



MICHIGAN



BUSINESS FARMING

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

Vol. V - No. 8

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27th, 1917.

\$1 PER YEAR - No Premiums. Free List or Clubbing Offers

CITY CONSUMERS ARE MISLED

Detroit Federation of Labor and Other Agencies Circulating False Reports on Up-State Yield and Prices

For a number of weeks past the Detroit Federation of Labor has been circulating reports to the effect that it would be able to supply potatoes to Detroit consumers this winter at 65 cents per bushel. It is quite apparent that the organization has been misled by the earlier forecasts of Michigan's yield and the mid-summer predictions of low prices. We can discover no other foundation upon which the Federation bases its promises.

Michigan positively has not produced this year the greatest crop of potatoes in her history as claimed in recent issues of Detroit papers. In 1909 the state raised 38,243,000 bushels which is considerably in excess of her present year's production. Under date of October 1st, the United States government placed the forecast of Michigan's potato yield at 38,919,000 bushels, or over 5 million bushels less than the September forecast. Yet this report is only a guess as no potatoes had been harvested at the time it was compiled. Merely to illustrate how great a difference there may be between the government's estimate before and after harvest, we call the attention of our city cousins to the government's September 1st, 1916, estimate and their final estimate the following December after the crop had all been harvested and much of it placed upon the market.

On September 1st last year the government estimated the state's potato crop at 19,800,000 bushels and the national crop at 318,000,000. The final estimate for the state was 15,360,000 or a 25 per cent decrease from the September forecast; and for the nation, 285,437,000 or a 10 per cent decrease from the earlier estimate.

Assuming that there will be the same proportion of discrepancy this year between the estimated and actual yields, we could safely figure the state yield at about 28,000,000 and the national yield at less than 400,000,000.

Regardless of all government reports, however, we are in a position to say to the Detroit Federation of Labor and to the consumers of the city of Detroit that they will NOT be able to buy potatoes this year or for a number of years to come for 65 cents per bushel, and they may as well become reconciled to that fact at once.

So far as Michigan's 1917 yield is concerned, it is below normal, in spite of the increased acreage. The yield has been very disappointing in most sections. Localities which anticipated a yield of 100 bushels to the acre and better harvested less than 60 bushels. Only in a few isolated cases has the yield been better than 150 bushels to the acre, and the average for the potato sections is not over 80 bushels.

There is no agency in the state in closer touch with the crop conditions than MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING. Every week 150 farmers write us from nearly every county in the state, telling us how the crops are faring, what the yields are, and other information upon which we may base our crop estimates. We know of no better organized crop statistics gathering body than our farmer crop reporters. When the Detroit Federation of Labor says that the yield this year is the largest in history and that it can purchase potatoes for 65 cents per bushel; we know that somebody is doing a very bad bit of guessing, indeed.

Since the Detroit Federation of Labor is so well posted on the crop and market conditions of the state perhaps it will explain to our farmer readers and the people of Detroit why jobbers are today paying \$1.40@1.50 per bushel for potatoes in carload lots F. O. B. Detroit. We would also be interested in knowing how the Federation is to sell potatoes at 65 cents when there isn't a single market in the state of Michigan on which potatoes are quoted at less than 75 cents to the farmer, while the majority of these markets are offering \$1 or better. Farmers are receiving \$1.30 per bushel today in Montcalm county, the leading potato county of the state, the freight rate from this point to Detroit is about seven cents a bushel. Please explain how these potatoes can be sold to your Detroit consumers at less than \$1.50 per bushel. As a matter of fact when a local buyer pays a farmer \$1.30 a bushel for potatoes, it means that the consumer will have to cough up from \$1.75 to \$2.00 for the same spuds.

Just for the information of the Detroit Federation of Labor and the

Detroit consumers as well as our own readers we call attention to the fact that on October 10th, 1916, Detroit jobbers were offering EXACTLY the same amount for potatoes as they are today. Six months later jobbers were paying \$2.40@2.50 per bushel. There is no probability that the price of potatoes this year will go as high as they did last year but a comparison of the prices on the opening markets of the two years convinces us that the tendency from now on will be upward. We can see no hope of \$1 potatoes for the Detroit consumer and the newspapers of that city are only deluding their readers when they even suggest such a thing. As for the Detroit Federation of Labor, it has got a lot to learn yet about the marketing proposition as it will soon discover when it goes out to buy its first carload of 65 cent potatoes.

NO. 2 RED WHEAT IS WORTH \$2.15 AT BRONSON

A Bronson, Mich., subscriber asks what the local dealer should pay for No. 2 red wheat. The Food Administration Grain Corporation gives the information as follows:

"A shipment of No. 2 Red Wheat from Bronson, Mich., to New York should net \$2.15 F.O.B. car at Bronson. The way to figure it is take New York price, \$2.25, for No. 2 Red wheat, deduct therefrom export rate of freight, 14.8c per hundred, makes freight 8.88c per bu., add 1c commission, and we have total costs say 9.88c. Deduct this cost from New York price and you have the net. The price which your subscriber mentions, \$2.07 to farmers would seem a little low if it is No. 2 Red wheat."

OPPOSES TWO POTATO GRADES

Farmer Sees No Need or Demand for the Two Grades Recently Recommended by Federal Government

"I would like to get a little more light on the graded potato situation. I was down town today to see about selling a few spuds. Our local buyer told me they would start in Monday grading potatoes according to Government specifications. Now then, the spuds are first to be run over a one and seven-eighths inch screen, then over a one and one-half inch screen. The ones going over the big screen are No. 1; those that fail to go thru the 1 1/2 inch screen are No. 2 grade, for which they will pay 60 per cent of the price of first grade.

Why the two grades? Is there a demand by the consumer for two grades of potatoes? If so, who buys the first grade and who takes the second grade? What is the object of the government in demanding these two grades? Are they going to feed the officers of the army on one grade and the privates on the other grade, or is our government going to raise spuds next year and want a good grade of seed?

"Now I have never heard of a demand for two grades of potatoes only as eating potatoes and seed potatoes and it looks to me as if this second grade would make mighty good seed. Do the potato buyers figure that seed will be high next season and intend in this way to get a corner on seed at a price 40 per cent below the actual value of the potatoes and then sell them back to the farmers at a big profit? Anyone who knows anything about potatoes knows that this second grade is really the best grade for eating purposes, and as for seed are firmer, cook better and bake better than larger ones. Then why this grading?

"Another thing: When we take a load of potatoes to the warehouse we have got to wait while our potatoes go over two screens or at least part of them. Of course that will be a nice thing on a cold snappy day and eight or ten farmers lined up to get unloaded. Of course out time doesn't amount to much but what if a few loads get frosted while we wait, will they take them just the same or will we have to take them back to the farm for fertilizer?

"But why the two grades? Did the government call in the consumer and consult him and then decide on these grades? If they did I never heard of it. Who was it they called to Washington and consulted, was it the big potato buyers? That is what the papers told us, and now these buyers have got in line and are going to buy according to the Government specifications. How about it, can you tell me?"—B. E. S., Van, Mich.

Well, Brother Farmer, you've got us stumped, by gum. If you'd asked us why a chicken crosses the street, we might have given you some enlightenment, but this one floors us. Nobody attempts to explain everything that the government does and the government would have a hard job explaining some of them itself.

In our judgment the running of
(Continued on page 3)



Under the latest Government regulations the final skids have been put under the market manipulator. Now Mr. Hoover is after the retailer who must be satisfied with less profits than in the past.

CURRENT MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL NEWS

STATE POTATO PRICES HIGHER

Scarcity of Cars, Unwillingness of Farmers to Sell and Poor Yield All Tend to Keep Price Up.

Potato prices thruout the state continue on the upgrade, despite the fact that digging is practically over and that there are millions of bushels ready for the markets, if the markets were ready for them. Greenville prices have advanced from \$1 to \$1.30 per bushel in the last four weeks; at Gaylord, another potato center, the prices jumped from 80 cents on October 11th to \$1.00 on October 13th, and similar increases have been noted in other sections. The average price being paid for potatoes today in Michigan is \$1.00 per bushel.

Many causes contribute to maintain the present prices. The primary cause is the farmers' refusal to sell at the opening prices of 75 or 80 cents, and as a matter of fact few of them are selling at the \$1 price. With tubers yielding only 50 or 60 bushels to the acre, no farmer can afford to sell for less than \$1 and it is certain that the majority of them would lose money at that figure.

The city commission houses are telling the consumers that the present prices are due to a car shortage and as soon as this is relieved the price will go down. There may be a car shortage, but it cannot be very severe when local dealers are so anxious to tie up a lot of money in \$1 potatoes. If there is a shortage of cars at the present time, it can only be exaggerated within a few months with thousands of tons of coal and many perishables yet to be moved, to say nothing of the constantly increasing tax upon the railroads by the demands of the huge cantonments about the country.

Few farmers will sell their spuds at \$1 unless they actually need the money, and our advice to our readers upon this point early in September has been fully substantiated by recent developments. The majority of the farmers will doubtless dispose of their crop when the price reaches the \$1.25 mark, while some as always will hold for still higher prices. Reports from other potato states reflect the same attitude among their farmers.

STATE BRIEFS

ALBION—J. A. Richards is president of the Albion Farmers' Elevator Company at Albion, capitalized with stock of \$40,000.

MARSHALL—Calhoun Co-operative elevator Company has let the contract to the Burrell Engineering & Construction Company for a new concrete elevator here, with capacity of 17,000 bushels.

ANN ARBOR—A jury Monday awarded 6 cents to Walter McKenzie of Shelby in a suit against the Detroit, Jackson & Chicago railway for \$10,000 damages for injuries received when he fell from the platform of a car as it was rounding a switch at Ypsilanti in 1914.

CLARE—Nearly a half day was taken up by the board of supervisors discussing how abstracts which will be accepted by the federal farm loan banks can be obtained from the local abstractor who is also county clerk and register of deeds. County farm loans under the new act have been held up waiting for abstracts. The only abstracts are owned by the county.

JACKSON—The federal food administration has named Acting Warden Frensdorf of the Michigan state prison to serve on a commission to regulate the price of binder twine. A possible outcome of the work of the commission through price regulations may be the saving of some \$8,000,000 to the purchaser of binder twine, or 10 per cent of the \$80,000,000 used annually by the American farmer.

EAST JORDAN—Here is a new and easily raised winter food for stock. Walter Arnold, of Williamsburg last spring drilled in at once three seedings, oats, cowhorn turnips and clover. The oats were harvested six weeks ago. Not until then did the turnips appear above the ground. They are now ready to be pulled. A turnip pulled at random has a wide spreading coarse top and a pure white root 24 inches long and about four inches in diameter. Mr. Arnold will have 1,000 bushels of this valuable stock food with only the labor incidental to harvesting, no cultivation being necessary. The clover, of course, will come on in the spring.

SUGGESTS TWO BEAN GRADES

President Cook of Bean Growers' Association, Believes That it Would be Advantage to Industry

That there should be two standard grades of beans is the opinion of A. B. Cook, president of the Michigan Bean Growers' Association.

"This year," said Mr. Cook, "there will be many bushels of frosted beans which will increase the pick materiality, and reduce the farmers' profits. Every farmer in the state this year will need every cent it is possible for him to get from his beans if he is going to make any money on them, and the larger the percentage of discolored beans, the less of course, will be his profit."

"As you know, the discolored beans are picked from a sample bushel by the elevator men and the farmer's crop paid for on that basis. The elevators keep the discolored beans and the farmer pays for the picking. The beans that are picked out are sold to canning companies, who palm them off on the public at prices nearly as high as are paid for the standard product."

"I do not advocate," continued Mr. Cook, "in selling cull beans to the public, but inasmuch as such has been the practice of the canning companies, I see no reason why the farmer should not have the profits from these beans. I would therefore, recommend that there be established two standard grades of beans and sold under those grades to the consumer. The first grade would, of course, consist of hand-picked beans; farmers whose product contained so small a percentage of discolored beans as to make their picking profitable would sell them under this grade. Beans containing a larger amount of frosted or otherwise discolored specimens would be sold under the second grade. Under such an arrangement the farmer would receive considerable more for his year's crop and the consumer would be able to buy second grade beans at second-grade prices."

Our readers are requested to write us their opinions on Mr. Cook's suggestion.

DETROIT WAR CONTRACTS EXCEED 250 MILLIONS

Detroit is doing a war business of \$250,000,000 in motor trucks, aircraft and munitions. This is the figure generally accepted in financial circles

as approximating the value of contracts held by not more than a dozen of the large factories. And these are merely the contracts placed by the Government to warrant the changing of equipment. Alonzo P. Ewing, newly appointed general manager of the Michigan Copper & Brass Works, says the Government is about to let contracts for 40,000,000 rounds of ammunition, a large proportion of the metal for which probably will be rolled in this city. Some of the most influential financial interests in the city are backing plans for the organization of three big aircraft engine plants here. Several smaller enterprises manufacturing aircraft parts are in view, and there are indications that the industry will have a development similar to that of the motor car plants. The war orders coming to the city are beginning to show in the stock markets, as many of the plants profiting have their stocks listed in both the New York and Detroit exchanges. Recent heavy buying of General Motors and Chevrolet stocks are credited to persons closely connected with both organizations and are said to be based in part on profitable Government contracts. In this connection, market operators are pointing to the fact that many stocks are being quoted at prices below the price levels of the panic year of 1907, at a time when these concerns are doing a bigger business than ever before.

STATE TAX RATE \$3.93 PER THOUSAND

The 1918 state tax rate is to be \$3.93 per thousand of assessed valuation. This calls for a total levy of \$9,609,339.36 on property worth \$2,445,380,000. Thirty-five counties will receive more primary money than they have paid in. The tax will be spent for the following purposes: Educational purposes, \$2,539,792.64; charitable purposes, \$565,594; penal purposes, \$564,494; public health, \$122,690.21; hospitals for insane, \$1,820,572.83; military purposes, \$300,911.27; highway purposes, \$860,000; general purposes, \$1,575,480; state boards and commissions, \$628,860.16; miscellaneous purposes, \$630,674.25. Total, \$9,609,339.36.

DEALERS HOLD UP FARMERS ON SEED WHEAT

I received your paper and it is the best yet. There are lots of potatoes to dig and beans to pull yet in my part of Charlevoix county. Both crops were damaged by the early frost. Farmers are not sowing much fall wheat for simple reasons. The Milling companies are doing a big business in this county. They are only paying \$1.90 per bushel for wheat and are asking \$4 for seed wheat. It seems to me that if they want to help the farmer they would sell them seed wheat at a reasonable price. But every dog has his day. These companies have set their price on our produce long enough and then they say what we must pay them for their stuff. How long will you continue on this basis, Mr. Farmer? Our county board of supervisors have voted to raise money for a county agent which perhaps is all right but not to my estimation. Only a short time ago we had a man running a farm for one of our rich farmers who told the proprietor his seed oats and potato seed were run out and he must get new seed. Afterwards he hired out for a county agent and shipped this same seed that he said had run out to his own county and sold it for good seed at a high price. How is that for a county agent?—G. H. E.

ORR REPLIES TO M. B. F. QUERIES

State Bean Head Again Denies Complicity in or Knowledge of Alleged Deal to "Bear" The Market

The following statement has been received from W. J. Orr, in response to the several questions asked Mr. Orr in the Oct. 6th issue of M. B. F., relative to his dual connection with the bean jobbers and the U. S. Government:

"At the time of my appointment I did not know where there were 100 cars of beans in the U. S., such as would fill army and navy specifications, and I will reduce that by saying I did not know where there were 50 cars, and here is an offer for \$1000.00 spot cash for evidence that will prove to the contrary."

"When war was declared on the 6th day of April, I reached my home in Saginaw late on the evening of the 7th, and feeling the necessity strongly of having all the beans that could be possibly grown in our good state, and knowing that in order to secure good crops you must first have good seed, I spent Sunday, the 8th of April in my office, and called up every dealer I could get on that day, and asked him to use any strictly pea beans he had on hand that would germinate at least 90 per cent, and asked him if he would not hold them as I felt that on account of the war, this state would be short of seed. I found the dealers very patriotic in their replies, and they said in many cases that while they did not have any, they would proceed at once to get all they could and would hold same until after planting period in order that every customer who wanted to plant beans might be satisfied. Following this up, on the 26th day of April I called a patriotic meeting in this city, which was largely attended by bankers and elevator men, where all of the elevator men agreed to handle beans without expense to the growers, and assist them in securing the best seed possible, and every elevator man agreed at that meeting, but one, to hold all first-class seed beans in his possession until June 1st, which was done. During this time, however, while from \$9.50 to \$10.50 was being paid to the growers of this state for beans, the Conservation of the Tin Plate Committee had been appointed at Washington and notice had been sent out to the pork and bean canners of the U. S. to conserve their cans and not can pork and beans until further notice. This action, on the part of the Government, stopped the purchasing of beans for canning purposes, and the writer, with the Governor's assistance of this state, went to Washington, and on the 30th day of June got the Committee to notify the canners they might resume canning beans again. This, however, did not help the dealers throughout the country who carried over stocks they had been unable to sell as the result of canning being stopped, because canners simply canned stocks on hand when they were stopped, and no trade developed until about the first of September. But notwithstanding all of this, I know of no dealer in this state who was carrying any exceptional load, and as stated to you in my former letter, notwithstanding the Government's order for 7,500,000 lbs. of beans, we were only able to secure out of Michigan about 75 cars to apply on the order, and 25 cars of those belonged to the Dominion Canners Co., at Simcoe, Ont. I sent you a copy of a circular which I sent out to every dealer in beans in this state that I knew anything about, which you apparently overlooked in your publication, which gave to every dealer, large or small, the opportunity for awards or allotments of beans for the Government. I did not enter-

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WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER



WASHINGTON, D. C.—Some weeks ago we were told that President Wilson was in favor of certain new regulations being made under the selective draft law. These have now been made public, and they really give to the draft law the first "selective" features that have so far been observed. Under the new classifications an opportunity is given for skilled farm laborers and owners to secure exemption for a limited time.

The classifications are as follows, and show every man registered to which class he belongs, and in what order the different classifications will be called to service:

CLASS I.

1. Single men without dependent relatives.
2. Married men or widower (with children) who habitually fails to support his family.
3. Married men dependent upon wife for support.
4. Married man (or widower with children) not usefully engaged; family supported by income independent of his labor.
5. Men not included in any other description in this or any other classes.
6. Unskilled laborer.

CLASS II.

1. Married man or father of motherless children, usefully engaged but family has sufficient income apart from his daily labor to afford reasonably adequate support during his absence.
2. Married man—no children—wife can support herself decently and without hardship.
3. Skilled farm laborer engaged in necessary industrial enterprise.
4. Skilled industrial laborer engaged in necessary agricultural enterprise.

CLASS III.

