to our staff of editorial writers. Mr. Simpson's article, "The Old and the New," printed on page 10 of this issue, is the first of a series that this well-informed business farmer will write for our readers. Other articles from his pen that will appear in these pages from time to time will be "Practical Farming by a Practical Farmer," "How to Reclaim a Depleted Farm," "Intensive Farming," "Making a Finished Feed Product of Farm Productions," "Organization of Co-Operative Factories, Warehouses, etc." Mr. Simpson's observations are based upon a broad experience and his work in conducting the huge farming operations connected with the state prison. We are certain that both he and Mr. Lillie will have many things of great interest and value to say to our readers in future issues.

Other well-versed agricultural men of the state will be added to our staff as time permits. It is the purpose of the editors to make Michigan Business Farming a well-balanced publication to which the thinking business farmers of Michigan can turn for accurate advice and information.

with the growers. We do not wish to vouch for the above statement, but have written the Food Administration for verification. Providing your local dealer still persists in refusing to pay you the price the Government intended you should have, and until we are able to tell you where and how to ship your wheat direct, just hang onto it. It will pay you.

GROWERS ASK \$8 FOR 1917 CROP OF BEANS

At the annual convention of the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Ass'n, held at Saginaw, October 3rd, a unanimous report was adopted recommending that the price of 1917 beans be placed at \$7.35. This price was based upon

an average yield of seven bushels an acre. Growers implied that the price might be increased if continued bad weather still further cuts the yield. The cost of production was figured at \$57.43 per acre.

There is the usual "bearish" talk about the great crop that is expected this fall, but we fail to find where there are any grounds for the bean producers to get frightened. The Michigan crop is much lighter than as first predicted, and will probably not run over the 5,000,000 bushels forecasted in these columns over six weeks ago. The demand is the greatest ever known and if the market is allowed to take its natural course, beans are bound to be high again this year. If the farmer gets \$8 he will make only a small profit on a seven bushel per acre yield;

ORR DENIES BEAN POOL

President of Bean Jobbers' Ass'n
Takes Exception to Insinuations
That the Jobbers Hoarded
Beans for Speculative
Purposes

Below we print verbatim from a letter received from W. J. Orr, in response to the suggestions made in last week's issue of M. B. F. that bean jobbers of the state had sought to corner the market on beans. It is merely in keeping with our sense of justice toward all that we have given Mr. Orr the privilege of using these columns to present his case. We have no enmity toward Mr. Orr; we desire to do him no injury; we hope to be above the little things of life and look at the great broad principles for which we are fighting in a clear and impartial manner. Our duty is first, last and all the time to the producing farmers of the state. All that is friendly and helpful to them we encourage; all that is inimical to their welfare we oppose. Despite our friendly relations with Mr. Orr, duty forbids a single compromise with him if he does a single act that militates against the farmer and the farmer's chances to secure a living profit from his business. We are glad to give Mr. Orr a hearing, but that does not mean that we accept his every statement or intend that our readers shall. The letter follows:

"Editor MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

"Dear Sir: My attention has been directed to an article printed in your issue of Saturday, Sept. 29th, under the title of 'Bean Statement Denied by U. S.' I find upon examining my files, that on Sept. 14th, I advised you that any producer who could pack his beans in accordance with the Government requirements, could sell them to the Army and Navy through the writer, the same as anybody else who has beans, no matter whether he is a grower, shipper or dealer, and I again advise you that I am correct in my statement to you.

"I note with interest, however, the Food Administration's reply to the inquiry which I advised you I had sent to them to answer, and it is evident from your article that you did not understand the writer of that article as the writer does. He is from California, of the highest honor and integrity, and realizes that in his state the farmers are not in position to fill Government orders according to Army and Navy specifications and requirements, practically or consistently, but if any grower of beans in the United States will prepare his beans in quantities of not less than 50,000 pounds, which is the minimum fixed on carload lots, in accordance with Army and Navy specifications, the Government will purchase the beans just the same as they will from anybody else. Consequently the statements as made to you, which I infer from this article you have published, have not been misleading, but have been correct.

"There are no 'niggers in the woodpile.' My services were solicited by the Government. I am donating them during the war, to co-operate in having

(Continued on page 4)



Uncle Sam to Profiteers on the Fence: "Never Mind, it will be your turn next."

CURRENT MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL NEWS

COMPLETE COST-FINDING REPORT

Details of Investigations and Recommendations of Commission Appointed to Ascertain a Fair Price on Potatoes and Beans

The report of the findings of the Cost Accounting Commission for Michigan beans and potatoes published in last week's issue M. B. F., was received by telephone just before going to press with the issue, and was necessarily brief and incomplete. Below we give a more detailed account of the commission's findings, as reported by State Market Director Jas. N. McBride:

The cost of production plus a fair profit as in other industries is the advice from Washington in the matter of farm products. To assist the U. S. Government in this determination, to aid in stabilizing prices, to recompense the producer for his crop grown on the basis of outlay, and secure a maximum acreage for next year was the work of this commission.

The personnel of this commission brought to this work business experience and the knowledge of Agriculture. Jason Woodman of Paw Paw is an alumnus of the Michigan Agricultural College, one of the foremost and successful growers of potatoes in the U. S. A soil specialist and also a member of the State Board of Agriculture. Jotham Allen of Alma, is first a farmer and in addition, the manager of Alma plant of the Michigan Sugar Co. Crop costs in beet growing are a familiar experience with Mr. Allen. A. B. Cook of Owosso is a graduate of the Agricultural College, a farmer by choice and has served his state in making its Constitution and as a legislator. John Bale of Lakeview is one of the largest potato and bean growers in the state, also a shipper of produce and a live stock feeder. C. B. Scully of Almont is a farmer, president of the State Association of Farmers' Clubs, and represents his district in the state senate. R. C. Rothfuss of Adrian, is president of the State Bank of that city and squared agricultural services with business lines. Unavoidable engagements prevented others of the commission from being present.

C. H. Graves, representing the Federal and State Government in Farm Investigations digested a large mass of reports collected from County Agents who had consulted farmers on crop costs. The work of Lewis Toan, county agent of Monroe county, New York, who had investigated bean growing in that state, was also made a basis of consideration.

The findings of the commission to the acre cost of growing beans was \$58.43. This composite calculation assuming favorable weather for the completion and harvesting the bean crop was a yield of 8 1-4 bushels of merchantable beans per acre. This will compel at least a seven dollar bushel price to the farmer this year. Crop damage that may intervene between now and threshing time would compel a revision of this calculation.

Potatoes: The details of potato costs per acre was presented at great length. An interesting conclusion was that within reasonable limits the cost does not vary so greatly. Large yields involved this year, excessive seed and labor costs. From Wexford county was received a telegram showing the cost of growing an acre was \$86.00 and the estimated yield thereon was 90 bushels. Extensive investigation in Montcalm county showed that this figure was approximated there. The acreage cost in sections outside the most favored potato growing counties was less but the yield also would be less. Damage by frost and dry weather are still possible factors in reducing the yield now calculated on. On the basis of actual cost

of potato growing this year with the unusual cost of seed and every factor entering into potato production the Commission were unanimous that the potato grower must have \$1.00 per bushel for grade 1, United States standard in bulk, F. O. B. Grand Rapids or at points of similar freight rates for price basing purposes. Space does not permit in detail all the figures used in cost calculation. These will be priced later. The thoroughness of the investigation involved digging actual areas to determine yields. Consumers who wish to pay a fair price to the producer and not seek the benefits of unrequited services will, by paying slightly above \$1.00 for potatoes, insure a maximum crop each year, and assist in establishing an equity among those who serve in growing foodstuffs.

The question of profit in these calculations is very complex. On the whole of the acreage planted it is doubtful if any profit exists. Some grower will have a fair profit. Any objections to the work of the Michigan Cost Accounting Commission inheres in all other similar calculations. This office urges the acceptance of the principle and cites the acceptance in business circles of the same as applied to copper prices by the Government.

The following is from a financial paper, the New York Annalist, relating to the price fixed by the United States on copper:

"Copper at 25 1-2c will return a handsome profit to some of the low cost mining companies and a fair profit to others whose costs run high. There are concerns which are able to mine, refine, and deliver their product under 8 cents a pound, others can not do it at less than 18 cents, and many have costs between 11 and 15 cents. A rumor that the average producer would net 10 cents a pound has been called a conjecture, pure and simple, by a prominent copper man. It is safe to add to this the statement that the various producers have no clear knowledge about their profit in the ensuing twelve months. They know that the basis of computing costs which has existed so far implies a good return in 1918, but they do not possess means for deciding whether that basis will prevail. The prices of materials may continue to advance; they may decline. The producer may make more money than he now counts upon; he may make less.

"Probably the most important feature of the price-fixing lies in the belief in Government and copper mining quarters that 23 1-2 per cent metal will assure production at the greatest possible speed. That is the crucial matter affecting the prosecution of the war, and affecting also the maintenance of manufacturing on a broad scale."—Jas. N. McBride, Michigan Director of Markets.

G. R. & I. TO HOLD LAND CLEARING DEMONSTRATION

The G. R. & I. R. R. Co., thru its agricultural agent, Mr. W. P. Hartman, has arranged to hold a land clearing demonstration at the company's demonstration farm, No. 1, Howard City, Friday, October 26th. Co-operating will be the extension, farm mechanics and forestry departments of the M. A. C.; the Dupont Powder Company; Western Michigan Development Bureau; and several

manufacturers of stump-pulling machinery.

The field demonstration will begin early in the morning and continue until sun-down. At night in the Community Theatre at Howard City several thousand feet of moving picture films will be exhibited showing every phase of stump-pulling or blasting; stacking stumps for burning; blasting for ditches and methods of treating fence posts and other timbers with preservatives against decay. Lectures during both the day and evening programs by experienced men. Among others we hope to have with us Prof. F. M. White of the Engineering Department of the University of Wisconsin who has had charge of three land clearing demonstration trains in that state during the past two years.

The demonstration is planned to be one of the largest and most important of its kind ever put on in the lower peninsula. It will be spectacular, but practical, and will not only show how best to clear land but what it costs to do so by the various methods employed. The demonstration should appeal to every owner of stump land in the state.

STATE BRIEFS

MANTON—This little "burg" claims the distinction of shipping more potatoes than any other town on the G. R. & I. R. R.

YPSILANTI—Orren Briggs, of Saline township, has a patch of strawberries from which he has obtained fresh berries each week for several months past.

MUSKEGON—Marcus A. Frost, president of the People's Milling Co., of Muskegon, purchased a carload of corn, 600 bushels, in 1894, for \$132. This week Mr. Frost paid \$3,200 for a carload of corn.

PONTIAC—Ninety-five per cent of the property owners on the proposed Dixie highway, between Clarkston and the Genesee county line, have signed a petition for a concrete road 18 feet wide along the route. State and federal money will be used.

HOLLY—A Farmers elevator has been formed and will either buy the elevator now in business or build one. Much enthusiasm was shown at the last meeting and the movement promises to meet with the co-operation of practically all the farmers in the vicinity of Holly.

ANN ARBOR—At closing time last night the University had a little over 1,300 fewer students than it had at a corresponding date a year ago. All departments are included in the short list, due no doubt, in great measure to the war. There are about 600 fewer men in the literary college than last year.

HILLMAN—The final link in the Boyne City, Gaylord and Alpena railway was completed recently, connecting the Alpena-Hillman branch and the Detroit and Mackinaw division of the Michigan Central. Regular train service is expected to start in a short time. This railway opens up a rich agricultural section hitherto untouched because of its isolation from marketing points.

GOOD NEWS FOR MICHIGAN DAIRYMEN

Michigan milk producers have scored a great victory in their fight for higher and more equitable prices. Last week three hundred and ninety-five farmers of Isabella county pledged themselves not to sell another gallon of milk to the Borden Condensary Company under either the ruling price of \$2.40 for September milk or the contemplated price of \$2.60 for October milk. They demanded \$3 per hundred. The matter went to the Borden headquarters at New York and while under consideration there the dairymen prepared to strike. But it was not necessary. The Borden saw the hand writing on the wall and word came back Monday that they had capitulated and agreed to pay the price.

The new price, it is understood, affects every condensary owned by the Borden in this state.

This is the beginning of the end. The producers have conducted a clean, honest campaign for higher prices. They have asked nothing unreasonable; they have laid all their cards on the table and invited the distributors and condensaries to meet them half way. In the majority of cases, they have been obliged to resort to threats of strike and boycott in order to bring the distributors to time. We believe that the producers have gained a signal victory, and that if they continue to stand solidly together they will be able to practically dictate the milk price in Michigan for a long period of time.

DAIRYMEN ASK \$3 A HUNDRED

Members of Michigan Milk Producers' Ass'n Urged to Make United Demand for Higher and More Equitable Reward

Don't forget the annual meeting of the Michigan Milk Producers' Association at the Michigan Agricultural College, Oct. 16. This meeting will, we believe, be one of the most eventful in the history of the milk industry of Michigan. Very important problems are before us for solution. Send your delegates. Each local is entitled to three. Don't forget the date—October 16, 10:30 a. m., at the M. A. C. Look for program.

The great milk way of Michigan has been deeply stirred for the last two weeks. Vassar, Howell and Lansing locals have been bringing pressure for better price conditions, while Mt. Pleasant has shown a spirit of patriotism that is worthy of the highest commendation; had this spirit been shown all over Michigan, there would have been a raise since Sept. 1st of from 35c to 50c per hundred pounds. Now figure out what this means to you. At Mt. Pleasant three hundred and eighty-six men have signed pledges to each other and have notified the factory there that they would not deliver milk for less than \$3.00 per hundred pounds after Oct. 1st.

The old argument that the farmers were violating the Sherman Anti-trust Law has been held over the milk producers in many sections for the last three weeks. We are glad to say however that this threat has but little effect inasmuch as the people are coming to know that there are two distinct exemption in this law which allows the producer of food stuffs and labor organizations to form combinations for the betterment of their conditions. The field secretary has not only been co-operating with these locals, but has also been bringing pressure from the government inasmuch as the policy of Mr. Hoover is that all food products shall command a price that equals cost of production plus ten percent profit.

We are quite sure that in Michigan's food administrator, Geo. A. Prescott, that the producer and consumer has a very potential friend who will follow the Government policy of increasing the price to the producer and reducing the price to the consumer eliminating as far as possible the exploiter and profiteer. We are not at liberty at this time to give you the plans of control, but we are sure that the intent is to place food production on a commercial basis and inasmuch as our request has been for a price for our product that equals the cost of production plus a small profit therefore we believe that the future of the dairy industry is stepping into the dawn of a better day.

If you are not getting a compensatory for your milk now, write your field secretary. The State association stands ready to help you when you are ready to help yourself. All Michigan milk should now bring at least \$3.00 per hundred pounds. Yours for a better price, for a better product.—R. C. Reed, Field Secretary.

MAKING A GOOD FIGHT

I want you to know that I am with you on this MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING. Have intended to send my name in before but kept putting it off until I received your card and paper. You are making a good fight and deserve a lot of backing from the farmers of this and other states. Yours truly, Leonard Graham, Rhodes, Mich.

WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER FORECASTER SCORES AGAIN



WASHINGTON, D. C.—After one of the most bitter debates in the history of Congress, the war tax bill has been passed and was signed by President Wilson Thursday. In spite of the very apparent inequalities in the law, the administration is fairly well satisfied with the measure and the expedition with which it was handled. The new law satisfies the profiteers, there will be no kick from them; if the law does not satisfy the people at large, and it undoubtedly does not, their kick will not be felt. Every argument that could be formed was presented to Congress to show why the burden of the taxes should be placed upon those who are making money from the war, but the potent power of money won the day, and the measure becomes a law that places a tremendously heavy burden upon the mass of people.

All new taxes in the war tax bill became effective when the President signed it, except certain specified rates. The one-cent letter and postcard tax becomes operative in 30 days and the second-class mail increases July 1.

New income and war excess profits taxes are based on income of the 1917 calendar year and payable before March 31, 1918.

All stamp taxes, including those on parcel post packages, become effective December 1. Amusement admissions and taxes on club dues go into effect November 1, as the taxes on freight and passenger transportation, sleeping car, drawing room and steamship berths; pipe line transportation, insurance policies and telegraph and telephone messages costing 15 cents or more.

The members of Congress have been working under a terrible strain the last few months, and maybe it was natural that almost upon the eve of adjournment they should want to stage a little comedy-drama to relieve the monotony of work to which Congress as a general rule is not accustomed. This may explain the hasty charges made by the vitriolic Alabama Congressman, Rep. Heflin, against several senators and representatives who have been more or less free with their criticisms of the administration's war policy.

Altho the spirit of Congress is distinctly warlike, the remarks of Rep. Heflin were resented and for a time it looked as if he would have to fight to retain his seat.

Altho the representative made no specific charges, he mentioned the names of Reps. Mason Britten of Illinois, Norton of North Dakota, and Senator Robert M. LaFollette.

All of the men named are republicans except Baer, who was elected as an independent.

Judged by their votes, the men named vary widely in their opinions with respect to the war.

Rep. Norton spoke and voted in favor of the declaration of war. He also supported the draft bill and has not opposed a single important administration measure.

His only offense, it appears, was in taking a leading part in the effort to bring Heflin to account on his charges.

Rep. Mason bitterly opposed the declaration of war and conscription. He has since offered a bill to repeal the draft. His name has been frequently linked with that of Mayor Thompson of Chicago, because of anti-war speeches and other activities.

Rep. Britten offered an amendment to the war resolution declaring that American troops should not be sent to Europe without special sanction of congress, but after his resolution was defeated he voted for the declaration of war and the conscription bill. He has since offered a bill destined to exempt German-Americans from compulsory military service.

Rep. Baer, of North Dakota, was elected to congress after the declaration of war and adoption of most of the other war measures. His chief activity in Washington has been di-

rected toward overturning the \$2.20 price of wheat, fixed by President Wilson's wheat board, on the ground that it is unfair to his farmer constituents. Rep. Baer was elected on the platform of the non-partisan league of North Dakota, which opposed war and conscription.

The chief charge against Senator LaFollette is that he is alleged to have stated in a speech at Minneapolis that the United States did not have any cause that justified a declaration of war against Germany. The senator has since denied that he made this statement.

LaFollette is one of the most fearless men in Congress. He is as unchangeable as the rock and seldom gets the worst of an argument. Altho he has taken a decidedly unpopular stand on the war situation so far as the administration and the newspapers are concerned, he is nevertheless admired by those who criticize him most, for the integrity of character and the evident sincerity of his opinions. With his lightning-like intelligence, his ready tongue and general popularity, he is like a gattling gun that mows his enemies to the ground. The dastardly attacks that former President Roosevelt is now making upon the Wisconsin senator are generally believed to be inspired by political motives rather than a sincere conviction that LaFollette has betrayed his constituents and is a menace to his country.

