

"—for all the Farmers of Michigan!"



# MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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

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Free List or Clubbing Offers

## Food Administration Heeds Farmers' Pleas; Declares Bean Growers Should Have Profit

**Government Advises Michigan Business Farming that  
Former Price of \$6.90 was set by Army and Navy  
Officials Who Thot it Gave Growers a Fair  
Profit, and was a Mistake**

From the moment the news was flashed over the wires that the Government had placed a maximum price on Michigan beans, to this very hour the editors of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING have been working night and day in your behalf. Realizing that the bean growers were not receiving a square deal; believing that some sinister motive was behind the campaign of publicity which followed the announcement of the Government price, and having an abiding faith in the efficiency and integrity of the Food Administration, we proceeded along lines which we believed would untangle the knotted skein.

In connection with this announcement, we publish a letter from the United States Food Administration, which clears up the vital points at issue, and proves that the Government officials desire that every man connected with the production and distribution of food products shall have a square deal. That the Food Administration has been misinformed as to the bean situation in Michigan, has been established; that certain interests expected to profit through the Government's establishing a price on beans less than \$7 per bushel, is equally true. Our investigation in this direction has not as yet been completed.

The purpose of this announcement, is, however, to call your attention to some very important matters which are of vital interest to every bean grower in Michigan.

**First:** The United States Food Administration is anxious to encourage production; they have not set a price on Michigan beans to the grower and they expect the farmer to make a reasonable profit.

**Second:** The United States Food Administration is requiring the elevators to operate under a license, and speculation will be eliminated so far as possible.

**Third:** Eight dollars per bushel for Michigan beans, on basis of established grades, DOES GIVE THE GROWER A REASONABLE PROFIT. It is your duty to the Government and consumers generally, to turn your bean crop over to the buyers at this price.

**Fourth:** If you hold your beans the Food Administration should and will investigate the cost of raising beans for the year 1917, and establish a price commensurate with the cost of production. And you know that the price thus established will not be

a cent over eight dollars a bushel.

**Fifth:** If the market works lower than eight dollars, it will be because of united efforts to bear the market by the organized dealers. The supply and food value of beans both warrant the eight dollar price.

Let us conclude the whole matter for the present with this advice: Feed the market at the eight dollar price. If the price works lower, wait for the come-back. Millions of bushels of beans must be marketed. At eight dollars per bushel it will take an immense amount of money to handle the crop. Many elevator men will be obliged to lower the price in order to clean up their bins—it takes time to prepare beans for market.

We do not think there is any reason for growers to dispose of their crop at less than \$8. We understand that the California white beans are selling as high as \$9 per bushel, and inasmuch as this is the only real competi-

tor of the Michigan bean, prices quoted thereon will naturally affect the prices on our own crop. While it may be true that quantities of Manchurian beans are being imported we must again remind our readers that they can never take the place of the Michigan pea bean, and once the public gets a taste of them, they won't want any more at any price.

Right now you are between the devil and the deep Blue sea. Don't rock the boat; just keep to the middle ground. If you hold your beans for more than eight dollars, the Govern-

ment will surely take a hand in the marketing game; if you try to force the market, down will go the price, and speculators will get the profits.

Just tell Uncle Sam that he can have your beans at eight dollars per bushel, and that this price represents only a fair profit this year. And when the price is offered sell: Don't get excited about California or Manchurian beans; keep your seat whether prices go up or down—sell at eight dollars—don't take a cent less, and don't hold for ten cents more. You'll regret it if you do.

## POTATO GRADES MEAN MILLIONS DOLLARS LOSS TO FARMERS

**Millions of Bushels of Small Potatoes in Michigan Pass Through  
Large Screen and Sell as  
No. 2 Grade at Ruinous Prices**

The farmers of the country are just beginning to realize how seriously the new potato grades will af-

fect their profits this year. There are many small potatoes which pass readily thru the inch and seven-eighths screen and are graded as seconds, at 60 per cent of the prevailing market price of the firsts. Many farmers claim that not over 50 per cent of their crop are large enough to be classed as firsts and command the highest market prices. It can readily be seen that the farmers will lose heavily on their present year's crop if the unfair grading continues.

It is improbable that the Food Administration would have recommended this grading had it foreseen the results. The action was taken hastily, at the instance of the organized shippers, and presumably for the benefit of the consumer. Had the season been normal and the tubers fully matured the grading would not have made so heavy a tax upon the farmers, but under the circumstances, thousands of farmers are facing heavy losses on their crops. The situation is not peculiar to Michigan by any means; every section of the country that was hit by the early September frost reports a big harvest of medium and under-sized potatoes. Some farmers who borrowed money to increase their potato acreage in response to the government's request are obliged to sell their entire crop under the present grading rules for an average of from 75 to 85 cents per bushel, depending upon the market and the proportion of small potatoes. Others who can afford to do so have simply refused to sell any of their potatoes on such a basis.

Those responsible for the measure will claim that it was designed to solve the problem of over-production by utilizing the best potatoes and eliminating the small ones. But is this true? The grades were established months before the 1917 crop had set and before anyone knew what the harvest would be. Even if this

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### United States Food Administration

Washington, D. C.

November 7, 1917.

Grant Slocum, Esq.,  
Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Dear Sir: We are in receipt of your wire of the 6th and we are grateful for the information you have given us. You may be sure that any other suggestion you make will have due consideration.

Please remember that the Food Administration has no intention of fixing any bean prices for growers. We do expect to regulate the practice among elevator men and dealers, and if you know of any improper practices in the trade, we shall be glad to follow it up.

We are issuing today a press statement which we hope will clear the atmosphere on this point. The prices which were recently announced were fixed by Army and Navy officials for specific lots, all of them, we are informed were in the hands of the dealers so far as the State of Michigan was concerned—none were requisitioned by the growers. We are further informed that many early contracts for beans ranged from 7 to 9c to the growers, and the Army and Navy officials took the position that the prices named by them represented a good profit. The Food Administration is anxious to encourage production, but as you know has no thought of asking the grower operating under normal conditions to produce without a reasonable profit.

Yours very truly,

U. S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION,

C. H. Bentley.

500 Farmers showed their Loyalty this week by using their Envelope to send in the Name of a new Subscriber.



# CURRENT MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL NEWS

## DAIRY SHOW AT SAGINAW

Annual Exhibition of Allied Dairy and Dairy Supplies Organizations to be Held Feb. 4, 5 and 6, 1918.

Directors of the Michigan Dairy-men's Association, at a recent meeting, decided to hold the annual Michigan Dairy Show at Saginaw on February 4, 5 and 6, 1918.

The Michigan Dairy Show, according to the revised Constitution and By-Laws adopted last July, is now held under the management of the Board of Directors consisting of the presidents of twelve state-wide organizations. This board is therefore a sort of congress of the entire dairy industry of the state, inasmuch as every branch of the dairy industry is represented except the cheese manufacturers, who have no organization.

The Michigan organizations thus allied in holding the annual Dairy Show are as follows: Association of Ice Cream Manufacturers, Milk Producers' Association, Milk Dealers' Association, Buttermakers' Association, Creamery Owners' and Managers' Association, Milk and Dairy Inspectors' Association, Poultry, Butter and Egg Association, Co-operative Association of Creameries, Exhibitors' Federation, Jersey Cattle Club, Guernsey Cattle Club, Holstein-Friesian Association.

One of the big features of the 1918 show at Saginaw will be an exhibit consisting of a complete array of the various brands of dairy products manufactured in Michigan. There will also be a half dozen contests in which members will be able to show their skill as judges of dairy products and dairy animals.

Saginaw is located in the center of one of the finest dairying districts of Michigan and the Dairy Show will therefore attract a large number of local producers. The show will be held at the Auditorium which is provided with an exhibit-hall of ample size, as well as a half-dozen convention halls in which the various organizations will hold their meetings.—George H. Brownell, Sec'y.

## ITEMS ENTERING INTO MILK PRODUCTION COSTS

Capital and buildings; including interest, sinking fund, repairs, insurance.

Capital in stock, including interest, sinking fund and insurance.

Fixed capital, including barn, tools and utensils, machines for milking and handling milk.