1. Men with foster children, dependent on daily labor for support.
2. Man with aged, infirm or invalid parents or grandparents dependent on daily labor for support.
3. Man with brothers or sisters; incompetent to support themselves, dependent on daily labor for support.
4. County or municipal officer.
5. Fireman or policeman.
6. Necessary officers or workmen in arsenals, armories and navy yards.
7. Necessary custom house clerks.
8. Persons necessary in transmission of mails.
9. Necessary employes in service of United States.
10. Highly specialized administrative experts.
11. Technical or mechanical experts in industrial enterprises.
12. Highly specialized agricultural expert in agricultural bureau of state or nation.
13. Assistant or associate manager of necessary industrial enterprise.
14. Assistant or associate manager of necessary agricultural enterprise.

CLASS IV.

1. Married man with wife (and) or children (or) widower with children dependent on daily labor for support and no other reasonably adequate support available.
2. Mariners in sea service of merchants or citizens in United States.
3. Heads of necessary industrial enterprises.
4. Heads of necessary agricultural enterprises.

CLASS V.

1. Officers of states or United States.
2. Regularly or duly ordained ministers.
3. Students of divinity.
4. Persons in military or naval service.
5. Aliens.
6. Alien enemies.
7. Persons morally unfit.
8. Persons physically, permanently or mentally unfit.
9. Licensed pilots.

The attention of the Food Administration is now turned from the producer and the speculator to the retailer. Mr. Hoover says his prices must come down. It is not claimed that the average retailer is making

exorbitant profits; it is merely stated that his methods are extravagantly wasteful and his costs unnecessarily high. Heretofore he has been able to charge what was necessary to pay his costs and net him a profit, but if he continues in business after the food administration gets after him he will have to revise his methods of doing business. Mr. Hoover has promised that as a result of the co-operation he has been given by the producers and the wholesalers and with the concessions he expects to have from the retailers, the price of most commodities should be less before the end of the year.

OPPOSED TO TWO GRADES OF POTATOES

(Continued from page 1)

potatoes over two different screens for the purpose of securing separate grades is a waste of time, effort and money, unjust to the farmer, valueless to the consumer and giving the dealer the opportunity as you have suggested of making additional profits at your expense.

We have had this matter up with a number of potato authorities, none of whom as yet have been able to give reason for such grading of potatoes. It may be that a few fashionable hotels in a few fashionable cities demand a uniform size of spuds for a few fashionable guests, but if this be any reason for the establishing of such a grade then common sense has taken its departure.

There has been no demand from the consumer for two grades of potatoes. But now that the Government has suggested such a distinction the dear old fickle public will probably want it.

As we all know, an inch and seven-eighths mesh will drop a potato, which as our correspondent says, is of just the proper size for table purposes. We are aware that many dealers are using this large a screen; others the inch and five-eighths, but we do not believe that many of them are urging or even suggesting that the smaller potatoes be passed a second time over a finer screen. Our suggestion to all our readers is that they make no effort yet to sell the potatoes that pass thru the inch and seven-eighths screen. Take them home. It looks now as though seed potatoes would be at a premium again next spring and if so there'll be a good stiff market for these despised tubers that passed thru the screen.

REED'S MESSAGE TO DAIRYMEN

Field Secretary of Milk Producers
Reviews Work of Past Year
and Tells of Future Problems to be Solved

Waste of Human Energy

There has been a tremendous waste of human energy in the days past in the misguided zeal to produce food products, regardless of whether there was an over or under supply and regardless of whether a compensatory price was obtainable for this product. The law governing our efforts should be as fixed and immovable as the law of the Medes and Persians, and should be in control of the production and sale of human foods today; that food production should be encouraged and directed in those channels which should maintain a proper equilibrium of all the food supply of the land.

To this end your association started out some months ago with this battle-cries which we believe is both legitimate and patriotic, namely: "A price for our product that equals the cost

of production plus a reasonable profit. This is the only way that any business can be stabilized. This is the foundation upon which every industry must find permanent basis.

The most potential factor to bring the realization of this aim to the milk producers of our land would be to reduce production, that is what every other large industry does and we believe it is a part of wisdom for every milk producer to put a part of his energy and a part of the measure of his life that he is now putting into the industry into some other line of food production, cut out boarder cows. You all have them. Send them to the shambles, so they will not be a further burden to you or others interested in this business. Decrease milk production twenty per cent and increase pork and lamb production twenty per cent.

In this way you will apply the equalizer to your business that every other great enterprise is using today. If after that the food you produce fails to reach an equitable position with other industries, then make a still further reduction until it shall have the full share of recognition and compensation. We must not expect to reach this point in one year. The evolution of public sentiment is too slow to reach this at one bound but the principle is right, and it will stand the closest scrutiny, and for that we are fighting and will continue to wage the battle until your great billion dollar industry into which six millions of American freemen are putting a large part of their life and energy has been lifted to a higher level and on a plane with other great industries of the land.

In pursuance of this conviction we choose as our slogan: Education, Legislation and Co-operation.

How little we know about the value of this product, best methods of care, manufacture and disposition. We do not at all agree on some of the methods used for obtaining a proper recognition and proper price. We have but little sympathy with strikes and look-outs. We are sure that in the near future a better method of settling these questions will be used than have been resorted to in the recent past. In the future we believe that the selling of this product to any concern will be in the hands of one man who will announce that on a certain day he will have a certain amount of milk to sell; that this milk can be had for a certain price. If this price is not obtained he will not sell. There can be no law against this kind of procedure. This involves one principle to which you are strangers and that is confidence in your fellows. This is an education that milk producers of Michigan need. We are confident that our campaign of education has not been devoid of results. We are sure that there exists today among the people of this state a better appreciation of the value and need of a better knowledge of every part of this business than has ever existed before.

Legislation

Not all has been accomplished along these lines that should have been, but some results may be noted. The Michigan Milk Association by some of the members of the Holstein Friesian Association went to the recent legislature and secured the passage of a law increasing the compensation to owners of cattle slaughtered by the State for the purpose of eradicating disease. This one legislative action has applied to many as of great importance to the live stock industry of Michigan and especially to the milk producing industry, whereas, in the near future a special emphasis must be placed upon the quality of milk and the health of the animals producing it. By this legislation those herd owners who are anxious to have clean herds, free from disease, will not be as severely penalized as in former days for now the State will bear twice as much of the loss as before.

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WAR WIRES

PARIS—The latest German casualty list comprising killed, wounded, prisoners and missing from August, 1914 to September, 1917, fills 30 folio volumes of 22,000 pages. He calculates the total number of names at 8,250,000.

A FRENCH PORT—Survivors of the U. S. transport Antilles, which was sunk by a German submarine while being convoyed on her homeward trip by American warships have landed here and are being cared for by the American consulate.

LONDON—The big British guns along the Flanders front are again engaged in smashing the German works for another drive. The British have consolidated the positions so far won and all enemy attempts to retake them have failed with terrible losses to themselves.

WASHINGTON—At least 38,000,000 men are bearing arms in the present war, 28,000,000 Entente allies and 10,000,000 on the side of the Central Powers, according to latest figures given out by the war department. The figures do not include the personnel of the navies, which would raise the total several millions.

PETROGRAD—The Russian fleet has succeeded in eluding the German fleet and making its escape from Moon Sound and is now guarding the north-eastern entrance to the sound off Wormso island. The Russians made their escape without further losses than the battleship Slava. It is reported that a number of German vessels were disabled in the running fight.

CAMP MACARTHUR, WACO, Tex.—It has been announced that Governor Sleeper of Michigan will be in Waco during the cotton palace exposition next month, and it is also expected that Theodore Roosevelt will be here at the same time. The day that Governor Sleeper will attend the exposition has been set aside as Michigan Day, and there will be a review at Camp MacArthur.

CAMP CUSTER—The Y. M. C. A. auditorium, with a seating capacity of more than 4,000, was dedicated Oct. 19th by officers of the Y. M. C. A. Many entertainment features are planned by those in charge. The boys will always find there music and good fellowship during the evenings and other spare time. Many of the new soldiers' parents have paid them visits and many others besides parents are included in the list. The marriage license clerk does a rushing business on the forenoons which the Sammies have off duty.

AMSTERDAM—The Russian government has decided to move to Moscow. The Germans have landed troops on Dago Island, south of the entrance to the Gulf of Finland. They have also captured Oesel and Moon Islands and threaten an invasion of Esthonia. The Russian fleet is outnumbered and the German guns also outrange those of the Russians. Internal affairs in Russia are turbulent and the opening of parliament was the occasion for further outbursts against the government by the Maximilists.

PARIS—The French forces of General Petain have struck a mighty and unexpected blow against the German lines north of Soissons. The gains are of more importance than any made since the army of the German crown prince was thrown back at Verdun. The German lines at certain points were penetrated to a depth of two and one-half miles. More than 7,500 prisoners were taken and in addition an enormous amount of war material was captured. Some of the best troops of the German crown prince were engaged but they were unable to stop the rush of the French who were determined to win positions which would later give them the advantage in operations toward Laon.

I take five farm papers but none comes up to M. B. F. You can't help but succeed with a paper fighting the farmers' cause as you do.—F. M. C., Chesaning, Mich.

WEST'NEXCHANGE A BIG BUSINESS

California Fruit Growers' Exchange Returns Over 33 Million Dollars to its 8,000 Members in a Year

At the moment when the subject of farmers' co-operative associations again has come to the front because of unusual conditions and because of the necessity for economical marketing of agricultural products, the announcement is made by the California Fruit Growers' Exchange that in the year closed August 31, 1917, it returned to citrus growers the enormous sum of \$33,611,000.

The California Fruit Growers' Exchange long has been recognized as the largest co-operative organization of farmers in the world and has been the model held up to the agriculturalists of America. Such authorities as Sir Horace Plunkett, Herbert Quick, Charles Holman and Charles McCarthy have made studies of its success and have sought to have its methods adopted in other localities.

According to the report for the year recently closed, the Exchange now markets 69 per cent of all oranges, lemons and grapefruit grown in California—a business which last year totaled 15,492,990 boxes of citrus fruit. This tremendous volume of fruit was marketed at a cost of 4 3-4 cents a box and not a single penny was lost through bad debts or other causes. The annual report points out that in the last fourteen years the business of the Growers' association has amounted to \$226,100,000, on which losses from bad debts and all other causes have been less than \$8,000, or 35-10,000 of one per cent. The total California citrus crop of last season amounted to 53,830 carloads.

The exchange is composed of 8,000 growers and acts as a clearing house for the bulk of the California crop. Growers pool their fruit, which is then graded in 150 packing houses, and, under the direction of the central office, is distributed through the organization's sales offices to all parts of the country. The service is performed at absolute cost.

The citrus industry has virtually been organized upon a manufacturing basis. For advertising in newspapers and other periodicals each box of oranges is assessed 2 1-4 cents and every box of lemons 4 cents. Last year this netted a fund of nearly half a million dollars for publicity work. According to the report, the growers look to advertising to increase the consumption of oranges and lemons and thereby make room for the rapidly increasing crops. During the ten years in which advertising has been done, the consumption of citrus fruit has increased 80 per cent, or four times as rapidly as population.

The growers in the Exchange have their own mutual insurance compact. They operate a Supply Company which last year purchased for its members packing house and orchard supplies worth \$5,495,574. A large tract of timber land with saw mills and lumbering equipment from which box wood is made is owned and operated by the growers. In order to dispose of the unmerchantable lemons a By-Product plant has been constructed which last year converted 6 per cent of the lower grades into citric acid and other by-products. The interests of the growers are guarded by a Traf-

"I have read the BUSINESS FARMING and I think it is a splendid paper that is filling a great need. It is just the kind of a paper the business farmer will want to read and it cannot help but pay him to do so.—B. E. C., St. Louis, Mo.

fic Department, a Legal Department and other staffs of experts.

The crops of oranges and lemons last year were the largest ever shipped and California provided 71 per cent of the lemons consumed in America. The balance were imported.

In order to provide an efficient marketing medium for California farmers who have planted vegetables extensively in response to the requests of the Government the Exchange is temporarily opening its marketing facilities to vegetable shippers.

M. B. F. A VALUABLE ASSET TO THIS FARMER

Just a little word of praise for your paper. I consider it a valuable asset to every farmer who professes to be a farmer. In this day and age it takes men made of the right stuff to so forget themselves as to be of service to the farmers 24 hours of each day. In the past we farmers have been at the mercy of those elevator men, but thanks to Grant Slocum and his worthy helpers better conditions prevail and are on the increase. A few words about crop conditions in this county. Beans will not average 5 bu. of low grade to the acre. Potatoes will run about 40 to 60 bu. of graded tubers to the acre. Corn is not 20 per cent of a crop, in fact there is no good corn. I have two fields of beans that have been pulled two weeks and not a day of drying weather. Are about a total loss. Hired help can not be had at any price.—H. H., Mendon, Mich.

NATIONAL CROP REPORTS

Benton, Pa.—Potatoes are selling at \$1.15 bu., apples, \$1.70, with cider stock around 60c.

Geneseo, Pa.—Shippers commenced carting potatoes here last week. They are paying \$1 bu. a car. Stock not coming very freely yet.

Walloonburg, N. Y.—The potato crop which is being harvested shows a general yield of 30@35 bu. to the acre, which is about 60 per cent of normal. The price to farmers is \$4 bbl. Apple crop is light.

Engel, Tex.—The poultry movement is 5@10 coops weekly and about 25 cases of eggs. Eggs and turkeys are very scarce owing to the dry weather. There will be a very few turkeys to be shipped.

Wilsonville, Ore.—Potatoes are turning out better than was expected at this point and onions are pretty good, but about half a crop. We will have about 100 sacks of good onions to the acre.

Philadelphia—The cheese market was quiet this week but steady under moderate offerings. Prices remain the same with New York full cream fancy June bringing 26 1-2c, fresh made best 25 3-4 @ 26c, fresh made choice 25 @ 25 1-2c, and fair to good 24 @ 24 1-2c.

Winchester, Va.—The largest fruit deal made thus far in Jefferson county W. Va., was closed a few days ago, when Logan B. Shutt, of Kabletown, sold the output of his orchards, approximately 7,000 barrels, to F. A. Beck of Winchester. All grades of the fruit were sold at \$1.75 per barrel.

Chicago—Offerings of Michigan grapes were quite large this week, causing some reduction in prices, but a satisfactory demand continued with Concord the main variety wanted. Small baskets were salable at 20@21c with extra fancy label stock bringing 22c. Other stock brought \$1@1.10 in 16-qt. cases and \$1.25@1.50 in six-basket crates.

Shushan, N. Y.—Potato harvesting is well under way here. The stock is good and the yield is 90 per cent or over. Shippers are paying the farmers \$4@4.25 although Giant seed potatoes are a little higher. The farmers are very firm in their ideas and the situation seems to be in their hands entirely. They are putting a lot of stock into the cellars.

Kansas City—Good advances were made this week in the cabbage market here, due partly to car shortage and small supplies of homegrown stock Colorado and Wisconsin stock in bulk jobbed at \$1.75 @ \$2 per 100 pounds and the market ruled firm at quotations with movement good. On ac-

AVERAGE MICH. PRICES WEEK ENDING OCT. 23

Following are the average prices being paid on Michigan markets for principal farm products for week ending Oct. 23rd, as reported by our crop reporters: Wheat, \$2.08; oats, 57c; rye, \$1.66; hay, \$13.65; potatoes, \$1.06; eggs, 38½c; hogs, 17½c; hens, 17c; butter, 40½c.

OCTOBER ESTIMATE OF SUGAR IS LOWER

The latest estimate of the coming sugar beet crop of the United States, as contained in the October crop summary of the Bureau of Crop Estimates at Washington, is 7,832,000 tons from the crop indicated by conditions on September 1, but still exceeds the December, 1916, estimate by 1,600,000 tons.

The condition of the crop on October 1, is given at 89.7 per cent of normal as compared with an average October condition for ten years previous of 88.7 per cent. The present indicated yield per acre is 10.67 tons, as against a December, 1916, estimate of 9.36 tons.

It is with pleasure that I am send you the names of four subscribers to MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING. I have received six of those papers and think every one is better. I am patiently waiting for the next one.—H. T., Freeland.

count of the poor quality, homegrown stock sold lower at \$1.50 @ \$1.75 per 100 pounds.

Chicago—The supply of peaches continued large this week and demand was not active. Bushels of Elbertas were offered freely from New York and brought \$1.50 when fancy. Less attractive stock ranged lower and poor grades brought as low as 50c. There was no longer much offered in the way of Michigan peaches. There was a good supply of Elbertas from the west in flat cases and these sold generally at 75c@81c.

New York—All the peaches on the market this week came out of storage and while their appearance was good the flavor was poor and this fact together with the heavy receipts kept trading at a standstill. It is reported that there are many cars still in storage up state and it looks now as tho the deal had several weeks longer to run. Bushel baskets of state peaches were selling anywhere from \$1 to \$1.50 while baskets ranged from 40 to 65c.

Oswego, N. Y.—During the last few days frost has knocked out many bean and corn crops in this county. All white beans and sweet corn, suitable for canning and not matured, were destroyed. Thousands of bushels of unripe tomatoes are also lost, in addition to cucumbers, melons, squash and pumpkins. The season this year was very backward. Yet there has seldom been a better yield of potatoes and the acreage has been unusually large. Late cabbage has suffered from worms. Beets, carrots, and parsnips are doing well.

Mosinee, Wis.—Fields of potatoes yielding from 150 to 200 bushels to the acre are found here frequently, but fields yielding from 50 to 100 bu. to the acre bring the average down to something like 125 bushels. From the good yielding fields the stock is of very good size, while the poor yields were brought about chiefly by impoverished soil or by the early September frost stopping the growth of the crop before the spuds had their growth. The farmers are bringing in potatoes more freely since the price passed the dollar mark; \$1.10 was the prevailing price on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week.

Coloma, Wis.—The average yield of potatoes in this section is not expected to exceed about 85 to 90 bu. to the acre. The size and quality of the stock is much better than last year. The freezing weather of Friday last week froze a few of the potatoes close to the surface of the ground. The work of harvesting the crop has been interfered with by the

frequent rains and a number of times these rains turned to light snow falls. The snow did not remain on the ground more than a few hours. The crop of beans will be less than last year in spite of the large increase in the acreage. White pea beans have been grown here for a number of years. Generally the quality is good. This is too early to judge the bean situation as many of the fields have not been harvested yet and threshing has not commenced anywhere.

REED'S MESSAGE TO DAIRYMEN

(Continued from page 3)
Co-Operation

This one part of our slogan must be the one point of contact, the bond of sympathy, the powerful lever that will lift many of the burdens that has held the milk producers of this nation in the years past the object lessons of the last year, should prove a sufficient stimulus so that no more should be needed, to insure the most hearty co-operation of every milk producer in Michigan. Our co-operation has made it possible to secure the price raise that has been gained in every place where a contest has been made in the last year. Men of keen business perception assert that the raise in price of milk in Michigan in the last year, due to the activity of your association, will mean not less than \$2,000,000 a year to the producers and will come that much nearer equalizing and stabilizing this industry in the state.