So far as Congress is concerned, the patriotism test suggested by Rep. Heflin is a dead issue and that body will undoubtedly adjourn without again taking up the matter.

After one of the most strenuous sessions since the founding of the Republic, Congress will adjourn on October 6th. There are few parallels in congressional or any other law-making body annals of the vast amount of epoch-making legislation as passed by the sixty-fourth Congress. In exactly six months' time, from April 6th to October 6th, Congress has declared war, passed a conscription bill, prohibited the manufacture and sale of whiskey, appropriated nearly \$20,000,000,000 to carry on the war, passed the food-control bill and a war tax bill carrying with it tax levies of over \$2,000,000,000. These are the more important laws; many others of minor importance have been passed. As we glance over the list, we are bound to say that Congress should have a well-earned rest, and get in fighting trim again for the December session when there will undoubtedly be many more things of vast importance to receive their attention.

E. C. Foster Continues to Give Accurate Forecasts of Weather to Michigan Business Farming Readers

Mr. Foster, official weather forecaster for M. B. F., has been up to his old tricks again. He promised our readers a frost on October 1st and 2nd, and it came right along on scheduled time. More than that he predicted to the very day the warm spell culminating about September 27th and the subsequent fall of temperatures winding up with an early October frost.

In his forecast of the September 9th, 10th and 11th frosts, Mr. Foster really performed a remarkable feat, for in many sections hit the frost is not expected to come at that early date only about once in every ten years. Below we reprint Mr. Foster's forecast of the weather conditions expected to obtain in the Great Lakes state during the past fortnight. Note how very closely he hit the mark:

"Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbances to cross continent Sept. 25 to 29, warm wave 24 to 28, cool wave 27 to Oct. 1. This will be an exceedingly important storm. Temperatures will go unusually high, on meridian 90, near Sept. 27, followed by a cold wave and frosts that will damage late corn and threaten cotton. Severe storms are expected near Oct. 2."

SAME OLD STORY; THE FARMER GETS SKINNED

We feel it somewhat our duty to say a word or two in regard to the prices of wheat, potatoes, etc. Potatoes are bringing 75c to \$1.00 per bu. In Cadillac—the grocery stores pay 75c and at the potato warehouse they are giving \$1.00. That was a week ago. Wheat was \$2.25. It seems as tho the grocery stores want to make 25c or better per bu. on potatoes. They seem to try to skin the farmer out of a certain amount of everything that he has to sell. It has always been the case, about harvest time the farmer has been compelled to sell in order to meet a note or something of that sort, and the buyers, or the speculators, took advantage of it. Then after everything was bought up and the majority of the grain out of the hands of the farmer then the price soared sky high.

I have been watching the thing for a number of years and I see that the farmer has been skinned right to the quick, and there seemed to be no recourse unless the Government will do something. We'll watch and see what happens. Yours for success—S. H. S., Cadillac.



Michigan Leads all States in the Production of Beans and Potatoes. The value of her 1917 crops is conservatively estimated at 67 Million Dollars.

WAR WIRES

Germany has apparently abandoned the Zeppelin in favor of the huge war planes which are now being used in the raids over England and France. These raids have been of increasing frequency of late although the resulting fatalities have been less than formerly.

In northern Russia and Roumania the activity of the Germans and Austro-Hungarians has almost ceased. The Germans seem to be carrying on a reconnoitering movement in the Baltic sea with an attack on the Russian fleet as the objective. Their naval airplanes are taking part in the work.

On arrival at Waco, Texas, the Thirty-first, second and third regiments are being wiped out as such and combined under two infantry regiments. Cavalry outfits are being transferred to field artillery and there will be no cavalry in the National Guard. Michigan troops will form what is known as a fighting brigade, the Sixty-third.

The French are trying out an innovation in the form of an airplane ambulance. Stretchers are placed in the tail box of the machine. So far the results are all that were hoped for and they will perhaps be made a regular part of the service. They will be planted with the red cross insigna and will fly no higher than two hundred yards so as to be easily distinguished.

The renewed British offensive on the western front continues with marked success. Counter attacks by the Germans are being repulsed with heavy loss to the Teutons. The Australians have completed the conquest of the German positions at the eastern end of the Polygon wood. There has been much hard fighting in this section and the victory at Polygon wood removes the last troublesome point on the Anzac front.

That the present is a time for exercising self control and judgment rather than allowing the emotions immediate sway is well illustrated by the following: Harry Gunn, a chief boatswain in the navy and known to his officers as one of the most patriotic men in the service, is dead, the victim of an over patriotic mob. Clad in citizen's clothes, Gunn was standing in a crowd in Brooklyn listening to a recruiting speech when a man at his elbow yelled: "To hell with the army!" Many thought Gunn had uttered the cry. He was mobbed and fatally beaten.

The democratic congress in Russia is now in session. It is expected that Premier Kerensky will make a statement of the government's view of the Korniloff case and also present other important matters for consideration. It is hoped that this meeting may bring about a better understanding among the different factions in Russia. American engineers are working wonders along the line of a re-organization of the Russian railways and this will prove a big factor once the armies are ready to resume the offensive. Shortage of ammunition rather than man power has been the one big determining feature in all former offensives undertaken by the Russian armies.

The boys at Camp Custer are getting right into the harness as time goes on and cases of homesickness are not so plentiful as during the first week in camp. The regular hours, good wholesome food and "setting up" exercises are already having their effect. To see the boys in the new uniforms, heads erect, shoulders back, one can scarcely realize that they are not veterans of many months experience. Many of the boys seem to have taken on a new view of life and there is no doubt but what parents will find that, in many cases, this service will prove a favorable turning point in their boys career. The buildings erected by the Y. M. C. A. and those under construction by the Knights of Columbus will furnish social centers and relatives of the boys in camp may rest assured that everything is being done looking toward their physical and moral welfare.

COAL FAMINE THREATENED

With Winter Coming on Coal Shortage Problem Becomes Very Grave in Michigan.

Michigan right now is faced with a most serious coal shortage. Not only are dealers' supplies low, if not absolutely exhausted, but at this time there is no more in sight. In the city of Detroit over half the homes are without coal and as cold weather is at hand actual suffering will soon result. Factories are threatened with closing down unless relief comes soon.

Smaller towns all over the state are entirely out of coal, both hard and soft. Unless relief comes before the real cold of winter sets in the people of Michigan will be face to face with one of the most trying situations they have ever experienced. It is remarked by some that people living in the country and smaller towns can secure wood. While this may be the case in the northern part of the state, central and southern Michigan, at least in many localities, find it just about impossible to secure wood as the supply is exhausted and they are just as much dependent on old King Coal as are those living in the cities.

The situation is not confined to Michigan. It is national in scope. Over in our neighboring state of Ohio Governor Cox took drastic action, seizing a train-load of a thousand tons and forwarding it to Dayton, where it was an immediate necessity. The country just missed a serious situation last winter and it now looks as though the famine was upon us.

The Michigan authorities are taking active measures to meet the situation and Governor Sleeper is deeply interested in the matter and stands ready to do all in his power to relieve the conditions. In the meantime all householders can do their bit toward helping the situation. Do not start the base burner or furnace until it is absolutely necessary. Do not burn two stoves in the house during fall weather when one would be sufficient. Most of us keep our houses too warm. Be comfortable but no more. Burn just as little coal as possible and see to it that it all burns. An ash sifter will in many cases result in a great saving and it will be necessary that we all do our share if we are to get through this coming winter without an actual coal famine, accompanied by strikes and riots in our cities.

Orr Denies Bean Pool

(Continued from page 1)

ing furnished the necessary bean supply, and will not participate either directly or indirectly in any allotments for the Army and Navy requirements. All correspondence in this office, letters and telegrams are open to inspection by you, your representatives, or any other interested party in connection with the handling of this deal.

"I was called to Washington recently by the Food Administration to help in preparing blanks for the licensing of bean dealers throughout the U. S. I am now at work in my office, working on those forms. When completed, every bean dealer in the U. S. handling beans betwixt the producer and the consumer will be required to obtain a license from the Government. Reports which they will be required to fill out, and send in betwixt the 1st and the 10th of each month, will show the amount of beans on hand, the amount paid for them and an account of the sale of all beans that have been made, showing the exact profit and if this profit in any case should prove to be exorbitant or extortionate, their attention will be called to it, and if they do not conduct the business as required by the license, their license will be taken away from them.

"There was some protest against the price of \$7.35 established by the Government from dealers in this state, feeling that the price made for California was the same as for Mich-

igan. Investigation on the part of the writer, however, revealed that California got 11 1-2c per pound f.o.b. coast, and Michigan got 12 1-4c per pound, or a differential of 50c which is a fair differential.

"I note with interest your reference in connection with 200 cars of beans. I have not been interested either directly or indirectly to exceed from five to ten cars of beans during any time in the last six months. The Bean Jobbers' Association, of which I am President, does not sell beans. Its members work independently of each other, and are simply organized together to advance the general interest of the business of those engaged in the growing and handling of beans throughout the State of Michigan, and to inculcate just and equitable principles in trade, establish and maintain uniform grades of beans, and secure their adoption in the markets of the country; to acquire, preserve and disseminate valuable business information; to define and enforce rules for arbitrating any differences that may arise between buyers and sellers of beans and generally to perform any act appertaining to the said industry for the benefit of its members not in conflict with the laws of the State of Michigan or of the United States.

"During my administration as President, the doors have been thrown open to every grower and individual interested in beans. All books and papers are open for inspection by either you or any representative of yours. There has been no pooling of beans, no combination of dealers holding or shipping one car, let alone two hundred cars, and here is an offer of \$100.00 that will show any possible evidence to the contrary. When the Government's first order was placed with me for 7,500,000 pounds I had to canvass California, New York and Michigan in order to secure them, the market having been fairly well cleaned up all over the country, with the exception of foreign importations, which have, and will continue to have a more or less depressing influence on our domestic market for the ensuing year.—W. J. Orr.

A second and subsequent statement received from Mr. Orr on the same subject, states in part:

"The army and Navy specifications (for beans) have been up-to-date dependent upon the judgment of the particular quartermaster the beans may be shipped to, instead of doing business on established grades where the Government would have to be treated fairly and could not be taken advantage of. The matter was up with the Quartermaster General in Washington on Saturday. How far they got, I don't know, but just as soon as I can learn positively what the army and navy specifications are on bean requirements, etc. I will forward you this information so that every farmer in Michigan who is a subscriber to your paper may have the positive information and any time they want to know anything through this office, thru you, write me and I will immediately answer every question that my knowledge of the matter will permit me to do."

Now, Mr. Orr, we desire to be charitable, but we must look this thing squarely in the face. If you don't

mind, we are going to put you on the witness stand; you are now occupying a position of public trust, and we reserve the right as citizen taxpayers to scrutinize your past and present conduct and your future aspirations. We want to ask you a few questions:

First: Is it true or not that at the time you were named as chairman of the committee to purchase beans for the army and navy requirements, you, as Pres. of the Michigan Bean Jobbers' Ass'n advised your members to consign their beans, presumably 200 cars in number, to some point whence they could be disposed of to the Government at a price in the fixing of which you expected to have a say?

Second: Is it not a fact that many elevator men in Michigan, in a speculative mood, held their beans too long? And did you have any thought of pulling their coals out of the fire in this initial sale to the Government?

Third: Is it true or not that after you failed to secure the price from the Government that you had hoped, that you were criticized by the members of the association who had acted upon the advice alleged to have been given and as a result lost money because the price established by the Government was far below that which they had believed would be paid?

Fourth: Is it true or not that you are heavily interested in a chain of elevators which do a large annual business in beans, and is it true or not that these elevators intend selling beans to the Government?

Fifth: Is it true or not that the price of \$7.35 which the Government set upon its initial bean purchases applies only to the 1916 crop, and when the 1917 crop comes on the market the price may be changed? If this be true, is it not also true that you knew at the time the price proposition was first discussed that there were practically no beans in the growers' hands, that only a small part of the old crop was left and that you and the members of your association held the bulk of that; and is it also true or not that you urged upon the government a much higher price than that finally decided upon, not because you expected the growers to profit therefrom but in order to cover the losses entailed by some of your members who paid too high for their beans and speculated on the market too long, or add to the profits of those who bought earlier and more cheaply?

Mr. Orr, the columns of this paper are open for the further discussion of this subject.

If you intend to take a single advantage of the opportunity presented by your peculiar dual position as president of the Bean Jobbers' Ass'n and chairman of the Government's purchasing committee for individual profit, at perhaps the expense of the growers of the state, we want to know it. If you are performing a patriotic service for your government, giving your time and your money freely, without thought or hope of recompense, either from the Government or thru manipulation of the market, you are to be commended, and heaven knows we are not the ones to deny you the credit.

"Sign the Pledge"

You can render the best service to Michigan Business Farming by showing this paper to your neighbors and asking them to "sign the pledge."

We, the undersigned, by our signatures herewith, pledge ourselves to one year's subscription to Michigan Business Farming, and promise to send \$1 on or before December 1st, 1917.

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RESUME COUNTY AGENTS RESULTS

Brief Summary of What Has Been Accomplished for Michigan Agriculture Thru State and Federal Extension Department

Eben Mumford, state leader of county agent work, has requested us to publish a brief summary of the work that has been accomplished by the county agents since the movement was first organized in this state in 1912. This we are glad to do. While we have always believed that the effectiveness of the work carried on by the county agents has been more or less marred by too much theory and too little practicality, it must be admitted that the general results have been very satisfactory and that the farmers of the counties having agricultural advisors would be loath to have them taken away.

The United States department of agriculture deems the work of the county agents of such importance that plans are being laid to make it possible for every county in the United States to have a farm bureau and an agricultural agent by January 1st, 1918.

Below is an enumeration of a few of the results of the farm bureau movement in Michigan:

1. Soil surveys of the different types of soils and analyses made to determine the plant foods most needed. This year 1200 tests were made for acidity, a number of marl beds discovered, and in the growing of clovers, alfalfa, soy beans and vetch, marl has been used in large quantities; in addition to this about 50,000 tons of ground limestone have been applied.

2. One of the greatest needs of the state has been the standardization of crops for economical production and for successful marketing. This is being brought about through the farm bureaus by united action in the different communities. The poor varieties and mixtures of varieties are being eliminated and a few well-tested, well-bred and high yielding varieties introduced. Examples of this are seen in the introduction of Red Rock wheat, Rosen rye, Worthy Alexander and College Success oats, Robust and Early Wonder beans, Oderbrucker barley and the reduction of the large number of potato varieties to two or three of a standard commercial type, such as the Green Mountain and Sir Walter Raleigh.

3. During the past year twenty-three community breeders' associations and seven cow testing associations were organized; 216 pure bred sires were introduced and twelve exchanged; 63 pure bred cows and about 100 high-grade cows were brought into the counties. Through organization farmers are helped in financing this better live stock movement and in standardizing the breeds.

4. Where losses in hog cholera a few years ago cost Michigan a million dollars annually, the disease has been controlled to such an extent that during the past year the number of cases in all counties having agents totaled but seventy-seven.

5. The buying and selling activities of the farm bureaus this year have included a wide range of items, such as fertilizers and lime; seeds of all kinds; pure bred and high-grade live stock; milk, butter, cheese and eggs; hay and other feeds; wool; peaches, apples, berries and grapes; potatoes, beans, cabbage and celery; and spraying materials.

Michigan Average Prices

Potato prices thruout the state are "looking up" considerably over last week, the dealers apparently having taken courage and decided, it was safe to buy at somewhere around a dollar. The average for the week is \$1.09. Other average prices are as follows: Wheat, \$2.09; oats, 59c; hay, \$13.42; rye, \$1.72; butter, 40c; eggs, 38c; hogs, 17 1-2c.



MARKET FLASHES



WHEAT

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Red	2.17	2.15	2.25
No. 3 Red	2.14	2.12	2.22
No. 2 White	2.15	2.13	2.23
No. 2 Mixed	2.15	2.13	2.23

Millers report a slightly better condition as to quantity of supplies but the amount of wheat moving from originating points is still far short of supplying the demand. The slight increase in the supply has increased the movement of flour into the hands of retailers and the possibility of an actual shortage is somewhat more remote than it was last week. The situation still remains acute, however, and greatly increased shipments are necessary in the near future.

As the days pass the general situation is clearing up to a great extent. The new grades are becoming established and elevator men and farmers are becoming more familiar with them. The paying prices to growers in the different localities are also being standardized to a greater extent and a better understanding of the entire wheat price control proposition is being brought about.

This will have the desired effect in time and as the rush of fall work lessens there will be a more general movement of the grain to market. In all probability the crisis has been passed. The movement of grain in Michigan is exceptionally slow. One does not have to look far for the reason. Michigan produces large crops of beans and sugar beets. These crops require a great deal of labor in marketing, especially the beets. Michigan farmers never experienced such a labor shortage as at the present time. So long as there is sufficient grain being furnished to keep up the supply of flour it would be the height of folly to neglect the harvesting of these important crops to haul grain. Grain will not move to market alone, neither will the horses guide themselves. It requires a man on the front end of the wagon. This fact should be patent to those who are clamoring for grain deliveries, but some have eyes, yet see not.

The Government has fixed the Pacific Coast wheat price at \$2.05 at Portland, Ore., and \$2.10 at San Francisco. The Canadian government has fixed the wheat price at \$2.18 for No. 2 red winter, basic Port Arthur.

According to latest reports grain is coming into the upper lake ports more freely. There will be a big increase in the movement after this week, with a great demand for carriers. The Canadian government will be in the market for tonnage next week.

The following from the Food Administration Public Information Division may throw some light on the situation: The entire falsity of reports that Minneapolis mills were forced to close for lack of wheat is indicated by the following report for last week from that center: The Minneapolis mills last week produced 367,000 barrels of flour. This was the largest week's output for many weeks and in excess of the production for the corresponding week of 1916. The wheat used totaled 1,652,000 bushels, while the wheat receipts for the week amounted to 2,467,000 bushels.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 White	.62	.62 1-4	.67 1-2
Standard	.61 1-2	.61 1-2	.66
No. 3 White	.60 1-2	.60	.65 1-2
No. 4 White			

Deliveries of oats at originating points continue light. There is such a spread between the present price of oats and corn that many growers feel that oats should go higher. As the new corn crop comes on the market the difference will perhaps grow less, but until it does, oats will be given the preference for feeding purposes. The market has been active during



LAST MINUTE WIRES



DETROIT SPECIAL—The potato market seems just a little inclined to ease off. Receipts have been quite heavy, quality none too good. Strong demand for the better grades of hay. Bean market showing additional strength with higher prices.

CHICAGO WIRE—The apple demand is for the better class of barrel goods. Off grades find a slow market and for the time we advise shipping elsewhere. Poultry market looking up with lighter supplies. Frozen stock being taken rapidly.