Current operating capital, including interest, pasture, hay, ensilage, concentrates, salt, bedding, bull service, veterinary and medicines, labor, board, cash, lighting, refrigeration, superintendency.

Credit items, including value of manure produced.

The commercial values of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are to be used in figuring the value of the ton of manure containing them. According to the manner of handling the produced manure a larger or smaller percentage must be deducted from the value found.

Value of calf. According to the lineage of the sire the value of the calf will vary.

## FLINT MILK PRODUCERS FAVOR HIGHER PRICES

At a recent meeting of the members of the Genesee County Milk Pro-

ducers' Ass'n, it was unanimously agreed that the farmers must have a higher price for their product, tho no action was taken to bring about this advance. Retiring President J. F. Reiman made the novel suggestion that for every cent per quart charged the consumer, the distributors should pay the farmers 25 cents per hundred-weight. In other words, with milk selling at 12 cents a quart in Flint as it is at present, the farmers should receive \$3 per hundred for their milk. Apparently Mr. Reiman did not stop to consider that such a plan would work an injustice to the producers and practically double the profits of the distributors. Twenty-five cents per hundred means about one-half cent per quart, so that Mr. Reiman's plan would mean that for every additional one-half cent which the distributor paid the farmer he would be permitted to charge the consumer one cent. No, this compromise wouldn't work. There is no reason under heaven why the men who work to produce this milk should become a party to a scheme which would still further enlarge the already fat profits of the distributors. The city creameries should be considered merely as commission agents between the producer and the consumer; they should have a fair commission for the service they render, but the power to speculate upon this most valuable of food products should be absolutely denied them.

## SPUD ESTIMATE TAKES DROP

Government Figures on Michigan Crop for November 1st Shows Decrease of Nearly Ten Million Bushels

The Government has issued its crop report for the month ending October 31st, and as we have repeatedly told our readers, it shows a decrease in the expected yield of nearly 10,000,000 bushels.

The September estimate forecasted a yield of 44,500,000 bushels of potatoes for this state, and 462,000,000 bushels for the United States. Commenting upon this estimate we said: "It is doubtful if Michigan's potato crop will run much over 30,000,000 bushels." Now here comes the Government's report for October, with one-third of the potatoes freezing in the

ground, forecasting a total of 35,910,000 bushels. We are confident that when the crop is all dug the final figures of the Government will be very close to those reported by our crop agents.

The same thing has happened in the Government's figures on the corn production of the state. The August forecast estimated the yield at 51,400,000 bushels. Reports from our crop agents prompted us to question the authenticity of these figures, and the latest U. S. forecast of 37,758,000, a decrease of nearly 14 million bushels shows that we were in closer touch with the conditions than the Government.

The Government's national crop estimate has not fallen as much as we had anticipated, and is in our judgment considerably too high if we may believe any of the reports that come from growers in other potato states. The Government's estimate of the total yield is now 439,686,000 less than its September forecast of 462,000,000. But it must be remembered that less than a third of the crop had been dug at the time the Government's latest figures were compiled and we look for a much lower forecast in the December final estimate.

## AVERAGE PRICES SLUMP DURING THE WEEK

With harvesting and marketing in full swing, average prices on practically every commodity has taken a slight slump the past week. We note that the average wheat price is a little off, but there is absolutely no basic reason for this. If farmers are unable to secure over \$2 for their wheat they may rest assured that their local elevator is making a good fat profit. We give the average prices below:

Wheat, \$1.97; oats, 59½; rye, \$1.65; Hay, \$14.87; potatoes, \$1.13; hens, 15; butter, 42; eggs, 40; hogs, 15.

## WATCH FOR SUGAR QUOTATIONS NEXT WEEK

Many beet growers are puzzled to know just what they should receive for their beets this year on the basis of the wholesale sugar market. Several have asked us for New York quotations on beet sugar, and we are making arrangements to publish these with comments in the Nov. 24th issue of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING. If you are a grower of sugar beets watch for them.

Farmers can best do their bit by doing their best now.

## LAST MINUTE COUNTY CROP REPORTS

**CLINTON (Northwest)**—The weather for the past week has been fine, but it is cold and misty yet. Farmers are plowing, cutting corn and filling silos. The late beans are a total loss, what the frost didn't get the rains did. Not much grain being sold but quite a number of hogs and cattle.—A. K., Fowler.

**WEXFORD (Central)**—Farmers have finished potato digging and bean harvest the past week. Many potato growers are not satisfied with prices and the two-grade system, and are holding for better prices and a more even price of the two grades. Buyers are paying only 60 per cent of the price of No. 1 for the No. 2 grade. Plenty of moisture in the soil for wheat and rye plowing being done.—A. A. H., Boon.

**MONROE (West Central)**—We have had a week of fine weather and farmers have been busy taking care of their crops. The late-sown wheat is looking better. It needs a few weeks of warm weather yet. Some grain being sold.—W. H. L., Dundee.

**ANTRIM**—We have been having a few days of nice weather. The farmers have their potatoes nearly all dug and beans nearly all taken care of. Buckwheat is being threshed and is turning out fairly good and the buyers are paying a fair price for it, \$3.20 per cwt. Potatoes have taken a drop from \$1 to 90c. Some of our buyers have put 2 inch screens on the potato sorters, and of course it is

causing a big kick. Some corn is being husked and there will be a very small amount of hard corn around here this year.—C. F. W., Alden.

**ISABELLA**—Not more than 25 per cent of the bean crop of Isabella county was secured in good condition; the cold frosty weather in Sept. and Oct. caused them to ripen very slowly; many fields cut by frost while too green to be of any use, will not be harvested. Some of the earliest was secured in good shape. Many thousands of acres were pulled and laid in bunches in the fields thru about two weeks of very bad weather, rain and snow, week ending Saturday, the 10th was fine weather and most of the beans were partly dried and hauled in, but the bean is soft. There is scarcely any corn here.—G. W. S., Mt. Pleasant.

**IOSCO**—Crops far below average yield. Beans almost a failure; lots of farmers not getting their seed. Potatoes a very good crop but bad weather and early frosts damaged the crop to some extent. Inability to secure help was responsible for some of the losses.—E. L. C.

**OCEANA**—Potatoes are about all dug in this country and the beans about all in. 10 per cent of the beans are frosted, not worth pulling, some on the ground that have been there six weeks. Corn is frosted and most all soft. Potatoes are worth 90c at Hart. At Pittsburgh \$1.60. Does that look like a fair deal to the farmer?—E. C. C., Hart.

## TAKES RAP AT POTATO GRADES

Mecosta Editor Claims That Farmers Will Lose Heavily if Compelled to Market Their Crops According to New Grades

Quite frequently we come across a country weekly that is standing squarely by the farmer and not afraid to say so. The editor of the *Mecosta News* is a firm believer in the square deal and in the Nov. 10th issue of his publication, makes the following terse comments upon the new potato grades:

"A representative of the Miller-Michigan Potato Company was in Mecosta Tuesday and was insistent that all potatoes purchased at the Mecosta market be put over an inch and seven-eighths screen first and an inch and one-half afterward. The potatoes passing over the first screen to be graded as firsts and paid for at the present market price of \$1.05 per bushel, those over the second screen, as seconds, and paid for at 42 cents below the market or sixty-three cents. His plea being that those people in the city who insist on a first grade potato be made to pay the price, while the poorer people get the second grade at a lower price. He further put it as though a government man would see that potatoes were graded as he had stated.

"It is true that the Food Administration and Bureau of Markets at Washington has recommended the grading of potatoes to firsts and seconds, but it is also true that the Michigan Potato Shippers Association are the ones who are trying to force this grade down the throats of the growers and we beg our readers to recall that the present price of potatoes (\$1.05 was not established on graded firsts and seconds, but on marketable potatoes.

"We have no quarrel with the local buyer, the Miller-Michigan Company, or any other company that will give the farmer a square deal, furthermore we believe in the principle of graded potatoes, but we do oppose the principle of buying graded first potatoes at an established marketable price and believe the growers should be warned, so that they may market their crop accordingly.