We cannot overestimate the importance and good effect of co-operation, constructive and not destructive. We must be builders in the broadest sense of the word. We have no desire to undermine or destroy. Our every ambition is to build up and put this industry on a permanent basis. Let us then understand that we have in our hands absolute control of the perplexing questions that surround this industry. If you do not become masters of the situation it is your fault. The Government is desirous of a thorough organization of this industry. The buyers of our product are not averse to our organization on constructive lines. Had we had a strong organization on the 25th of June last, we would have today on Mr. Hoover's board a man with constructive ideas, who is not averse to the milk producers side of the problem. So looking at it from any angle in view of the history of the past, therefore success depends upon you. Will you not co-operate, we must stand together. We must organize in the fullest sense of the word.

It took seventeen years of constant effort at organization to bring the railroad men of the country where they could speak as one man and congress and the president of the United States stopped, listened and acted upon their request. Should we be discouraged at the effort of the past? No, we should be encouraged and weave the fibre of the organization so strong that the powers of our government would listen to the request of six million loyal citizens who hold in their hands the food supply of this nation.

We have as milk producers, entered this our war, against commercial autocracy, believing as we do that the people have a right to determine the selling price of their product based upon the cost of production. For this ideal we shall contend, for this ideal we should broaden our battle line and deepen our trenches.

For the sake of this great principle we have a right to expect co-operation of everyone who is to be benefited, especially the producer. He surely is a slacker if he fails to co-operate in his onward movement for commercial democracy.—R. C. Reed.



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

The movement of wheat to terminal markets and mills is still nowhere near sufficient to meet the demand. We believe that the price at different loading stations in Michigan has now been fairly well established and that with the bean harvest out of the way and the potatoes fairly well taken care of, Michigan wheat growers will soon begin to sell more freely. Just as soon as the grower is satisfied that a fair price has been set at his loading station, he will be as far ahead to sell and avoid loss from shrinkage, rats, etc.

Canadians are free shippers, evidently taking advantage of the lake carriers before the close of navigation. These shipments are all moving eastward and no doubt will soon be enroute to Europe. Argentina at the present time promises to have a large crop of wheat and it is to be hoped that these promises may be fulfilled. The world will need every bushel available if an actual shortage does not develop.

Much of the Michigan wheat is grading high under the Federal grain standards and we are glad to learn this as it was feared that the reverse would be the case.

We have before us a press statement to the effect that at one time in September, New York had only 36 hours supply of flour, and that without any publicity about it the Food Bureau commandeered 400,000 barrels that had been prepared for export, and distributed it. The dispatch states however, that this action was at once taken advantage of by certain retailers who bought at the low Government price and are charging \$2 per barrel more to the consumer than decency would dictate. With farmers receiving a fixed price for their wheat and the grain exchanges working to help the Government it is about time that certain of these fellows receive attention.

There is no doubt but what the Food Bureau has accomplished wonderful results in a very short time. They are deserving of every credit. We have no desire to say or do anything which would interfere with their work or lessen the co-operation they are now receiving from the growers, especially those of Michigan. And you can bet your last dollar they are receiving this co-operation, despite a whole lot of newspaper talk to the contrary. But we do think that the time has come, now that the prices etc., to the growers have been taken care of, when a whole lot of grafters and profiteers should have an application of the big stick. This would open the eyes of the public as to just who are raising hob with prices on certain markets. Let them give the farmers a rest.

Receipts of wheat in eleven primary grain markets for 15 weeks from July 1, 1917, to Oct. 13, 1917, with the comparison with 1916:

	1917	1916
Chicago	7,413,000	23,256,000
Milwaukee	1,259,000	2,587,000
Minneapolis	25,756,000	38,583,000
Duluth	5,408,000	15,251,000
St. Louis	9,431,000	16,018,000
Toledo	2,107,000	3,680,000
Detroit	756,000	959,000
Kansas City	12,048,000	33,667,000
Peoria	520,000	1,251,000
Omaha	1,649,000	15,763,000
Indianapolis	1,735,000	1,244,000

Total 68,082,000 152,259,000
Receipts of wheat the past week at primary markets, compared with the preceding week and corresponding week last year:

	Oct. 13	Oct. 6	Oct. 14
St. Louis	229,000	362,000	962,000
Kan. City	512,000	622,000	2,065,000
Omaha	272,000	233,000	1,314,000
Toledo	182,000	160,000	86,000
Detroit	89,000	65,000	66,000
Ind'nap.	60,000	91,000	640,000
Peoria	34,000	47,000	64,000
Chicago	462,000	551,000	1,553,000
Milwaukee	85,000	160,000	427,000
Min'p's	2,945,000	3,186,000	3,581,000
Duluth	555,000	1,214,000	1,320,000
Total	5,425,000	6,691,000	11,513,000

LAST MINUTE WIRE

DETROIT SPECIAL—Market away short on all kinds of apple offerings. Shippers will find returns very satisfactory. The hay market also continues under-supplied and the demand increases each day. Advise shippers to get in a few cars at least so as to take advantage of present conditions.

CHICAGO WIRE—Potato market somewhat firmer. Bean demand not so good. Reports of lower prices being made by western shippers causing buyers to hesitate. Hay in good demand for all grades. Prospects for higher prices the coming week.

NEW YORK WIRE—Exporters out of bean market temporarily. Waiting for new crop movement and any adjustment which may come with it. Oats in good demand, arrivals somewhat lighter.

OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 White	.62 1-4	.61	.67
Standard	.61 3-4	.60 1-2	.66
No. 3 White	.60 3-4	.59 1-2	.65

During the past week export demand has increased but the arrivals on the seaboard have also shown an increase. We note a prevailing feeling among grain men in the east that the price should work a little lower. Well, possibly it may, temporarily, but we believe the government is keeping an eye on the situation and that prices will not vary greatly one way or the other.

Movement of oats from the west is somewhat hampered by the annual car shortage which sets in at the time the crops begin to move freely. Shipments of war material are adding to this scarcity but no doubt the Government will see that cars are furnished for the necessary movement of grain supplies just as for other commodities needed. Even with this situation the movement has been exceptionally heavy, compared with this time last year. Receipts of oats in New York last week were 688,000 bu.

The Detroit market is somewhat stronger at the time of writing, as is also that of Chicago. New York market remains the same. Other markets report large receipts with a good demand and small accumulation.

CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	2.05	2.00	2.05 1-2
No. 3 Yellow	2.04	1.99	2.04
No. 2 Mixed	2.04	1.98 1-2	2.03 1-2

Corn is showing additional firmness as per our opinion expressed

last week. We have some reports of small quantities of new corn moving, but not enough to consider. We need not look for new corn to move in any quantity for another month or more. In the meantime, we repeat, we look for higher prices.

The new crop is coming through in fine shape. The frost loss seems to have been greatest where the least corn is raised for export. There will be some adjusting necessary to get from the basis of old corn to the new. As yet the government has made no move to regulate the price although they have arranged for a license system under which handlers must secure licenses. This does not apply to growers. This is taken by some to be a forerunner of Government control. Whether this is the case or not we are unprepared to say but most handlers in the principal corn markets feel that the Government will have a hand in what the bulk of the crop sells for, after all is said and done.

We have before mentioned distilling activities as increasing rather than decreasing. The following sums up this phase of the corn market in good shape:

"The suspension of much of the distilling activities early in the year has prompted frequent enquiry regarding its effect on new corn. It is interesting in this connection to note that distillation from both grain and molasses of alcohol prior to the war was approximately 10,000,000 gallons per year, and Government figures for 1916 show approximately 282,000,000 gallons. This increase apparently assures an enormous demand for corn for munition purposes as long as the war continues, and we are informed that more distilleries are operating for this purpose than believed necessary to furnish sufficient alcohol supplies."

Michigan Business Farming is trying to do something for YOU. You can render us a valuable service by mentioning this paper when answering advertisements.



RYE

The rye market is not showing very much life just at this time. The demand continues to fall off and we would not be surprised to see at least a slight decline in prices. The grain is being neglected in the rush to secure wheat. Detroit market is quoted at \$1.81 per bu. for No. 2; Chicago No. 2, \$1.81.



BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	9.00	9.15	9.00
Prime	8.85	9.00	8.90
Red Kidneys	6.50	6.50	7.00

Old beans are pretty well cleaned up. Government orders have been heavy and exporters have been free buyers. The market is firm at present quotations. Some new crop beans will begin to move in Michigan in the course of a couple of weeks although movement will not be general for another month. A few new Colorado pintos are moving but not to any extent. The quality is very good and they are quoted at 10c per lb., f. o. b. Colorado common rate points.

The California growers have advanced their price in sympathy with the price set by Michigan growers. Current quotations at present are as follows: New choice cleaned small whites, 13 1/4c per lb.; large whites, 13 1/4c; pinks, 10 1/4c; limas, 14c.

A few Japanese beans are being offered, quoted as follows: Long cranberries, 9 1/2c per lb.; pintos, 9c per lb.; red marrows, 8 1/4c per lb.

While these beans are offered on the American market, not many of them are being sold at the present time. The demand is for domestic stock, in most cases for pea beans. There is no doubt but what Michigan growers will find a good market when their stock is ready to move. Conditions during the last few years have been entirely different from former times. It is no longer a question of finding a market but rather one of finding supplies sufficient to last from one season to the next. The price which Michigan growers have placed on their crop is fair enough. We understand the overhead was placed at \$20.00. We don't believe the work can be done for that sum. There is such a thing as getting the price up to a point where domestic consumption would greatly decrease. But the price of \$8.00 per bu., established by the growers, is certainly fair enough and the beans are worth that as food in comparison with other commodities.



HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	22 50	23 00	21 50
Chicago	24 00	25 00	24 00
Cincinnati	23 00	23 50	22 50
Pittsburgh	25 00	24 50	25 00
New York	24 50	25 50	22 50
Richmond	25 75	26 25	24 50

Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	21 50	22 00	19 00
Chicago	23 00	23 50	21 50
Cincinnati	23 00	23 50	22 50
Pittsburgh	22 50	23 00	22 50
New York	22 00	22 00	21 00
Richmond	24 50	25 00	22 00

Hay is not moving freely and nearly all markets are firm and higher. The transportation situation is in great part responsible for the limited offerings at most points. At the same time baling is going on only in limited way although it will greatly increase from now on. Now is the time for hay growers to get in on the market. As hay moves more freely the price will be almost certain to decline.

Both the Chicago and Detroit markets are in exceptionally good shape and shippers can make no mistake in billing to these points. As before

You Lose Too, When Your Neighbor Dumps His Crops on a Glutted Market!

Most times we like to let our neighbors do just about as they please, for "mindin' other people's business" never pays very well.

But here's the exception that proves the rule:

When your next door neighbor dumps his beans or wheat or potatoes on a market that is already glutted, you smile because you have been reading M. B. F. and you know that now is not the time to sell—

BUT THE LAUGH IS NOT ALL ON YOUR NEIGHBOR!

For his bit helps force the market way down, from which it may be hard to recover the fair price that you have set for your mark to sell at a profit.

So every time you show the new weekly to a neighbor you not only do him and us a favor, but you help keep the market steady by keeping one more farmer posted on when and when not to sell!

He in turn shows our paper to his neighbor and on and on, until all the farmers of Michigan from Lake Superior to the Ohio line will stand united in Business Farming and that means "selling the farm products of Michigan for a fair price that will net the grower a profit."

Show this copy to a neighbor, tell him why you want him to send in the coupon on page 13 and see that he does mail it!

stated, the bulk of the demand at Detroit is for the better grades. Chicago can handle about anything which may be offered.

The eastern situation is good, but the exceptionally strong markets there just now are due in a great measure to light supplies. With increased arrivals prices would decline. New York reports the 33rd Street market as almost bare of hay and buyers having to go elsewhere for supplies. The amount in transit is small and although the New York Central embargo has been raised not much additional hay is moving. Brooklyn has been somewhat better supplied with hay and the market is not quite so strong. Low grades are slightly reduced in value.

Baltimore reports arrivals of hay as small and selling readily at quotations. Values have advanced during the week and are holding firm. The supply of cars is small and railroad congestion acute. There will be a strong market there as long as this condition continues. There is also a fair demand for wheat and rye straw there, good rye bringing around \$16.50 to \$17.00.

The Pittsburgh market is still short of hay and prices are from 90c to \$1 above last week. All arrivals are easily disposed of, regardless of quality. The Philadelphia market is very firm on account of light receipts. Present values are considerably above the average price which was looked for earlier in the season.

Southern markets continue good, the same conditions of shortage prevailing as on eastern and northern markets. Richmond reports receipts of hay light and demand active. Receipts of hay for the past week were 192 tons, against 233 last week and 322 for the same week last year. New Orleans dealers report light receipts and heavy demand. All arrivals clean up rapidly and all grades are wanted.

St. Louis continues to be a very good market for timothy and clover mixed for No. 1 and No. 2 grades. Lower grades just now are not so much in demand. Offerings there are lighter than last week and with a good general demand the situation is gaining strength.

It will be seen from this review of conditions on the different markets that the situation generally is very good right now. We believe that shippers who are able to get in on the present market will find it just about the most satisfactory of the year.



POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Medium Round white-sacked
Detroit	1.50	1.45
Chicago	1.25	1.20
Cincinnati	1.45	1.40
New York	1.75	1.70
Pittsburgh	1.60	1.60
Norfolk, Va.	1.40	1.35

Light receipts and a continued strong demand are the main factors in the potato market. Detroit dealers are not receiving enough shipments to take care of business offered. While the price is at its present level it would seem a good idea for growers to ship whatever they are not going to store. Danger of freezing will soon increase the risk of shipping and will also add the necessity of firing the cars through to destination.

The Chicago market has shown some tendency to weaken just a little. Stocks on track there are reported as somewhat increased on certain days. This would seem to indicate that western shippers are selling more freely. We believe that the strong eastern demand will more than take care of any surplus which may be received at Chicago. Transportation facilities must be taken into consideration however and with a car shortage supplies might increase at Chicago in sufficient volume to lower the market. Shippers should watch the situation closely.

New York market has been excited this week with prices inclined to advance. The unfavorable weather in upstate shipping sections prevented a free movement and receipts were away under normal. Demand is in excess of supply and all arrivals clean up promptly. Formerly at this time of the year the yards were filled but

now there is not one-fifth of the usual quantity. Unless weather conditions etc., improve so that farmers can ship much higher prices are expected. The trade is taking New York stock in preference to Maine's which are running small and are not smooth. The Maine crop however promises to be only about fifty per cent of normal and quality not up to standard. The state stock however is fairly good. What few western shipments are getting through are finding an immediate market. The quality of such shipments is very satisfactory.

The past week has been "potato week" and reports from all over the country are to the effect that the government's request has been meeting with the hearty co-operation of the public generally. An increased demand has been noticeable and potatoes have been substituted wherever possible, for other foods. The main idea of this course is to conserve the wheat supply. Potatoes contain a large percentage of water and therefore are not so well suited for shipment to our Allies as is wheat.



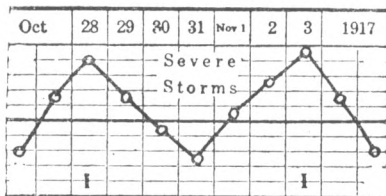
CABBAGE

Receipts of cabbage on all markets are only moderate. Reports would indicate that car lot shipments from Michigan would soon be over for this year. Shippers are getting their stock out of the way fast before the freezing weather. Those who have warehouse facilities are holding in some cases. The Detroit market is firm around \$15.00 to \$16.00 per ton. Chicago, \$15.50 to \$16.00. The car shortage and other considerations are affecting the New York and other eastern markets as the following article will show:

"The New York cabbage market bids fair to rival last season when unprecedented prices prevailed. There has been rapid advances since Saturday when the market was around \$25 a ton. Every day it has been a jump in prices for the past week or more, and the rise in values has been greater than at this time last year in the same period. In the yards at the close of the week sales were \$35 to \$36 ton on Danish with indications of still higher prices in the near future. Cabbage can hardly be bought at loading stations and sold at a profit. Receipts are moderate as the yard holds from 10 to 12 cars, mostly domestic. Domestic cabbage will be cleaned up in about 10 days and give the field to Danish. Last year at this time cabbage was bringing about the same price as now and early November is was bringing \$40 ton. There is every indication pointing to a higher price this year before the opening of November than last year. Last season during November and December prices rapidly climbed until \$50 and better was touched before the New Year opened. From the way that cabbage has been going into consumption and has been taken by the kraut cutters, it is apparent that the high prices will prevail all season. Practically all of the surplus of canned kraut was exhausted last spring and kraut cutters are packing large quantities in cans this year.

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 27.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent Nov. 1 to 5, warm wave Oct. 31 to Nov. 4, cool wave Nov. 3 to 7. This will be a fierce winter-like storm with heavy rains in cotton states and rains or snows in northern sections and on Pacific slope.

An extended series of fierce storms will come into telegraphic touch in the far northwest not far from Oct. 27 and will continue on or near the continent till near Nov. 5. During this world-wide series of great storms a hurricane is expected on the Caribbean Sea and in the West Indies, but we cannot now determine whether



ONIONS

Receipts of onions on the New York market this week have been the largest ever known, totaling 90 cars for the first four days. Offerings on Monday were sixty cars, a record breaker. The other three days show better than 40 cars each. These onions came from almost every onion section in the United States. Despite the heavy arrivals the demand kept the market on the upgrade, and the docks cleaned up fast, all arrivals being disposed of before night. Trading has been unusually good. Jobbers are buying unusually large supplies and apparently they do not intend to be short as they were last winter. They are stocking up ahead of actual requirements. The top is realized on California browns, which are selling up to \$4.25 per cwt. This is secured because the sacks contain better than 100 lbs. Offerings from other sections sell at \$3.50 to \$3.75 on reds, mostly \$3.25 and \$3.50 to \$3.75 on yellows. Large whites are quoted at \$3.50; boilers, \$3.75 to \$4.00; pickles, \$4.00 to \$4.25.

About half of the offerings are from local York State shippers. There is quite a heavy sprinkling of Massachusetts onions, with cars from all western shipping points. The feeling generally is bullish and many shippers are holding for higher prices.

The Chicago market, which has been unusually high for two weeks, weakened early this week under a lack of demand. Prices have been forced pretty hard and the trade hesitates to take stock at the price. There are plenty of home grown which go to the local trade, selling well at \$2.25 for 70 lb. sacks. Bulk of offerings are Californians, both yellows and browns, which have sold at \$3.35 to \$3.50. Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois offerings have been slow, reds selling at \$2.90 to \$3.00; yellows, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

Demand continues good on the Detroit market, yellows selling around \$3.00 per cwt. Arrivals are only moderate and shippers will find conditions satisfactory.



APPLES

Detroit market continues good and strong for all varieties of apples. Supplies entirely inadequate. Shippers who are coming to this market are more than satisfied with results. In many cases sales are reported at figures above current quotations. Jonathans, \$5.75 to \$6.00; Wealthy, \$5 to \$5.50; Alexanders, \$5.50; other varieties, \$4.00 to \$4.50; No. 2, \$3 to \$3.50 per barrel.