NEW YORK WIRE—Some improvement in the hay situation, but arrivals are still rather heavy for the demand. The better grades will find a market but poorer stuff should be held for the colder weather and the cheaper feeding trade.

ing the past week with shorts extensive buyers of September. Many of these fellows sold heavily some time ago expecting the large crop, corn prospects, etc., to have a bearish influence on the market. So far their expectations have not been realized and they have had to hustle to cover short sales.

The export demand continues good although the actual amount of exports last week was considerably under those of the preceding week. They were about forty per cent greater than those of the same time last year.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	2.04	1.96	2.08
No. 3 Yellow	2.04	1.95	2.07
No. 2 Mixed	2.03	Nominal	2.03

The corn crop is making wonderful progress and with just a little more of this favorable weather we will be able to get some definite line on the crop. Another two weeks, or even less, of favorable weather, and everything which will mature will be out of danger.

Reports from northern Indiana and Illinois, also southern Michigan, indicate that much of the corn there will not mature. It is drying up slowly and many fields show no further filling since the frosts of the fore part of September. States farther west report better conditions and with the exception of low land, the crop damage from frost seems to have been light.

Just what effect the movement of the new crop will have on the market

is a matter of conjecture. There are those who look for material declines and on the other hand many think that the demand this year will more than overcome any other consideration. One thing sure, the export demand will be greater than ever before, both during the winter and the coming summer, even tho the war should end tomorrow. Right now we cannot see cheap corn in sight.



HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	19 50 20 00	18 50 19 00	17 50 18 00
Chicago	20 50 21 50	20 50 21 50	20 50 21 50
Cincinnati	22 50	22	22
Pittsburgh	22 75 23 00	22 50	21 22
New York	24 25	23 50 24	22 23
Richmond	23 00	22 75	22 50

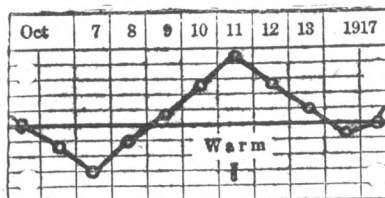
Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	18 50 19	14 50 15 00	14 00 14 50
Chicago	21 22	16 50 17	18 20
Cincinnati	22 50	22 22 50	22 22 50
Pittsburgh	20 50 21	19 50 20	20 20 50
New York	22 23	20 22	18 20
Richmond	22 25	22	19 50

The increased demand from the eastern markets resulted in heavy shipments to those points. As a result the market is not so strong. It did not take long to supply the demand at this season of the year, when it is rather uneven anyhow. Therefore shippers will do well to withhold shipments to eastern points for a few days until conditions have time to adjust themselves.

The Chicago market is firm at quotations and the offerings are small. The offerings of prairie hay are light and buyers of that grade are obliged to turn to other kinds. Receipts of hay for the past week were 7716 tons against 4396 the previous week.

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK.

As Forecasted by E. C. Foster for MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING



WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 6.—Last bulletin gave forecast of disturbances to cross continent Oct. 9 to 13, warm wave 8 to 12, cool wave 11 to 15. This will bring warmer than usual, the storms will be of greater than usual intensity; more than usual precipitation is expected on northern Pacific slope and in large sections east of Rockies. Two cold waves, each bringing frosts, are due to reach meridian 90, moving southeastward, one near October 14 and one near 20, but while one of them will be unusually severe, we can not now determine which, but would select Oct. 20 as the extreme.

Next warm wave will reach Vancouver about Oct. 14 and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. It will cross crest of Rockies by close of Oct. 15, plains sections 16, meridian 90, great lakes and Ohio valleys Oct. 17, eastern sections 18, reaching vicinity of Newfoundland about Oct. 19. Storm wave will follow about one day behind warm wave and cool wave about one day behind storm wave.

These two storms will be of unusual importance, because of the cotton and late corn crops. One of the cold waves, mentioned above, will finish the life of the late growing corn crop and will also enter the cotton belt. At this time we cannot give a more detailed forecast.

October has been in a general way, calculated to average a little warmer than usual and the crop weather of the month to be favorable to matur-

ing and harvesting. The trends of average temperatures were calculated to be—as they cross meridian 90 moving eastward—high near Sept. 28, low for the week centering on Oct. 4, high for the week centering Oct. 12, low for the week centering on Oct. 19, high for the week centering on Oct. 28 and low for the week centering on Nov. 1.

The most severe storms of October were expected to occur near 2, 15 and 30. These severe storms cause the precipitation, sometimes thousands of miles away from the storm center. We warn all to be on guard for the very severe storms near Oct. 30 and the severe cold wave, frosts and blizzard that will be its rear guard. These rear guards, both in weather matters and in military affairs, are not pleasant things to deal with. The writer has had experience with both.

The U. S. Weather Bureau gets out of its element when it devotes columns of editorials denying that the Moon has effects on our weather and upon vegetation. Official science is a greater hindrance to the advance of science than were the Rockies to the westward march of the railroads. They occupy the place of the traditional crop in the hay nor let the cow eat it. The Moon is a great magnet and affects the Earth thru the magnetism, not thru light.

We desire to do all we can for subscribers to this paper and those of them who are considerably interested in anything that might be affected by severe, sudden or slow changes in the weather, may write us, enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope. We watch the weather of the whole continent, carefully, every day, and frequently send out telegrams giving warnings of important weather events which we have not been able to get into these weather bulletins. Address Foster's Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.

The Detroit market is somewhat firmer than at the close of last week. Supplies are increasing slightly and with a little better demand better conditions are looked for toward the end of the week.

Richmond reports light receipts and the demand active. In fact conditions seem to be better on all southern markets than they are in the north. Baltimore market has shown some strength under fairly active demand. There is not enough good hay there to satisfy the demand and mixed hay and medium are selling readily.

Philadelphia reports conditions there as good with light receipts and a fair demand. They report prospects of a good firm market.

It will be seen from these reports that the general situation is satisfactory with the exception of the eastern terminal points. Shipments will do better at southern or middle western points.



RYE

Movement of rye continues very light. The market has weakened somewhat on a cessation of buying by the export trade. Deliveries to the elevators are light and very few cars are reaching terminal points. Many farmers are securing a supply of Rye for seeding purposes. Much of it is being shipped to different counties in Michigan from the central counties where it got a fairly good start this past season. Rye is quoted on the Detroit market at \$1.88.



BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	8.25	8.30	8.40
Prime	8.15	8.25	8.30
Red Kidneys	6.50	6.50	6.75

The bean market is somewhat of a conundrum. With the cleaning up of the old stock the market has shown a tendency to advance and is now at a somewhat higher level than for some time past. The situation is generally healthy with a fair demand and light supply. What the bean growers of Michigan would like to know is what effect the Government's price of \$7.35 per bu. is going to have on the general market. If the market goes above the \$7.35 price, who is going to sell to Uncle Sam at his price? We fail to see how the bean market is going to be maintained at a price much above that figure. The frost did considerable damage to beans in Wisconsin. Many parts of Michigan report that they will need some days of good weather to mature the crop. Frost damage seems to have been heavy in certain portions of the state while others report very little damage done except in low spots. The northern part of the state will need plenty of good weather yet to get any kind of a crop.

The following is a report from the manager of the California Lima Bean Growers Association: "You, of course have the U. S. Bureau of Crop Estimates showing that they are anticipating a production of about 6,400,000 bushels of beans in California this year. Judging from the yields shown by threshing which is now under way in California, it is our opinion that the Government estimate is high. We are finding yields considerably below normal, apparently due to the fact that the unusual hot spell of late June and early July resulted in the shortening of the bean pods, with fewer beans per pod and in many instances with beans less plump than usual. The lima bean acreage is also less than normal in California this year; so the total lima bean production will be much below normal."

Thus it will be seen that those who have predicted an exceptionally big yield of beans in California are somewhat off in their calculations.



POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Medium Round white-sacked
Detroit	1.30	1.25
Chicago	1.25	1.20
Cincinnati	1.30	1.25
New York	1.30	1.25
Pittsburgh	1.30	1.25
Norfolk, Va.	1.25	1.20

Eastern advices are to the effect that the general market this week is higher. Receipts are not particularly heavy, but a better demand has been noticed, with a corresponding increase in price. Dealers believe that this condition is only temporary and that the market will work lower as soon as New York state and Main potatoes begin to move more freely. The stock moving in New York state is small and more or less green. Jersey receipts on the New York market have been light, growers being busy with fall work and not hauling to market.

The Pittsburg market is quiet and draggy. Outside points are getting stock direct from the farmers and that lessens sales by the Pittsburgh commission men. Stock is arriving on that market from many points. The Philadelphia market is strong.

A weak condition exists on the Chicago market, caused by heavier receipts and a slow demand. There is an accumulation of stock on track and this always has had a bad effect on a market. Looks as though it would be a good idea to let up on shipments to Chicago for a few days.

A thorough survey of the Detroit market, just previous to writing this article, shows a fairly healthy condition with only moderate supplies and a fair demand. Many buyers have held off thinking the market was too high, but with the cooler weather of the past few days they have been taking hold better. Certain of the dealers interviewed by the market editor this morning, while making his rounds of the Detroit markets, seemed to feel that the price would work a little lower in the near future. We really do not see why it should do so but of course it will all depend on the supply and the general prospects after the potatoes are out of the ground.



ONIONS

Our latest report from our correspondent in New York City states that there has been exceptionally large receipts of onions there for this season of the year. The principal supply is coming from California and Orange county, but shipments are also coming from all sections where onions are grown. Despite the fact that the supplies are large, the market is firm with a good steady demand. Quotations on the New York market are around \$2.50@2.75 on yellow and \$2.25@2.60 on reds.

The Chicago market has shown a marked improvement since the advent of cooler weather. Stock from nearby points is selling to good advantage and at a premium over outside offerings. Washington yellows are selling around \$2.50@2.75; Ohio whites at \$2.75.

Onions are selling well on the Detroit market with only a moderate supply. The demand seems to be increasing and no doubt shippers will find a good market during the next week. Domestic are quoted at \$1.75; Spanish, \$1.75 per crate; Pickling at \$4.00@4.25 per bushel.



CABBAGE

Detroit and Chicago markets are having a fair demand with the price around 90c to \$1.00 per cwt.

The cauliflower market is just a little easier, due to an increased supply. Shipments are letting up however, and we look for some improvement. Now quoted at \$3.00 per case Detroit.

Cabbage prices have eased off a little on eastern markets, due to increased receipts and warmer weather. A few sales are reported at \$16.00 to \$17.00 per ton. Kraut men have been

free buyers, which has tended to keep prices up. Their buying advanced the price from \$7.00 early in the season to the present price.

Chicago. Some Holland cabbage was beginning to roll from Wisconsin shipping points this week but the movement was only light and loading was not expected to be heavy for another week or ten days. Operators here reported an active inquiry for carlots considering the light supply yet available and prices were on a high basis but they looked for values to settle considerably as soon as the movement became heavier. Owing to the scarcity of stock some operators were paying farmers as high as \$16 to \$18 per ton. The quality is very good and rains which occurred this week are expected to benefit the crop further.



APPLES

The report from New York for this week says: Receipts of barreled apples were heavier than any previous week of the season. This, coupled with the Jewish holiday Wednesday, when there was an entire absence of demand, brought about a reaction in prices and a slower market. In a way this has worked for the good of the situation as it has stimulated demand. The quality is good with the exception of several cars of low grade stock which was shipped to take advantage of the high prices. Growers were able to do this profitably because of the strength of the market. Early varieties for table use take the lead with Duchess selling at \$4@4.25; Jonathans, \$6@7; Greenings and New York Imperials are running a close second at \$4@5. Soft fruit sell fairly well but hard kinds are not wanted.

Hardly any box apples are coming. Demand is in excess of the supply and fancy fruit sells rapidly at high figures.

The Boston market is lower on account of heavy receipts. There is a large quantity of only ordinary grade stock which is partly responsible for the lower tendency. Baldwins, \$1.25 @ \$1.50; Wealthies, \$3@5; Wolf Rivers, \$3@5; Pippins, \$2.50@4.

Market at Chicago is in good shape for first-class stock. There is too much peddler stock on the market and this sells at a discount. Grimes, \$5.50; Greenings, \$6; crab apples are scarce and bring high prices for fancy stock. Michigan stock selling this week at from \$7.50@8.00.

The Detroit market is in a good healthy condition for the better grades of stock. Demand is good and arrivals clean up quickly. Off grades selling at around \$4@5 per barrel.



BUTTER

The butter situation remains unchanged. Prices are at about the same level as last week with just about the same volume of arrivals. This week has seen quite a free movement of storage butter in Chicago, with eastern buyers in the market for most of the offerings. The New York butter market is firm creamery extras, 46c; firsts, 44c@45c; seconds, 44c@45c; Philadelphia, butter firm and higher. Western creamery, extras, 46c@47c; Chicago creamery, 40 1-2c @43 1-2c; Detroit fresh creamery firsts, 42 1-2c; packing stock is taken at the usual reduction and finds a ready market.



EGGS

Eggs are finding a ready market at about last week's range of prices. Eastern markets report rather an unsatisfactory condition which may have an effect on the general market. They report that New York and other eastern egg markets seem to lack snap. Accumulations are quite large at the terminals and buyers seem unwilling to take any quantity at prevailing prices. They feel that 39c is a safe basis while the market has been quoted at around 40c at 41c. Many ship-

pers have instructed their agents to place eggs in storage rather than to sell below the present market. There is no question but what the present high prices have decreased consumption.

The Chicago market is somewhat dull on fresh and storage, especially the latter. Poor stock is greatly discounted and sold at low prices. Fresh stock is selling at around 39c at 39 1-2c.

Detroit is holding its own fairly well under a fair supply. Strictly fresh stock is selling at 38 at 39c per dozen, which is just about as it was last week. Perhaps the meatless day regime will have a favorable effect on the market.



POULTRY

LIVE WT.	Detroit	Chicago	Cinn.
Turkey	24-25	20-22	
Ducks	25-26	18-20	
Geese	17-18	17-18	
Springers	24-25	22-23	
Hens	22-24	20-22	

No. 2 Grade 2 to 3 Cents Less

The poultry situation is clearing up after the Jewish holidays and both Detroit and Chicago report an increased demand for both live and dressed stock. The Detroit market is not quite so strong as Chicago but it is improving and snippers will be safe on either market. Express receipts at Chicago are very light and some houses have practically no stock on hand. Last season at this time there were thousands of boxes of broilers and quite a movement of exports into storage. The broiler season is over and very little has gone into storage. Eastern markets have been somewhat quiet during the past few days as a result of the heavy shipments before the Jewish holidays. Pittsburgh reports the demand as large with an increasing shortage of supplies. Dealers are forced to look to the west for their shipments. Looking at the situation from all angles we cannot see how the market can fall to work higher.



CATTLE

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Steers, good to prime	9 75-10 75	7 25-17 65	13 00-13 50
Steers, com. to fair	8 50-9 75	6 35-15 00	11 00-11 50
Heifers, good to prime	8 00-8 75	5 00-12 40	8 00-8 50
Cows, average	7 25-8 25	5 00-12 40	7 50-8 00
Canners, Cutters	4 50-5 50	4 50-6 50	4 50-6 50
Bulls, average	6 50-7 00	7 50-8 50	7 50-8 00
Veal, fair to good	12 00-15 50	9 50-16 00	10 00-15 00

Receipts of all grades of cattle on the Detroit market have been fairly liberal during the past week. The market has ruled steady to strong with slightly upward tendencies on certain desired grades. There is a good demand for butchering stock from local dealers and the packers have been in the market for any offerings in the way of choice steers for the fancy products. Canners and cutters during the first few days of the week found rather hard going but the situation has improved.

Chicago market is in good shape altho the first of the week saw some of the heaviest western shipments ever received on that market. High prices and the shortage of feed on the western ranges have combined to bring forward heavier shipments at an earlier date than is usually the case. The packing demand however, is equal to the supply and buyers are right on the job at all times, especially for the better grades.

The Buffalo market has not ruled quite so strong during the week as have the central western markets. Butchering trade especially has shown a tendency to decline. Shippers have diverted some of their shipments to other markets and in a day or so the Buffalo market will be again in good shape.



HOGS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Heavy 240-290	18 00 19 00	18 50 19 60	19 75 19 85
Medium 200-240	18 00 18 75	18 50 19 50	18 15 19 85
Mixed 150-200	17 75 18 50	18 15 19 50	19 50 19 75
Packers 100-150	17 50 18 50	14 50 18 00	19 50 19 25
Pigs 100 down	17 00 17 25	14 00 17 90	17 75 18 25

Hog prices, as a result of light receipts and a strong demand, have been

inclined to strengthen on all markets. Buffalo reports the situation as particularly satisfactory. Chicago and Detroit both show a good strong healthy situation which no doubt will continue. There is a great demand for pork from our Allies and even tho we might have three meatless days per week, the result on she price would not be noticeable.

Our Chicago reporter says: Active competition on the part of local buyers was responsible for the strength shown in the hog market last week-end, and prices at the close stood a strong 10 cents higher. Receipts last week, which numbered 59,050, were among the smallest on record. A further narrowing of the price range between packing and butcher grades was again in evidence, in fact there never was a time at this season of the year when mixed and packing grades made such sharp gains.



SHEEP

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Top Lambs	17.00-17.25	17.00-18.55	17.75-18.00
Yearlings	15.75-16.25	13.50-17.50	14.00-15.00
Wethers	9.50-10.00	9.10-12.90	11.75-12.00
Ewes	9.25-9.75	8.65-12.00	11.00-11.50

Under the more moderate supply the sheep and lamb market during the past week has shown a somewhat better condition. The Buffalo market is again in good condition while the Detroit and Chicago markets are ruling strong. Receipts on the Chicago market Wednesday of this week were 19,000.



FLOUR & FEED

Detroit mill feed manufacturers report a quiet trade. Prices fixed for wheat hold the market for wheat products steady but the corn products quotations shift around some. Bran is quoted at \$36; standard middlings, \$39; fine middlings, \$48; coarse cornmeal, \$78; cracked corn, \$83; chop feed, \$65.

Toledo—Demand for all kinds of feeding stuffs continues strong. Dairy interests are active for all grades of feed and prices continue firm with little change over last week. Flour mills have been hard pressed for feed owing to inability to obtain sufficient supplies of wheat and only light supplies of bran and middlings are reported.

Detroit flour market: Best winter patents, \$11.50; second patents, \$11.30 @ \$11.40; straight, \$11.10; spring patents, \$12.10; rye, \$11.30 per bbl. of 196 lbs. in eighth paper sacks.