"This morning one farmer who used an inch and seven-eighths screen to sort his potatoes at his farm reports, that in order to get his load, the net weight of which was 45 bushels and 20 pounds, he sorted an additional 65 bushels or 110 bushels. Thus, in his case, at least, 60 per cent of his crop would have been sold under the present condition for about 63 cents per bushel. How much would this man's crop be worth under peace condition?"

## LIKES IDEA OF TWO SEPARATE BEAN GRADES

Regarding President Cook's idea of two grades of beans I wish to say that I am of the same opinion as he, for at least 50 per cent of the crop of Livingston county has been damaged by frost and wet weather to such an extent as to cause them to pick heavily and thus reduce the farmer's profit and as it now is the purchaser gets the culls for nothing while if there were two grades the farmer would get a price for those culls also, and he certainly needs pay for them all. I don't wish to encourage selling cull beans for the human family's consumption, which no doubt has been done, and will continue in the future, therefore I see no reason why the producer should not have pay for them. I truly wish the plan could be effected this fall.—J. E. B., Gregory, Mich.



# WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER



WASHINGTON, D. C.—The new crisis in Russian affairs predicted in last week's letter came sooner than even the most pessimistic had expected. Scarcely had we gone to press last week when news came over the wire that the Russian anarchists had revolted against the Kerensky government, that the Premier had been forced to flee the palace at Petrograd and that Russian affairs were for the time being at least within the control of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Congress the Maximalists and Bolsheviks, with Kikolai Lenine, the Maximalist leader as the dominating personality back of the movement.

The immediate objective of the revolution is peace, not a separate peace as the Allies have feared, but a democratic peace. The revolutionists have announced that they will discuss peace terms with any or all nations.

Altho the Allied governments decry the revolution, and refuse to acknowledge the sovereignty of the new regime, it must be said that thus far the uprising has been devoid of passion, cruelty or bloodshed, and the reforms advocated are both conservative and constructive.

Hope is expressed that Premier Kerensky may be able to muster sufficient troops to his side to retake Petrograd and put down the revolution, but others believe that the sentiment of the revolutionists is the sentiment of Russia, and if this be true Russia may be counted permanently out of the war regardless of whether or not the civil war now imminent restores the Premier to his former place of authority. Logically, the climax to the Russian situation is a severe blow to the Allies and particularly the United States government which has made extensive loans to the Kerensky administration, and which had anticipated a re-establishment of the Russian status in the war. The fall of the Kerensky regime, and the colossal reverses on the Italian front constitute a tremendous problem for the Allies to solve, and quick action is necessary to concentrate the combined forces of England, France and the United States on one huge drive against Germany's most vulnerable point. Continued successes for Germany gives heart to the German rulers and peoples, and in the same measure, the Allied reverses plunge the Allied people into despair.

All Washington is chuckling at Secretary Tumulty's expense. Some wag started the story that secret service men had discovered the Secretary in league with the Kaiser and the government had secretly bound, gagged him and hauled him off to Fort Leavenworth. The Secretary stoutly denies that he ever served time in Fort Leavenworth or any penal institution and is prepared to produce the affidavits to prove it. And as for the wit who started the story, well, the safest place for him is in No Man's Land.

The repeated outrages against the peace and property of the country culminating in disastrous explosions and conflagration are causing the government no end of concern. Every precaution is being taken to guard munition factories, elevators and other storage places of war supplies; the secret service force is being enlarged and strengthened, and the eye of suspicion rests upon every man within a wide radius of the government's supply stations who can give no good account of himself. If this country harbors a single German spy and the government has reason to believe that it shelters many, we begin the war seriously handicapped. The efficiency of the German spy system is

such as to keep the German government in constant touch with every military plan and maneuver in those countries where it has been established, and it will be a task of no mean magnitude to uproot the thing in this country.

The announcement that was made several weeks ago that the government would confiscate certain German property and money spread consternation among German residents of this country and resulted in a pell mell rush upon banks containing their deposits, which has brot forth the statement from the alien property custodian, Mr. A. Mitchell Palmer, that the government has no intention of interfering with the property rights of resident aliens. Only the property of German individuals and corporations resident in Germany will be taken, and this kept intact until after the war. So if any of our German readers have been burying their gold away from the prying eye of the government, they may now qu'et their fears and put it back in bank.

This week a loan of \$310,000,000 was made by the treasury department to France to cover her expenditures in this country during November and December. This makes the total credits extended to France \$1,130,000,000, and the total of loans to all the allies \$3,876,400,000.

It appears that the railroads are not going to get their 15 per cent freight rate increase as easily as they anticipated. Hearings are now being conducted in Washington before a special interstate commerce commission examiner, and many representatives from many of the leading manufacturers of the country have entered protests against the proposed increase. The railroads claim, and present plausible figures to prove that increased cost of maintenance and operation have cut into their profits to a disastrous extent and that unless they are permitted to raise their rates they will be compelled to curtail service all over the country. The im-

pression prevails that the commission will grant a slight increase but probably not as much as the roads have petitioned for. Altho the railroads have milked the public dry in years gone by, there seems to be no question but what they are in for a long starvation period. Certainly they cannot operate long at a loss, and the public cannot afford to chance any curtailment of necessary service at the present time by refusing a reasonable increase. It would be like cutting off one's nose to spite their face.

Seven hundred and fifty thousand cars will be needed to move the nation's bumper potato crop of 453,000,000 bushels. In making this announcement Fairfax Harrison, chairman of the railroads' war board, said the transporting of the crop began the middle of September and will continue to April 1.

## CITY FACTORIES HAVE PLENTY OF HELP NOW

What are the qualifications for securing employment in the ammunition factories, one of which is located in Toledo; what wages paid and do they hire women and girls? I am supervisor of this township and so many people have come to me for the above information, so if you will be so kind as to let me know about this I will appreciate it very much.—H. D., Midland county.

The above letter was referred to the Toledo Commercial Club who replied as follows: "There are eight or ten Toledo factories engaged in making war supplies. However, they have plenty of employees at the present time."

It must be remembered by our readers that altho many young men have been taken out of the shops and factories by the draft the war has necessitated the curtailment of so many manufacturing operations that there has been a nice balance up to the present time. Later on, providing the war continues, there is bound to be a shortage of labor and many opportunities will open up for people in the rural districts who desire to exchange the contentment, security and prosperity of the country for the uncertain and confining vocations of the city.

## WAR WIRES

Helsingfors, Finland—A state of war has been declared and Finland has proclaimed a separation from Russia. The Diet has voted to elect a state directorate with full power.

London—No attempt has been made by the Germans to reclaim the ground recently captured by the British on the Flanders front. Rain has interfered with further operations and the time is being employed by the British forces in consolidating the new positions. British airmen have carried out successful raids over the Belgian seaports held by Germans and have destroyed docks and munitions warehouses in a number of cases.

Paris—A second German raid attempt on the American sector of the French front was repulsed ere it was well started. The Sammies are fast learning modern trench warfare and the battalion which received the severe grueling in the recent attack on the American sector has fully recovered from the effects of the fight. This initial brush with the German forces has increased the morale of the American troops, rather than diminished it, as seems to have been the hope of the enemy. The health of the American troops is excellent. The funeral of the first Americans to give their lives for liberty was attended by many high officials and the ceremony was attended with full military honors.

Amsterdam.—The Maximalists have risen in a Russian counter revolution and Premier Kerensky has been forced to flee from Petrograd. Nickolai Lenine, the radical socialist leader, is at the head of the new government. Premier Kerensky has reorganized the forces of the government and is reported marching on Petrograd. A clash is imminent between his forces and those of the Maximalists. What the future holds for Russia no one can tell. Under present disorganized conditions, facing the rigors of a Russian winter, in many cases short of much needed food and supplies owing to lack of transportation arrangements, untold privations and suffering seem in store for the civil population.

London—After driving the Italians back from the Isonzo, the Austro-German forces penetrated their lines on the Tagliamento River routing them and capturing 160,000 prisoners. The first detachment of British and French reinforcements have reached the Italian lines. The withdrawing of the Italians has reduced the length of the front considerably and enabled them to concentrate their forces. The Austro-German offensive has slackened to a certain extent as they have drawn farther away from their base of supplies. The British and French premiers, together with their leading military advisors, have gone to Rome. It has been decided to consider the Italian line, from now on, as a part of the great western front. The eyes of the civilized world are now turned upon the Italian plains and events there are of great bearing on the length of the war.