Chicago market is in good shape. More of the later varieties are coming and the demand is good from all sources. Fancy stock has an unusually ready sale. Peddlars are taking better hold and even undergrade stock moves rapidly. There is a big demand for Jonathans and for large apples generally. There are more

western box apples being offered with good speculative as well as current demand. Market is extremely firm on all box apples. No. 1 Jonathans, \$6; extra fancy high colored, \$6.50; No. 2, \$4 to \$5; Grimes Golden, \$5 to \$5.50; Alexanders, \$5 to \$5.50; Wolf River, \$5 to \$5.50; extra fancy Kings, \$6; Northwestern Greenings, \$5.50 to \$6; twenty ounce \$6 to \$6.25; Winesap, \$5; Wealthy and Maiden Blush, \$4.50 to \$5; Ben Davis, \$3.75 to \$4; large p-pins of various varieties \$4 to \$4.50; No. 2 stock all varieties \$2 to \$2.50.

New York reports the barrel market in very strong shape. Receipts are abnormally light for the season and the demand is very active. The trade is at a loss to understand the cause of the exceptional light receipts. There never was a time when offerings were so light during October. Many shippers feel that the crop is light and that better prices will prevail. For this reason they are storing a greater proportion of their fruit than ordinarily. This is keeping the market bare. October is the harvest month and ordinarily the market at time would be over-supplied. Prices are about double those of the five year average. There is a market scarcity of high grade fruit. There would be more northwestern fruit on New York and other eastern markets if it were not for car shortage. Some shippers are using box cars for harder fruit. The general range on best Kings, \$5 to \$5.50; Jonathans, \$6 to \$7.50; Wealthy, \$5.50 to \$6; Snow, \$6; Mackintosh, \$6.50 to \$7.50; York Imperial, \$4.75 to \$5.25; Greenings, \$4.50 to \$6. Second grade apples are selling equally high in comparison, bringing \$2.50 to \$4, a price which ordinarily would be considered good at this time of year for the best fruit.



BUTTER

The eastern butter market is lower than it has been at any time during the past three weeks. Consumption is not sufficient to absorb current receipts. The surplus of last week has increased and some of this has been put into the box so that it now looks as if the storage holdings on Nov. 1 would be equal to those of a year ago. So far this season there has been a marked shortage in storage supplies this year, over last, which gave the market statistically a much better aspect than that of last season. Every receiver is becoming more and more impressed with the wide use of butter substitutes. Heretofore oleo was largely regarded as a poor man's butter, but it is now being used by the middle classes, and even the well-to-do, more freely than in former years. The sale of nut butter all over is reported unusually heavy. This is plainly shown in the demand for butter, which is nothing like it was a year ago. When the market reached 46c on extras, trading fell off materially and since it has declined to 43 1/2c there has not been a corresponding increase in consumption. Trading in all lines has been slow all week. Jobbers have not taken on any more stock than enough for their immediate needs. Some think that further declines will follow, but others are more optimistic. They believe that the bottom has about been reached and that there will be a reaction in the near future. The shrinkage in receipts has continued, but this is not offset by the light demand. Neither has there been much inquiry for export and the outlook for foreign shippers is too indefinite to count upon with much safety. Quite a lot of centralized butter which was bought in the west before the recent declining, is arriving, and most of this is not being offered. A present quality is showing some deterioration so that extras and higher scoring lots are not as plentiful as a few weeks ago. First and under grades are weak, while held butter which was developing quite an outlet, has also been slow. Many of the cutters are preferring fresh as long as they are getting it at favorable prices compared with the held. Renovated has felt the decline in creamery and only the best grades have had anything like a normal call. The ladel market has been easier, so that the buyers have had no trouble in getting good No 2s at 37c. In the absence of a brisk demand for

lads, packing stock has been held less firmly than at any time during the past few weeks. Both Detroit and Chicago markets are quoted a trifle lower. Detroit, fresh creamery firsts, 41@41 1-2c; fresh creamery extras, 42@42 1-2c. Chicago, fresh creamery extras, 42c; firsts, 40 1-2@41c.



EGGS

The egg market generally seems inclined to work lower. The present range of prices on most markets has affected consumption so that handlers are of the belief that lower prices must prevail. The Detroit market seems to be in just a little better shape than any other at this time. Fancy white firsts are quoted as high as 48c; fresh gathered firsts, 42c; ordinary run of receipts, 39c to 40c. It will pay shippers to ship often and sort their offerings.

There is very little activity in either fresh or storage on the Chicago market. Receipts of fresh eggs at this time are heavier than at the same time last year. Only a very small percentage of arrivals are fancy or new laid. Exceptionally heavy shipments of held stock are coming from country dealers. It would appear that they are trying to get rid of this stock before the market breaks. Fresh are quoted at 37c@37 1-2c; ordinary firsts 35c@35 1-2c; checks, 26c@29c.

New York reports a small reduction in the accumulation of held fresh, but trading has not been good enough to make much of a decrease in the large supply which has been carried for several weeks. Fresh receipts of strictly new laid eggs are in demand, but undergrades find a poor market. It is the general opinion among dealers that the consumption is at the low point and that it will not increase to any extent until the price has been shaded. Receipts last week were around 60,000 cases. The increase in arrivals is due in great measure to storage shipments from the west. Extra firsts are quoted at 43c@44 1-2c; firsts, 40c@42c; seconds, 37c@39c.



POULTRY

LIVE WT.	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Turkey	24-25	23-25	25-27
Ducks	24-25	16-18 1-2	20-22
Geese	18-20	17-18	18-20
Springers	18-21	19-20	20-23
Hens	18-21	18-19	20-24

No. 2 Grade 2 to 3 Cents Less

There seems to be a fairly good supply of poultry on the Detroit market but the price is maintained very well. Receipts are heavy and many of the offerings consist of thin stock. It will more than pay any shipper to put his fowls in good shape before shipping. Poultry should be shipped so as to arrive on the market not later than Thursday afternoon. Poultry which arrives on Saturday at this season of the year is liable to remain over until Monday before finding a market.

The Chicago live market has been rather unsteady for the past week and prices have varied from day to day. Much of the stock arriving there is also on the thin order. The market for dressed poultry is draggy and shippers will do well to withhold such shipments until colder weather.

New York and other eastern markets are somewhat dull this week with a slight tendency to decline. Accumulations at the time of the last Jewish holidays have been slow to clean up and have more or less affected the market ever since.



CATTLE

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Steers, good to prime	9 50-10 00	9 00-11 00	9 50-11 25
Steers, com. to fair	8 50-9 00	8 00-9 00	8 25-10 25
Heifers, good to prime	7 00-8 00	6 75-8 00	7 00-8 25
Cows, average	6 75-7 50	7 00-8 00	6 50-7 50
Canners, Cutters	4 50-5 20	4 75-5 25	4 50-6 00
Bulls, average	6 00-7 00	6 00-7 00	6 25-7 50
V-L fair to good	11 00-12 00	12 00-13 00	12 25-13 25

The Detroit cattle market in general with all other markets, has been rather dull for the past week with declining prices. Receipts have been liberal and at times shippers have experienced difficulty in disposing of their offerings, especially in the way of off grades, canners and cutters, etc.

The market has been effected by the trend of the Chicago market. There has been a good run of veal calves and at times the quality of offerings has been none too good. The market on all grades has shown a declining tendency and the price has worked considerably lower.

On the Chicago market during the past week, under enormous marketing of cattle, has witnessed severe crashes. Chicago broke its own and the world's record for one week's cattle supply, receiving 102,593 head, exclusive of 14,630 calves. The mature cattle supply was 7,069 head in excess of Chicago's former yard record and 2,089 more than Kansas City received during the week ending Oct. 13 last, when a new record was made. How enormous current cattle marketings are, is well indicated by the fact that seven western points received approximately 1,100,000 head during the first three weeks of October, an unprecedented three weeks total and 180,000 more than a like period last year. Had it not been for a car shortage, which may prove a blessing in disguise, and for a disastrous fire at the Kansas City yards early last week, the current month's receipts would have been still greater. While liberal receipts are seasonable at this period of the year, as it is the heart of the range shipping season and a period when farmers in most other sections show a desire to clean up ahead of bad weather, the movement at this time has been augmented by the scarcity and high price of hay in the west and by a pretty general desire to grab prevailing prices for cattle rather than risk the running up of winter feed bills. The run has worn the brand of liquidation and in our opinion can only result in relative scarcity and high prices during the late winter and spring months.

The past week closed with beef steers mostly 75c to \$1.00 lower than the close of the week previous. At the close \$11.00 to \$15.00 took most of the corn fed steers, native grassers selling largely at \$8.00 to \$10.50. One sale of four cars of 1452 lbs. branded Iowa fed Herefords, last Wednesday, at \$17.00, was the extreme top of the market by 15c per cwt. and even such kinds which are specialties in the run, were at least 50c lower than the week previous. Most everything in the cow line finished the week at a dollar decline and medium to good heifers showed as much as \$1.50 decline in extremes. Canners were put down to \$4.75 to \$5.25 basis and comparatively few beef cows were good to pass \$8.00. Bulls lost mostly 50c in value and veal calves declined 50c to 75c, putting the best vealers down to \$15.50, while strong weight and heavy calves finished \$1.00 to \$2.00 lower. Qualified classes of feeder cattle, get-actively well, losing not more than 10c to a broad country call, held up relatively well, losing not more than 10c to 25c in value, but medium and common stockers declined around 50c.

On Monday, with 25,000 cattle on the market, the strong technical position of the trade was evidenced by a 25c advance on most of the decent to good beef steers and 10c to 25c gains on all other cattle over the close or low time of last week. Best steers sold at \$16.75.



HOGS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Heavy 240-290	14 50 15 00	14 75 15 50	15 50 16 25
Medium 200-240	14 25 14 50	14 75 15 00	14 90 17 00
Mixed 150-200	14 25 14 50	14 50 15 40	16 50 17 25
Packers 100-150	12 50 13 50	12 75 13 75	14 00 16 00
Pigs 100 down	12 00 13 00	12 50 4 50	13 00 14 00

The Detroit hog market has shown lower prices during the past week as was only to be expected in view of the condition of other principal markets. Pigs sold around 50c lower and mixed grades around 75c lower. The first days of this week have seen further declines. We believe it will be to the interest of shippers to withhold shipments for a week or so until such time as there is a change. We believe there is much rough feed in Michigan which can be used to good advantage in putting thin stock in shape, and it will certainly pay to wait just a little longer rather than to supply the market too freely just at this time.

Chicago's hog receipts last week, 119,594, were the largest for any week since July last, although they were

over 46,000 short of the corresponding week last year. Eleven markets received 436,000 for the week, a gain of 93,000 over the week previous. The run carried a largely increased number of pigs and light hogs and the average weight for the week at Chicago fell to 212 lbs., the lightest since April, and 8 lbs. below the average for the corresponding week of last year. The market closed Saturday on the bottom of declines of \$2.00 to \$2.25 from the close of the week previous, same pigs selling as much as \$2.50 lower. The top Saturday was \$16.80, but packing grades sold down to \$15.00 frequently, the best pigs around \$13.75. On Monday of this week 28,000 hogs were received, the market steady to 25c lower. The top was \$16.65; bulk of the best hogs sold at \$16.00 to \$16.50; good mixed from \$15.40 to \$15.90; light mixed and heavy packing \$14.50 to \$15.40; pigs and underweights, \$12.50 to \$14.50.



SHEEP

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Top Lambs	15.75-16.00	12.50-17.00	16.00-16.85
Yearlings	15.00-15.50	12.00-15.50	13.00-14.00
Wethers	8.50-10.50	8.80-10.75	11.50-11.75
Ewes	8.50-10.50	8.50-11.00	10.75-11.00

The trend of the Detroit sheep and lamb market last week was downward at all times. There was a large run of fair quality. The dressed mutton demand is not so good as might be desired and this, in conjunction with the condition of the live stock market generally, has had a bad effect.

The Chicago market, while inclined to weaken, has not shown such wide breaks in prices as on hogs and cattle. The dressed mutton trade, however, is in a droopy condition, and as receipts are holding up to pretty good volume, the tendency in values is downward. At the close last week sheep and yearlings were weak at 25c lower, fat lambs 25c lower and feeding and breeding stock 25c to 50c below the close of the week previous. At the week end \$17.50 was an outside quotation for prime fat lambs. Best ewes sold to killers at \$11.50. The spread in values is due to widen out from now on as quality is deteriorating.

On Monday of this week, with a liberal run of 37,000 sheep and lambs, sheep sold 25c lower, fat lambs 25c to 50c down. Best fat ewes sold at \$11.25 and a fed western lamb top of \$16.85 was made.

We advise holding back all half fat stock that is responding to good feed with good weight gains. The market should regain its strength with lighter receipts. With continued heavy receipts no doubt further declines in sight.

W. J. ORR MAKES ANSWER TO QUESTIONS IN M. B. F.

(Continued from page 2)

tain any thought of pulling any coals out of the fire in this initial sale to the Government, because I would like to have you understand that when notice was sent out to all the dealers in beans throughout the U. S., as it was through the press and by circular letter, all they were required to do was to advise the writer, and the writer in turn advised the Committee on Supplies, who through the Quartermasters in their respective localities throughout the country, made the awards.

"I have no knowledge whatsoever of being criticised by any member of the Bean Jobbers' Association. As the result of my visit to Washington, the price was raised from \$7.35 to \$8.00 per bushel for future purchases, and for your special information, I was called to Washington in connection with other members of my committee to discuss the licensing system, but notwithstanding that the dealers in this state who patriotically carried over stocks of beans last spring that they paid from \$9.50 to \$10.25 per bushel to the growers for, in order that all growers of beans in this state might be amply supplied with seed, I have yet to learn of the first complaint notwithstanding their loss. So far their statements to the writer have been 'Anything to win the war.'"

"I am interested in elevators in this state, but I am not a factor that I am

interested in cannot participate in any Government business, either direct or indirectly, as long as I am connected with Government work, and will not sell any beans to the Government during the period of my appointment.

"The \$7.35 price applied only on the initial purchase. The Government, however, on my last visit to Washington for strictly CHP beans allowed \$8.00 to be paid, but I do not know of one car in Michigan having been sold to the Government for that price. I was unable to locate their additional requirements in this state, and was forced to purchase Oriental beans that I found in warehouses belonging to local people in St. Louis and Kansas City, also Colorado pintos, and California came forward with a lot of colored beans, so that Michigan dealers did not participate in any of the \$8.00 business to my knowledge.

"As to my knowledge of what the growers might have in their hands, would say that many growers and dealers are much alike, in that they are reluctant to state whether or not they have any on hand. There are quite a few dealers I am informed, in this state who have considerable old beans on hand of the 1916 crop, and one grower has his crop of 1915, and at different occasions refused \$10.00 per bushel for them. I was asked by our Government, same as every member of my committee, what I considered a fair and just price for beans on the initial allotment before the price was fixed, and I gave it as my honest opinion that it should be \$7.80 per bushel, based on the market prevailing at that time, and our Government had been offered a lot of beans at from \$7.25 to \$7.35 per bushel at that particular time, and California was offering at lower prices and they failed to see why the price should be established at \$7.80 until after my last visit, and upon returning home after my last visit, I was advised that I could offer \$8.00. Growers were being paid \$7.25 to \$7.50 per bushel, and quite a few here were being marketed throughout the state at this price at that particular time. I am just as much interested in the welfare of the growers of beans in this state as the Editor of the MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING can possible be. I operate a 185 acre farm, my interests are closely allied with growers, and I think if you will make a little investigation, you will find that they have never had any better friend in Michigan than the writer.

I wrote to you a few days ago, advising you what the army requirements were. We have got the grade established that the Government will buy upon. The question of containers is unsettled, but I hope to have it determined at an early date. It took me from August 21st until a week ago to get the grade established, so that the grower, dealer or any American citizen who wants to participate in government business can understand exactly how to proceed, and any subscriber to your paper who wants additional information, or any group of your subscribers who may at any time desire to participate in Government business, if they will advise me, I will be glad to correspond with them direct and give them the benefit of every particle of information I may have in my possession that will assist them. At the present time, I am arranging with a farmer in Kentucky to turn over one thousand bushels of red kidney beans to our Government all through correspondence.

"As long as I am performing this work for the Government, free of charge, no interests that I am connected with can participate in any benefits, either directly or indirectly." W. J. Orr.

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Have buyers or farms, 3 to 40 acres, fair buildings, small payment down, easy terms. Give us this information: Location, section, township, county, acreage, work, waste and woodland, hilly, level, rolling, soil, lake, streams, well, cistern, windmill, silo, barns, all outbuildings, painted, fences, orchard, fruit, berries, school, roads, distance to market, price, terms, possession. On receipt of this information we will write you what we can do. Our reference, this paper, WALTER C. PIPER, Largest Farm Land Operator in Michigan, 420 Holden Building, Detroit, Mich.

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MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

A Farm, Home and Market Weekly Owned and Edited in Michigan

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27TH, 1917

GRANT SLOCUM
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EDITOR
EDITOR WOMAN'S DEPT
VETERINARY EDITOR
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Published every Saturday by the
RURAL PUBLISHING COMPANY
GEO. M. SLOCUM, Sec'y and Bus. Mgr.
Business Offices: 110 Fort Street, DETROIT
Editorial Offices and Publishing Plant, Mt. Clemens, Mich.
BRANCHES: CHICAGO, NEW YORK, ST. LOUIS, MINNEAPOLIS

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

No Premiums, Free List or Clubbing Offers, but a weekly worth five times what we ask for it and guaranteed to please or your money back any time!

Entered as second-class matter, at Mt. Clemens, Mich.

The Milk Profiteer

JUST NOW the attention of the ultimate consumer is centered upon the subject of milk and its steadily increasing cost. For some reason the public readily reconciles itself to the high prices peculiar to the period on all other commodities but cannot understand why the price of milk should be affected in the slightest degree. The consumer apparently has no appreciation of the fact that of most of the important commodities, whole milk has advanced the least in price during the last two years.

During this period coal prices have doubled, shoes have advanced fifty per cent, clothing twenty-five per cent, farm implements forty per cent, commercial live stock feeds forty per cent—and milk from ten to twenty per cent.

Whenever the prices of foodstuffs begin to advance the consumer invariably lays the blame against the door of the unfortunate producer. The average consumer knows little and cares less concerning the problems daily encountered by the farmer. He has not the least idea of what it costs the farmer to produce food products, nor how even a trivial increase in the prices of feed, farm implements, etc., may rob him completely of his meagre profit. As a result the farmer is criticized when the prices of foodstuffs advance.

The recent governmental disclosures of the practices of certain middlemen to hoard and arbitrarily fix prices on commodities passing thru their hands have done much to enlighten the consumer as to the actual status of the farmer in the economics of food production and distribution. Yet, even these apparently have failed to entirely eliminate the suspicion from the consumer's mind that the farmer is taking advantage of the "war prices" to secure a few additional profits for himself.

But this is not true. It merely happens that the farmer is just beginning to taste the fruits of his organized struggles extending over a period of years for more equitable prices on his products. The higher prices he is now getting are largely coincidental with the war conditions, and not primarily the result of them.

At present the country seems to be pretty well divided in opinion as to whom is responsible for the high milk prices, and the indictment of the heads of the Illinois Milk Producers' Association on a charge of conspiring to monopolize the source of the Chicago milk supply, has of course, accentuated the feeling against farmers in general. Here again, however, innocence pays the penalty for the ignorance of the consumer.