Barley

Milwaukee—A net decline of 1 to 2c is noted in the Milwaukee barley market for the week. As the period progressed, the tone became easy in sympathy with other markets. Good malting is scarce and in brisk demand. Medium and low grades are quiet. Receipts last week were 382 cars, against 338 cars for the previous week and 661 cars in 1916. Current quotations are: Choice bigberried Wisconsin and eastern Iowa, testing 48 to 50 pounds, per bushel, \$1.42@ \$1.44; 45 to 47 pounds, \$1.38@ \$1.41; Minnesota, western Iowa and Dakota, 48 to 50 pounds, \$1.41@ \$1.44; 45 to 47 pounds, \$1.37@ \$1.40; all states, 42 to 44 pounds, \$1.33@ \$1.36; feed mixing, \$1.20@ \$1.33.

Buffalo—Maltsters are having a serious time getting future supplies. Most of them are filled up for the present, but have further orders for malt which they would like to take care of around prices of a week ago. The west has steadily advanced prices and it is claimed today the receipts would be very small until the wheat movement was materially increased. There were offerings for October shipment at \$1.39 to \$1.45 in store, Buffalo.

Vegetables

Carrots, \$1 per bu.; beets, \$1 per bu.; turnips, \$1 per bu.; green onions, 20c per doz.; cucumbers, \$1@ \$1.25 per bu.; garlic, 14c@15c per lb.; radishes, 50c per doz.; green peppers, \$2 per bu.; parsley, 25c@35c per doz.

Grass Seeds

The clover seed situation is firm with advancing tendencies, especially on red clover. The red clover crop in the middle western states is very poor and many localities will not raise enough seed to take care of the local demand. The first clipping was away late owing to the backward spring and the early frost prevented the seed from reaching maturity.

Timothy seed appears to be a fairly good crop. The general quality is good and it is now moving freely. Toledo quotes prime red clover at \$13.00@13.60; No. 2 alsyke, \$12.20@12.30; No. 2 timothy, \$3.50@3.60.

Cheese

Michigan flats, 25c; Michigan daisies, 25 1-2c; New York flats, 26 1-2c; brick, 31c; long horns, 28c; Wisconsin daisies, 26 3-4c; domestic Swiss, 30c@36c for prime to fancy; Limberger, 26c@26 1-2c lb.

Jobbing Prices

Tallow—No. 1, 15c; No. 2, 13c lb.
Dried Fish—Cod in bulk, 12 1-2c per lb.; in 1 lb. boxes, 24 to case, \$5.20 per case; boneless herring, \$2 per 10 lb. box.

Hides—No. 1 cured, 20c; No. 1, green, 16c; No. 1 cured bulls, 15c; No. 1 green bulls, 12c; No. 1 cured veal kip, 23c; No. 1 green veal kip, 19c; No. 1 cured murrain, 18c; No. 1 green murrain, 15c; No. 1 cured calf, 28c; No. 1 green calf, 24c; No. 1 horse hides, \$6; No. 2 horsehides, \$5; No. 2 hides, 1c and No. 2 kip and calf 1 1-2c lower than the above; sheepskins, (as to amount of wool) 50c@ \$2 each.

DAIRY EXPORT FIGURES
SHOW LARGE INCREASE

Figures showing the extent to which the United States has lately been exporting dairy products to Europe make pre-war records seem insignificant. Here are some facts based on compilations of the U. S. Food Administration which point out the striking increase in our trade.

Exports of condensed milk which for a three-year period before the war averaged 17,792,579 pounds annually have increased to 259,102,213 pounds. This figure is for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917. The European Allies received 2.27 per cent of the condensed milk exported from this country in the three pre-war years. In 1917 they received 57.2 per cent, or considerably over half of the total.

Exports of butter which for the three years previous to the war were 4,457,144 pounds, increased in 1917 to 26,835,092, which is more than a six-fold increase.

It is noteworthy that Holland took 84.9 per cent of all the condensed milk shipped by the United States to European neutrals. However, a large proportion of the amount, 15,134,084 lbs. in all, consigned to neutral countries during the past fiscal year unquestionably reached Germany through indirect channels.

Obviously the enormous increase in our dairy exports calls for a statement on home production and conditions. Two years are required to raise a dairy cow and five years to bring her to maximum yield. Under normal conditions the country was prepared to go on producing milk in proportion to the demand. The number of dairy cows in proportion to the population has varied but little in the past six years. In 1911 the ratio was 22.3 cows per hundred people; this year the ratio is 22.1.

But the ravages of war now call for a prompt increase of dairy cattle in those countries able to raise them. The world's total number of cattle has already been decreased more than 28,000,000. In England, France and Germany, the herds are being deliberately sacrificed to supply the immediate necessity for meat. The embargo is keeping fodder from Holland to a degree that will lead to a considerable decrease in her herds.

Judging from all indications, the sacrifice of dairy animals will be even greater as the war continues. And the responsibility of supplying Europe with dairy supplies will rest with increasing gravity on dairymen of this country.

NATIONAL CROP REPORTS

Last Minute Reports From Maine, New York, Minnesota and Pennsylvania Show Greatly Decreased Potato Yields Due to Early Frosts, Blight and Rot.

Washington, Va.—Apples are moving freely. The crop is showing some improvement in quality and quantity.

Hightown, N. J.—Potatoes are moving freely. The price this week for round is \$1.10 per bu.; Giants, \$1.00 to the farmer. By the end of the week about 40 per cent of the crop will be shipped.

Selmer, Tenn.—There are very few turkeys in this territory. Crop even smaller than last year. About half will be ready for Thanksgiving. Present weekly movement of live poultry is 50 coops. Poultry crop will not be over half of last year.

Salem, Ore.—The Salem Fruit Union estimates the apple yield in Central Willamette Valley at 40 per cent normal. The prune crop is 50 per cent. Good prices are promised, but there is danger that the box and car shortage may interfere with marketing.

Clear Springs, Md.—Receipts of fresh eggs are falling off, but the quality shows improvement over those coming in during the past three weeks. There is also some packing stock available. This section is producing a good crop of potatoes which are selling at \$1.25 bu.

Donald, Wash.—Shipments of Elbertas which began Sept. 3, are about ended. The crop was of average size and of splendid quality. Prices are mostly 60c f.o.b. Prunes are nearly all marketed and sold at good figures. Shipments of these fruits thru the Upper Valley are now beginning, but not much will be moving from this point for a week or two until Jonathan picking begins.

Phelps, N. Y.—Cabbage, which earlier in the season looked as though it might be a bumper crop is not yielding up to expectations. The early variety, growers say, do not head properly and much of it is infested with stump rot and club-foot. Cabbage planted late, it is reported, is yielding a better crop. At the opening of the season three weeks ago the price was \$7@8 a ton. Market has steadily advanced to \$15, and it is predicted that it will go still higher.

New York—According to the "Commerce Reports," an exceptionally large crop of turnips is expected in Ontario, Canada, this year. The area planted is about 93,000, which is 2,000 more than last year. An average output is 430 bu. per acre. On this basis the coming crop should exceed 40,000,000 bu. Last year's prices were unusually high, ranging 40 @65c bu. at point of shipment. This year, owing to the abundance of potatoes, the price since the last week in August has averaged 35c bu. It is predicted that prices will soon drop to normal average of around 20c. The turnips produced in Ontario are chiefly yellow rutabagas.

Central City, Ia.—Turkey crop in this section is not only poor quality but is 30 per cent smaller than last year. Not many will be ready for Thanksgiving. Present shipments of live poultry are about 5,000 lbs. weekly. Poultry crop will be fully 30 per cent less than last year, as the flocks have been reduced that much by the high cost of feed.

New York—A local visitor this week was F. J. Reidy, a well-known deciduous fruit shipper of San Jose, Calif. Mr. Reidy makes a specialty of shipping Fall and Winter pears from the San Jose section and is quite a heavy operator. He decided last week that he would come here and see how the business was handled at this end of the line. He left for home Thursday after securing considerable information. Mr. Reidy says that the Fall and Winter pear crop in the San Jose section is about 80 per cent of last year, but hardly up to normal. Picking of Comice, Nellis and other late varieties had just commenced when he left California and he looks for fairly liberal shipments from now on. From all he could tell of the fruit in the orchards, the quality promises to be unusually good as the pears were free from all blemish.

Smyrna Mills, Me.—The potato crop is about 50 per cent of normal and about 75 per cent of last year. Late potatoes are very poor and are small in size.

East Newport, Me.—Potatoes are about half of normal. The heavy frost last week killed all of the tops so that the potatoes will not grow any more. Some say they are rotting badly and show small size.

Crookston, Minn.—Potato digging has begun, but the crop is light, although quality is good. The field will be 30@100 bu. to the acre. There is a good demand at 95c at loading station for bulk stock.

Los Angeles—Harvesting of the bean crop in the Sawtelle district began last week. This district includes Sawtelle, portions of Santa Monica and the Malibu. The acreage is around 10,000. Growers say extreme heat did little damage.

Thornike, Me.—Farmers who are digging their potatoes are getting 100 @125 bu. to the acre. There is much complaint of diseased stock, while others show considerable rot. Many of the fields planted are turning out a failure. There will not be over 50 per cent of a crop.

Fresno, Calif.—Grape shippers have been up against it recently. Late last week shippers were notified that commencing Sept. 14 no promises would be made for cars. The shortage of shooks, now followed by the car shortage, will cut deep into the grape movement.

Caribou, Me.—I see that some of the produce papers express the opinion that Aristook shippers are reporting the potato crop lighter than it really is. It is no joke, but it is a fact that Aristook will not have over 50 per cent of a normal crop.—L. E. Tuttle.

Anaheim, Calif.—Unless larger advances are made by the beet sugar companies the leading growers of Orange county will change to beans the coming season. A number may go into the production of vegetables since the increased demand for Eastern shipments have made average prices higher than in many years.

Oxnard, Calif.—The first lima beans of the season are showing a light yield. R. L. Beardsley, who harvested 3,500 small sacks last year of the 80-lb size will have about 3,000 sacks of the 100-lb. size. Other ranchers report their yields running 15@20 per cent short. Increased prices will make the returns larger than last year.

Dodge Center, Minn.—The onion crop has begun to move and will be one of the best ever harvested as it is medium to large, of good color and quality and of the Red Globe variety. Potatoes are also favorable and will begin about Sept. 20, as will also cabbage. About 100 cars of these products are grown here, of which onions will be probably 50 per cent.

Los Angeles, Calif.—A limited quantity of celery will go from El Monte during the next few weeks. Several early beds are sufficiently matured to supply the local market and with calls for Southern California celery in the middle west a few shipments will go forward. The supply for the Thanksgiving market promises to be fairly early and large. The first car left last week to John Nix & Co., Chicago.

Moorehead, Minn.—The Clay county potato crop will amount to 200,000 and 300,000 under normal. Digging has just begun. The yield per acre is light, as in some cases it is not more than 30 bushels. Frost, the earliest in years, has damaged the vines and stunted growth materially. The yield has been reduced 20 and 35 per cent by the high cost of seed, and acreage was not increased this spring. Quality will be exceptionally fine as absence of rain has made the potatoes dry and flaky. Digging will be in progress for about five weeks and marketing will continue until Nov. 15.

Christina, Pa.—Potatoes are now being loaded, but there will not be over three-fourths of a crop, although the quality will be good.

Walloomsac, N. Y.—Potatoes are moving slowly as the vines were killed by the heavy frost of September 10. This cut the crop in this section probably 30 per cent.

Genesee, Pa.—Potatoes were hurt by the frost of early September and the output has been greatly reduced. Buyers are talking \$1.15 per bu. to the farmers at loading station.

Fall River, Wis.—The potato crop is fairly good, but the recent frost did some damage. Shipping will begin about Oct. 10. The acreage was reduced and not as many cars as last year will be shipped from this section.

Wakefield, Mass.—V. A. Sanders, field agent of the Bureau of Crop Estimates, states that while the frost cut some late potato crops in the state, the total damage is small. Indicated yields in some counties are higher than estimated in recent reports. He figures the estimated total production of the state at about 5,000,000 bushels.

Fly Summit, N. Y.—Frost last week killed potato tops and some which were planted will not be worth digging. Those put in the ground early will produce a fair crop. Buyers have begun operating this week and have paid \$3@3.25 bbl., but the movement is slow. Apples are about 20 per cent of a crop. Buyers paying \$2 bbl. orchard run. Corn is 50 per cent of normal.

Madison, Wis.—The Wisconsin Potato Growers Association will hold tonight a conference of convention committees for its coming convention Nov. 19-24. At this conference reports will be submitted on convention arrangements and plans for the potato show. Besides the potato show there will be an unusually large exhibit of potato machinery, which will probably tax the capacity of the live-stock pavilion of the State Fair Grounds in which the exhibit will be held.

Braham, Minn.—A heavy frost two weeks ago practically made corn a total loss. It damaged all of the late planted potatoes and only the early crop will be of much value. These are coming into market quite freely and farmers are receiving 80c@90c per bu. The big acreage of navy beans planted this spring were practically all damaged by frost and will not produce more than one-third of a yield. Small grain is in excellent shape and will yield a heavy production to the acre.

HERE'S A FARMER
WHO BACKS US UP

In a recent issue of your paper you report the Wexford county farm agent as saying frost damage here "all very slight." Now the real facts are quite different. I think Mr. Piper must have either actual hostility or been mistaken in some way. I have lived here 34 years and think I know this county fairly well and I believe corn was damaged 75 per cent; potatoes, 50 per cent; beans, 35 per cent; while buckwheat and cucumbers did not yield a full crop.

The soil has been very dry for a long time until evening of the 27th. Potatoes that were not frosted have made but little progress toward maturing a crop and in my field blight has taken what the frost left. Frost came the morning of the 11th, which is about the time we have killing frosts in this county. The trouble was at the other end of the season. The spring was cool to cold and it reached into what should have been summer, and crops never caught up, so frost found them immature and tender.

Before closing I wish to say you are giving the farmers just what they have badly needed for years. Success to your efforts.—A. A. H. Boon.

SISAL AND HEMP INVESTIGATION BY U. S.

The Food Administration has secured Mr. Henry Wolfer, formerly head of the Minnesota State Binder Twine Works, to undertake at once a complete investigation of the sisal and hemp industry and its distribution with a view to action in the reduction of price. The price has been forced up 500 per cent since the war

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GRANT SLOCUM EDITOR
FOREST A. LORD EDITOR
D. L. RUNNELLS ASSOCIATE EDITOR
ANNE CAMPBELL STARK EDITOR WOMAN'S DEPT.
Dr. G. A. CONN VETERINARY EDITOR
WM. E. BROWN LEGAL EDITOR

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Why Not Regulate the Steel Combine?

THE FARMER has a right to expect a reduction in the price he is obliged to pay for farm machinery, implements, roofing, fencing and the hundreds of things needed every day upon the farm. The price of all of these necessities must very naturally be regulated by the price of steel and iron; therefore while the manufacturers are using their best endeavors to make both ends meet, the steel combine is raking in its fat dividends.

Facts have recently been presented which prove that the American producer of steel and iron are getting double what the British producer is getting; and yet England exacts eighty per cent of all profits as a war tax. It may be true that the demand exceeds the daily supply from the steel mills of the nation, but it does not follow that these crafty manipulators have any right to fatten their sides at the expense of the people.

There was not enough wheat to go 'round; the Allies needed flour, and there was a demand for all in sight for home consumption. The Government straightway appointed a commission. That commission sharpened their pencils and arbitrarily told the farmer what it cost to raise a bushel of wheat; then set a price which in their opinion would net a fair profit—and the market quickly tumbled.

True, Government control of wheat does not prevent the farmer from selling his wheat for a greater price than \$2.20 per bushel, if he can get it. To pay more than the minimum Government price the buyers would have to control the market, which is made impossible, because wheat outside the farmers' graneries and their own elevators cannot be held for more than thirty days without renewing the Government license.

And, it might be added, the Government is not liable to renew the license of anyone holding wheat for a bigger price. So here we have a set minimum price, working as a maximum price—and except the possible demand for certain varieties for seed, the Government price will prevail. Why not, Dr. Hoover, give the Steel combination a jab under the short ribs and inject the same kind of serum with which you inoculated the wheat speculating bug? —"G. S."

Illinois Farmers in the Toils

WORD COMES out of Illinois that officers of the Illinois Milk Producers' Association are under indictment on a charge of violating the Sherman anti-trust law. "By the Holy Pink-Toed Prophet!" as Cappy Ricks would say, what next?

Here's the story: For years the milk producers of Illinois have been slowly fighting the Chicago milk trust which paid what it pleased and when it pleased for their milk. Chicago was their logical market; there was no other outlet for their product; they had to break the Chicago milk trust or go broke themselves. They struggled thru a number of disappointing years combatting disloyalty of members, the apathy of the public and the vicious and damnable practices of the Trust. They won their fight; the Trust gave in by inches; and the last few months the farmers of northern and central Illinois have been making a meager profit on their milk for the first time in years.

Naturally such a bitter struggle over the supply and distribution of so important an article of food as milk could not be conducted without attracting the attention of consumers in general and city and state officials in particular. Of such was Mr. Macklin Hoyne, state's attorney. The milk trust, sullen and defeated, resorted to their usual underhanded tricks of putting the producers in the worst possible light, and it is said that it was largely thru their efforts that the state's attorney caused an investigation to be made into

the alleged practices of the milk producers' association which resulted in the summoning of the officers as before stated.

The specific charge against the producers was that they made a rule whereby each member bound himself not to sell milk to any dealer who purchased any of his requirements from a non-member. It is also stated that the association endeavored to dictate the retail price at which milk should be sold in Chicago.

It may be granted that the officers of the association erred, yet how insignificant, how trivial, their offense as compared with the competition-throttling methods of hundreds of big manufacturing concerns which are permitted to go their way unmolested. Of course, there will be the usual sob-details of how these "grasping" farmers tried to starve the babies of Chicago by their "vicious manipulation" of the milk market, but we who know something of the unequal struggle that the farmer perpetually wages against the despoiler of his marketing rights, can only smile and pity the ignorance of those who would undo him.

It is tragic that the Illinois producers should have the victory they have won snatched away from them so rudely, and that such dishonor should come upon the little handful of men who have stayed by the cause thru the darkest hours, and whose genius and loyalty have kept the producers so solidly together. But if they are to suffer for a trifling misdeed, it will probably not be in vain. The investigation now being conducted into the alleged criminal practices, will doubtless lay bare to the entire country the whole story of a cruelly unjust marketing system which gave to the unorganized farmer no rights nor profits, and of a long, bitter struggle against as impregnable and unscrupulous trust as ever dominated a market or crushed a competitor—the Chicago milk combine.