Camp Custer—Three thousand men have been sent to Camp McArthur, Waco, Texas, and another three thousand will go to Camp Pike, Little Rock, Ark. The ideal weather of the past week has enabled the boys to resume active outdoor drills and hikes and has been of great benefit. Everyone at Camp Custer, from the commanding officer down, is interested in the present Y. M. C. A. drive for funds to continue the great work being done by that organization in all the cantonments and in France. The Y. M. C. A. furnished, to a great extent, the social life of the camp and is the nearest thing to home environment, within reach of the boys in the service. The Y. M. C. A. huts follow the boys right up to the front line and the last hail to touch theirs before they "go over the top" is the hand of the Y. M. C. A. field secretary as he hands out the cups of coffee and the little square of chocolate. For these reasons the boys of Camp Custer are vitally interested in the movement to secure sufficient funds to carry on the work.



Our cartoonist recognizes the inconsistency between the government's food conservation program and its protection to an industry that uses millions of pounds of foodstuff in the making of a useless and harmful beverage.



## SHALL I HOLD MY POTATOES?

Present Conditions Warrant Us in Believing That Prices Have Reached Lowest Level and Will Soon Advance

Enclosed find \$1 for your valuable paper; we figure that it is the best thing a-going, having received so much good information from it. Would like to ask your advice on keeping potatoes until the holidays. They are going down here, now being only 90 cents a bushel. Do you think there is any chance of getting more by the time I mentioned?—H. V. S., Levering.

The marketing proposition is subject to the whims of a thousand influences, and presents a puzzle which no one can solve. While we do not believe that anyone is in closer touch with the markets generally than we, and while developments have repeatedly shown the wisdom of our forecasts of yields and prices, we are not in a position at the present time to absolutely promise our readers that the potato market will recover from its present slump, but it is our unbiased opinion that it will. It is reasonable to expect that potatoes would slump a little as soon as harvesting and marketing was in full swing, and the wonder of it is that prices have not gone to a much lower level.

We might say that the prices being offered on the primary markets today are such as to enable your local dealer at Levering to pay you at least \$1 a bushel, if he so desires. In fact, we know of no market on direct line of railway in the lower peninsula today which should pay less than \$1.

Our advice to you and to other readers in the same position is this: If 90 cents per bushel will pay you a fair profit on your potatoes, sell them. If it won't, hold them. We would not sell a thing for less than it cost us if we thought there was any chance at all of our being able to get a higher price. If you need the money you have invested in your potatoes to pay taxes or other necessary expenses, why not sell enough of your crop for this purpose, and hold the balance.

We absolutely believe that as soon as cold weather comes on, the great influx of potatoes into the primary markets will be checked, and the price will advance. Farmers all over the country have been holding their potatoes for \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel, and if it is necessary to do this to secure a profit we know of no reason why our Michigan readers should not follow the same practice. MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING endeavors to present ALL the FACTS obtainable upon the crop yields and market conditions, believing that these should guide our readers' intelligence when it comes to disposing of their crops.

### WHAT SHALL I GET FOR MY BEANS?

Would you advise me to sell my beans at a price as low as \$5 per bushel? Do you think that the farmers will get as high as \$8 per bushel? Is it not necessary for me to sell my beans when threshed. I can keep them as long as I wish. Kindly advise me what you would do and what you think the price will be. Would you sell or keep the beans for a time?—Mrs. T. J. R., Hamburg.

Dear madam, our advice to you is not to consider for a moment selling your beans as low as \$5 a bushel. Is that all your local elevator man will offer you for clean hand-picked grade? If it is, you ought to boycott him. Any dealer who offers no more than that is the worst kind of a profiteer. At no time for months have beans been quoted at less than \$8 on the Detroit market; figure out for yourself what profit your local dealer would make on \$5 beans. We do think that the market will very shortly enable

country dealers to pay as high as \$8 for beans; in fact, this has been the prevailing price in many sections of the state up to the past few days. California pea beans, which are the only western variety that compete with the Michigan beans, were selling on Nov. 9th at 15 cents a pound, or \$9 a bushel. Read our market editor's review of the bean situation, and by all means, hold your beans for \$8.

### MECOSTA FARMERS BALK AT POTATO GRADES

Fred C. McQuinn, publisher of the News and postmaster at Mecosta, Mich., writes as follows:

"It is with pleasure that I read your editorial in MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, also the letter of John J. Bale of Lakeview, both of which I intend to reprint in the News for this week. Since our last week's News in which we stated that farmers would be compelled to sell 60 per cent of their crop as seconds, I have met others who claim not more than 50 per cent will be firsts. Incidentally this station is so close to Lakeview as to be in active competition for a good share of the potatoes marketed here and this market was paying \$1.05 at the time Lakeview paid \$1. The price here is now 90 cents; slumped last Thursday. In the last few days several of the farmers of the community have refused to sell under existing conditions; 90 cents for firsts and 54 cents for seconds, hauled their loads back home. Up to noon today (Nov. 12) no potatoes had been brought in."

### FROM AN OTSEGO COUNTY BOOSTER

Expect to be able to get out next week and get some more subscribers. Have got some figures here on one of my neighbors and a reader of your paper who had 6 acres of spuds which gave him 240 bushels of marketable potatoes which he gets 90 cents for. He paid \$150 for seed, \$10 for plowing, \$25 for cultivating, \$48 for digging and \$12 for labor to put in the pit, making a total of \$220 which is saying nothing about his own work. Now, if the government calls this a square deal for the farmer, I don't know what they would call a bad one. I can say that the farmers are losing faith in the government and there will not be half the acreage raised next season unless something is done pretty soon.—F. H., Gaylord.

### KEEP THE TURKEYS UNTIL THEY ARE MATURE

This year's turkey crop has been so slow in maturing that the U. S. Food Administration is urging farmers to withhold the birds from market until fully fleshed. W. F. Priebe, poultry expert of the Food Administration staff, states that the average young turkey will weigh from 10 to 15 per cent more on December 15 than on November 15 of this year. "Turkeys are unlike other poultry," Mr. Priebe explains. "Chickens can be fattened

at any time, but a turkey does not take on much flesh until it has nearly reached maturity. Then it gains in weight rapidly."

Feed is now abundant in most of the turkey raising areas, and to place immature birds on the market means the loss of a large potential supply of turkey meat at a time when it is needed to substitute for the beef, pork and mutton that we must export to feed our army and our allies. The rapid gain in weight which turkeys make after reaching maturity will more than compensate growers for holding them the additional thirty days.

### WHEAT PRICES AT MICHIGAN POINTS

In response to the many inquiries received from farmers who have wheat to sell as to the price they should receive at their local market, we can only say that there is now in the course of preparation a table which when completed will show the prices that should be paid to farmers in every leading market of the state, according to the construction placed upon the minimum wheat prices by the grain corporation. Our readers should understand that it is a stupendous task to compile such a tabulation, as the export rate of freight from each one of these towns to the leading export markets must be ascertained. We hope, however, to have this ready for publication within another week. Answering our anxious readers as best we can we will only say that we have yet to find a market in the state which was offering all that it could offer and all that the U. S. Food Administration Grain Corporation intends should be offered for this commodity.

Your paper is O. K. The potatoes are not all dug yet; help can't be got. About 1-3 of potatoes are frozen. Some were lucky to get theirs dug before the frost, and those went about 75 to 90 bu. to the acre. The bean crop is making the farmers feel blue enough. They are frozen so bad. Some are not pulling at all. Others pulling to feed. There is not going to be any beans to thresh. \$10 per bu. will not bring us more than even for seed and labor.—N. B., Charlevoix county.

I would be pleased to help you as crop reporter for this section. Feel free to write me at any time you need my services. Your paper is fine and can't be beat. Would be glad to hand out some samples at public sales or any thing to promote your subscription list.—J. M. D., Zeeland.