Notwithstanding much damaging and wholly unfounded evidence against the farmer, municipal investigations have repeatedly shown that for every additional cent per quart which the milk distributors have been compelled to pay the producers, from one and a half to two cents have been charged against the consumer. Compare, for instance, the figures compiled by the New York Sun, showing what happened when the farmers' prices were raised after September 1916:

Month	Wholesale	Retail
September, 1916	3.4	9
October, 1916	4.46	10
December, 1916	4.67	11
July, 1917	4.46	11 1/2
August, 1917	5.42	12 1/2
October, 1917	6.59	14

We deny that the average of present milk prices obtaining the country over are too high. We incline to the opinion of Mr. D. D. Aitkin of Flint, the nationally-known breeder of Holsteins and one of the best posted authorities of the day upon all matters pertaining to the dairy industry, viz., that the selling price of milk should not be determined by the cost of producing it, but rather upon its actual food value in comparison with other foods.

The truth is that instead of present prices being too high, former prices were too low. The farmer should and shortly will have from seven

to eight cents per quart for his milk. Given an efficient distributing system, no consumer should then be obliged to pay more than 12 cents for milk which at that price is the cheapest article of food that can be bought today.

An Unnecessary and Harmful Practice

THE FARMERS of Michigan should not countenance any longer the practice of the county agents to exaggerate prevailing crop conditions in their reports to their superiors. With but minor exceptions the reports given out by the county agents the last few months have wholly misrepresented the conditions and overestimated the probable yield. These reports are given wide publicity in the state press and in the official publications of both state and national governments and lead the people to believe that there is a super-abundance of crops when actually the promise is very poor.

This year a special effort was made thru the War Preparedness Board and thru the organization of the county agents to increase acreage and yield of all farm crops. Faithful promises were made that the Peninsular state would do her "bit" to replenish the world's larder, and in all justice to those concerned, be it said that earnest, conscientious effort was expended to fulfill the expectations of the food administration.

The results have not been encouraging. Yet nobody can be blamed. Acreage was increased, probably 40 per cent on all crops, loyal sons and daughters hoed up the back yard and some of 'em the front yard; roadsides and railway rights of way were ploughed and planted and grew up into endless miles of weeds and potatoes; everybody talked farming and most of them practiced it.

But we conquer old Mother Earth only to be assailed by the elements. Hopes were born with the planting of the seed only to be stunted by the long stretch of cold, ungracious weather, and the few balmy days that chanced along in mid-summer were not sufficient to revive the pining faith in our city cousins. Long before the harvest time they buried their hopes among the thistles and potato bugs which thrived so luxuriantly and joyously in the crowded environment of their two-by-four lot.

But the county agents did not lose hope. Despite the inroads of unfavorable weather and the visitations of early frosts, the agents continued blithely and blindly along, sending in their optimistic reports, discounting the frost damage by half and overestimating the final yield by 25 to 40 per cent.

Quite pardonably every county agent desires to make a good showing for his efforts; it may be natural that a spirit of competition enters into the work, certainly it is a matter of pride for an agent to be able to report that his county planted the biggest acreage and produced the largest crops; yet there is no justification, aside from this personal gratification, in his giving publicity to statements which do not reflect the actual conditions.

There is every evidence at hand showing that the War Preparedness Board, thru the county agent organization, has placed the estimate of the state's crops too high. Particularly is this true of the potato crop. The average yield of 103 bushels as estimated from the reports of the agents is fully 20 bushels too high, and figured in the total of 350,000 or more acres, indicates a total of eight to ten million bushels in excess of what has actually been produced.

As a result of these padded figures the consumer labors under a wrong impression which very seriously affects his buying judgment. Few consumers have made any effort to lay in their winter supply of potatoes, thinking that on account of

the mammoth crop they have read so much about, the price will be considerably lower within another month or two, while those who are acquainted with the facts, are confident that the price will not work any lower.

It is not our intention to minimize the importance of the agricultural agent movement. It has progressed especially well in this state under the capable leadership of Mr. Eben Mumford; the old feeling of resentment harbored by many farmers who misconceived the real purposes back of the movement is gradually passing away; the agent has proven his worth and his field of usefulness is rapidly broadening. He is earnestly seeking and rapidly securing the co-operation of the farmers, and we honestly believe that, in spite of the comparative newness of the movement, it has been of substantial benefit to the state's agriculture, and will continue increasingly so.

The success of the movement, however, will always depend upon the active co-operation of the farmers. If for any reason the farmers are antagonistic, the county agents may as well throw up the sponge. There is no surer way of arousing the farmer's enmity and suspicions than by misrepresentation of the crop conditions. It cannot be said that farmers are lacking in pride in their home communities; but a stable market and a steady demand for the products they raise are of infinitely more value when the tax collector comes around, than the most flattering crop report ever issued.

The Farmer's Loyalty

A FRIEND of M. B. F., Mr. Howard Hopkins of St. Joseph county sends us a clipping from the *Kalamazoo Gazette*, setting forth the learned opinion of one E. D. Hulbert, president of the Merchant's Loan and Trust Company, of Chicago, that the farmers as a class are the worst kind of "slackers" and raking them over the coals for what he characterizes their unwillingness to "buy Liberty bonds, pay income taxes, sell their produce, or fight."

The article continues in this strain: "The farmer has been pampered by politicians until he seems to feel that he is in a preferred class. It is about time the farmer should appreciate his position in the country and help do his part in the war as much for his benefit as for those who are putting up the money and doing the fighting for him."

Mr. Hopkins comments upon the article as follows:

"I know this rot about the farmers is not true. I have a neighbor who has bought very liberally of Liberty bonds of both issues and he says he will mortgage his farm if the third issue of bonds appears on the market. Our elevator is so full of grain, and no cars to be had, that the farmers cannot sell any more grain if they wanted to. About farmers not wanting to fight we have lost thirty-one of our good farmer boys thru the draft and several by enlistment. I feel the farmers are more loyal than they are given credit for."

Yes, friend Hopkins, so do we, and we can't help but wonder a little bit why the gentleman who is so free with his criticism isn't at Fort Sheridan training down his avoirdupois for duty overseas.

There is a lot of bunk about this "patriotism" talk and the man who exalts his own patriotism thru the press usually contributes nothing more to the "cause of democracy" than hot air. He gains the reputation as a patriot from his words rather than his deeds. The cities are full of publicity seekers, who court public attention and favor, by constantly haranguing upon the subject of patriotism and villifying those who give no more than they can afford to give of either their time and their money. But when the bugle sounds, these long-winded, silk-hatted, Prince Albert "patriots" scamper like the rats of Hamelin, but they go the other way. Nine times out of ten the man who publicly criticizes another for lack of patriotism does not know enough about patriotic impulses to be an authority upon the subject.

If the farmer is not selling his products, it is because to do so at present prices would mean a financial loss to him; if the farmer is not fighting it is because he has not been called and because he was told by his government that he would be spared; if the farmer is not paying an income tax it is because his income is so small that it is exempted under the present law; if the farmer is not buying Liberty bonds, it is because he hasn't the money or because the government has made absolutely no effort to explain the bond issue to him in understandable terms.

The farmers are as patriotic as any other class of people in the United States; but they don't do quite so much talking. Patriotism with them is not a fever nor a skin disease, contracted at an inspirational meeting and gone the next day; it is born in the heart and abides there three hundred and sixty-five days in the year, and when Uncle Sam reviews his great army of fighters, Red



—Fitzpatrick in the St. Louis Post Dispatch.

THE REAL "ROBBER"

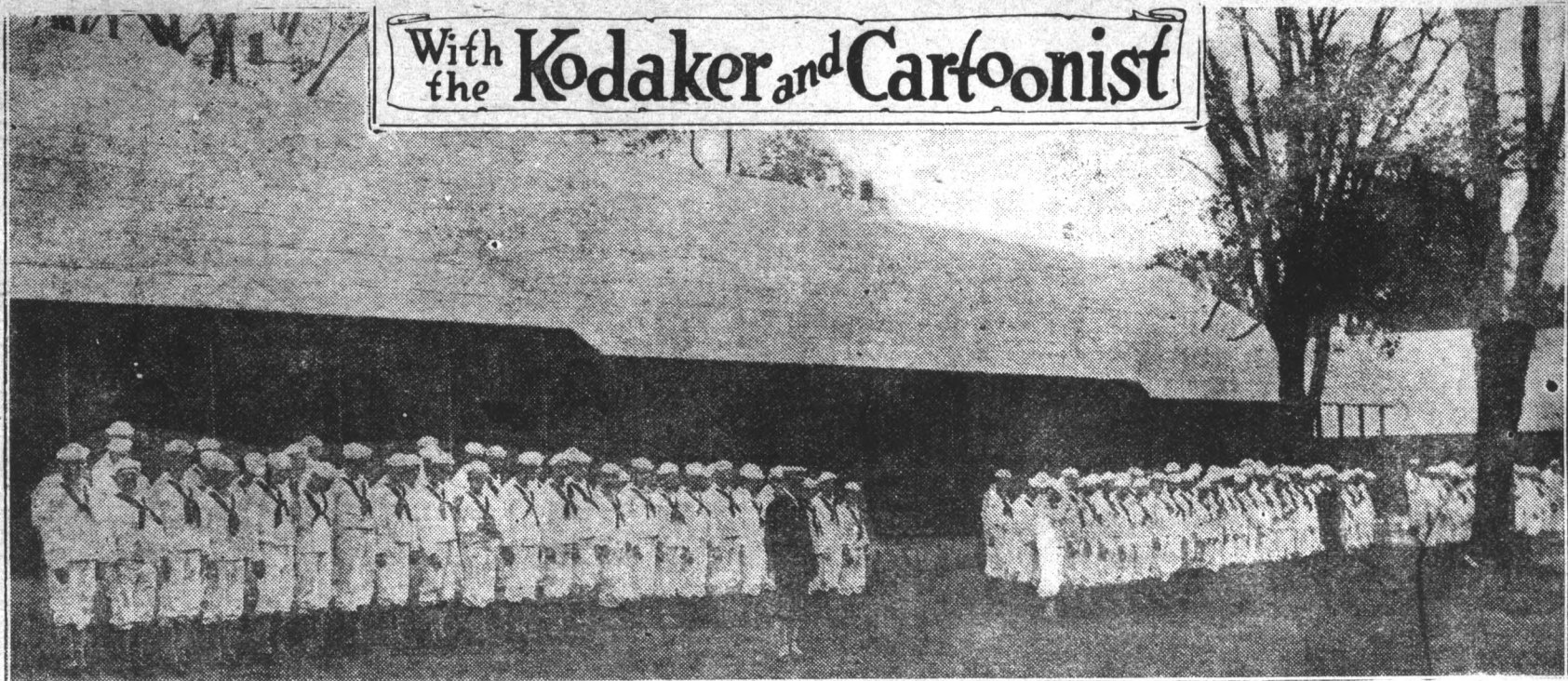
Cross workers and Liberty bond buyers he shall not be ashamed of the sacrifices that the men and women of the farms have made.

October's Bright Blue Weather

WHEN MANY of us were little chaps in school, we sang gaily of "October's bright, blue weather," but it seems that this brand of October weather has vanished with the years. October is still "blue," extremely so, but we deny that it is bright.

The leaves still turn to crimson but they flaunt their gorgeous beauty for only a day or two; many frosts rob them of their color and the chill fall winds frisk them away. Trees stand disrobed, ugly in their nakedness, long before the Indian summer smiles away the late rains and the early snows, reviving our frigid spirits and renewing our mood to enjoy autumnal splendors. Last October we sweated in the fields and the kids romped in the woods. We got the spare room ready for winter and the wood box filled long be-

fore he knocked at the gate. But this year the old chap sauntered along unannounced; the wood box is empty, the spare room in disorder; and the worst of it is the old fellow has settled right down and acts as if he was going to make a stay of it. Well, he usually has his way about such things; we'll have to put up with him; but just the same we all wish he'd broken his consarned old neck on the road. With coal at \$9 a ton, he's a mighty expensive roomer and no mistake.



With the United States Naval Reserves at Pelham Bay Park, N. Y. This Naval Training Station is now nearing completion, and is destined to become the most up-to-date Naval Training Station in the country. At present there are one thousand men training there, and within one month they expect to have upwards of 5,000 men drilling for service abroad.



MILKING-TIME.
—Chapin in the St. Louis Republic.

Another View of the Milk Situation. In this cartoon it would appear that the artist was influenced by a desire to render a new version of the old gag of "milking the public" rather than to picture the truth of the present situation. Fortunately not many of the big city dailies incline to this view of the high milk prices, and when present investigations are completed the public will have some very interesting official figures to show who gets the big end of the milk profits.



Boo! Wouldn't it make anyone shiver and shake and throw up their hands in horror to see these grinning witches at the windows? But the smiling faces behind them allay our fears, and remind us that Halloween will soon be here.



Darling, in the New York Tribune, says even the terrible toll of the submarine is as nothing to the toll of the whiskey bottle.



Canadian official photograph from the western front. The latest Boche gas mask captured by Canadians at Lens. Owing to the shortage of rubber the flexible portions are made of leather. (Copyrighted by Western Newspaper Union.)



German prisoners carrying one of Canadian wounded after the taking of Guillemont. The most impressive thing about the pictures from war-worn Europe is the terrible desolation that lies over the landscape after it has been swept by shot and shell. Trees are shattered to their very bole, the earth is torn to shreds and vegetation blasted by smoke, fumes and gases. The ruin not alone to property but the vegetable content of rich agricultural lands is beyond conception or calculation. Such scenes as this illustrate better than words can describe how dependent Europe will be for years to come upon American agriculture.



Another German mask, but this one a protector against bullets instead of gas. It is made of 2 inch Krupp steel, and is very heavy. It is believed to be used only when resting upon some object. Captured by the Canadians.



Everyday Garden, Field and Orchard Helps

PROPHESYING THE 1918 WHEAT CROP

I am going to chance my reputation as a prophet just once and predict that the average yield of wheat in 1918 in the State of Michigan will be below the five year average. I base my judgment upon the following facts:

In the first place, much of the wheat sown in Michigan is sown after the oat crop. This year the oat harvest was exceedingly late, consequently the farmers could not get the oat ground plowed in time so that they could prepare a first-class seed bed. Much of the wheat following oats has gone in the ground freshly plowed and hastily fitted. The conditions are not good for a big yield.

Some farmers, in order to get in extra acreage of wheat have plowed old meadows and sown them to wheat under much the same conditions. Any one who has had experience in farming knows that oat ground and sod ground should be plowed early in the season a long while before seeding time and should be thoroughly worked and allowed to settle so the subsoil is fairly compact with a fine loose surface soil for a seed bed. The season this year wouldn't permit this.

Again, many farmers in order to increase the wheat harvest next year have put in more acres than they could well get in in good shape. Some of the land wasn't in condition to grow wheat. This extra acreage has compelled them to fit it hastily and consequently the wheat isn't sown under the best of conditions. Again, the corn crop and the bean crop were so exceedingly late that people who have followed a common practice of sowing wheat after beans and after corn are putting it in so late that the chances are it will not get growth enough this fall to stand the winter in first-class condition and consequently will be a light crop.

To be sure, an exceedingly favorable winter and spring may offset all of these adverse conditions and give us a splendid crop of wheat, but the odds are against it. All of us, or at least many of us, have sown more wheat than we would had it not been for a guaranteed price and had it not been for the fact that the world is hungry for wheat. Everybody will say that this increased acreage is all done because there is a profitable price guaranteed. There is no use in attempting to explain this because people wouldn't believe you, nevertheless, there has been more than one acre of wheat put in this fall that wouldn't have gone in if it hadn't been that the farmer felt that this might increase the food supply of the world in this cereal. As a matter of fact, every acre most that has been put in by farmers over and above the usual acreage on land that was planned for wheat and was in normal condition to grow wheat under normal conditions, every acre, I say, above that has been put in not with the particular idea of gain from \$2.00 wheat but from patriotic motives. It was done for the flag.

The Fall Plowing

Notwithstanding the fact that there are many quite serious objections to fall plowing, we like to do all the fall plowing that we can possibly do and while we know that in some instances harm will be done, yet the good accomplished we believe more than over-balances the bad.

Fall plowing leaves the ground bare without any cover crop which is not a good thing. Cover crops are excellent things. They cover the ground during the time of year when land is

subject to being washed by heavy rains and the roots of these cover crops prevent this washing, and all surface crops washed in this way have lost fertility. Again the tillage of summer leaves some soluble plant food in the soil. This is liable to wash and leach out during the fall and winter, especially if the winter is an open one. The roots of these growing cover crops utilize this available plant food and store it in such a way that it cannot be washed or leached away. Of course, this plant food is not as readily available after it is used in building the tissues of the cover crop but nevertheless it is fixed so that it cannot be wasted and just as soon as these cover crops decay in the soil the food becomes available again. It doesn't take long for these ground cover crops to decay so that there is very little available fertility lost by saving it in this form.

Notwithstanding this, the practical side of the question tells the farmer with experience that every day's work that he can do plowing in the fall puts him so much farther ahead with the spring work. The seasons in this country are none too long. We have to hurry from the time the land becomes dry and warm in the spring to get our crops in on time. Many times with seasons like the present it was

land is so wet that it is impracticable to plow, but usually the ground is in prime condition, not too dry nor too wet. The weather is cool and horses can be utilized to the very best advantage. It makes a big difference with a farm team whether they plow an acre in the fall when the weather is cool, or they have to plow that next spring when the weather is hot.

Sometimes, there has been so much moisture in the fall that we couldn't use the tractor to plow. After we learned that lesson thoroly we haven't attempted to plow with the tractor when the ground was too moist, we simply laid it by and did the work with the horses. Unless conditions are right the tractor is a very impracticable tool, but when conditions are just right it does one good to see the work that it can accomplish.

Frosted Corn for the Silo

A farmer told me the other day that he didn't think this frosted corn was worth putting into a silo; it had no food value. Now, this man was wrong. If the corn can be cut and put into the silo soon after the frost, I doubt if any of the food value of the crop has been destroyed. How can freezing destroy the food value? Of course if you allow the corn to stand in the field exposed to the weather, sun, the

THE BUSINESS FARMER'S CALENDAR

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

1. Get your storage cellar in condition to house the potatoes and other vegetables a part of the winter. No business farmer will take his entire crop to market this fall.
2. Have a look at the outbuildings. Patch up the holes, nail up the loose boards, protect the live stock from the chilly winds. Weather forecasters promise a long and hard winter.
3. For the sake of the wife and the children, at least, if not for your own, install this fall some of the modern conveniences that should be in every farm house. First in importance is the sanitary closet. Every farm house in Michigan should by this time have discarded the unsightly, unsanitary, cold and foul outhouse, for a running water toilet system or a sanitary closet. If you want any information about them ask us for it.
4. This week and next week and all the weeks following, plan on next year's crops. Every good business man plans his campaign weeks in advance and makes no move until assured it's the right one. Be a diversified farmer next year. Just for an experiment, plant a few acres to a new crop or to some crop you have not tried for several years.

impossible to get the spring crops in on time. The result is frosted, immature corn, frosted, immature potatoes and also beans. Hence, to get the crops in on time in the spring is a very important question. There is no one farm practice of any more importance than this one in this country of getting the crop in at the proper time, and one has to do all of the plowing in the spring. Unless he has an unusually large supply of horse-power or tractor power and plenty of available help it is practically impossible to plow the land and properly fit it and get it into spring crops on time. Consequently, though we know there may be a loss in fall plowing, if conditions are right the amount of time gained by being master of the situation in the spring and getting the crops in on time is of so much more importance and value to the farmer that we feel that every acre that can be plowed this fall should be.