Together

*We who grow old together,
Who wander hand in hand
Through fair and glooming weather
By mountain side and strand,
We who share pain and pleasure
Who share both shade and sun,
We have life's fullest measure
When all is done.*

*We who share all our dreamings
Of gladness we knew then,
Know that in fancy's gleamings
Each good hour lives again;
We who face one tomorrow
Know that near us stays
A sheaf whence we may borrow
Our yesterdays.*

*We who grow old together—
We have so much to share
Of calm and lusty weather,
Of clouded days and fair;
The sunset shade grows fleeter,
The twilight has begun,
But life has been the sweeter
When all is done.*

Back Yard Harvest Home

THE BACK yard garden campaign, begun so auspiciously in early spring, is over—the uninitiated who followed the advice of the propagandists, no longer sing: "What shall the Harvest be," but unite in one grand chorus: "No, Never Again." However, the experience was worth while; there will be fewer gardens another year, and less grumbling about the price of garden truck.

The experts told the city dwellers that they only had to plant a dozen potatoes, and harvest enough for their winter supply. Plant six onions and have enough to make "smothered onions" a nuisance in the neighborhood. 'Twas all so easy, such delightful work; an opportunity to see such wonderful sun-rises.

The tubers were planted in ground that had a tin-can subsoil, with basement clay for cover. Up came the straggling vines, and the city gardener was, oh, so happy. On marched the potato bugs; then came the drouth; then the blight and—good night. Long before Jack Frost looked over the alley fence, the potatoes had gone hence, followed by the hopes and ambitions of this embryo farmer.

"Potatoes a dollar a bushel; it's an outrage," said he last spring. Now, Mr. City Gardener says: "The man who expects to buy potatoes at less than one dollar per bushel is an ingrate and don't know what it costs to produce a bushel of marketable tubers." So, after all, some good has come from the back-yard garden campaign.

For many, many years, farm products have been selling at prices which left no profit to the pro-

ducer; and the consumer has taken it for granted that food products were always to be raised and supplied at the old basis. And no doubt, such would have been the case had not the farmer given up the unprofitable business for something more profitable, thus limiting production, and giving the natural law of supply and demand a chance.—"G. S."

Why we are at War

SIX MONTHS have passed since the declaration of war against Germany and there are still many people who are wondering why we entered the contest. The President said: "We are at war to make the world safe for democracy." It is a fine ideal, so fine, in fact, that few people of the United States have wholly grasped its full pregnant meaning. It is one thing to say that after centuries of reserved acquaintanceship with the peoples of Europe, we should suddenly embrace them like long-lost brothers and welcome them into the arms of democracy, and quite another thing to deeply feel the attendant responsibilities.

We may be at war to save democracy, but that certainly it not the incentive that inspires the mass of our people to patriotic sacrifice, nor sends our young men to foreign battlefields.

We are at war with War. We hate it; we fear it. Altho its weapons clash and roar three thousand miles away, its cruelty, its mercilessness, its terrible destructiveness is as apparent before our eyes, and its stench as foul as to our nostrils as tho, indeed, it were fought upon our very doorstep. How could we go peacefully on, turning a deaf ear to the cries of the little children as their lives are ground out beneath the heel of the monster, blinding our eyes to agonized mothers upon their knees pleading with outstretched arms for their babes, and shutting out the vision of dying men whose life-blood stains the fields? These are the rings that have wrenched our souls and put our hands to the sword.

We hate war, but it is not a passionate hate; we fear it, but it is not a cringing fear. Very calmly do we go about the business of war. There is no joy in the preparation. We take up the task with a dignity and seriousness as befits the tragic character of the enterprise; our fear takes refuge in the sublime consciousness that we are but doing our duty and in the fact that we may strike the thing and tear out its evil roots ere it has fastened its tentacles upon us. And so we go, like an avenging angel, slowly but determinedly, to make the world safe for democracy, perhaps, but first of all to crush and exterminate the desire for war and the institutions of war.

"Nicky," "Willy" and "Uncle Bertie"

THE NICKY—Willy—Uncle Bertie letters, furnished by Herman Bernstein, and recently published in the daily papers, prove quite conclusively that the members of the royal families across the waters, were manipulating things very much to their liking, long years before the war flame was kindled in 1914. "Willy," the Kaiser, closed his letters with "Fondest Love." "Nicky," the Czar of Russia, always sent his best love to Alice; and "Uncle Bertie," King Edward, closed his epistles "With plenty of love."

The publication of this correspondence has opened anew the eyes of the American people to the great evils of autocracy. If any had doubts as to the scheming and planning of these so-called "divine rulers" such doubts are now dispelled. These cunning, crafty relics of by-gone ages have secretly planned to divide the world, and wrangled over politics affecting the lives and happiness of millions of people.

It is going to be a costly business; both in lives and money, but autocracy can not, must not be tolerated longer. We are in this war to make the world "safe for democracy," and it can not be made safe so long as "Nicky," "Willy" or any other autocratic ruler carries the destinies of the people in the hollow of his hand. Perhaps 'tis better to express myself in Latin: "Pro aris et focus." Translated: "To h—l with the whole bunch."—"G. S."

Well, well, well, look who's here, old John Sullivan, the ex-pugilist, is back in the ring and in fine fighting trim. He recently took a couple of rounds out of John Barleycorn and knocked that individual clean thru the ropes. At least the "drys" of Connecticut county are giving his temperance speeches the credit of winning the victory for them in a recent election.

The melancholy days have come, the saddest of the seasons; upon their trail stalks winter, bringing coughs and colds and sneezin's.

With the Kodaker and Cartoonist



A German View of the Italian Deputation.

Count Udine: "You, Mr. President, bear the shining light of humanity. You guarantee the victory of right and freedom."
Morgan (whispering into Wilson's ear) "We can't lend anything under 15 per cent."



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An Eastern View of the Wheat Farmers' Protest against the Maximum Price.



"HER BIT"

Mother makes the supreme sacrifice of all, yet she complains the least. This should be an object lesson to those who give so little and complain so much.



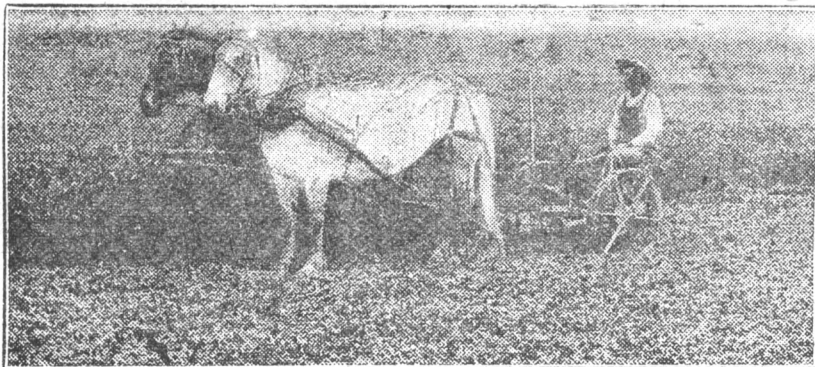
In the Terrible Wake of War. Canadian Troops keep the graves of their comrades fallen at Vimy, in Repair. The entire section is one vast graveyard, containing the bodies of thousands that fell in that awful Battle. Note the desolation that seems to lie over the entire scene.



Altho this scene was "Snapped" at the U. S. Cantonment in Spartansburg, S. C., it may be said to be typical of the scenes to be found in Camp Custer and Grayling, Michigan. The recruits put in long hours of hard work, but they also find time to play and relieve the monotony of camp life.



This pleasant and capable looking gentleman is a sugar manufacturer. But he does not possess all of the characteristics commonly attributed to the specie. G. W. McCormick is manager of the Menominee River Sugar Company, which last year voluntarily paid the growers a bonus of 50 cents a ton over and above the contract price of \$6 a ton. This was done without any request from the growers and because the company believed it to be a just and wise measure. In discussing the matter with a friend, Mr. McCormick is quoted as saying: "I regard the friendly sentiment towards this company of its beet growers, as the greatest asset which the company possesses, and if fair and honorable dealings on our part will continue to hold this same friendly spirit which now exists, I can assure you there will be no reason for a change."



Phil Thomas owns a fine large farm near Vanderbilt, Otsego county, and the above picture shows Phil and Colonel and Maud starting to mow the ten acre field of alfalfa back of the barn which went better than 2 tons to the acre.



"Rations up." Canadian official photograph from the western front showing the "Boys" lining up to receive their evening rations, in a village captured by them. Judging from the head-gear some of them are wearing, it looks as if they captured something else besides the town from the Germans.



A farmer even if he doesn't look it! J. Fred Smith of Byron, Mich., who has been putting practical business ideas into operation on his big farm. Farmer Smith pins his faith to live stock; he has a fine herd of blooded Holsteins which are his special pride. He grows most everything "growable" in the way of leguminous and root crops, and keeps his soil in good shape by the use of commercial and "home-grown" fertilizers. Mr. Smith is representative of the thousands of business dairy farmers of Livingston county, who have given fame to the Holstein breed of cattle. He is an officer of the local milk producers' association and a director of the State association. He has served as superintendent of the live stock department of the Michigan State Fair on several occasions, and takes an active interest in all movements for the betterment of agriculture.

Future of Minimum Prices on Farm Products

"I think you should keep the farmer alive to the fact that he should have something to say as to the price he gets for his products. I do not approve of the commission men, the middlemen, dictating the kind of stuff one should write for farmers. I don't advocate antagonism—nothing but justice"—Colon C. Lillie.

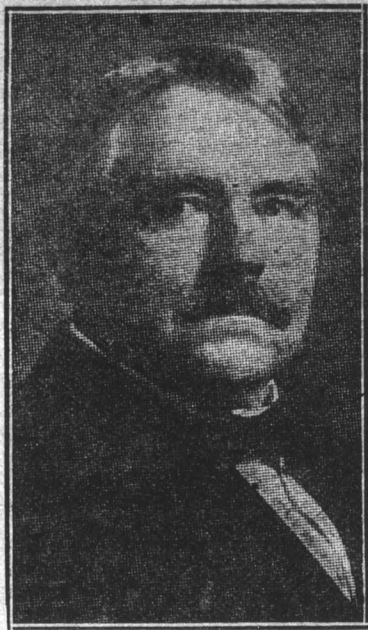
MANY business men and some farmers that I have talked with seem to regret the fact that the Government has fixed the minimum price of wheat for this year's crop and that Congress fixed a price for the crop of 1918. In my judgment, this is one of the greatest things that ever happened to American agriculture. It establishes a precedent that may be far-reaching. It establishes the principle that the farmer ought not to produce crops at a loss, and when this great war is over, I believe that some means will be found whereby a minimum price for each crop each year can be established so that the farmer will not have to produce crops and sell them below the cost of production.

I have advocated for some time that the farmers of this great nation ought to have some system or organization whereby a minimum price could be recommended, based upon the yield and conditions under which each crop was grown. To have a farmer produce a crop and then be obliged to sell it below the cost of production is like hiring a laboring man and then refusing to pay him. One is no worse than the other. The laboring man gives his labor and he should have his pay. The farmer produces a crop, puts in not only labor but capital and he should not be compelled to sell that crop below cost. In fact, he should have a reasonable profit.

I don't believe it is necessary to have laws allowing anything of this sort to be done. It is simply a question of business and a business organization can accomplish the desired results. It isn't to be expected that the government will guarantee the price of any crop or any product after the war is over. Governments ought to do such things only under the extraordinary conditions in time of war. But the farmers themselves can do this and it is what they ought to have done before. Now, what I rejoice in is the fact that the Government has shown the way. Farmers will believe you now when you say that delegates from the various parts of the Union can be authorized by the farmers to fix a minimum price on wheat or corn or oats, or potatoes, or sugar beets or any other crop, basing this price on the cost of production. Consumers might have representatives on this price-fixing committee the same as they did on the committee that Mr. Hoover appointed. As a farmer, I am not afraid that a committee of this sort should have consumers represented. I don't believe the average consumer expects the farmer to produce food crops at a loss. He knows that the prosperity of our whole civilization depends upon the farmer as well as other people making a decent living and the farmer cannot do this unless he sells his crops above the cost of production. Mr. Hoover had men representing labor organizations as well as other non-producers on this committee and yet they all agreed upon a fair price for wheat. I don't believe that any reasonable farmer can object to the price fixed for this year's crop of wheat nor for the crop of wheat next year, but what everybody is afraid of is for the years following.

Good, reliable estimates could be made every year of the various crops by counties. County representatives could compare notes for the state and the separate states could compare notes with each other and in that way an accurate estimate of the yield and the cost of production could be ascertained and a fair price fixed so that the average farmer could make at least a decent interest on his labor and money invested. These prices so fixed by this committee could be recommended as a minimum price. Now I believe this would fix the price for the whole crop. If the market price dropped down below this minimum price, farmers would refuse to sell and this would control the market and therefore no one would be obliged to sell below this minimum price.

Almost the same principle is illustrated in fixing the price of sugar



farmers thru these columns and we hope on live, up-to-the-minute topics in which

Colon C. Lillie is one of the best known agricultural men in the state; he is a typical Business Farmer; he writes from a keen intellect and a broad experience. Mr. Lillie was born as a farmer, reared as a farmer and educated as a farmer at the M. A. C., graduating in 1884, and he has been farming ever since. Some time ago he got a queer notion into his head that farming could be made to pay as a business proposition, and he is doing his best to demonstrate his theory. He does not believe that any farming is a success which must depend upon the labor of man, wife and children twelve to sixteen hours a day to make it pay a meager profit. He does believe that farming is like any other business and should be conducted as such.

Incidentally, Mr. Lillie has served the state and the state's agricultural interests in a large number of important capacities. He was at one time deputy dairy and food commissioner, and finally food commissioner under Gov. Warner's administration, during which time he held several hundred dairy meetings in various parts of the state. Prof. Anderson of the M. A. C. has said of Mr. Lillie that the work he did at that time laid the foundation for the future of Michigan as a dairy state. Mr. Lillie was president of the Michigan State Dairy-men's Ass'n for four years and has held many other positions in dairy and agricultural organizations. He is eminently qualified to address business that he will be a frequent contributor business farmers are interested.

beets before the crop is grown. These prices are based on the past experience of farmers in growing this crop. The new idea which was put in force this year for the first time basing the price of sugar beets upon past experience and the future of the market price of sugar places the farmer beyond the fear of selling his product for less than it cost. It would be better in the case of sugar beets to fix the price after the crop was produced then the season would be taken into consideration.

The price of potatoes for this year was practically fixed by Mr. Prudan of Lansing and some business men of Detroit actually purchased potatoes at \$1.00 per bushel, delivered at Lan-

sing or Detroit. No one wants to sell their potatoes now for less than a dollar and I don't believe anybody will because they will withhold their crop from the market if the price goes below a dollar. Here again, our Government has established a precedent in this question of marketing, which the farmer ought to follow in the future. Mr. Hoover now advocates that our present crop of potatoes, which is a large one, be not placed on the market all at once, only a third of it now, the balance stored and placed on the market as they are needed in the future. This is only a common sense provision and the farmers will have this precedent to follow after this war is over with. Why

can't the farmers every fall take into consideration the crop in sight and make arrangements to put it on the market in sufficient quantities only to maintain that price. Reserve banks will loan on warehouse receipts.

I understand that our own Market Commissioner, Mr. McBride, is now advocating this same idea—that the Michigan farmers store a portion of their potatoes this fall so as not to glut the market. That has always been the trouble in marketing crops. Farmers used no sense or no system; they have rushed all their crops to market as soon as they were ready. Down went the price. But the price doesn't go down to the consumer. With a decent business system of fixing the minimum price based on the cost of production the consumer will not be injured. His food will cost him no more than it would under the old system of having the middlemen control the market. The farmer and the ultimate consumer ought to have something to say about controlling the market, and after this war is over with, these precedents established by the Government, this plain, straightway shown the farmers by Mr. Hoover. If the farmers don't take advantage of this we will have the same conditions that we have had in the past and many years the farmers will sell their crops for less than the cost of production.

Everybody is going to put in an extra acreage of wheat this year, and why not? It is the only time in the history of agriculture in this country that the farmer was practically sure of making a profit. The government has taken the risk of loss off the farmers' hands and why shouldn't he respond? He will respond. Undoubtedly, if the Government should guarantee the price of wheat every year there might be an over-production of wheat, yet, farmers can control this by recommending acreage as well as prices. It is only a business proposition and the farmer is getting to be just about business man enough to attend to something of this sort.

The Old and New Way of Farming

By Nathan F. Simpson, Former Warden of Jackson State Prison



TODAY WE look upon the work of the early pioneer settlers as almost impossible, and as hardships which could not be endured in the present generation. We read of the work of the pioneer with interest, and the story of the early settlement of our state, county, township or immediate neighborhood, is told by the few remaining patriots, and received by the rural population of today as most wonderful work, performed during a period of suffering and self-sacrifice.

The early settler, who, with his family, have overcome the obstacles so usual in pioneer days, and from the wilds built a home, and later surrounded himself with comforts known to modern rural life, is justly classed a successful man, to be eulogized by his posterity. We all appreciate the work of the pioneer; his, a noble character, and nothing can be truthfully said to detract from his career.

But do not believe the pioneer's road to success more difficult than yours. In reality, the early settler of the Middle West, experienced less real difficulties and had less financial problems to solve than farmers today.

The pioneer to acquire land, often only needed to file on Government tracts, and like "Mother Means in the Hoosier Schoolmaster," usually followed the plan of "Getting A-Plenty While You are Getting." You—the average farmer of today, to acquire a

small farm, must make a large investment, and too often purchase soil robbed of its fertility before you took possession.

The pioneer produced his wealth from the virgin soil, with well-balanced seasons and undisturbed nature to assist. You—perhaps, are trying to produce from depleted soil, with handicaps of frost, droughts, floods and unseasonable excesses, not known to this country while primitive nature reigned.

The pioneer farmer with an abundance of material at hand, had only to fence in his improved acres, while the whole public domain was a free pasture for his flocks and herds. While you—with expensive material, must fence your entire farm in order to keep live stock at all.

The pioneer had his family to assist him. The boys and girls, in those days remained at home until they reached maturity, receiving their store of education from the district schools, attending only the winter months when old enough to help father and mother at home. You—are educating your boys and girls in the city high school, supplementing their high school courses with college training, and when their education is completed, and when they are best equipped to help father and mother at home, too often leave for callings more promising.

The pioneer dressed his family in "Homespun," and still maintained the custom of that period; the farm team and wagon answered for the only conveyance. The singing school, the spelling school, the husking and paring bees, and similar entertainments and gatherings constituted the

only social functions. While you—must keep pace with modern dress and fashions; the automobile has displaced the horse and wagon, and you naturally have responded to the social demands prompted by present ideas and practices.

The pioneer farmer was forced by sheer necessity to co-operate. Farm implements were borrowed and loaned. The work not accomplished by the family was done by a general exchange of work on a neighborhood "bee." While you—the farmer of today has a real labor problem to solve and you are quite content in going alone, notwithstanding you must realize the benefit of co-operation.

The pioneer, to give his sons and daughters assistance when married, or otherwise leaving the parental roof, had only to spare and transfer the title of an 80, or a quarter section, from his large possessions so easily acquired, while they still remained in the neighborhood making family co-operation possible. While you—must deny yourself many comforts of life for many years, in order to start your sons and daughters in their newly chosen positions of life, which is often widely separated from you and their early training.