I will say a word or so about the bean question. Last year I had in 8 acres and sold over \$800 worth of beans, so I thought I would try again. I planted about 14 acres this year and now if I get half as much as I did last year I will feel good. But we should not throw up the bean raising.—J. S., Fremont.

Don't cry over spilled milk. Stop spilling it.

## HOME CURING DOES NOT PAY

Cost of Slaughtering and Preparing for Market Too Great to Enable Farmer to Compete With Packing Plant Prices

I will have about 35 hogs to market before next April and half of them will be ready in about two weeks. I saw an article in your paper about farmers doing their own slaughtering and I would like to get your advice on a few things. Do you think that it would be practical to kill those hogs, salt and cure the hams, shoulders, bacon and side pork and make sausage head cheese of the rest; and either ship or sell to the local provision stores. If so, where would be my best market for this stuff; where could I get good bulletins on how to go at this to get good uniform cure and where could I get trays or small wooden boxes to pack and market them, also pails, kegs, and barrels for the rest? Will also have about 25 head of beef to dispose of. Could I slaughter this myself to good advantage? I think the waste would be valuable in feeding hogs and chickens. Any advice you can give me will be greatly appreciated.—P. W., Mesick.

We really do not believe that it would pay you to go to the expense and labor of curing this pork and then having to sell it in competition with the product of packers who each day pack from one to two thousand hogs. If you wish to slaughter the hogs at home we advise you to get in touch with some good commission house, and we feel quite sure they will be glad to handle them for you from time to time through the winter as you may wish to kill them. We believe this will pay you much better than to attempt to cut up the meat and cure it as per your letter.

Now regarding beef, we do not feel that it would pay you to attempt to slaughter it up there and make shipment. We have seen this tried out in a number of cases and the returns were not satisfactory. By the time you paid the less than car lot freight charges you would not be able to sell in competition with large packing houses of the cities. On the other hand, if you could sell this beef locally there, to people living in the vicinity or to local butchers, then it might pay you. This is a matter which we cannot decide for you as we do not know what price they would be willing to pay, nor what prices your local stock shipper might be paying at the time.

### POTATO GRADES SERIOUS LOSS TO FARMERS

(Continued from page 1)

were the purpose of the grades, it fails of accomplishment because the small potatoes are bought and placed on the market in practically the same quantity as though they were mixed with the larger ones.

In response to the many letters received from our readers on this question, we must confess that we do not know whether anything can be done to revise these grades this year. We will, however, investigate the situation in Michigan very closely and if found to be as bad as we suspect will lay all the facts before the Food Administration. To guide us in this investigation we ask every reader to write us his experience and opinion of the new grades. No time is to be lost. We ought to have at least five hundred letters in here on this subject before another week to lay before the proper authorities. Get busy, farmer friends; write tonight.

Anyway, cottontails can serve the nation better in rabbit pie than by gnawing fruit trees.

## PIN A DOLLAR BILL

To this coupon, slip it into the envelope we sent you and mail it TODAY. You can't realize the value of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING unless it comes EVERY WEEK. If you can't spare the money now, tell us so. Any farmer's credit is good with us, but get on the list NOW for your own sake.

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ R. F. D. \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_





# MARKET FLASHES



## WHEAT

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

The dry weather, as noted in our last wheat article, still continues over the southwest, western Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Unless rain comes soon in these sections the winter wheat will go into the winter in poor condition. The situation is better elsewhere and generally regarded as favorable. The acreage has increased although those in position to form a reliable opinion state the seeding is not up to the Government's desire for 47,000,000 acres.

Since the agitation for the use of other cereals and less wheat and wheat products, the consumption of the latter has materially diminished. The wheatless days are being taken by the public as a matter of course and the great majority of the hotels and restaurants are observing the days.

Wheat exports were less last week than those of the preceding week. Deliveries are still far from normal. Certain sections report a slight increase in receipts at originating points, but as a general thing shippers are receivers are at a loss to understand the situation. The increasing car shortage can only tend to increase the difficulty and lessen the movement to terminal markets. There is surely nothing to be gained by holding wheat under such conditions as we now have. To be sure some dissatisfaction over the federal grades has developed in the West, particularly in the Dakotas. But there is very little likelihood of any change being made at this stage of the game.

The one saving grace of the present situation is the heavy movement of Canadian wheat into this country. Canadian shippers are making the very best use of the lake shipping before the close of navigation. They are also anxious to move a certain portion of their crop before the coming of actual winter.



## OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 White	.66	.65	.71
Standard	.65 1-2	.64 1-2	.70
No. 3 White	.64 1-2	.63	.68 1-2

The cash market on oats has been giving indications of strength and certain large grain firms have been heavy buyers, not only of cash oats but of May. Trading during the past few days has been of greater volume than for some time past. The Government is reported to be again in the market for cash oats and inquiries from exporters are frequent.

Deliveries of oats to elevators have fallen off and the car situation is now an important factor. This condition has developed much more quickly than we had anticipated. The call for cars to move the new corn crop will also add to the difficulty and it looks only reasonable to expect a firm oat market for some time. Of course there is always the chance of country points becoming congested through lack of transportation facilities and being obliged to discontinue buying for the time. This should be borne in mind by those who will depend on moving oats during the early winter.

Canadian oats are moving to the seaboard in large quantities, but the present demand takes care of arrivals and no material accumulations are reported at any point. Domestic demand is good both in this country and Canada. Chicago in the past four weeks has received 4,700,000 bushels of oats more than it has shipped, yet the accumulation in terminal elevators was only 385,000 bushels during that period. This will give some idea of the domestic demand. Exports for the week ending November 3 were 2,105,000 bushels, just about three times those of



**CHICAGO WIRE**—Supplies of wheat have increased during the last few days and shipments from originating points are moving in greater volume. Elevators throughout the West report increased deliveries and the situation generally appears to be more favorable. Demand for beans very quiet. Some California stock arriving but in limited quantity.

**ST. LOUIS WIRE**—Just a few cars of new corn moving and what is arriving shows a high moisture content. Dryers are preparing to handle a record business as much of the crop will have to be dried before shipment.

**DETROIT SPECIAL**—The poultry market is cleaning up and there is somewhat better sale for the better class of offerings. Under grades still a drag on the market. Hay demand continues far in excess of supply.

the corresponding week of 1916. The market has advanced a couple of cents during the week and now appears to be in position to maintain this advance indefinitely. An improvement in the transportation condition or a temporary falling off of the demand might temporarily effect it but we expect to see values well maintained throughout the season.



## CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	2.26	2.25	2.25
No. 3 Yellow	2.26	2.22	2.23
No. 2 Mixed	2.25	2.23	2.22 1-2

The November crop report of the Government shows that this year we have the largest crop on record. The yield is estimated at 3,191,000,000 bushels, or 20,000,000 less than in October. The yield is 608,000,000 bu. in excess of last year's harvest, and 437,000,000 more than the average for the past five years. The acreage this year was the largest on record, as well as the yield. The average yield per acre, however, is but very little more than last year. This is accounted for by the late spring, the cold, dry summer and early frosts.

It is estimated that above 20 per cent of the crop did not fully mature. The quality is lowest in the northern states, as was to be expected. Farm reserves are estimated at 34,745,000 bu., the lowest figure in 15 years.

A considerable portion of what new corn has been reported as arriving is in poor condition. With 20 per cent of the crop not mature and a goodly portion of the balance high in moisture content it looks as though we not only had a record breaking crop as to yield but also as to poor quality.

The price has worked still higher on cash corn, owing to the great scarcity of the old crop offerings and the fact that very little new corn of good quality is moving. The car situation is proving one of the main factors in the corn situation as it has with other grains and food stuffs. Farmers seem anxious to get their new crop moving and on the market, owing in many cases to the general condition of the crop and its unfavorable keeping qualities. But with wheat being given the preference over corn and oats, and the general scarcity of cars it looks as though many of

them would be obliged to hold their corn until later. To some of them this will undoubtedly mean a loss. Colder weather will help conditions greatly and prevent loss of corn from heating and fermentation.

We may soon expect to see prices adjusted to the new crop basis but just what this adjustment will be is a hard matter to foretell. So many factors enter into the the situation that only time and future developments can decide. It should be remembered that there is an embargo on shipments to neutral countries at the present time and they were among the chief buyers of the 1916 crop. This may be modified as time goes on so that a certain portion of the new crop may go to them.