Several years ago when we made a practice of raising sugar beets we couldn't do very much fall plowing because the harvesting and marketing of this crop extended away along into the fall, sometimes until after the ground had frozen and some years we got little or no fall plowing done and we regretted this always the next spring but since we have commenced raising canning factory crops instead of sugar beets these crops come off earlier in the season and it gives us a chance to do some fall plowing. For the past two years we have plowed the larger share of the ground that we intended to put into spring crops in the fall. Of course, some falls the

wind and the rain, for any considerable length of time, much of the food substance is lost but if it is put into the silo within a reasonable time you have got all the food value it ever had. Of course, if the corn is immature it isn't as rich in food nutrients as corn that had the opportunity of maturing before freezing. No one will dispute that. But take a crop as it stands when frost comes and its food value depends largely upon its maturity and whatever food value it has at that time can be injured little if any by a freezing provided the corn is taken care of before it is unduly exposed to the weather.

I will admit that I know of no chemical analysis of the corn just before it was frozen and after it was frozen which would prove what I say. I wish some chemist would make this analysis. But I base my judgment on experience. More than twenty years ago I built a silo because it was impossible to get our silage corn planted before the first of July. I expected it would be frosted before it matured and it was. We had the silo ready and the morning after the frost came we commenced to fill it. Now, I judge from the results of feeding that silage that the frost hadn't destroyed the food value of it. I say to every farmer, don't neglect to take care of what corn you have got even though it was frozen. Put it into the silo. You will have something that will cheapen your ration this winter for your live stock. This corn has got a good value. It is well worth saving.—Colon C. Lillie.

RENOVATE THE ORCHARD INCREASE APPLE YIELD

During recent years the University of Missouri College of Agriculture at Columbia in co-operation with a number of practical orchardists has been carrying on demonstration experiments in the value of spraying, pruning and general renovating of neglected orchards in Missouri.

The results of these demonstrations show that apple orchards well managed can be made to yield the largest profits of any Missouri farm crop. On the other hand neglected orchards in the same neighborhood hardly yielded interest on the valuation of the orchard.

During 1917 the results of proper spraying and pruning have shown larger profits than in any previous year. During the last year neglected orchards have set very little or no fruit. The little fruit which has set here and there was for the most part small, wormy and of low market quality. Orchards properly sprayed and pruned during the last two or three years have set anywhere from a fair up to a heavy crop of fruit. The quality of apples on well-managed orchards this year has been the best produced in Missouri in recent years.

Orchards properly sprayed and well managed have yielded anywhere from \$100 up to several hundred dollars per acre, net. Neglected orchards in the same neighborhood have yielded anywhere from nothing up to \$18 to \$20 per acre, hardly enough to pay interest on the valuation of the land and the expense of growing the orchard.

Some orchardists have hesitated to assume the expense of equipping for spraying, and of employing the labor necessary to properly prune the orchard. There is a fear that should the crop fail the orchardist would not be in a position to pay for his spraying outfit and his spraying material.

OTSEGO COUNTY FARMER WANTS \$1.50 FOR POTATOES

I enclose \$1.00 for one year's subscription to MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING. It's a great paper and the first real champion of Michigan agriculture. You are exposing the dishonest methods of the speculators as no other paper ever has. Long may MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING live.

You ask ideas as to whether \$1.00 per bu. is enough for potatoes this year. I say decidedly no. I live in a potato country and it is my best judgment that Otsego county won't have an average yield of more than 65 bu. to the acre this year. Now, where are we coming in for much profit at \$1.00 per bu., according to itemized accounts of raising one acre of potatoes this year of which I read in your paper, and which to my knowledge as a potato raiser I know to be accurate. These accounts run from about \$73 to \$103 per acre. You can readily see that at an average yield of 65 or even 75 bu. per acre we are doing business at a loss. Our bean crop was a failure, also our corn. Now if we lose on potatoes where are our chances for a living? I am not one to kick at everything that comes along, but I do like a square deal and I appreciate your methods in fighting for us to obtain square business. My idea is \$1.50 per bu. for potatoes this year.—F. S. B., Elmira.

EVERY DOLLAR makes it better
We want to make this weekly better with every issue, because the best is none too good for Michigan business farmers. Will you help by sending one dollar for a year's subscription? If you are already a subscriber show this copy to a neighbor.

LIVE STOCK ON THE FARM

POULTRY, SHEEP AND SWINE DAIRYING BEEF PRODUCTION BREEDING PROBLEMS

CAN THE COCKERELS SUGGESTS UNCLE SAM

Can the cockerels when it no longer pays to feed them, is the advice the United States Department of Agriculture is giving to the boys and girls of the poultry clubs in the north and west. Canning saves feed and puts on the pantry shelves material for a chicken dinner when poultry is highest in price. This is the method taught to the club members:

Kill fowl, dress at once, cool; wash thoroughly, draw, then cut into convenient sections. Dip into cold water to insure cleanliness. Place in wire basket or cheesecloth and boil until meat can be removed from bones easily. Then remove from boiling liquid to separate the meat from bones. Take the meat off in as large sections as possible; pack hot meat into hot glass jars or enameled cans; fill jars with pot liquid after it has been concentrated one-half; add level teaspoonful of salt per quart of meat, for seasoning; put rubbers and caps of jars into position, not tight. Cap and tip tin cans. Sterilize for the length of time given below for the particular type of outfit used.

Water bath, homemade or commercial (quart jars) 3 1-2 hours.

Water seal, 214 degrees, 3 hours.

Five lbs. steam pressure, 2 hours.

Ten to 15 lbs. steam pressure, 1 hour.

Remove jars, tighten covers; invert to cool and test joints.

CAUTION: Only the very best types of rubbers should be used.

SLAUGHTERING AT HOME SAVES FARMERS MONEY

Slaughtering home meat on the farm

1. Saves the farmer money.
2. Saves freight on live animals to market and the return freight on finished products.

3. Utilizes labor on the farm at a time of the year when it is relatively unproductive.

4. Permits the housewife to increase her bit in food production and conservation.

Much of the commonly practiced farm killing is wasteful in that fat from the offal is not carefully saved. If kept clean all fat is edible. That which is soiled should be saved for home soap making. Cheek and head meat of beeves should not be wasted. It is splendid meat for mince meat or hash meat. First and second stomachs make valuable edible meat (tripe) and are not hard to clean. They can be worked up into sausages and head cheese. Every farmer can afford a bone grinder to utilize the bones for poultry and hogs. Non-edible offal should be cooked for feed for hogs and poultry. This is a better practice than feeding it raw.

In the short course in butchering and cutting and curing of meats at the University of Missouri College of Agriculture special emphasis is placed on the economical handling of the meat animals under farm conditions.

Meats cured on the farm do not have the uniform cure of the packers' meat. Much of the bacon is too salty to eat. This is largely the fault of the farmer in not giving careful attention to details. Country cured meats can be made uniform, and of a flavor and quality not attained by the packing houses.

Every farm boy in the Short Course in agriculture has an opportunity to learn how to cut and cure meat properly. Making of sausage, head cheese scrapple and bologna are practiced with special reference to the utilization of by-products. To learn to waste less is more important than to learn to consume less.

CLEANLINESS KEEPS THE ANIMALS WELL

Proper nourishment and clean surroundings are helpful in combating animal disease. Feeding balanced rations will take care of the nourishment factor. The University of Missouri college of Agriculture regards clean and sanitary surroundings as essential as proper nourishment. Drainage of quarters, ventilation, keeping sheds and stalls free from manure, dust and other rubbish, a liberal use of lime and other disinfectants, and eternal war on parasites will reduce the veterinary bill to the minimum.

THE DAIRY COW AND THE FARM BOY

Recently at a sale of dairy cows where I chanced to be, a self-made man, a bully good fellow who has achieved no little success in the profession he has adopted, bought four fine Holstein heifers. He had with him at the time of his purchase two of his sons (he has three sons but one of them remained at home to attend to the home duties—this was the oldest son.)

The boys, straight, clean looking young fellows. These two the father had with him are yet under fourteen and they were as keenly interested in the sale as their father.

In speaking of the purchase afterwards the gentleman remarked that these four heifers were all the dairy cattle that he was going to buy. He purchased them for the three boys, and it is his plan to turn them over to the youngsters with the understanding that anything that they can make from them, taking into account the cost of feed and equipment and the handling will be theirs to use and invest as they wish under his guiding directions.

It strikes me forcibly that this is a splendid illustration of farsightedness and wise judgment. It must be a fact that the man who anchors his boys to the soil by means of the dairy cow is taking the wisest means that can possibly be found. The dairy cow fits into the economy of agriculture better than any other animal, and not only this but she offers one of the best fascinating lines of work for the young man to follow.

These boys who are buying their first cows, if they carefully attend to the details, which I feel sure they will, will have added to their training lessons or judgment, of precaution, of carefulness and of business insight that will be worth inestimable sums to them in later life.

Suppose the boys do not follow the work on the farm. Suppose they adopt the profession which their father has graced so well, or suppose they go into commercial life. In any of these cases the lessons that they have derived from taking care of the heifers bought at this sale will be of great service to them in many different ways.

A prominent business man in a town I know quite well keeps a fine cow at his home in the crowded city. She is a perfect family pet and everyone would be at a loss were she to be taken away from the home. Great as are the comforts derived from the abundant use of milk in the family where there are several children, they are not equal to the value that this cow is in the development of the younger son in the family. This gentleman says that lessons which this little boy is learning simply through the necessity of delivering the milk to a few customers each day are of sufficient value to justify the keeping of the cow for no other reason.

Should these young boys or any of the other hundreds of boys throughout the country who find themselves blessed with the task of milking and caring for a cow, or delivering the milk to the customers in the near neighborhood, handle their work judiciously, they will find that when they have reached the age where it becomes desirable to take a higher education, they will have the funds wherewith to enjoy this privilege.

Many a dairy cow has paid the expenses of a young man after he has left home and gone to higher schools of learning. Surely the dairy cow as a factor in the development of business manhood is worthy of the greatest consideration and attention, as she will be found to be one of the strong posts to which we can tie our financial ships.

Now come, boys (mine are in the ring) and give another pull for the good old reliable dairy cow and see if in a short period of time your account don't swell at the bank. Then you will forget about your hard struggles to get along and will feel like patting yourself on the back and saying thank you "old boy" for getting in the game. If you are not careful first thing you know you will get into it—I mean, get into the dairy business so deep and it will prove so satisfactory that you can't get out, without losing money.—R. B. Rushing.

REPORT SHOWS VALUE OF HOLSTEIN AS HERD SIRE

The worth of a pure-bred Holstein bull as a herd sire is strikingly shown in a report of the results of experiments upon a scrub herd by the Iowa Experiment Station. Prof. L. S. Gillette in the October issue of the *Agricultural Student*, sets forth the remarkable results of the test.

Pure-bred bulls were mated with scrub cows and the resulting heifers were bred back to approved bulls of the same breed as were their sires.

The tabulated results of this grading up are shown to be:

	Dam Av.	Dau. Av.	G'd'd. Av.
Bull used	Milk Fat	Milk Fat	Milk Fat
Holstein	3,255	161 6,311	261 11,295
Guernsey	4,168	186 4,634	218 7,091
Jersey	3,903	186 5,400	287 5,479

Prof. Gillette states: "The scrub dams mated to Holstein bulls were poorer producers than the others which gave them an advantage when the results are studied as percentage increases."

The per cent increase in production of first and second generation grades over scrubs is shown to be,

	First Gen.	Sec. Gen.
Bull used	Milk Fat	Milk Fat
Holstein	94	62
Guernsey	11	17
Jersey	39	54

WASTE IN HOLDING HOGS FOR FUTURE SHIPMENTS

A loss of live weight of hogs and waste of feed result from the practice of purchasing local hogs in small lots and holding them in local stockyards until a carload shipment is collected, according to specialists of the United States Bureau of Markets. They point out that at this and other seasons when runs are light, it often takes local buyers four or five days to assemble enough small lots for a carload. As facilities for feed and watering are inferior in small yards, the hogs make no further gains on their feed and often suffer actual loss of live weight. Local buyers, therefore, would do well to specify a certain day for the delivery of lots from the various farms and load and ship without holding. Farmers also could club together to make up co-operative carload shipments on regular week days, thus saving the margin lost in individual small lot selling.

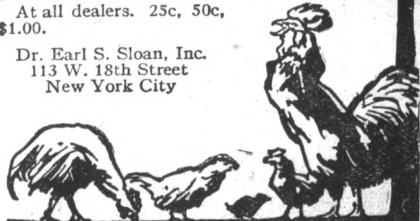
ONE MILLION DOZEN EGGS SHIPPED TO EUROPE

—Reports State Department of Agriculture. And George L. Dillingham, past master of the New Jersey state grange, predicts eggs will go to \$1.00 a dozen.

Cash in on your hens. You can increase laying and improve the health of your layers with Sloan's Liniment, discreetly mixed with food. Write us for full directions and convincing testimonials of the effectiveness of this remedy in epidemics of roup, bumble foot and other poultry ailments. Instructions free.

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BROOKS' APPLIANCE the modern scientific invention, the wonderful new discovery that relieves rupture will be sent on trial. No obnoxious springs or pads. Has automatic Air Cushions. Binds and draws the broken parts together as you would a broken limb. No salves. No lies. Durable, cheap. Sent on trial to prove it. Protected by U. S. patents. Catalogue and measure blanks mailed free. Send name and address today.

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Finest Grain and Bean Elevator

and hay business in Michigan. Splendid territory; net profits, \$4,000 to \$10,000 annually. On account being away on other business will consider active partner to run elevator; will sell on terms or trade for farm. This is a wonderful business. Proposition will bear the closest investigation and inspection.

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ready to market. We want to get in touch with buyers who will give us a square deal. Make an offer or write for description.

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Paynesville - Michigan

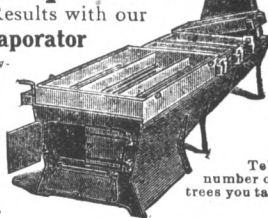
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MAN—To wear fine suit, act as agent; big pay, easy work. Banner Tailoring Co., Dept. 738, Chicago.

CHESTER WHITE ROYAL BREEDING
Ralph H. Littler Route 9, Tiffin, O.

Food for Allies must come from American Farms

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This article points out how and why the French Army receives better food than the civilian population, also some of the methods used to stretch the rapidly disappearing supplies of grain and meat. The agricultural machinery in France is also in bad condition as a result of a shortage of mechanics to keep it in repair and to the cessation of imports of new machinery from the United States. The deplorable situation is vividly pointed out in a way to secure the sympathy and understanding of American farmers.]

HOW MANY times I have heard soldiers on leave from the front say, "I would rather have our bread at the front than your bread here in Paris." The same thing was true of coffee. Soldiers would say, "What do you call this stuff? We get real coffee at the front."

At the rear the civilians drank a compound from chicory, for the coffee supply was short, while the real coffee was reserved for the army. In like manner, the soldiers get the purer wheat flour than do the civilians. The wheat supply being so much curtailed, two measures have been necessary to try to increase the amount of flour.

A law has been passed requiring the mixture of thirty per cent of other grains with wheat in making flour, while another law raised the percentage of extraction permitted in the manufacture of flour. Before the war this percentage was seventy, it has been raised successively to 74, 77, 80 and 85. Seventy-seven is the extreme limit of nutritive extraction. After that the flour becomes permeated with particles indigestible for human beings.

The result of mixing grains and high extraction has been a flour that is often not only unpalatable but indigestible and it has caused not a little sickness, particularly gastric troubles among the children. Adults frequently throw away the soft inside of the bread and eat only the hard baked crust. Very often I have found this "war bread" an unpleasant dark brown in color, with a soggy, glutinous inside. It is no one's fault. It is the best that can be done under the circumstances.

SHORTAGE OF ALL CEREALS

Another problem enters with the authorization to mix other grain with wheat in making flour. It is the shortage of the other grain. For it is not only wheat that is short in France but all cereals. We can have recourse once more to the official figures.

The annual consumption of barley in France before the war equalled approximately 1,250,000 tons, of which about 15 per cent was imported. The production has fallen off to such an extent that nearly one-third of the barley had to be imported last year. This year, owing to special reasons, the production will be slightly higher, but there will still be a deficit far above normal. Furthermore, the deficit in barley must be considered not only in relation to the normal consump-

Second Article on Food Situation in France Showing How Lack of Farm Labor and Scarcity of Farm Machinery Limits Production and Makes France Dependent on Food Supplies of United States

By FRED B. PITNEY

tion, but with regard to the fact that it must be used very largely to supplement and replace wheat.

With rye the normal consumption was about the same as for barley, with imports of about eight per cent of the requirements. In 1915 the production was about 400,000 tons under the normal consumption and in 1916 it was about 350,000 tons under the consumption, while in both of those years there were practically no imports. Thus there was less rye than was needed and rye could only help out wheat by reducing still further the amount given to its normal uses.

The annual consumption of corn averaged 1,150,000 tons, about one-half being imported. The production of imports in 1916 had risen to two-thirds.

The annual consumption of oats before the war was 5,500,000 tons, of which 500,000 tons were imported. In 1916 the imports rose to over 1,000,000

tons and the stock was still short 500,000 tons.

AGRICULTURAL LABOR SHORTAGE

When one travels over France, one speedily learns the reason for the shortage in the grain crops. It is because there is not the labor to do the farm work. Cultivation has to be left to the old men, the women and the children. All others have been taken for the armies and the defense of the country.

In crossing and re-crossing the French agricultural regions it has been a continual source of wonder to me how the few workers in the fields have been able to produce the crops they have achieved. One sees plows with the handles held by women and the horses led by small boys, women stooping among the long rows of corn cultivating the ground, groups of women slowly crossing the fields, creeping on their knees, painfully tending the newly planted crops. Occasionally one

sees a white-bearded patriarch among the women. I should say that the proportion is roughly one man to six women. This, however, is by no means an official figure. It is only my own rough guess.

There is no wonder that with this tremendous shortage in labor, fields are left bare, while those that can be cultivated produce less than the normal amount per acre. What would our western farmers think of turning the land in the spring with long bladed hoes? Yet I have seen this very thing being done in many parts of France because of the dearth of agricultural machinery.