So you—the modern farmer of today, should save for yourself and your associates the sympathy harbored in your memory, and connected with the traditions of pioneer days, and realize that you must devote your energies in increasing the fertility of the soil, using modern labor-saving equipment, follow intensive and profitable farming, until your small farm will produce an income equal to the demand made upon you by modern forms and customs.

County Crop Reports

OAKLAND (West Central)—Farmers are busy sowing wheat and rye; ground in better condition than last fall. Some Red Rock wheat and Rosen rye sowed. No potatoes dug yet. Not much corn cut, only for silos. Not enough silo fillers at work. Not much fruit here but pears, some apples; not enough for home use. We are having fine weather to ripen the crops that are left.—E. F. Clarkston.

ANTHIM (West)—Farmers are sowing wheat and rye. Weather cold and wet. The bean crop was hurt badly by frost. Potatoes were hurt about 5 per cent, corn 30 per cent, buckwheat 15 per cent, cucumbers 75 per cent.—H. H. Central Lake.

MIDLAND (Southeast)—Farmers are pulling beans. Some threshing being done. Very cloudy weather for beans to ripen.—J. H. M., Hemlock.

INGHAM (Northeast)—Threshing is pretty well along. Fine weather for gathering beans; no rain for three weeks to speak of; the ground very dry for seeding. Some wheat up and it looks well. Corn ripening fast, will be of poor quality at the best. No clover seed in this section. Onions don't ripen, tops as green as in July and August. Some farmers digging potatoes and selling them at 90 cents in Lansing.—A. N., Williamston.

MONROE (Southeast)—Frost holds off and corn and potatoes are coming on slowly. Wheat seeding is in operation and the ground is in good shape.—E. W. H., Erie.

MACOMB (Northwest)—Farmers are sowing wheat; some are cutting corn. There will be but little ripe corn this year. Fine weather; need rain badly. Farmers are waiting for better prices, only those who need money are selling now. Potatoes are looking good, a fair crop expected. Beans are fair, some fields not worth pulling, others are good. Frost did lots of damage to corn on low ground.—H. D., Almont.

JACKSON (West)—The weather is good for corn and beans, but it is too dry for wheat. The bean harvest is about here. I will commence harvesting 70 acres of beans Monday, Oct. 1. They are no better than I anticipated, they will go from 5 to 10 bu. per acre. There is no chance for corn to get ripe; it will take to the first of November.—B. T., Parma.

MECOSTA (Southeast)—We are in the midst of corn harvest. Corn has been left as long as we dare leave it, and it will mostly be soft. Beans are ripening unevenly, very few are pulled as yet. The late potatoes are growing nicely where the frost did not strike. A good many farmers were foolish enough to dig potatoes of the late variety, and it pulled the price down on account of their being green stock.—F. M. E., Millbrook.

OTSEGO (West Central)—Some of the farmers have started to dig potatoes and feel some disappointed for they are not turning out as well as they expected they would. Had a nice rain the night of the 27th.—C. A., Gaylord.

VAN BUREN (Southeast)—Grape harvest now on, started with Concord, The cold nights have made the grapes slow to ripen. Reported frost Friday night. The federation of grape associations is keeping the prices up well and causing the juice factories to bid high. Four quart baskets are bringing 22 and 23c.—V. T. G., Mattawan.

TUSCOLA (Northeast)—Threshing is nearly done and bean pulling has commenced with ideal weather so far. The most of the early beans will be pulled next week if the weather is favorable. Corn is still on the green side and wants about ten days of good weather yet. Fall wheat is looking good.—J. A. McG., Cass City.

BAY (East)—We have had splendid weather for harvesting beans, it has been warm and dry with a change to cooler and cloudy. Soil is quite dry the wheat is coming nicely. Beans on low land are short and ripening slowly; a large portion of beans are pulled and in the barn. The early corn is ripe and is being cut. Farmers are selling wheat, that is about all; some oats, but not many. Some of the farmers are preparing to tile their land next spring.—G. G., Linwood.

MIDLAND (East)—Weather is fine for corn cutting and bean pulling. Beans are about half a crop, while corn is near two-thirds of a crop. There are several auction sales advertised north of here. Poor crops are said to be the cause. A large road job let last week, when it is completed it will make a gravel road from Midland to Merrill, 18 miles.—A. B., Midland.

BAY (Southeast)—Weather dry. The threshing nearly all finished. Oats and wheat turning out well, oats about 40 to 50 bu., wheat 20 to 25. There is no ripe corn but farmers are cutting.—J. C. N., Munger.

KALAMAZOO (South)—The recent frosts did most damage to corn. Wheat is being sowed at present. Farmers are filling silos. It has been dry in some localities and rain in others.—E. McG., Vicksburg.

GENESEE (Southeast)—Farmers are harvesting beans, sowing wheat, threshing and filling their silos. The weather has been warm and dry until today, when we had a little shower which just about settled the dust. It is cloudy and indications point to considerable rain before long. The soil has been rather dry and hard and we need a good rain. Farmers are selling small quantities of wheat, oats and potatoes. Several farmers have garden produce such as sweet corn, cabbage, etc. which they are marketing.—C. S., Fenton.

MONTCALM (Southwest)—All busy with corn cutting, filling silos and digging potatoes. Corn is not making very good ensilage this year, being too green; early potatoes are yielding on the average of 175 bushels per acre. Market is lower as late potatoes are being sold. Rains were received Wednesday night and Thursday; soil being in good condition. Weather is cool and nights being cold. Farmers are not selling much produce except potatoes; grain is moving slowly.—W. L., Greenville.

BRANCH (North)—Farmers seeding and filling silos. Weather warm and dry. Soil very dry. Selling wheat and potatoes; holding hay and oats.—F. S., Union City.

HURON (Northwest)—Early potatoes a good crop, but acreage small; late potatoes show promise, but acreage small. A good many acres of wheat sown this fall, running the year's average by last season about 5 per cent. Rain is needed to help the late seedings. No apples, a few pears and very few peaches. Too dry for fall plowing if we don't get rain.—A. F. C., Pigeon.

CALHOUN (Northwest)—Farmers are seeding and some are cutting corn. The weather is warm and dry, just right for our late beans and corn. Soil is in good condition. Farmers are not moving much produce just now, they are very busy and they think prices will not be any lower. Beans are coming along fine; potatoes are no big crop around here.—C. E. B., Battle Creek.

CALHOUN (Northwest)—Weather is fair and warm. Some wheat sowing to be done yet. Silo filling is the order of the day at present. The farmers who have no silo are cutting their corn which was frosted.—V. H. J., Battle Creek.

INGHAM (South)—No corn in shock yet. Silos are half filled, beans one-quarter pulled and some in stacks. There is big call for contract lambs in November of \$14 and \$15. Many farmers are going to feed this winter and shear before selling.—B. W., Leslie.

SAGINAW (Northwest)—Corn is ripening very slowly; most of the late corn has been cut for fodder. Farmers who put up silos hit it right this fall. An immense amount of tile is being laid, in fact the amount is limited only by the supply of tile and labor. Saginaw county fair is breaking all attendance records.—M. S. G., Hemlock.

CHARLEVOIX (Southwest)—Threshing in full swing. The last four days have been the best corn weather we have had in the last four weeks; have plenty of moisture in the ground. Buyers are offering 75 cents for early potatoes for shipment with but few takers. A large number of Charlevoix county farmers attended the barbecue at Ellsworth the 14th. Oats are yielding from 25 to 35 bu. per acre, and wheat from 12 to 30.—C. R. M., Ellsworth.

OTTAWA (Northeast)—The most of the wheat is in. Farmers are busy cutting corn and filling silos. Light rains of Sept. 27 and 28 will help wheat.—J. P., Coopersville.

LIVINGSTON (Northeast)—Have had fair weather all of the week. Farmers have been busy getting in wheat. But very few beans up at this time; they are not ripening very fast. Threshing nearly all done; yields very good, oats yielding as high as 65 bu. per acre in this locality. A straw stack on the farm of Pat Crosby caught fire last week while they were threshing, but no damage resulted. The fire started from the hot straw as the oats were very hot while being run through the machine.—F. H., Linden.

GRAND TRAVERSE (South)—The farmers are sowing rye, cutting corn, digging and hauling potatoes, and attending the fairs. The weather is good. The soil in good condition, having had a nice rain the 26th. A good many early potatoes are being dug and marketed, the price being around the 90 cent mark. A few are holding them for a higher price. Quite a number of silos are being built this fall.—R. E. O., Buckley.

MECOSTA (Northwest)—Sowing grain and pulling beans is the order of the day. The Mecosta county fair was a success; the rain on Thursday made the track too slippery for the races, but there was a large attendance on Friday.—L. M., Hersey.

MIDLAND (Northwest)—Farmers are busy pulling beans. A few beans have already been threshed. It is very dry here and is a fine time to get the beans in. The soil is most too dry for wheat to do much. The fall pasture is getting pretty short. Farmers are not selling much grain of any kind.—F. A. L., Coleman.

OGEMAW (East Central)—Farmers busy putting in fall wheat. It has been so dry that plowing is almost impossible. The county fair is in progress and the show of fruit and vegetables is the best in years. Bean pulling is the order now. Threshers are busy, the grain is turning out well. The corn was badly hurt by frost, it will therefore be a small crop. Sales of cattle and sheep high, horses not so high as last fall. Hay about all baled, big crop.—H. A. B., Seldirk.

HURON (Northwest)—We are having fine weather for corn and beans. Farmers are busy threshing. Oats will average from 35 to 50 bu. per acre. Some beans are about ready to harvest. There is blight in the beans. Quite a lot of wheat is being put in here; some farmers are sowing Red Rock. Some of the farmers are tiling their farms and some are building new stock and grain barns and putting up silos. A number of the farmers are buying autos this fall. Help is scarce due to the drafting of our sons and hired men for army service.—G. W., Elkton.

Comfort Wear Economy



The Racine
FLANNEL SHIRT
TRADE MARK
The "Old Reliable" Has this Label

"There's a Shirt you can swear by!"

The RACINE flannel shirt is *dependable*—rip-proof, dust-proof, and non-gaping. It's always the same, because the same high standard of excellence that has characterized it for more than thirty years is being maintained today, as always.

Every shirt is backed by a "satisfaction-or-money-back" guarantee. But the quality that takes it out of the class of ordinary shirts, and lifts it head and shoulders above them all, is the honest, broad-shouldered, homely comfort it affords you—in the field or on the road, or around the house in the evening. And it looks just as good as it feels—clean-cut and dressy. Ask your dealer for the RACINE. If he doesn't carry it, write us.

The Chas. Alshuler Mfg. Co.
Makers of Soft Cotton and Flannel Shirts for Work, Dress or Sport

—here's where we ask you another favor!

IN ALMOST EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD where I am well acquainted in Michigan, there is a man or woman who is a natural born agent. Sometimes they make part or all of their living by canvassing, sometimes they merely do it for causes in which they are interested.

EVERY FARMER IN MICHIGAN ought to have a chance to say whether or not he wants to keep right up to the minute on market conditions, when, where and what to sell at the right time, and alive to the things that are happening daily in his own state, which concern himself, his family or his farm.

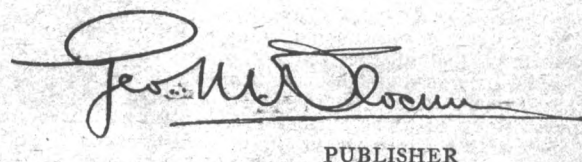
WE WANT SOMEONE TO HELP US—we would like to have you tell us who this "natural-born-agent" in your locality is. We know that if you would tell him what you think of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING that he would want to canvass his township or perhaps his entire county for us.

OF COURSE WE WILL PAY HIM WELL for every hour he puts in showing the new market paper and sending in the names he secures, and so we ask you who have proven your interest in the future of our weekly to help us by sending us the name of this man or woman and if you can conveniently, show him our paper.

PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE to try this simple work. That would be fine, for we know that you like our paper and it does not require any previous experience for a man or woman who believes in any proposition or product to sell it to his neighbors.

WE OFFER NO PREMIUMS or prizes to either the subscriber or the agent. We pay cash commissions and will pay any man or woman who makes good on a regular salary basis so you get a check from us on the first of every month.

I HOPE YOU WHO READ THIS will help by either offering to try the work yourself or suggest the name and address of some man or woman who you know could do it.


 PUBLISHER

Everyday Garden, Field and Orchard Helps

STORING VEGETABLES IS IMPORTANT THIS YEAR

By storing, it is comparatively easy to keep such vegetables as beets, carrots, cabbage, celery, dry beans, dry lima beans, onions, parsnips, potatoes, sweet potatoes. With the exception of beans and turnips, these crops may be stored in the cellar, in pits or banks, or in caves and outdoor cellars.

Pits or banks should be made in a well-drained location. A shallow excavation some 8 or 10 inches deep and of suitable size should be made. This is lined with straw or leaves and the vegetables are placed in conical piles on this material. The vegetables are then covered with straw and then earth, the depth depending upon the severity of the winter. The pits may be covered with additional straw, corn stover or manure during very severe weather. The outdoor cellar or cave is even more satisfactory but the entailed expense is greater.

Beans may be kept in any dry place such as the attic or pantry. Now is the time of the year to care for these crops so that they may be available during the winter and early spring.

MY EXPERIENCE IN RAISING SUGAR BEETS

The following letter from a subscriber throws some light on the cost of raising sugar beets. What has your experience been?

"I have not had much experience of my own in raising sugar beets but I have worked in them a great deal, my father having raised them ever since I was a boy large enough to thin them. I put in one and one-half acres three years ago, paying ten dollars an acre rent and did most of the hand work myself and received over one hundred dollars from my small field. Last year my father and I signed a labor contract to put in forty acres of beets and the company to do the hand work. We rented a drained farm with clay soil, paying ten dollars per acre for the beet land. We worked the ground until it was in good condition before drilling the seed. We planted about seven hundred pounds of seed, amounting to \$318.37, drilling in two tons of fertilizer at \$27.25 and \$29.25, amounting to \$56.50.

"We had a good stand of beets excepting five acres which the company did not think was worth taking care of. They were thinned and hoed in fairly good season; some of them getting a little large and grassy before thinning, and also quite weedy before they were hoed, chiefly due to lack of help. In some fields due to a poor job done when thinned. I for one, think there is more in raising beets from a few acres, taking care of them oneself, than in planting a large field and letting the company's hired foreigners do the work.

We cultivated our beets eight times and they grew nicely and were looking good when the dry weather set in, which seemingly dried them up.

"They were pulled and topped by the company's hired hands and we hauled them to the station. We had one hundred loads of sugar beets summing up to 154,965 pounds. At six dollars a ton they amounted to \$929.79.

"The expenses of the company for labor, interest, seed, etc., was \$759.65, leaving a check for \$170.14 for us to pay for rent and fertilizer.

"The ground measured up to 33 acres. This land at \$10 per acre costing us \$330.

"After interviewing the sugar beet company, they paid the rent, standing \$154.93 themselves on conditions that we raise five acres of beets the following year which my father promised to do. This leaving us in debt to the company \$54.93, and \$56.50 for fertilizer, leaves a total of \$111.43 debt."—James E. Rowse.

ONE SOLUTION OF THE FARM LABOR PROBLEM

The recent agitation of the U. S. Department of Labor and the Michigan Preparedness Board to organize the high school boys of the state in an effort to help solve the farm labor problem, brings to my mind an experience which I had while attending high school in the northern part of the state.

An exceptionally large acreage of potatoes had been planted in that section that year and the farmers were very much handicapped by lack of help. One farmer living about three miles from the village had in 40 acres of potatoes. They had ripened and a spell of very cold weather came on threatening to freeze the thousands of tubers still in the ground. The farmer in question was an original sort of fellow who usually did think his own way regardless of the jibes and criticisms of his neighbors. As a result he had prospered fairly well and when confronted with the problem of getting his potatoes safely out of the ground he conceived the idea of calling upon the local high school boys for help. This was something new. Apparently none of the farmers of that section had ever thought of the labor possibilities in that high school

other root crops may be classed as this kind of labor and we see no reason why the farmers of the state should not avail themselves of the willingness of the schools to let the boys away from their studies for a brief period this fall to help the farmers.

SKIMMING RICH CREAM SAVES FEED

In skimming a hundred pounds of 35 per cent cream, 15 more pounds of skim milk is kept on the farm than when the same amount of 20 per cent is taken. This saving can be accomplished by a turn of the cream screw, and at present feed prices is well worth the effort required. More skim milk on the farms also means more calves raised to furnish meat and milk for all. Milk producers are paid for the butterfat in cream; not for the water and other constituents. This makes it advisable to skim a rich cream, so that as much valuable skim milk as possible may be saved for feeding.

According to the latest advice the cost of keeping warm this winter is going to be something fierce. The Folding Sawing Machine Company suggests a way to beat the high cost of fuel. Turn to their advertisement in this issue and note their offer.

THE BUSINESS FARMER'S CALENDAR

Reminders of the Things That Should be Done On the Farm This Week

1. Now is a good time to look after any odd jobs of painting around the farm. No doubt some of the buildings need paint and perhaps a coat or two would do the dwelling a lot of good. Before the fall rains set in, and after the frost has killed off the small flies, is the very best time to paint.
2. Have a look at the bags you expect to use hauling grain and beans to market. Have the holes mended and avoid annoyance and loss later.
3. To the housewife: Are you doing something along the line of Red Cross work? Every little helps. Possibly you may be able to find a few spare moments per day now and this may be increased as the winter season advances.
4. Spade in some well-rotted stable manure around the rhubarb plants. Repeat the operation as usual in the spring and you will be surprised at the difference it will make on next year's yield, both in quality and quantity.
5. Most farmers keep a few cats around the premises regardless of their bird-catching propensities. If you do keep pussy, treat her well. Gather a few catnip bushes, hang them up in the barn and let puss have access to them from time to time during the winter months.
6. Have you made arrangements for the new strawberry patch? Fall planting is practiced in Michigan quite extensively. Sand loam soil gives the best results.

where from twenty to thirty husky young men from 18 to 21 years of age were in attendance but this man believed the boys could dig and pick potatoes as well as anyone else so he made an arrangement with the superintendent of the school to let us off for a couple of days to help him.

To most of the boys it was a rather novel experience and those of us who had been more or less accustomed to some of the hardships of the farm completely believed that the other boys' enthusiasm would shortly wane, and that after a few hours of back-aching and hand-blistering work they would throw up the sponge, however, we were surprised. That gang of boys was in the potato field three miles distant at seven o'clock on each morning of the two days which they had agreed to work and they put in 9 1-2 good hours digging and picking potatoes. As is natural with boys of that age a spirit of competition was soon aroused and we all worked like nailers trying to outdo the other. As a result, in spite of our greenness and awkwardness, we established a record for potato digging that year and I don't believe there was a farmer anywhere in that county who had his potatoes dug so satisfactorily and so cheaply as our enterprising employer.