The action of the government in tentatively fixing a price of \$15.50 on hogs, to increase production, undoubtedly will result in much corn going into pork, which otherwise would have gone upon the market in its raw state.

Another two or three weeks will see the movement of the new crop under way although it may not reach any great volume until after the first of the year. As the new crop moves, developments will decide the market.

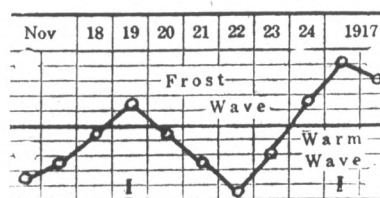


## RYE

As forecasted last week, there has been some increased demand from millers for rye, and this slightly increased buying has made the market more firm and advanced the price one cent per bushel. Deliveries are much lighter at all originating points and this is helping the situation. Car shortages on all lines are helping to reduce the stocks on hand at terminal points and we would not be surprised to see even a further advance with any kind of ordinary buying. We are of the opinion that the increase in the consumption of rye flour is just starting and that a few weeks more of organized effort in the way of wheatless days will have a considerable bearing on the rye market. Michigan and Ohio rye has moved quite freely all fall but many growers have not as yet hauled any of their crop and we believe it might pay them to hold off so far as rye is concerned, for just a few days longer, and see how the market shapes itself. Quotations: No. 1 rye, Detroit, \$1.77; Chicago, \$1.78 1/2.

## THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 17.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent Nov. 17 to 21, warm wave 16 to 20, cool wave 19 to 23. The week centering on time the warm wave reaches you will average colder than usual, will begin with a cold wave and end with a great rise in temperatures. This storm will be unusually severe on northern part of Pacific slope and in northern Rockies. It will cause more than usual precip-

itation east of the Rockies, except in western Gulf sections where precipitation will be less, if the hurricane does not approach the coast.

Next warm wave will reach Vancouver about Nov. 21 and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. It will cross crest of Rockies by close of Nov. 22, plains sections, 23, meridian 90, great lakes and Ohio valleys 24, eastern sections 25, reaching vicinity of Newfoundland about Nov. 26. Storm wave will follow about one day behind warm wave and cool wave about one day behind storm wave.

The most important weather feature of this storm will be the great rise in temperatures, followed by better weather than in the preceding week. But after it crosses meridian 90 its forces will begin to increase and near Nov. 27 will become very much stronger in eastern sections; its precipitation will be about normal.



## HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 1 Timothy
Detroit	23 50	24 00	21 50
Chicago	27 28	28 00	23 00
Cincinnati	24 00	25 00	23 00
Pittsburgh	28 50	29 00	27 00
New York	25 00	26 00	24 50
Richmond	29 00	30 00	28 50

Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	19 00	20 00	17 00
Chicago	20 00	22 00	18 50
Cincinnati	23 50	24 00	23 00
Pittsburgh	27 50	28 00	28 50
New York	21 00	22 00	20 50
Richmond	28 00	29 00	27 00

The same complaint goes out from all markets at the present time, shortage of receipts. Detroit is not receiving nearly sufficient hay to take care of the demand, and the prices have shown a slight advance although they are about as high as buyers can stand. It is not a matter of price but one of getting the hay into Detroit. Michigan shippers have as yet given very little thought of baling. In fact they have been so busy with other things that it has been impossible for them to move their hay. The market at Detroit is very satisfactory and will show a nice return to anyone fortunate enough to have stock that can be shipped. On the other hand the market is almost certain to work lower later on as shippers begin to move their stocks in larger quantities.

Chicago's hay market is firm at present quotations, both on timothy and prairie. Receipts are barely sufficient to supply the market, although somewhat more free than those of Detroit. Shipments billed to Chicago show an increase over the preceding week although receipts during the past week were less than those of the previous week. There is a good market there for straw, rye bringing from \$11.00 up.

A good demand with a steady and strong market at prevailing quotations sums up the St. Louis market. There is almost a total absence of high-grades and as a result the lower grades are selling at fancy prices. Receipts there are increasing slowly.

The Philadelphia market is in just about the same condition as it was a week ago. Arrivals are just about sufficient to take care of the demand from day to day. Shipments enroute to that point are more liberal but the question of getting the cars in and placed for delivery is still giving receivers trouble. There is very little good timothy being offered and a good sale for clover mixed.

There is not enough hay arriving at Pittsburgh to keep the market supplied and the situation there is rather serious owing to car shortage and embargoes. All grades of hay are in good demand and find an immediate market at prevailing prices. There is an exceptionally good demand for mixed and clover.

Never in the history of the Greater New York hay market has the shortage of supplies been any greater than during the past week. Railroads have kept embargoes on in an effort to clean up the great congestion of freight in their yards and on their lines. The embargo has been at last raised by the New York Central on shipments originating on their lines but loading goes on slowly owing to the great scarcity of cars. Shipments enroute have not increased to any extent and there is no prospect of an immediate change in the situation.

Richmond's market is active and the supply decreased during the past week. Quotations remain about the same as last week. All grades find a ready market although the better grades are wanted. Good clover mixed sells on arrival and brings the price. Very little good timothy arriving.

We believe that hay will soon begin to move more freely. We are receiving reports from different sections to the effect that baling operations are about to start and by the middle of December or the first of the year hay will be moving in large quantities, providing, and right here's the rub, cars can be secured to transport it.





## BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	8.00	8.75	8.75
Prime	7.80	8.67	8.70
Red Kidneys	7.50	8.50	8.70

As reports continue to come in we are more and more convinced that when all is said and done the crop of beans over a good portion of the state of Michigan will be mighty slim this year. One after another of our crop reporters report yields of from 5 to 8 bushels per acre. The warmer weather and sunshine of the past week has been of great benefit and many growers have been able to get their beans into the barn. But the heavy rains of the days previous had in many cases just about increased the pick ten fold.

The demand continues light as buyers are still holding off to see how the price proposition will adjust itself. Very few beans moving at this time. In fact but few of the farmers have given so much as a thought of threshing. It would appear to be good judgment to allow the beans to stand in the straw for some time as the moisture will evaporate there much more quickly than after the beans are threshed and packed compactly in the bins.

There is some inquiry at this time for red kidney beans although the price on that variety has not yet been established. Red kidneys usually bear a certain ratio to pea beans and the price varies as a general thing with the price of the white beans. Cannerymen seem to be sizing up the market on the reds however, and we would not be surprised to see them showing activity before a great while.

New York bean trading has been quiet of late and there does not seem to be much of an additional export demand. Buyers are waiting there the same as grocers and cannerymen farther west. Just as soon as colder weather comes, however, we may look for something doing in the way of active buying. The market has been quiet for so long a time that trading should be brisk as soon as it starts and the new crop begins to move.

What information we have been able to get from the eastern bean districts indicates that the crop there has suffered from adverse weather conditions just the same as Michigan. The yield does not seem to be up to the average and in many sections the pick is heavy. Growers there feel strong on the market and are inclined to hold until they see how the Michigan crop starts to move.



## POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Medium Round white-sacked
Detroit	1.40	1.45
Chicago	1.40	1.45
Cincinnati	1.45	1.50
New York	1.55	1.60
Pittsburgh	1.55	1.60
Norfolk, Va.	1.55	1.55

The potato market remains just about the same as last week. Supplies at Detroit are increasing somewhat, although not in such volume as to affect the price so far. Some frost-damaged stock received. Several dealers report having to sort a car or so. We do not expect to see the supply increase greatly owing to scarcity of cars.

The Chicago market has shown considerable improvement owing to lighter receipts and a general cleaning up of accumulated stocks. Loading for that point, at country stations, is reported lighter owing to a firm feeling on the part of the shippers. It is well that this is the case as it has helped the price there. Not so much field frost-damaged stock coming and dealers feel that this class of stock is just about cleaned up.

The Pittsburgh market is rather quiet at prevailing prices. The car congestion there and resulting embargoes has made the supply short and advanced the price. The general consuming trade has not bought freely at the advance.