FARM IMPLEMENT SHORTAGE

Most of the farm implements of France before the war were of American make. One saw the American mark on the plows and harrows, the rakes and reapers and binders and threshers all over France. Since the war much of this machinery has deteriorated sadly and a great part of it is entirely unfit for use, because there are not mechanics to keep it in repair, and there has not been the importation of new machines and parts to replace the old and worn-out pieces. (Continued on page 15)

Practical Farming by one who Knows

Nathan F. Simpson Gives Us Some New Ideas on the "Practical," "Scientific," "Theoretical" and "Successful" Farmer. Other Articles from this Authority's Pen will Appear in Later Issues. Watch for 'em.

"PRACTICAL Farming" as described in this article, should not be considered as opposite from "Scientific Farming," but only a different course the operator may have taken to reach "Successful Farming."

Practical, Scientific and Successful are synonymous as applied to farming in this article. The "Practical Farmer" has taken a long road to success, profiting only by his own experiences, while the "Scientific Farmer" has taken a shorter road to reach

the same successful conclusions. One taking a "Life Course" filled with alternating successes and failures, the other a "College Course" supplemented by actual farm operations.

One has become a "Successful Farmer" by many years of close application, the other has reached the same success—the result of early and well directed training. One has reached the "objective" in middle life, blessed with matured judgment and well defined plans for the future; the other

has reached the same position early in life, still full of youthful vigor and enthusiasm for further action.

One is content to have earned the reputation of being a "Successful Farmer," and to so stand among his associates. The other has acquired the same degree in agriculture, and is looking for further "fields" to conquer. One has been helpful to agriculture by practical things worked out. The other is destined to revolutionize farming.

Now that we have practical, scientific and successful farming defined, do not confuse these terms with "Theoretical farming." By "Theoretical Farming" I mean the kind based on "Government Reports," "Anticipation," "Sentiment," and "The Love of Nature," instead of "Actual Yields," "Revelation," "Experiences and the Elements." The "Theoretical farmer" is a great thinker, with so much mental activity that he has had no time for actual farm operations, while living in his dreams in advance of the present generation.

The "Theoretical Farmer's" experiences, on paper, extend over long periods and cover numerous topics. The great agricultural subjects are discussed and great problems solved. Plant breeding, (Cont. page 15)



French peasant woman reaping grain while her chubby little child plays in the heaped-up grasses. This scene typifies the spirit of woman in France today. While the men are fighting the Germans in the trenches, the women work in the fields raising food for the pollus who must be fed. This photograph was taken in the district recaptured from the Germans along the Somme. Many of the inhabitants hearing of the retreat hurried homeward and found their places of birth reduced to a heap of stones.

County Crop Reports

CLINTON (Southwest)—Two very heavy thunder storms this week, but no damage. The ground was thoroughly soaked. Not over one-half of the beans have been secured. Corn 20 per cent uncult. A few silos yet to fill. J. W. Bush, J. R. Lowell and M. L. Hunt have each put up new silos.—J. W. H., Grand Ledge.

MIDLAND (Northwest)—It was very wet here the last of the week and it is still raining. A good many farmers are busy with their sugar beets. Some are pulling beans and some are threshing beans. Some farmers are still putting in rye, and some are doing fall plowing. Some of the farmers have sold hay.—F. A. L., Coleman.

TUSCOLA (Northwest)—Bean harvest not going very fast on account of the wet weather; lots of them to pull yet. Corn is mostly cut but not over 25 per cent of it is ripe. Fall wheat is looking good. The Hires Condensed Milk Co. shipped three carloads of condensed milk this week, each car containing 1,000 cases and each case contains 48 cans of milk.—J. A. McG., Cass City.

CLARE (Northwest)—The farmers are sowing rye, pulling stumps and doing some road work. We had three nice days but it is raining and cold again, making it unfavorable for potato digging and caring for other root crops. The farmers are putting in a large acreage of rye this fall, but not much wheat. C. A. Gilmore sold 17 spring hogs which brought him about \$340. Lots of sales now and cattle are selling high, but horses seem to be on the slump. Apples are scarce this year and other fruits the same here.—D. B., Lake.

BENZIE (West)—Filling silos, pulling beans and sowing rye. Cold and rainy. Apples are scarce. Will not sell potatoes for less than \$1, and some are holding for \$1.50. There are some here who think that beans will go to \$10, and will not sell this fall for less than \$10.—F. M., Elberta.

KALAMAZOO (Central)—The farmers are getting their vacation now for a few days, while it is raining. The rain has stopped several farmers from sowing wheat and rye. There are a good many who are just cutting their corn now, some are gathering their beans, but it is poor weather for that business. Corn is a very poor quality around here, this fall, some say they will make it into cider for winter.—H. F., Kalamazoo.

HURON (Northwest)—Frequent rains delaying bean harvest. Sugar beet harvest nicely commenced, rather short crop. A. F. C., Pigeon.

HURON (Northwest)—Clear weather first of the week with white frost for three nights. There will not be any clover seed this fall to thresh; it is a failure. Grain threshing is all done; bean threshing has not started yet, the late beans are in poor condition since the frost. Potato digging is on this week and they are yielding around 150 bu. per acre. There are no apples to pick this fall. Ruta-bagas are a good crop. I don't know of any corn that hardened up good enough to make seed, frost came too soon.—G. W., Elkton.

WEXFORD (Central)—Farmers are digging potatoes and many fields are only yielding around 60 bu. per acre. Rye seeding finished. Rain on the 18th followed by light fall of snow every day since. Temperature hovering around the freezing point. Some beans still in the fields.—A. A. H., Boon.

CALHOUN (Northwest)—October so far has been very rainy but one or two pleasant days. Silo filling done except some re-filling. Harvesting beans and digging potatoes is the order of the day for the farmers at present. I do not believe that one-third of the corn in this section will ever be husked; farmers are cutting it with the binders and will leave it in the fields until they wish to feed it.—V. H. J., Battle Creek.

OSCEOLA (Northwest)—Having rain almost every day. Farmers digging between rains. I think your M. B. F. is doing more all the time for farmers are not flooding the markets. Stay with it, Sloum, you are doing fine.—W. A. S., Marion.

OTTAWA (Northwest)—We have had very few days of nice fall weather. The farmers are having some time with potatoes and beans; about two-thirds of the beans are a long ways from shelter. I don't think there is much of any live stock being held by the farmers for higher prices. Neither will the bean crop pay more than our annual taxes.—R. J. K., Conklin.

TUSCOLA (West)—On account of the cold, wet weather, the farmers are getting behind with their farm work, they have about one-third of the bean crop yet to harvest, which can not now be done on account of the wet weather. The farmers are selling very little grain, too busy with farm work. Some farmers are beginning to draw sugar beets, which run about 10 tons to the acre. Potatoes are yielding good, some are beginning to rot.—C. B., Reese.

VAN BUREN (East)—A very anxious bunch of farmers harvesting grapes, wet and cold weather making it very slow. Most impossible for fruit growers to get hay or oats without paying exorbitant prices. Shortage of baskets is hindering harvest; help continues to be scarce. Frost and wet weather is affecting the corn and bean harvest.—V. T. G., Mattawan.

OGEMAW (East Central)—The farmers are threshing, pulling beans, digging potatoes, baling hay and straw and plowing. The weather is cloudy and some snow has fallen. The farmers are selling hay and straw and some grain, a few potatoes and roots, and some stock. All are bringing good prices except old and small horses. The soil is just right for plowing.—H. A. B., Selkirk.

MIDLAND (Southeast)—The first snow of the season arrived the 18th. A large quantity of beans in this neighborhood are not pulled yet, being of a good quality but a poor stand, 10 bu. to the acre. Some potatoes are being dug and they are yielding good and of good quality. Gardens are about all harvested and are of good quality, being the best they have been for some years.—A. B., Midland.

HILLSDALE (Northeast)—Good fall weather the past week but rains have set in. Corn is about all cut and the last of the rye is being sown in corn stubble ground. Apples are being picked and are of poor quality. New York State peaches are selling off the car at Jackson at from \$1.50 to \$1.70 a bu., at the stores they are asking \$2.50 a bu.—J. H. B., Somerset Center.

OTSEGO (West)—The average potato crop per acre runs 30 to 150 bu. I only know two or three places that will go 225 bu. to the acre. The weather is wet and cold. There are lots of potatoes yet to be dug.—C. A., Gaylord.

GENESEE (South)—Farmers are sowing rye, digging potatoes, picking apples, harvesting beans and cutting corn. Most of the beans are threshed but there are still quite a few acres to harvest yet. The silos are nearly all filled. Most of the corn crop has been cut and shocked by this time. Farmers are just starting to dig potatoes, and no estimate on the yield can be given. Corn crop proves to be poor. Wet weather has delayed harvesting beans.—C. S., Fenton.

MONROE (East)—Silos most all filled, some good corn and some poor. Some wheat and rye yet to be sown.—E. H. M., Monroe.

GRATIOT (Southeast)—Farmers are resting while it rains. They are selling their produce in small quantities. Beans are just being threshed.—J. E. C., Banister.

MECOSTA (Southeast)—The schools are all closed to allow the children to help dig the potatoes, which are going about 100 bu. to the acre.—F. M. E., Millbrook.

ANTRIM (West)—Farmers in this locality are cutting corn and filling silos, pulling beans and all plowing. The farmers are selling some cattle.—H. H., Central Lake.

PRESQUE ISLE (Central)—Rainy weather and cold. Some of the beans are pulled and some potatoes are dug, some fall plowing is being done. Some potatoes are most too poor to dig.—D. D. S., Millersburg.

MANISTEE (Northwest)—The farmers are trying to harvest their beans and cut their corn but the weather is bad or such work. There is some buckwheat yet to thresh and it is a poor grade, badly frosted. Some are digging potatoes, report light crop from 25 to 100 bu. to the acre. Corn is light, about one-third crop and also a poor grade. Lots of small pigs for sale, nothing to feed them. Milch cows sell at auction at from \$70 to \$80.—C. H. S., Bear Lake.

OSCEOLA (Central)—Bad weather for the farmers, lots of rain. Farmers are most done threshing, grain turning out good, oats 30 to 40 bu. per acre, spring wheat not good, all wheat good quality, about 25 to 35 bu. per acre; speltz good, 50 bu. per acre; barley, 20 to 25 bu.; millet, 15 bu. per acre; potatoes, about 110 to 200 bu. per acre. Lots of clover seed in the fields to hull as soon as it dries.—A. C. M., Mio.

ISABELLA (Southwest)—The weather has cleared up and everybody and his brother wants to hire his brother and the other fellow to get \$10 beans in the barn and \$1.25 potatoes in storage. A number around here are pulling beans for feed for sheep this winter as the hard freeze of the third finished what was left. We should have had three weeks more of good weather. It all goes to help to make \$10 beans and \$1.50 potatoes. They will have to come to these prices if the farmers make anything on them. There will hardly be a hard ear of corn in the field around here, and we find that in feeding such corn to hogs they consume twice as much. I think that with another year or two of this kind of weather we will see every farm with a silo. Potato digging will be started in earnest here this week; they will not go over 100 bu. to the acre, where in years gone by I have harvested 200. We find here that the back yard truck patch was not a success, many laboring men that thought they would have enough for their own use found that their crop of potatoes did not materialize, and they are in the market for their winter supply.—W. D. T., Blanchard.

BENZIE (West Central)—Weather is rainy and cold. All farm work is delayed. Silo filling the order of the day.—G. H., Benzie.

TUSCOLA (Central)—Farmers digging potatoes, pulling bean and beets. Weather wet and cold. Farmers are selling rye, potatoes and wheat. Potatoes is the best crop this year in these parts; one man got 100 bushels in 1-4 acre, another 90 bu. on 1-3 acre and just 27 potatoes filled a basket.—B. B. C., Caro.

TUSCOLA—Bean harvest in full swing but going rather slow on account of the bad weather. The heavy frost of Monday night froze the green beans even after they were pulled and in the bunch, and will help to make the pick heavy.—J. A. McG., Cass City.

LIVINGSTON (West)—Some beans not harvested yet, also corn to cut; soil too wet to work. Some farmers are selling oats and potatoes. The sale of purebred cattle on the 27th was poorly attended on account of the cold, rainy day, but most everything brought good prices.—G. A. W., Fowlerville.

NEWAYGO (Southwest)—Farmers digging potatoes and taking care of beans. Lots of rain and not good weather to gather crops.—C. B., White Cloud.

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BRANCH (North)—Farmers cutting corn, digging potatoes. Weather wet and cold. Farmers selling some hay and grain and stock, holding oats.—F. S., Union City.

MACOMB (Northwest)—Farmers are digging potatoes. Weather has been unsettled. Ground is terribly wet. The farmers are selling some wheat and rye.—H. D., Almont.

NEWAYGO (East)—Potato digging is now on in full blast. A large acreage but small yield; they did not grow much after the September frosts. 50 per cent are too small for market. Help scarce one man digging in 10 acre field is not uncommon. Beans not threshed yet but yield will be small owing to so few in pods.—F. S., Big Rapids.

JACKSON (West)—The farmers are trying to get up their beans and sowing rye. It is about time to harvest beans. I had my beans ready to draw and would have threshed the 17th but it began to rain and rained for two days and now it is snowing. They have been out three weeks and there is only seventy acres of them to turn over. It looks to me as if \$8 per bu. was not any too much, and I think they will have to advance as nearly all of the beans in the county are out in the bad weather. The corn is no good; it wouldn't fatten a chicken.—B. T., Parma.

INGHAM (Southwest)—The heavy rains of the past week have soaked beans and it will take a week of good weather to dry them fit for drawing. Silo filling is about done for this year. Three-quarters of the corn is soft and will have to be fed up before winter. Lots of rye yet to sow; wheat all in.—B. W., Leslie.

BAY (West)—Corn and bean harvesting is about done here. Farmers are harvesting and hauling beets, which are not very large, tare, is from 1 to 3 per cent. Bean threshing has not begun yet. Corn is a little wet for husking. Some hay is being sold at \$15. The rains will help fall plowing. Some second crop clover is being cut but there will be no seed.—G. G., Linwood.

MANISTEE (Northwest)—Farmers are filling silos and digging potatoes; some few are trying to do some building but the scarcity of carpenters makes it slow work. The only thing I have heard the farmers talk about buying is oats and they are looking around to see where they can get a carload.—C. H. S., Bear Lake.

PRESQUE ISLE (Central)—Farmers are digging potatoes. Most of the beans are yet in the fields on account of the wet weather; some are too poor to harvest. Potatoes run from 50 to 200 bu. to the acre.—D. D. S., Millersburg.

KALKASKA (West)—The farmers are digging potatoes; they seem to be turning out pretty well, averaging about 90 bu. to the acre. There will be no hard corn in this vicinity. Beans are nearly an entire failure.—R. E. B., South Boardman.

MONROE (West Central)—The farmers in this part of the county are digging potatoes and husking corn. Some farmers are disappointed with their potato crop. There is a lot of soft corn to be taken care of this year. Seed corn will be a scarce article next spring. The farmers are selling most of their wheat and some hay, but they are holding oats. W. H. L., Dundee.

MONTCALM (Southwest)—Farmers in this vicinity are digging potatoes and preparing clover seed for the thrasher. Potatoes are yielding poorly, work is mostly completed and price is increasing as dealers receive many loads. The price is quoted from \$1.20 to \$1.25 at Miller station 22nd of October. A large acreage of clover seed is being cut which is filled medium and a large crop is expected by this part of the county. Beans are mostly harvested, frequent showers were received last week which prevented drawing of beans, yielding very poor and one-third of crop is not going to be harvested. Other is cold and snow was received by most parts of the county Thursday. Soil is wet, but not too wet to prevent working. Small amount of produce is being held for higher prices.—W. L., Greenville.



THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



ANNE CAMPBELL STARK, EDITOR

This Week's Tested Recipe

CANADIAN WAR CAKE

No recipe has been more popular than the one for Canadian War-cake. Many people like this plain cake better than the cakes that call for butter, eggs and milk. Two cups of brown sugar, two cups of hot water, four tablespoons of lard, one teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of ground cinnamon, one teaspoon of ground cloves, one cup of raisins. Boil all these ingredients for five minutes after they begin bubbling. When cold add three cups of flour and two teaspoons of soda dissolved in one teaspoon of hot water. Bake in two loaves in slow oven an hour and a quarter.

A New Feature for the Church Bazaar

"I WISH I could think up a new booth for our church bazaar," said Adeline. "It's the same old thing every year. Besides Mrs. Merrick has moved in the neighborhood since last year. They bought the Perkins farm, you know, and I do wish we had another booth for her to superintend."

"Why don't you have a Conservation booth," I asked. "There's so much talk of conserving food nowadays, and women are canning more than they ever did in their lives. When are you going to hold your bazaar?"

"We always hold it just after Thanksgiving, when everybody begins to think of Christmas presents," said Adeline. "This year I certainly would like to make one booth the big feature of the bazaar and your suggestion is a fine one."

"See to it that everybody has a chance to lay in a stock of Christmas presents of the good things all you folks conserved during the summer," I suggested. "The bachelor folk would like a chance to buy small fancy jars and attractive packages of home stuff. Now I know very well that Mrs. Canfield, who lives in the village has been so ill all summer that she didn't have a chance to put up a thing. Folks like that would like a chance to buy all their needs."

"Let's begin planning right now," said Adeline. "We can tell everybody not to waste a thing in the garden and orchard. I know very well that mother canned more than she will ever use. And she put up pickles enough to feed the whole army."

"If we make definite plans now," I said, "original ideas can be worked out by the time the bazaar is held. Sales will depend largely on attractive containers and fancy packages. Odd boxes of dried corn and dried soup vegetables, rustic baskets of assorted varieties of fruit syrups and fruit butters could be put up. Fancy varieties of apple paste, pumpkin chips, crystalized fruits and chutney would have a ready sale, I know."

"We could get the young girls at work making original bags, and fill them with hickory nuts and walnuts," said Adeline, enthusiastically. "Nut meats in bright boxes would be easy to sell, too."

"The Conservation booth well carried out will prove a money-maker for church societies everywhere," I remarked.

And in our particular community it was a huge success.

The Self-Made Slouch

WE HEAR a lot about the self-made man nowadays, the man who started at the bottom and climbed steadily to the top of the hill, where honors and financial success awaited him.

How many of us have observed the self-made slouch? She starts married life with a hope chest full of linens, a pretty home, several new house dresses, and a firm resolution that her husband never shall see her in curl papers.

Drop in on her some morning two years later! Her hair is untidy—curl papers would at least keep it out of her eyes, but she has become too listless and indifferent to bother with them. Her bungalow apron has a big rip on the shoulder and is far from clean; she has on sloppy bedroom slippers, and her complexion shows clearly that she has gone to bed with a soiled face every night since she's been married, with the exception, maybe, of the first week. She has acquired an infant, whom you would like to kiss, only the poor little thing hasn't had its bath yet, and is plainly uncomfortable, and longing to be changed to clean clothing.

In a long rambling conversation she tells you that her mother always told her that she was unfitted for housework, and she knew she was a

failure in it. When she assumed the management of her home, she, and she alone, was responsible for the success or failure of her work, and her husband's happiness. Her husband had ample means to purchase labor-saving devices for her. She could get a carpet sweeper, a washer, a fireless cooker, and other appliances that would lighten her work. She could get up early, slip into a fresh apron, and comb her hair! She could wear decent kid shoes, and keep her woolen slippers for her bedroom, which is the only place to wear them. She has failed to make her work agreeable, to keep her mind fresh and alert.