This little experience is cited here merely as a suggestion to our readers who may find themselves up against it this fall when potato digging time comes.

We cannot subscribe to all the enthusiastic predictions of how high school or city people are going to solve the farm labor problem in Michigan when many of the farmers and farm laborers are drafted into the army, but there is certain work to be done on the farm which requires no skilled labor or experience. Potato digging and the harvesting of

TREE PLANTING WITH DYNAMITE

During the spring of 1911 I set out a young orchard which covered 25 acres. In laying out he tract one row came exactly in an old road that was hard barren soil. I could hardly dig holes here at all because of the extreme hardness of the ground. I did not wish to move the row to one side, as that would spoil the symmetry of the tract. I decided to try dynamite for loosening up the ground.

I took a dirt auger and bored a small hole to a depth of 30 inches and exploded one-half stick of 40 percent dynamite in the bottom of it. It did not tear up the surface as I had expected it to do, but when I dug down to see what the effect was underneath I was surprised to find the hard subsoil thoroughly pulverized to a distance of one and one-half feet on each side. This seemed to be in excellent condition for my young trees, and I gave the other holes in the old road the same treatment. Then I was so well satisfied with the results that I decided to use dynamite for my whole tract, as I figured it would pay me well to loosen up all the holes so much better than could be done with any implement I had.

The results following this rather extensive experiment were extremely interesting in view of the severe drought of 1911 to which the young trees were soon after subjected. Not one of the 1,250 trees was killed by the dry weather, although I had to replant about 25 that died from other causes. This, to me, is remarkable in the light of the fact that fully 50 per cent of trees planted in this section during the spring of 1911 in spaded holes, in fairly good ground, perished, while nine, even in the old road place, flourished. A prominent nurseryman

who secured scions from my Delicious trees told me that the growth was extraordinary for that season.

I feel that I have already been more than repaid both in satisfaction and in a financial way for the expenditure of six cents per tree that I made for the dynamite, and certainly the returns are not yet all in. I have used dynamite in clearing fields of old stumps, boulders, etc., during a period extending over five years, but its use as a subsoil pulverizer was new to me. In this role, however, it succeeded beyond my most hopeful expectations.—J. M. FIELD.

1917 MICHIGAN POTATOES COST MUCH TO RAISE

According to figures carefully compiled from nine leading Emmet county farms, says the Petoskey News, each bushel of potatoes raised this year cost \$1.03.

Figuring every cost from the time of plowing until the tubers are delivered at the market, the sum of money spent on each acre is \$117.67.

Figuring the average yield in former years on the same land and allowing for this year's conditions, the estimated yield on these nine farms is 114 bushels per acre, which is less than the number of dollars required to produce them.

On the same nine farms it cost \$78.50 to raise an acre of beans, but no estimate as to the yield has been given.

The expense items on potatoes are as follows: Plowing, \$2.97; harvesting, \$2.49; rolling, \$.35; fertilizer, \$3.14; manure, \$13.78; cost of seed, \$30.27; cost of planting, \$3.33; cultivation, \$5.06; fungicide and insecticide, \$2.49; labor applying foregoing, \$3.39; digging, \$10.66; storage, \$2.78; delivery to market, \$8.67; unenumerated, \$1.22; interest on investment, taxes, insurance, etc., \$27.07; total cost, \$117.67; estimated yield per acre, 114 bushels.

The cost details on beans are as follows: Plowing, \$2.75; harrowing, \$2.34; rolling, \$.54; fertilizer, \$2.54; manure, \$5.11; applying manure, \$6.89; seed per acre, \$5.72; planting or drilling, \$1.94; cultivation, \$5.39; hand weeding, \$5.11; threshing machine cost, \$2.19; fuel, \$.44; labor and board (threshing), \$2.78; delivery to market, \$1.72; harvesting, hauling and storing, \$5.00; interest on investment, insurance, taxes, etc., \$27.07; total cost per acre, \$78.50.

STYLE COMES HIGH SAYS OREGON FARMER

A good deal of the wailing against the high cost of food is misdirected. It is the high cost of style that is pinching many people who unjustly blame the farmer.

Congressman Madden of Chicago, in a speech in Congress the other day, gave an interesting analysis of prices on the bills of fare of some of the high-class hotels in the national capital. For 46 cents worth of food the man who wants to dine in style is charged \$6.55, according to the Illinois congressman. Here are his figures:

	Menu price	Cost price
Lobster cocktail	\$.90	\$.03
Clams	.50	.01
Olives	.30	.03%
Half broiled duck	1.75	.12 1/2
Beans	.60	.05
Cauliflower	.50	.02
Green Peas		
Grapefruit salad		
Peaches	.50	.05
Cantaloup	.50	.06-.08

It is also to be remembered that the producers got only a part of that 46 cents. A portion of it went for transportation, and assuming that the hotel bought directly from the wholesaler, at least one middleman took his "bit."

But much the greater part of that \$6.55 was paid for style, and a congressman does not have to dine at the top-notch hotels. Washington has hundreds of cheaper hotels and restaurants that serve pretty good meals at reasonable prices. Thousands of clerks and other employees in the various departments and bureaus get pretty good "eats" for 25 or 35 cents. The waiter in a high-toned hotel expects that much of a tip.—Oregon Farmer.



LIVE STOCK ON THE FARM

POULTRY, SHEEP
AND SWINE

BEEF PRODUCTION
BREEDING PROBLEMS



RELATION OF FAMILY COW TO THE HOME FINANCE

Keeping a family cow and feeding it forage that would otherwise go to waste may seem a small contribution toward winning the war, but if every farmer who has no dairy cow would do this and if residents of villages who have good-sized yards and gardens would likewise adopt the suggestion, they would greatly assist the U. S. Food Administration as well as better their own standard of living.

We know from the experience of European refugees that when a man with a family is crushed financially, the last thing he gives up is his cow. No other creature comes so near being a second mother to the human race. But with our prosperity here in America, a great many families that could maintain a family cow to advantage have turned to the practice of buying milk. And when milk is difficult to obtain they stint in its use or go without it altogether.

R. F. Flint, a dairy specialist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, has given considerable thought to this matter and offers valuable counsel on the desirability of family cows during war times. In his opinion, the small amount devoted to the care of a cow is an excellent means of utilizing spare time profitably. Whereas an hour a day devoted to a small home dairy may have been a doubtful economic practice, years ago when milk sold for five cents a quart, it is profitable now when milk is worth about double that figure. In some localities, especially in the grain and cotton sections, investigators have passed farm after farm that had no cows whatever and the only milk available was in tins. Well informed people also appreciate the value of milk as a food more than ever before.

The family cow under present conditions has these outstanding points to commend her. She will pay a good dividend on spare time devoted to her care and she will utilize grass and odds and ends of feed from the garden, thus helping to conserve the nation's resources. She will be an educational factor worth while to the children of the family. Knowledge of producing forces comes handy in every walk of life.

In a more personal way, the use of abundant milk and cream on the table and in cooking means well-nourished and stalwart families—the vital strength of a nation.

TWO GOOD METHODS OF CURING PORK

Hog killing time is coming. It is especially important this year that each family cure an abundant supply of meat. P. F. Trowbridge of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, offers two methods of curing pork:

DRY CURE: Do not cut up the pork till the carcass is well chilled. make a mixture of clean fine salt 40 pounds, white or brown sugar 10 lbs., white or black pepper 4 pounds, red pepper 1-2 pound. This will make enough cure for about 1000 pounds of pork. If saltpeter is desired, use 2 pounds in the above mixture. It will give a red color to the lean meat but has a tendency to harden the meat too much. Chili saltpeter may be used instead of the regular saltpeter by taking about 20 per cent less.

Rub each piece of meat thoroughly with the cure. Take special care to work the cure around the ends of bone of hams and shoulders. Pack skin down on a table or in a box in a cool airy place. Do not place in direct sunlight or in a damp musty cellar. After four or five days overhaul the meat, rub thoroly with the cure and repack; repeat this in about a week. Hams and shoulders should remain in the cure from 1 1-2 days to 2 days per pound weight of piece; the latter time is safer for meat that is to be

kept during the summer. Bacon should be in the cure a shorter time. Ten days will give a very nice mild cure to a six or eight-pound piece.

BRINE CURE: Make a brine by boiling 7 pounds of clean salt and 2 pounds of white or brown sugar with two gallons of water. If saltpeter is desired add one-fourth pound. This gives about enough to cover 100 lbs. of pork when well packed. Sprinkle a little clean fine salt in the bottom of the barrel, rub each piece of meat lightly with the salt, sprinkle a light layer of salt between each layer of meat. Put on a board and weight down with a rock. Allow to stand over night. Tip barrel on side and allow the liquor to run out. Cover the meat with the cold brine and allow to stand in a cool place 4 or 5 days. Overhaul, repack, and cover with the same brine. Repeat in about a week. Give the meat the same length of time for curing as with the dry cure.

When the curing is complete wash off the excess cure and hang in the smokehouse. Meat kept in the cure too long should be soaked in warm water to remove the excess of the cure. Smoke with hickory, oak, apple, or any non-resinous wood. Avoid all wood of the pine family. With a continuous smudge the smoking can be completed in 24 hours. With intermittent smoking longer time is necessary as cold meat "takes the smoke" slowly. Wrap the meat to keep it away from the skippers. If rats or mice get at the meat they open a way for the skippers. In damp weather cured meats will mould. This is not injurious except it is advisable to use up shoulders, as the mould grows in the cracks and calls for excessive trimming.

Veterinary Department

G. H. CONN, D. V., Editor

HAVE a good herd of grade Holsteins and at this time all the rage through this section is shorthorns. Would you advise me to use a shorthorn bull on my cows and raise beef cattle or use a Holstein bull and raise dairy cattle?—A. J. A. Jackson.

Under no circumstances should you cross your cattle with a shorthorn bull, as you would then have only half-bloods, and would have neither beef cattle nor dairy cattle, and you would have lost whatever improvement you might have gained in your present herd. If you will investigate thoroughly I think you will find that the market for dairy products is very stable and that dairy cows bring you quick returns for your money invested.

WE HAVE a cow that has not been fresh for about a year now and we are unable to get her with calf. She comes in heat very irregular and at times seems to be in heat for several days at a time. What would you advise us to do with her, and what might be the cause of the condition?—E. E. N. Adrian.

It is hard to say what the cause of the trouble is, but it is no doubt a structural change somewhere in the genative organs by this time and if you have not a veterinarian in your locality that has made a study of sterility in cows we should advise you to get rid of her. It may be a diseased condition of the ovaries or of the uterus. An expert veterinarian might effect a cure but the average veterinarian has not as yet given enough study to this class of conditions.

I HAVE A grade Holstein cow that has had paralysis at calving for the past two times. She has recovered both times in from 36 to 48 hours but this time she is lame in one hind leg and does not put much weight on it, but in one week's time she has shown little if any improvement. What can be done to bring about a relief from this lameness and what can be done to prevent this trouble when she calves again?—C. T. Muskegon, Mich.

This cow should live much of the time in the open and have plenty of exercise for the last four or five weeks before she calves. Her bowels should be kept active and she should not be fed with rich food, that is, not for this last few weeks of pregnancy. This condition might be due to injury of the large nerve that supplies the leg as it is quite near the surface of the passage thru which the calf must necessarily pass in being born or it may be due to some other derangement of the nerve supply. Take 8 grains

of strychnine sulphate and dissolve in one pint of water and give this cow one tablespoonful of the mixture either on the feed or as a drench three times each day.

ONE OF MY cows which was delivered about two years ago has had a discharge from her left horn ever since. At times she gets very sick from it. The discharge is thin and has a very offensive odor. Will you advise me what to do for this?—R. W. Chio, Mich.

Have a veterinarian remove the stump of the horn as close to the head and then remove all the diseased bone and horn core and any other foreign material that may be present. This can be done very handily with instruments that are made for scraping away the diseased portions of bone. Then wash out the cavity with a mild solution of permanganate of potash about one per cent. Then take of the following two ounces of tincture of iodine and six ounces of glycerine and mix them and of this mixture fill this cavity night and morning and keep same covered with cotton to keep out any foreign matter. This should bring about a recovery in a few days if you succeed in getting all the diseased bone out of this cavity.

RAISE GUINEAS; DEMAND ON THE INCREASE

Here, farmers, is a new way to help the city folks put the boot to the high cost of living and at the same time add a little bit to the farm revenue. The Department of Agriculture, has recently discovered that the guinea fowl which has suffered unpopularity with many farmers because of its irregular sleeping hours, and vociferous squawks, is now coming back in favor because of the high prices being offered for it on city markets, some of which are offering from 75c to \$1.50 a pair for these fowls.

And as for that undesirable cry of the guinea, the department specialist admits that this is a rather objectionable habit, but declares that it might often be listed as an asset. It gives warning of marauders in the poultry yard also, backed by a pugnacious disposition, constitutes an effective show of fight against hawks and other enemies. In fact, says the poultryman, some farmers raise a few guineas with their turkeys and allow them to roost together so that warning will be given if any theft is attempted during the night.

Of the three varieties of guinea fowl—Pearl, White and Lavender—Pearl is by far the most popular. It has a purplish gray plumage regularly dotted or "pearled" with white and is so handsome that frequently the feathers are used for ornamental purposes. Breeding stock of the various varieties usually sells for \$2 to \$3.50 a pair, or from \$3 to \$5 a trio. Eggs from pure-bred birds for hatching can be obtained for 75 cents to \$1.00 for 15.

The usual practice in marketing game birds is to place them on the market unplucked, and in most markets guineas are sold in this way. They are more attractive with the feathers on and sell more readily. When dressed the small size and dark color of the guinea are likely to prejudice the prospective customer, who may be unfamiliar with the bird's excellent eating qualities. For hotel and restaurant trade, however, guineas should be dressed in the same way as common fowl. Before shipping any birds to market it is advisable to inquire of the dealer to whom they are to be shipped whether the feathers should be removed.

If the guineas are to be marketed with the feathers on, all that should be done is to bleed them by severing the vein in the roof of the mouth, allowing them to hang head downward until bleeding is complete. If the feathers are to be removed, this should be done by dry picking. The vein in the roof of the mouth is severed first to insure thoro bleeding, and the knife then thrust thru the groove in the roof of the mouth into the brain. When the brain is pierced the feathers are loosened by a convulsive movement of the muscles and can be removed easily.

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THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



ANNE CAMPBELL STARK, EDITOR

This Week's Tested Recipe

CORN BREAD

One egg, 1 teaspoon sugar, 2 cups corn meal, 1 tablespoon melted lard or half butter and lard, 1 cup sour milk, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 teaspoons baking powder, pinch of salt, soda on edge of knife. Add cold water if too thick. Bake in slow oven.

Always Summer

CYNTHIA FAY is visiting me. Cynthia is just half past five, and believes firmly, of course, in Santa Claus.

Christmas is far away, but Cynthia Fay gives it a thought now and then. She said last night that she was sure she was going to get lots of toys from Santa Claus this year.

I said to my husband: "I wish I could be as confident of future joys as that child is. Nothing could shake her belief in the fact that on Christmas she is going to be perfectly happy."

Said Cynthia Fay: "I would be happy, Auntie. I want Him to be born all right. But I wish it would always be summer, and there wouldn't be any cold days."

I didn't understand her for a moment, and asked: "You want who to be born, dear?" "Why, it's Jesus' birthday," was her answer. "I want his birthday to come, same as always, but I do wish it would always be summer."

Cynthia Fay catches cold easily, and dreads the cold weather, so that's why she wishes it would "always be summer."

And don't we grown-ups find ourselves wishing that our days would be unclouded by doubts and fears, but sunny and warm forever? This war is taking from us so many of our loved ones. We look back on the peaceful years when no conflict raged in the land, and long for the day when Peace will walk abroad again. That's our way of wishing for "always summer." We almost all of us love to keep in our little peaceful rut.

"We keep our hearts at home content
With all the peace and pleasure bent.
We do not send them out and far
To gather dust and moths and scar.
We keep them home with those we love
That is what joy is fashioned of!"

But nowadays, when our heart's dearests are going so far away, when the seas roll between us, we have to send our hearts over there with them. It seems as though now truly is the "winter of our discontent." Summer will come again with Peace, and perhaps we will have learned to appreciate the common joys, the monotony of our tasks, the dear safe haven of our homes.

And if they never come back, those dear ones, we will know that they have found the place where hearts know no winter, no sorrow, where in Cynthia Fay's baby words, "It is always summer."

Fall Sewing

THE WHIRR of a busy housewife's machine is heard these cool fall days, and great is her ambition to replenish the wardrobes of herself and her offspring with as little effort, and cost as possible. If the winter clothing was put away properly last spring, her task will not be as heavy. Summer clothes should be cleaned and put away now. Sheets of blue tissue paper should be put between the folds of white dresses to prevent them from turning yellow.

Observe a few simple rules while you are doing needle work and you will not be troubled so much with eye strain. Always sit with your back toward the light, with the light streaming over the left shoulder. Don't wear a dress or apron with stripes or figures when you are doing hand sewing. Dark fabric without any gloss will give a restful background for the eyes. Do not work on hand sewing for more than half an hour at a time.

Serge frocks are all the rage this fall. And what do you suppose are being worn with them? Gingham collars and cuffs! They add a smart touch to the serviceable serge costumes. Some of the new muslin collars are made of two thicknesses of lawn, of handkerchief linen or organdie, one white and one colored. The white part is worn on the outside and the color shows through faintly. If you have a serge suit from last year, part of which can be utilized, combine it with satin, and make it over into a dress. Serge and satin are being combined a great deal this year. Some serge dresses have satin sleeves.

The baby is growing all the time, and no doubt you will find on glancing over his wardrobe that his little jackets are quite too small for him. This time of year he needs a little warm wrap around his shoulders, and perhaps he is too big to need them long, and you don't wish to spend any money for jackets that he will use such a short time. You try a little crocheted jacket on him, and you find that it refuses to meet in front. You will find, especially if it is a comfortable size, that it can be used for quite a while by lengthening the sleeves and adding chocheted buttons and loops to the front of the jacket.

Crochet four little buttons, then make two chains, each several inches in length. Fold a chain in two and form a loop. Stitch the two loose ends to one side of the jacket, and over these ends sew one of the crocheted buttons. On the opposite side of the jacket sew another button, so the loops of the former may be slipped over the latter, and this will keep the jacket snugly in place. If the sleeves are too short, remove the edging and crochet several rows to the bottom, or use any simple edging that will make it longer.

If the top of your skirt is worn, do not despair. Remember, this is the day of the belt. The wide patent leather belt is all the rage, and sells as low as fifty cents. With a new collar and cuff set and a smart new belt, even an old suit can be made to look quite presentable.