Accumulations are heavy at Philadelphia and dealers are expecting a temporary decline. The Boston mar-

ket is firm at the same level of prices as those of last week.

The New York market is rather slow although shipments have fallen off. The demand is very light. Maine shippers are holding back, feeling the market will advance later. What stock is coming from there is inferior in quality and does not sell to good advantage in competition with Michigan stock. In fact good Michigan potatoes sell more readily at present than stock from any other section. The only complaint on the Michigan stock is that some cars are field frost-damaged.



## ONIONS

The Detroit onion market is in about the best condition of any we know of at the present time. The demand continues good and the price has advanced. Receipts are lighter than they are on other markets and shipments enroute are fewer than reported from other points. Many onions are going into reserve by dealers who remember the experience of other winters when the supply ran short. One thing should be remembered, yellow onions are in demand, while the red varieties do not find a ready market in Detroit. Unless you are going to store your onions, to be placed on a later market, now is the time to ship. The freight congestion is bound to increase and freezing weather will add to the hazard of shipment later. No. 1 yellow onions are worth at Detroit from \$3.75 to \$4.00 per cwt. Red onions from \$3.25 to \$3.50 per cwt.

The Chicago market has been inclined to weaken since our last article. Receipts have greatly increased and buyers seem to have bought all they wish to store for future use and are now buying only for immediate need. Shipments enroute are not so heavy as they were a week ago and this may help the situation. Yellow onions are selling there at \$3.00 to \$3.15 per 100-pound sack.

Eastern markets are quiet and draggy under plentiful supplies. The Boston market is receiving just enough stock to supply the demand, and while the price so far has remained about the same, the general situation is none too promising. Onions sold there during the past week as low as \$2.75 to \$3.00 per cwt.

The New York market is slow and buyers seem to have about all the stock they can take care of for the time. The same condition holds good with nearby markets and orders to growers do not come in such volume as they did a few weeks ago. Several of the railroads have placed embargoes on onion shipments and this no doubt will help things during the coming week. A great proportion of the receipts have arrived in rather poor quality owing to transportation delays. Yellows have sold there this week from \$2.75 to \$3.00. Other grades at corresponding figures. Whites have sold up to \$3.50 per cwt.



## CABBAGE

The New York cabbage market has not recovered from the slump of a week ago and the price has worked down much lower. Arrivals are falling off; a large share of stock in territory adjoining Greater New York market has been shipped. Domestic cabbage is about cleaned up in the east. General range on domestic is \$18@22 per ton. Danish sells from \$22 to \$28 per ton and the average price out of the car is \$25. The buying is almost entirely for consumptive demands as kraut cutters are out of the market. Much stock has been arriving in frozen condition and many of the shippers have had the stock remaining out so badly frozen that it will not be shipped.

Chicago receivers who have been over the territory say that many growers are now moving the last of their stock from the fields and that receipts will show a falling off from now on. The price there ranges from \$20 to \$22 per ton.

The Pittsburgh market at present is the best in the country. Although there has been a fairly liberal amount of stock received, dealers are quoting

domestic at \$37 and Danish at \$42@42.50. Wisconsin Holland at \$35 to \$37 per ton f.o.b. Pittsburgh. We believe it will be well for shippers to take this market with a grain of salt for there is too much of a spread between it and others nearby.



## APPLES

Despite more liberal receipts, the Detroit Apple market continues strong and the demand takes care of all arrivals. Shippers are evidently increasing shipments before winter weather sets in and many small shippers are now getting their work in shape so that they can give more time to packing and marketing their apples. During the past week the call for all grades has been such as to clean up all offerings each day and even the early, soft varieties, which some time ago did not move so well, are now being taken readily. Quotations: Spy, \$7; Greenings, \$6.00@6.50; snow, \$6.50@7.00; Baldwin, \$5.50; Wealthy \$4.50@5.00; Alexander, \$5.50@6.00; No. 2, \$3.00@3.50 per bbl.

Chicago market continues firm. There is a big demand for fancy box and barrel stock to put into the coolers. The bulk of such arrivals is being put away. Arrivals have increased on certain days, due to a desire on the part of shippers to get their stock moving during moderate weather and also to avoid the impending car shortage which is already making itself felt throughout the country. The markets continue at about the former range of values, the market being firmly established. Quotations: No. 1 Baldwins, \$4.50@5.50; Greenings, \$4.75@5.25; Ben Davis, \$3.50@4.00; Grimes Golden, \$5.25@5.75; Jonathans, \$5.50@6.50; Twenty Ounce, \$5.50@6.00; Pound Sweet, \$5.00@5.50; Talman Sweet, \$5.00@5.50; Winesap, \$4.50@5.00; No. 2 of all varieties, \$2.25@3.00.

The New York market continues about as before. Receipts are not increasing to any extent although Western New York is shipping freely. The arrivals are much under normal for this season. The proportion of fancy fruit is small with a good supply of the poorer and medium grades. The short supply keeps these grades above their proportionate value and the prices paid for same have been above the average all season. A more liberal supply of boxed apples from the Northwest have been received this past week and this fruit has been taken freely although the general quality has not been up to usual standard. Quotations for the week average about as follows: Greenings, \$5.50@7.00; Baldwins, \$4.00@5.00; Kings, \$1.50@1.50; Twenty Ounce, \$4.50@5.25; Snow, \$5@6; Wealthy, \$5@5.50; McIntosh, \$5.50@7.00. Spitzenburgs are arriving in small quantities with extra fancy selling \$2.00@2.75; fancy, \$1.75@2.40; Newtons, \$2.25@2.75.



## BUTTER

There is a good demand in Detroit for the best grades of creamery butter. The market has shown just a slight gain in values. Arrivals are not heavy although some low grade packing stock has come on the market and found slow sale. The demand for such offerings is light. The better grades, however, find a ready sale at prevailing quotations. Fresh creamery firsts are quotable around 41½@42c; extras, 42½@43c.

Demand at Chicago is improving on fresh goods and the surplus is cleaning up fast. Quite a little activity has developed in the market there, owing to reports that the Government had given permission for the exporting of 1,000 tons of butter to England. This would clean up the accumulation of storage butter and put the market in a good healthy condition. The bulk of the fresh goods coming is taken by the local trade and there is also a good demand for grades just under firsts. The general trade is more cautious than in former times, very few being willing to take on a good block at any one time. Fresh extras are selling at 43@43½c; extra firsts, 42½c; firsts, 40@42c; seconds, 38@39c; packing stock, No. 1 35@36½c.

Philadelphia's market ½@1c higher than last week. A good firm feeling is evident and the market generally is in good shape. Creamery extras are selling 45c; extra firsts, 44c; firsts, 43@43½c; seconds, 41@42c; fancy prints, 49c.

New York has had a steady and active butter market all week. The supply of extras has been short and the demand for that grade has exceeded the supply. Most dealers have had a fairly good supply of firsts and as a result the trading on that grade has not shown such good returns as on the extras. Receipts have fallen off to a certain extent and this falling off will perhaps increase from now on. The fact that many western creameries have closed is bound to show in the volume of receipts. Consumption has also decreased and the sale of oleo and nut butter steadily increases. That this increase should be noticed is only natural when one considers the difference in price. Good butter retails from 50c up and oleo and nut butter may be had at 32c@35c. This is quite a saving to those of moderate means. Another illustration of the limited use of butter is shown by the fact that the market experienced a slump a week ago in spite of the fact that the receipts for the month of October, 1917 were 34,134 packages less than for the same month of 1916.

The movement of held has increased somewhat but is rather limited owing to the fact that most jobbers are working on their own supplies. New York quotations for the week: Creamery, higher scoring than extras, 45½@45¾c; extras, 44½@44¾c; firsts, 42@44c; seconds, 40@41½c.



## EGGS

Egg prices, so far as Detroit is concerned, remain about the same. The demand for fresh stock continues first class and all arrivals find ready sale at current quotations. Arrivals seem to be falling off to a certain extent and no doubt will continue to grow less until after the first of the year. There is very little demand from the grocer trade for anything but strictly fresh firsts but some storage and held back stock goes each day to restaurants and bakers. Strictly fresh firsts sell as high as 44c; ordinary run of fresh arrivals, 40@43c. Held and storage, 33@34c.