If each day had been met with the right thot, she would have systematised her work and become more capable. After all, it is a matter of having pride. Her husband was one of the neatest young men in the neighborhood. Naturally, since she doesn't pay any attention to his clothing, and fails to mend for him, and sew on his buttons, he too, is "going to seed."

What a pity! Why do girls make such an effort to be attractive and neat before marriage

Broken Vows

I USED to say so many things
Before I was a mother!
I wouldn't do this thing and that,
I wouldn't do the other!
If baby chanced to suck his thumb,
I'd show him that he couldn't,
I wouldn't let him pull his ears,
Or do things that he shouldn't!

I'D NEVER take him when he cried,
But I'd just let him beller!
I'd show him who was boss 'round here,
The cunning little feller!
I wouldn't kiss him on the mouth,
In fact, I'd never kiss him.
I'd leave him in a nurse's care,
And travel, and not miss him!

I'D LET him get his little bumps,
And when he fell I'd let him
Just pick his little self right up
And never run and get him;
Or kiss the spot to make it well,
Or anything so silly.
I'd let him learn that life is rough
And venturesome and hilly!

BUT WHEN my baby sucks his thumb,
I think it is so cunning!
And when he falls and hurts himself,
My goodness, I come running,
And kiss him hard to help him bear
The pain I would bear for him,
And hang upon his baby words,
And well—I just adore him!

I'M TRYING to be sensible,
The way I said I would do;
But I am doing everything
For that dear boy I could do!
I've changed my views completely, for
It seems somehow or 'tother,
The things I vowed I wouldn't do,
I do, since I'm a mother!

—ANNE CAMPBELL STARK

and so often degenerate into a self-made slouch? No wonder the divorce courts are full of eager seekers after single blessedness! You certainly can't blame some of our well-brought up men, whose mothers have taught them clean, neat habits, for falling out of love mighty soon with the self-made slouch.

How to Make a Home for Bees

WHEN I was up to my uncle's farm in the summer, and we were talking, as everybody does nowadays, about the high cost of living, he made a remark that one thing that really paid the farmer was keeping bees. They do not cost anything to feed, and their product can be marketed at a good price.

I recently read some good practical suggestions to beginners in this business in the St. Louis Post Dispatch, and am going to tell you about it, because I know you will be interested.

A good foundation for each hive is important, they go on to say, as the hive should always be kept perfectly level and never allowed to settle out of this position. The best plan where a considerable number of hives is contemplated is to set

Uncle Sam's Thrift Thought

A WAY TO UTILIZE STALE BREAD

Here is a way suggested by the United States Department of Agriculture to utilize stale bread and left-over milk:

French Toast

Beat up together one egg, one cup of skim or whole milk, and salt to taste. Place a small quantity of butter, bacon fat or other suitable fat in a broad-bottom frying pan. Dip slices of stale bread into the egg and milk mixture until they are thoroughly moist and fry on both sides until a golden brown. Serve hot with or without syrup.

them in rows not less than four feet between them each way, upon flat base of Portland cement about two inches thick and two by three in size.

The easiest way to prepare the base is to construct a square frame sloping upward, and after securing and leveling each way in the proper location, mix and pound in the cement, being careful by means of a line to construct them all upon the same level, then level off the ground neatly between them and seed to grass. Such a plan renders it easy to occasionally run a lawn mower between the hives each way and prevent tall grass and weeds from accumulating around them.

A good bee stand is as important to a hive as a foundation is to a home. Any old nail keg or box won't do if you want things right. The simplest, cheapest and best plan is to construct an oblong box 10 inches high, 15 7-8 inches wide and 24 inches long on the outside, with no bottom and no top except a strip 3 1-2 inches wide and 3-4 of an inch thick nailed across the top on the front end. This corresponds in height with the hive bottom, thus extending the bee porch in front of the hive. The hive bottom covers the remaining portion of the stand and is kept from slipping off by means of two cleats nailed upon the inside of the stand and extending about a quarter of an inch above, so as to come between the side cleats of the bottom board of the hive. A couple of good coats of mineral paint will help.

Many beekeepers make a serious mistake in failing to give their bees enough storage room on time. The addition of this room at just the right time for the storage of the season's crop of honey requires good judgment and an intimate knowledge of the nectar resources of the particular locality and season. Very few people realize that in many localities the entire season's crop of surplus honey is gathered and stored within a period of a few weeks. It is exceedingly important during these few weeks that the progress of the work in the supers be watched closely and additional room be given as rapidly as the bees can use it.

Keeping the Hands Smooth

MRS. KNOX, after a long and busy life of toil on the farm, had moved to the village to spend the rest of her life in ease and comfort as so many of our prosperous farmers do. She writes me that she is invited to a great many functions and is ashamed of her work-worn hands.

Of course, if I told Mrs. Knox that work-worn hands are beautiful, much more so than the smooth, white hands of her youngest daughter, she wouldn't believe me, but we who see the soul's beauty know that this is true. But this doesn't help Mrs. Knox out. She wants to look her best in town, and I don't blame her! That's the right spirit, Mrs. Knox; some of our careless, younger folks should follow in your wake.

Do you own a pumice stone, Mrs. Knox? If not, go right over to the drug store and buy one. This is the hardest toilet article you can have. Its constant use will remove the callouses on your hands, and incidentally, will prevent many a corn and callous on your feet.

No doubt your hard work has made your hands rough and yellow. Every few days give them a treatment with pumice, washing them first in hot, soapy water. Go over them carefully, gently wearing off the yellow skin with the stone. Then massage the hands thoroughly with cold cream, any good, standard make. It is a good idea to use cold cream on your hands every night, and for the first two or three nights, wear rubber gloves over your cream-soaked hands.

Pumice stone can be used on the nails, too, to wear away the ugly ridges that sometimes form. Rub your nails with vaseline every night, and you will find an improvement.



Frank Snover shipped a carload of cattle to Detroit last week.—*Mayville Monitor*.

Chicago stockyards have purchased a 35,000 acre farm in Cheboygan and will start a ranch at once with 15,000 head.—*Ewart Review*.

Beans in this vicinity are about all pulled and under cover, and potato digging well under way, but the yield is light, although quality is good.—*Ewart Review*.

Fred Dovey finished digging his large field of potatoes near the village Tuesday p. m., and several ladies of the village aided in picking them up. He shipped a car the latter part of the week.—*Bronson Journal*.

Oakland county is going to get in line with other progressive counties and have a government-authorized farm agent. This was settled by the action of the board of supervisors last week when a motion was made and carried that the county establish a county farm bureau.—*Holly Advertiser*.

N. Pershenson, of Detroit, is still at the Farmers' elevator buying cabbage and potatoes from Portland farmers, and is planning to remain here for a couple of weeks more. This week he is guaranteeing a price of \$1.05 per bushel for potatoes and \$14.00 per ton for cabbage delivered up to Saturday night.—*Portland Observer*.

County Agent C. L. Rose is boxing various samples of grain and farm produce to be shipped to the Western Michigan Development Bureau for exhibition purposes in various parts of the country. Although Osceola county failed to make appropriations for the support of the organization, the county is still receiving indirect benefits, which accrue from its splendid organization.—*Ewart Review*.

Hall Brothers of Bellevue township sold a load of fifteen hogs last week which brought \$400. They make a specialty of growing hogs for the market and usually have a hundred head on hand the year round. Their hogs last year brought them nearly \$4,000. "Toot" seems to be as successful coaching hogs as he was coaching football teams in Olivet College, and finds time to sell a good bunch of Overland cars on the side.—*Charlotte Republican*.

The season's sugar-making campaign at the Continental factory here has begun. Many improvements and alterations have been made for the facilitating of work, especially in the unloading of beets. The huge derrick on which a large force of mechanics have been laboring all summer is completed and the boilers and other machinery have been set in the new potash plant which will produce another valuable by-product from the refuse of the mill. Beets of good quality are coming in, both by rail and wagon load, and there is now on hand a large quantity. A hundred day run is expected at the plant.—*Blissfield Advance*.

There is to be a genuine apple show exclusively of Michigan fruit held in Detroit Oct. 29th to Nov. 3rd by the Commonwealth Savings bank at their general office, Fort and Griswold Sts., Hammond building. The idea is that of Comfort A. Tyler, vice president of the Commonwealth bank and a very close student of the agricultural resources of Michigan. He wants Detroit people to become better acquainted with Michigan apples, learn more about their flavor. Mr. Tyler is also desirous of showing to the land owners in this part of Michigan the great possibilities in the fruit way, so a special invitation is extended to these people to attend the coming exhibit. After the show the apples will be sold and the proceeds given to the growers, all the expenses incidental to the show being borne by the bank.—*Wayne County Courier*.

A majority of corn fields failed to fully mature and many late bean fields got caught by the frost.—*Charlotte Leader*.

It seems like old times to see potatoes being brought to market in Brooklyn. The price, \$1 per bushel, tops the fall market here for twenty years.—*Brooklyn Exponent*.

This week Tuesday Charley Taylor paid Blue Bros. \$969 for 26 spring pigs and Stephen Clink of Muskegon, \$472 for 21 pigs. Some money for pork, eh?—*Coopersville Observer*.

Beans in this section, as far as threshed have turned out well. Marion Foster got 80 bushels on four acres, Wilbur Martin 107 on five acres, Fred Youngs had 110 bushels, and Lipps 97.—*Charlotte Leader*.

Sandusky farmers, by getting busy and securing 25 signers, can have a two weeks' course in agriculture in that city free of charge and the course will be conducted by the Michigan Agricultural College.—*Mayville Monitor*.

Good weather for clover, seeding and fall pasture, but tough on the farmer who is trying to get his crops under cover. The weather man is giving help and comfort to the enemy and should be investigated.—*Middleville Sun*.

R. P. Baldwin is highly elated over the way his squash crop turned out this fall. Mr. Baldwin says that the collective weight is 400 or 500 pounds and that one in the lot weighs 39 1-2 pounds, which is quite exceptional.—*Portland Observer*.

Hiram Utley of Worth has the champion potato so far this season. He sent in a perfectly formed spud on Saturday that is smooth and round and tipped the scales at two pounds and ten ounces. Can you beat it?—*Crosswell Jeffersonian*.

The sugar beet crop in Wayne county will not be very strong, many farmers reporting that their yield will not average more than six or seven tons per acre. Disease did considerable damage and then the season was unfavorable.—*Wayne County Courier*.

J. M. Hickey purchased from G. S. Kerswell and sons 23 prize steers, which were sold by Mr. Hickey on the Detroit market and attracted much attention and received special mention in the Detroit papers. They were sold for \$11 a hundred weight, the herd bringing \$2500.—*Gladwin County Record*.

The canning factory has finished the season's campaign. Report has it that W. R. Roach is negotiating for a site at Crosswell on which to build what will eventually be one of the finest canning factories in the United States. The factory here will still be operated however, to care for the berries which have made Lexington famous.

The county potato show which will be held at Manistique November 8-9, this year, will embody many new features as well as all the old ones. Some of the new features will be the Boys' Clubs exhibitions with their reports. There are about fifty of these and this alone would be a show in itself. There is considerable interest among the boys and these potato growers will have something worth while.—*Manistique Pioneer-Tribune*.

A carload of cattle was spilled along the track near the Ramsey-Alton factory when several cars forming a part of an extra freight, running from Grand Ledge to Ionia, left the rails. The cattle were strewn about in the wreckage, some dead, some dying, and nearly all the others injured more or less. In all 21 were killed outright or were put to death as an act of mercy. The car contained about 33 head of feeders and was consigned to Ionia parties.—*Portland Review*.

The Gleaners of Allegan paid about \$7,000 for live stock last week. Geo. H. Brant of Fennville marketed thirteen hogs for which he was paid \$755.—*Allegan Gazette*.

Here is a market report of twenty years ago: Eggs, 13c; butter, 12c; beans, 75c; pork, cwt., \$5; potatoes, 35c; oats, 19c; flour, cwt., \$2.80; apples, 30c. Compare these prices with similar articles when you buy nowadays.—*Kinde Visitor*.

A. M. Todd is having his hemp crop harvested, a field containing over 300 acres, and it has grown to a height from six to eight feet. He is also erecting a large cement building for a hemp factory which will give employment to his force of help this winter.—*Allegan Gazette*.

The Hires Condensed Milk Co.'s plant at Cass City made the first shipments of condensed milk last week. Three carloads, each consisting of 1,000 cases, left the factory. Two more carloads were ready for shipment at that time, but because of lack of cars, shipment could not be made. Orders were received this week for 6,000 more cases for immediate manufacture. Each case contains 48 cans of milk.—*Cass City Chronicle*.

H. T. Crandell returned home Saturday night from a 2,900 mile trip through the middle west laden with silver cups, medals and ribbons won by his herd of O. I. C. swine which were exhibited at six state and national fairs. Mr. Crandell accompanied by Jacob Wise as an assistant, left Cass City August 21 and had been on the road or at the fairs ever since that date. Crandell's herd won the premier breeder and exhibitor prizes at every fair shown; also two silver cups, 23 champions and reserve champions, 54 first prizes, 38 seconds, 18 thirds, seven fourths and one fifth.—*Cass City Chronicle*.

The city council of Detroit has heeded the appeal of the farmers for a little more privileges on the local markets, which is expected will encourage the matter of commercial vegetable growing. The ordinance committee on Tuesday voted in favor of amending the present market ordinance to allow a grower to bring in and sell as agent the produce of his neighbors. The market gardeners and commission merchants were successful in preventing the market being thrown open to hucksters and peddlers. It was pointed out that many farmers raised a surplus of some articles, not sufficient to make a market load, which would find its way into the Detroit markets if given the proper opportunity. It was to care for these people that the change was made which was unopposed. The marketing committee of the council is giving the matter of a new Eastern market consideration.—*The Wayne County Courier*.

Another boost in the price of milk as announced by the Overton Creamery company with interest different classes of people differently. The dairymen will quite naturally think that the new rate is not quite so much as they should have had long ago, while consumers in the city will throw up their hands in amazement and despair. But it's all on account of the war. The retail price of milk very likely will advance in accordance with the creamery rate because some of the retailers have to buy their supply and the farmers will not sell them cheaper than they will to anybody else. So there you are. A "milkless" day will help still more; but who will enjoy the change? Patriotism may be better exercised at cost in almost any other way than when it hits a man's stomach. Singing the Star Spangled Banner and waving the flag will not make an unpalatable breakfast seem any the less unendurable. If Mr. Farmer will only use his increased gains in buying Liberty bonds, as he did not do to any extent during the making of the first loan, he will be forgiven for that offense and milkless coffee will seem more tolerable.—*Allegan Gazette*.

SHOW THIS COPY TO A NEIGHBOR tell him how you like Michigan's new farm and market weekly, and get him to send a dollar bill for a full year's subscription today! He will never forget your kindness, nor will we.

FOOD FOR FRANCE MUST COME FROM AMERICA

(Continued from page 12)

France is a country at war, very really and terribly at war. The invader is on her soil. Her mines and furnaces and factories are in German hands. Her richest manufacturing provinces are in German hands. Her men must go to the trenches to defend their country and drive back the hordes from across the Rhine. And those men of the armies must be fed and have the means to fight. Above all, they must have arms and munitions, big guns and shells.

RESOURCES HAVE SUFFERED

Every thought of France for three long years of a bloody and sacrificial war has been given to "les braves" at the front. Little has remained for the civilians at the rear, who have borne their trials in stoic calm for the sake of the soldiers in the trenches. And in those years the resources of France have suffered, especially the farm resources, for imports have had to be directed to the army. The steel brought in has been for shells, the machinery to make more shells and guns. The plowshare has been beaten into a sword, while the reaper has rotted idle in the fields with only the hands of women and children to tend it.

Now, France needs grain. She must have grain to make bread both for soldiers and civilians. And only America can supply it. The burden of victory lies as heavily on our western farmers as on the soldiers on the battlefields of France.

PRACTICAL FARMING BY A PRACTICAL FARMER

(Continued from page 12)

plant feeding and selection of seed, rotation, fertilization, mulching, and soil testing, animal husbandry, cost accounting and marketing. All are subjects worked out by the theorist on paper, and circulated as authority.

The "Theoretical Farmer," who never sowed, cultivated, or harvested, who never produced, graded, fed or marketed, will determine by exact percentages and deductions, by common averages and statistical computations, the exact result of proposed agricultural adventures—all farming on paper, but presented as real.

And as the result of such exploiting, inexperienced people are misled, and misdirected capital enters all kinds of investments. Both innocent and vicious organizers are busy promoting fruit tracts on desert lands where fruit won't grow, goose farms with fortunes to be made, not estimated but determined in advance of productions. In fact, all sorts of projects are worked out and recommended for you to follow; all by men who if placed on a real farm could not make a living.

So now that the "Practical" and "Theoretical Farmer" is well defined, let us turn away from the "Theorist," his dreams and his hobbies, and follow the "Practical Farmer" in his successful farming operations. Fundamentally, no farmer can be considered successful unless he has kept up fertility of the soil, otherwise his apparent gain would only be absorbed by the soil depreciation. To increase production at the expense of the soil would be folly, and equivalent to selling your farm on the installment plan.

So under the caption of "Practical Farming," this article will subsequently treat of details necessary in "Successful Farming," covering all its various branches such as General Farming, Dairy Farming, including Butter Making; Fruit Growing and Canning, the Raising of Live Stock, including feeding and marketing, all based upon practical experience in the various lines.

Don't be content with doing your bit for the country, do your best.

Actual Service Gives Leadership To **Firestone** SUPER CORD TIRES

WITH numerous makes of cord tires contesting, the past year has witnessed the sharpest rivalry for Tire Supremacy that motordom has ever known.

In this contest the Firestone Super Cord rightly came into its acknowledged leadership, rightly because of the construction which is designed to produce strength, durability and flexible action.

The body of the Firestone Super Cord Tire is built of walls of stout cord, each cord imbedded in pure gum, no two cords ever touching to cause friction. The cushion (which is under the tread to absorb shocks and protect the inner body) is a thick layer of pure gum; the tread is tough and thick. The beads which hold the tire in the rim are specially reinforced. The sidewall is also reinforced, giving extra strength against rim-cut and raising the bending point of the tire safely high. More mileage at less cost. Users of Firestone Cord Tires are getting the highest average mileage enjoyed by car owners.

That motorists find extra values in Firestone Tires is proved by the fact that our sales increased 72 per cent this year up to September 1. Our total business this year will exceed \$60,000,000.

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have benefited by every feature of cord tire construction which can be used to advantage. THICK, TOUGH TREAD gives longer surface wear. MORE RUBBER BETWEEN LAYERS. Added protection against internal friction and greater resiliency. THICK CUSHION STOCK. Still more resiliency, protection against tread separation and stone bruise. REINFORCEMENT IN SIDE WALL. Greater strength at the bead. Firestone Dealers will show you a cross section of the newest output of FIRESTONE FABRIC TIRES, explaining the features that add more miles to Most Miles per Dollar.

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