Music Old and New

THOSE dear old days of long ago,
When the parlor organ stood
Where that Victrola's standing now,
My sakes, those times were good!
I'd rather hear my daughter sing
An' play that organ there
Than all those new contraptions now
For makin' music rare.

I'D rather hear that dear old song
"When you and I were young"
Than all the high-falutin' things
That Melba ever sung.
Piano-players, too,
Those violins and orchestras,
Don't make the good old music that
Our old organ used to do.

SAY, when my oldest boy was young
He had a better voice
Than all these high-priced tenors have
In which you folks rejoice.
When he and my young daughter
Sang "Dixie" and the rest,
The harmony was wonderful!
I love the old songs best!

SOMETIMES when that Victrola
Is playing lovely things,
When that Caruso throws a fit
Or Tetrazini sings,
I shut my eyes and just bring back
The days that are no more,
When my dear old parlor organ
Stood behind the parlor door!

—ANNE CAMPBELL STARK.

Gifts for the Soldier

"WHAT SHALL I give my dear friend, who is going to the front?" writes a young girl to me.

Long ago, the soldier knight wore his lady's scarf upon his sleeve, as a reminder of her, but nowadays we buy useful gifts for our soldier boys.

If money is no object with you, why not a watch? There are a great many watches made especially for soldiers; especially those on wristbands of leather. Some are square-faced, some round and some are oval. Some have radium hands which show in the dark, and some are just plain old-fashioned watches.

For the ambulance driver, there is a little clock attachment for the center of the automobile wheel with a little rubber and leather case to hold it in place.

There are compasses that clasp about the wrist on leather bracelets. There are all kinds of little toilet conveniences in khaki-colored cases—shaving materials and hair brushes, clothes brushes and manicure sets.

Uncle Sam's Thrift Thought

PEANUT SOUP.

A delicious and nourishing soup may be made from skim milk and peanut butter as follows, says the United States Department of Agriculture:

Heat one pint of milk until lukewarm. Add 2 rounded tablespoons of peanut butter mixed to a smooth paste with a little milk. Salt to taste. Thicken with 1 teaspoonful of butter or savory fat mixed with 1 tablespoonful of flour. Bring almost to the boiling point and serve.

When buying for the soldiers, be sure your gift takes very little room. One thing that would be useful to any man in active service is one of the little metal mirrors. They are made of metal the same material all the way through, give a good reflection, and will not be destroyed by breaking. They come in small khaki cases, small enough to carry in the pocket.

There is a little locket of silver and gold, just big enough to hold the identification tag the government requires each soldier to wear. There are folding frames for your picture, and a gift which would be appreciated by a lover of books is a small volume of his favorite poems bound in limp leather.

A Handy Toy Holder

"HOW CAN I keep my children's toys off the floor?" asked Mrs. Goodnough of her neighbor. "You know my house is small, almost too small to keep them in a box. My sister keeps her children's toys in a box in the kitchen, but they'd just be in the way in my little place."

"Why don't you make a wall pocket?" and the neighbor went on to explain.

"Take a rectangular piece of stout material, denim, for instance. Baste a large pocket on the front of it of the same material, or cretonne would be very pretty. You can buy nursery cretonnes with Mother Goose figures on them. They make pretty pockets. Face the top of the pocket, and gather with an elastic to hold it taut. When the pocket is basted in place, bind with tape, and sew three brass rings across the top. Fasten it to the wall, and there you are, as handy as you please."

How Can I be Beautiful?

"HOW CAN I be beautiful?" This is the ever-present thought in the mind of the young girl. And she always means physical beauty, and seldom gives a thought to that lasting beauty of soul and mental attainments, which should be cultivated above all else. We can't blame her, though, for wanting to make the most of herself. It's a worthy object, but it mustn't stop with the complexion, and the hair and the teeth and the eyes. It must include the brain, too, and the spirit!

Proper bathing is necessary if one would be beautiful. To bathe often keeps the skin smooth, because it is clean and able to perform its function without clogging with dirt and grime. Bathe as often as possible, daily if you can, but if bathing is inconvenient, bathe three or four times a week, with good warm water and soap.

As for diet, eat plenty of good nourishing food, but don't overtax the stomach with rich pastries and sweets unless you want pimples and facial blotches.

We farm folks get plenty of exercise, and it is scarcely necessary to mention that. We all know that exercise is most important, especially deep breathing, which develops the chest and makes red cheeks.

Plenty of sleep, of course, is essential, but be sure and sleep with your windows open if you would be beautiful, which is, after all, another word for healthy. Fresh air is necessary. Sleep eight and nine hours a night, with windows open.

Lastly comes dress. If a girl is overdressed or dressed freakishly, she can never look beautiful. The most beautiful girls are spoiled sometimes by poor taste in dress. Find out what becomes you, and wear it. Dress your hair becomingly, be clean and neat, smile heaps, and you'll be beautiful! At least, even if you are plain as plain, someone will think you beautiful, if you follow these simple rules of health, and if the SOMEONE is the RIGHT ONE, we don't care for the rest of the world anyway, do we?



John Pinkham of Orion has threshed 1,692 bushels of oats which he grew from 28 acres of land.

Glenn Ellis of Charlotte contracted his entire wheat crop this year at \$3.25 per bushel to be used for seeding purposes.

Potatoes are now selling at 75 cents a bushel and it is thought by many, with the exceptionally large crop to be harvested, the price per bushel this fall will be about 30 cents.—ROCHESTER CLARION. Around here the potato crop since the frost looks like \$1.30.—SOUTH LYON HERALD.

Frank Eldredge of Evart, sold 134 sheep and lambs, mostly lambs, to Bracey & Bannister of Barryton, which brought the neat sum of \$1689. They were shipped from Chippewa Station.

Fred S. Lockwood, representing the Lewellyn Bean Co., of Portland, wrote a check for \$800 in a single load of alsyke clover seed. It was brought in by a Wacousta farmer. This year's price is ranging from \$9 to \$10.

The first live hogs ever sold on the regular market in Indianapolis at \$20.00 were thirty-four head, averaging 303 pounds, out of a drove of sixty hogs shipped by E. G. Stifle, of Palestine, Ill., and sold by Powell Bros. & Co., to the Hilgemeier Bros. Packing Company, Indianapolis. The other sixteen in the shipment brought \$19.50. The second lot of hogs selling at the new record price of \$20.00 was a load of fifty-nine owned by Charles Bell, of Connerville, Ind. They averaged 290 pounds and were sorted out of a drove of 149 hogs, the other ninety having brought \$19.65.

Linden Creamery Under Danish System

Co-Operative Enterprise Pays Stockholders Five Cents a Pound More For Butter Fat Than Standard Elgin Prices

Denmark, once a destitute, discontented and discouraged agricultural nation, is now leading all the nations of the world in the co-operative marketing game. She is particularly famous for her system of marketing dairy products. This system alone has been the means of revolutionizing the nation's entire marketing propaganda and transforming her poverty stricken agricultural citizenship into a class of moderate wealth and contentment. The fundamental principles of this great marketing system are slowly finding their way into the marketing channels of America and at Linden, Michigan, the dairymen have put into successful operation the Danish system of operating a farmers' co-operative creamery.

It took five years of persuasive argument on the part of Simon Hagedorn, buttermaker in the dairy department of the Michigan Agricultural College, before the Linden and Fenton dairymen finally financed a co-operative creamery to be run under the Danish system. They organized on February 5, 1916 and the creamery passed its first successful milestone last March with the stockholders satisfied almost to a man. There is a reason for this contentment. According to a conservative estimate of the cream receipts, the Linden Co-operative Creamery paid its stockholders on an average for the year five cents more per pound butter fat than the standard Elgin prices month for month.

In many respects this creamery differs from the others in the state which are owned exclusively by farmers. It is operated on the Danish system, with Simon Hagedorn formerly of the Agricultural College, as its so-called manager. While he was employed in the dairy department at the college, the farmers asked him to address their meetings at Linden. He preached the Danish system to them as he was perfectly familiar with its operation. He was born and raised

Milo Kelley of Brooklyn, marketed 15 lambs from ten ewes last week that brought \$15 per head at that figure per hundred. The ewes sheared \$67.50 worth of wool at 65c per pound making almost \$30 per head net from each ewe in the flock for one year. This is equal to the returns from cows and much easier.

The Hire's Condensed Milk plant at Cass City have started operations. Two large condensing pans of 15,000 and 25,000 pounds capacity have been installed. Three acres of sugar recently stored in the factory building and 3,000 cases of cans are ready to receive the product of the factory. Seven hundred fifty more barrels of sugar and 9,000 more cases of cans are in transit for the Cass City factory and 18 cars of coal are rolling.

The other day a Gratiot county farmer sold ten acres of beans for \$1,400. The land on which these beans were raised is said to be worth only \$75 an acre. In other words the receipts of a single year would buy nearly twice as much land as was required to produce the crop. This is only one of thousands of examples which might be given in many Michigan counties. Pretty good business even if the land had been worth twice as much.

This has been a poor season for melons. A few small lots of muskmelons have been brought to town, and watermelons are scarce. Neither kind is up to the standard of former years. Even the Yankee Springs product, known as the best melon grown in Michigan, is hardly recognizable. The early part of the season was too cool and wet to permit the vines to get a good start, and after warmer weather came there was not enough time for their development and ripening.—MIDDLEVILLE SUN.

in Denmark and naturally it made him feel uneasy to see the American dairymen working along from hand to mouth, year in and year out. Whenever he got the chance to preach the Danish system he did so but he failed to secure the results he wished to attain until one day he decided to leave the college and put his theories into actual practice.

The Linden farmers had approved his plan but had apparently neglected to use it because of the lack of leadership. They had asked him on previous occasions to become manager of their creamery which they would finance under his supervision. But he had expressed a desire to remain with the college until the winter of 1916 when he resolved that it was time to give the Danish co-operative creamery plan a trial in Michigan. He wanted to let it do for Michigan dairymen what it has done for Denmark farmers.

At a meeting held in Linden Mr. Hagedorn told the farmers that if they were ready to do business, he was with them. He told them he would consider becoming manager of a co-operative creamery founded on the Danish plan. They acted.

The Danish system for co-operative creameries is perhaps the most simplified of any now in use in Michigan. Stock is subscribed according to the number of cows each dairyman has. At Linden a charge of \$4 for each cow was made and it began doing business almost from the start with 700 cows owned by 145 different dairymen. Gradually the number of cows has been increased. The company was incorporated for \$5,000. A large creamery of concrete block construction was built and the latest creamery apparatus on the market was installed in it. About \$3,000 was invested in the building and equipment. Mr. Hagedorn was made its manager. He agreed to manufacture the butter for three cents per pound butter fat, and under his five year agreement he



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300 Candle Power—mellow and cheerful, restful to the eyes, yet more light than 20 oil lamps. Brighter than the brightest electric bulb, safer than the safest oil lamp, cheaper than the cheapest candles. Absolutely free from flicker, dirt, grease, smoke or soot. No bothersome wick to trim. No globe to wash. Simple and easy to handle. Fuel can't spill. No danger if tipped over.

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stands all fuel and labor expenses incurred in the manufacture of the product. He is made responsible for the grade of butter he produces but as he is considered one of the oldest and best butter makers in Michigan, he has no difficulty producing an extra grade of butter which brings top prices on the market.

Mr. Hagedorn's duties practically end with the manufacture of the butter. Its sale is left to the secretary or treasurer, but when the board of directors asked him to make the sales, he did so without extra compensation. During the first year over 180,000 pounds of butter were shipped from the creamery. The officers of the creamery figure that by placing their butter maker on the three-cent commission plan, it would be to his advantage to make the best grade of butter possible so that it would sell for the highest prices in order that the largest returns possible could be made to the patrons for their cream and thus keep them satisfied. The venture proved a winner from the start and many new patrons are being taken on monthly. Its monthly production is on the increase. The dairy herds about the creamery are being increased as rapidly as possible. The buttermaker is better paid so long as he can keep the volume of business on the increase and that increase is assured so long as returns to the patrons for their cream meets their expectations.

The patrons are paid every two weeks. Their cream checks are based on the number of pounds of butter fat they bring to the creamery. There are no dividends paid under the Danish plan. If any repairs are to be made to the building or its equipment, the cost is deducted from the receipts derived from the sale of the butter. Non-members of the creamery receive a fraction less for their butter fat, this course being considered advisable in order to induce all the dairymen patronizing the creamery to become members. Any farmer who stops sending his cream and delivers it elsewhere, automatically loses his stock in the company and if he ever wants to get back in again, must buy new stock or pay the buttermaker at the rate of three cents a pound butter fat for all cream he delivered elsewhere. Under this plan the membership is held intact and competitors who might endeavor to break up the co-operative enterprise are more easily combated. The buttermilk from the creamery is sold at 40 cents a can to

whoever wants to buy it, the receipts turned back into the general fund to be divided with the receipts from the butter semi-monthly. It is estimated that this co-operative creamery has paid its stockholders and patrons almost 40 per cent on their investment the first year, altho no figures are available at this time for conclusive evidence.

SMILES OF LIFE

"I think," she said, "that he has deceived us all. I don't think he is anything more than a clerk."

"Why?"

"Because right in the middle of a proposal last night his mind wandered, and he said: 'You could wear a size smaller without any trouble at all.'"

He Was

The minister came to Jethro's house one afternoon to a christening party—he was to christen Jethro's little son, Jeth Jr. "Jethro," said the minister solemnly, taking his host aside before the ceremony, "Jethro, are you prepared for this solemn event?"

"Oh, yes, indeed, doctor," Jethro beamed. "I've got two hams, three gallons of ice cream, pickles, cake—"

"No, no, Jethro," said the minister with a smile. "No, no, my friend, I mean spiritually prepared."

"Well, I guess yes! Two demijohns of whiskey and three cases of beer!" Jethro cried in triumph.

Not Headed That Way.

A good many years ago a steamer was sailing down the river with a shrewd old Yankee captain in command. Suddenly the engines stopped, and there was nothing doing for several minutes. The passengers began to talk it over among themselves, and one of them, a portly, persistent sort of person, advanced pompously to the captain.

"What seems to be the trouble, cap?" he inquired. "Why have we stopped?"

"Too much fog," answered the skipper curdly. "We can't see up the river."

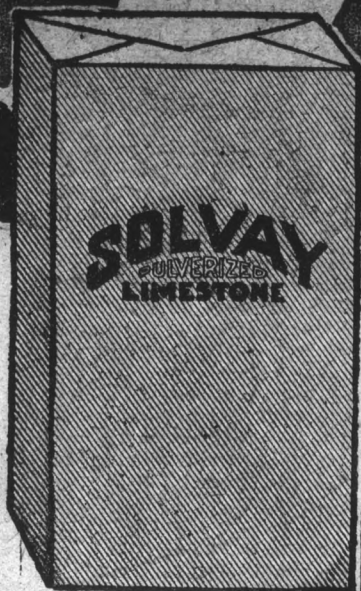
"But I can see the stars overhead quite plainly," argued the persistent party.

"Mebbe ye can," admitted the captain, grimly, "but unless the boilers burst we ain't goin' that way."—National Monthly

The average foreigner can rarely comprehend the geographical area of the United States, as was quite fully illustrated by the Englishman and his valet who had been traveling due west from Boston for five days. At the end of the fifth day master and servant were seated in the smoking car, and it was observed that the man was gazing steadily and thoughtfully out of the window. Finally, his companion became curious. "William," said he, "of what are you thinking?"

"I was just thinking, sir, about the discovery of Hamerica," replied the valet. "Columbus didn't do such a wonderful thing, after all, when he found this country, did he, now, sir? Hafter hall is said an' done, 'ow could 'e 'elp it?"

Lime Your Land



MAKE your farm soil grow big crops in 1918 at high war prices. Solvay Pulverized Limestone makes cropped and manured field soil sweet. Limestone is Nature's cure for acidity in soil. But it must be finely ground. The Solvay Pulverized Limestone has many times the sweetening power of coarse-ground stone. Send us samples of your soil. Free, and without charge, we will tell you just what to do for big yield on your farm. You want that yield—every extra bushel—act now and make sure of it.

Cropped land gets sour. Manure introduces fermenting acid-making germs. These acids tie up potash. Limestone kills these acids and frees the potash, which makes plant growth. The land grows sweet. Sweet land lets nitrogen-gathering soil bacteria gather nitrogen to feed the plants. All seeds require this nitrogen. With abundant nitrogen the plant matures full, heavy, plump seed—a bountiful yield.

Why is Solvay Pulverized Limestone as fine as flour? For the same reason that flour is fine. Meal will not make rising bread, because yeast cannot act on it. Coarse limestone hasn't much surface for action, either. The smaller the particle the greater the action. By fine grinding, Solvay Pulverized Limestone gives 40, 50 or 100 times the immediate chemical effect of coarse limestone.

Instead of sour soil suitable for growing sour-sapped plants like sheep sorrel, dandelion, burdock, tansy and milkweed, apply Solvay Pulverized Limestone so the sweetened soil in your farm will grow sweet-sapped wheat, corn, rye, peas, beans, beets, turnips, oats and the other money-earning crop. You may drill in Solvay Pulverized Limestone with seed, harrow it in, sow it over young crop—it doesn't burn or hurt the seed or plant. We will be glad to tell you how much per acre, free, by sending us a sample of your land.

WHY SOIL GETS ACID

Germs called bacteria make acids. Germs make acid in milk, turning it sour. Sour yeast makes carbonic acid and alcohol in bread, and baking drives them out, leaving the bread. Germs in sweetened water make alcohol and vinegar. Bad germs in soil come with fermenting manure, and turn the ground sour. Sweet soil has good germs in it which gather nitrogen, and has free plant food and mineral so roots may take it up. Soil after croppings and manure dressing gets more or less acid and hard. Limestone properly powdered kills the acid and changes potash and other salts into forms the plants can take up. Sweetened soil gets soft and porous again like new land in the backwoods. Sweet soil permits nitrogen-gathering bacteria to grow, supplying nitrogen for the plant seed. It grows big crop. You whitewash a stable with lime to sweeten it. But this lime isn't good for sweetening land, because it burns seed and plant rootlets. Pulverized limestone gives the benefit of lime, but cannot burn the crop.

Mail Us a Sample For Test **FREE**

Gather 1 lb. of soil from your land. Put your address on it. Mail to us by parcel post. We will test it free for you by the Truogg test, and tell you the result. You can buy Solvay Pulverized Limestone near you, if your land needs it. You save big labor in applying it, as 1 lb. of Solvay has the chemical effect of 15 lbs. of coarse-ground stone. It can be drilled in on the fertilizer attachment for your seeder at the same time of seeding. Practically no extra work to apply it, but bigger harvest yield, and high war prices earned in extra money on every acre you treat with Solvay at low cost.

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