A better demand exists at Chicago where the supply of storage and held-stock has been in excess of the demand. Latest reports show an aggregate of storage stock of less volume than was supposed and this has had a favorable effect. The supply of strictly new laid firsts is very limited. In fact so that cars or less than car lots of such stock bring fancy prices. The Illinois law requiring every package of storage eggs to be labeled as such, has helped the fresh market. Only eggs which are really fresh can be sold as such. Fancy offerings bring 42@43c; strictly firsts, 40@41c; ordinary run of firsts, 38@39c; checks, 29@30c; dirties, 30@32c.

The top grades of eggs continue to show better demand and prices owing to falling off of receipts. There has been a general hardening of the market and improvement all around. The situation has helped all grades but the falling off in receipts of fresh has helped the sale of undergrades. There is a good export demand but no facilities for shipping. Fresh gathered extras are quoted 50@51c; extra firsts, 48@49c; firsts, 44@47c; seconds, 38@43c.



## POULTRY

LIVE WT.	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Turkey	27-28	20-22	28-30
Ducks	23-24	19-20	20-21
Geese	20-21	18-19	20-21
Springers	16-19	16-19	19-23
Hens	16-20	15-20	19-23

No. 2 Grade 2 to 3 Cents Less

The Detroit poultry market is in poor condition right now and we advise against making shipments for a few days. Receipts have been altogether too heavy for the demand during the warmer weather. Much stock has accumulated and unless the receipts decrease there will be a further decline in prices. The great bulk of



arrivals have not been of the fancy or even good class. Stock is not being put in the proper condition to bring the top of the market. Springers and fowls generally arrive in many cases in thin condition and fail to show up in weight as might be expected from general appearances. It should be remembered that just about 90 per cent of the poultry arriving on the Eastern market in Detroit is taken by the Jewish trade. It gives one a good idea of what is wanted, just to visit the market during trading hours and see the buyers going through the coops. Along will come a Jewish woman with a market basket almost as large as a clothes basket. She is out to purchase supplies for a hungry family. She stops in front of a commission house, sets her basket down and starts in to buy a few chickens. She will examine and feel over from ten to twenty fowls to find one in good flesh. Thin fowls are left for other buyers, those who are looking for bargains. And the thin fowls not only bring less money owing to the difference in weight but also take a discount because they have been left; in other words they are culls. The Jewish dealers who come to buy in larger quantities than the individual buyers also go through just the same performance. Thin fowls are purchased mainly by dealers who have feeding rooms arranged on the top floors of their buildings. They take in the stock and feed it into better condition. Now, here is the point: If it pays them to buy feed on a city market and feed this poultry, it would certainly pay the farmer to use some of his own feed to put the stock in good condition before shipping. The extra price will show a nice profit.

The Chicago market is in fairly good condition and the quotations there are higher than those of a week ago. Receipts there have been lighter this week after the heavy shipments of last week. Butchers have been good buyers owing to the limited supply of dressed poultry coming from the country. Warmer weather has affected such shipments. Dealers are expecting still higher prices but shippers will do well to keep an eye on conditions. Extra heavy receipts such as usually arrive on any advancing market, might easily turn the tide the other way, just at this time. Buying for the Thanksgiving market will eliminate much of this possibility, but still it exists.

Eastern markets are in very good shape and receipts are just about enough to supply the steady demand. Buyers on all of the principal markets are looking for well-finished stock and much of it is being dressed for the Thanksgiving trade. The New York, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia markets are all firm and steady. The Boston market has received just a little better supply than the trade has been able to take care of, but conditions are improving and things are looking better than they were at the first of this week.

## CATTLE

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

The Detroit market is firm at about the same level of prices as prevailed last week. There has been some advance in the price of butcher grades. Others about the same. Monday saw a good run of better finished stuff than has been arriving and packers were on the job early. Good weighty steers were in demand while the market on fat cows and heifers was just a little inclined to drag at times. All things considered, though, it has been a very satisfactory market all week. The market is strong on veal calves.

The general marketward movement of cattle continues of enormous volume. Chicago received 95,819 head last week and 97,402 the week previous, the two largest runs on record, for successive weeks. Receipts at Chicago for the year, to date, aggregate about 3,212,000 head inclusive of nearly 550,000 calves, a supply approximately 600,000 head in excess of the corresponding period last year. Last week's cattle receipts at seven west-

ern points aggregated 328,000, a few thousand less than the week previous but 120,000 more than the same week last year and the year's supply to date at these seven points is now approximately one and one-half million head in excess of like period last year.

While values have of late been receding from their recent record altitude under the stress of unprecedented supplies, the fact that they have been as well sustained as they have been and the agility with which the market rebounds on any temporary lull in the marketward movement well evinces the great breadth to current demands. Last week's average price for native beef steers at Chicago, figured at \$11.00, while 50c lower than the average for the week previous, was still 70c higher than the corresponding week last year, \$1.20 higher than two years ago and, in view of the fact that quality of current offerings is the poorest ever, is remarkably high.

A broad country demand for stock and feeding cattle, the high market's for hides and other by-products and the abnormal demand for beef and other meats created by the war and shortage abroad are the big factors of strength underlying the trade. Liberal receipts are expected to continue for some weeks to come and as the season for increased poultry consumption lies just ahead, the outlook is none too favorable for a speedy recovery from recent declines. Any material let-up in the rush of supplies to market, however, would be signal for a healthy up-turning trade.

Chicago sent 75,576 head of stock and feeding cattle to the country during the month of October, a record output for one month from this market, and followed this up with a record output last week. The large area of frosted corn and the moral certainty of relatively light supplies of and high prices for cattle in the late winter and spring months are acting as joint factors in increasing investment demand in stock and feeding stuff at this time and the generous countryward movement appears well justified by prevailing and prospective trade conditions.

Declines in beef steer values last week ranged from 40 to 75c per cwt., with choice classes, although very scarce, off the most. The spread in prices narrowed materially. Although one load of prime steers reached \$17.25 a week ago today, the highest figure as paid subsequently was \$16.75 and the latter quotation was in doubtful standing at the week's close. Comparatively few steers sold above \$13.50 and the bulk ranged between the latter figure and \$8.50. There was a showing of common light killing steers at \$7.00 to \$8.00 and of light canning steers downward from \$6.50. Cows and heifers lost 35 to 50c for the week, but the bull market held generally steady. Veal calves declined \$1.00 to \$1.25 with the practical top at the close \$12.75. Most butcher cows sold the last half of the week at \$6.50 to \$7.50 and heifers from \$6.75 to \$8.00, while fair to good canner cows were on at \$4.75 to \$5.00 basis and cutters sold largely at \$5.25 to \$6.00.

Stock and feeding cattle closed with prices about steady with the close of the week previous. Prime heavy feeders sold as high as \$12.00, but \$10.00 to \$10.50 bought choice 950 to 1075-lb. feeders and bulk of the stock and feeding steers cashed at \$7.50 to \$9.75.

Monday with 24,000 cattle received, a much lighter run than had been expected the market ruled 10 to 25c higher than at last week's close on all but top notch beef steers, which were no better than steady.

Receipts of cattle Monday on the Buffalo market were 250 cars, including 16 cars left over from last week's trade and 50 cars of Canadians. Trade opened steady on medium weight and weighty steer cattle which were in very light supply. Butcher steers and handy weight steers sold 10 to 15c lower; fat cows and heifers sold 15 to 25c lower than last week. Bulls of all classes sold steady; canners and cutters were in very large supply and sold 15 to 25c lower; fresh cows and springer were in moderate supply and sold steady; stockers and feeders sold 15 to 25c lower; yearlings were in light supply and sold steady. The market was over-supplied with common to fair kinds of cattle. The Tuesday market, with 20 cars of fresh ar-

rivals and 20 cars left over from Monday, was steady on all grades.

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Heavy 240-290	17 00-17 25	17 35-17 55	18 00-18 50
Medium 200-240	16 85-17 10	17 20-17 45	18 15-18 25
Mixed 150-200	16 50-17 00	17 00-17 20	18 00-18 15
Wethers 100-150	16 25-16 50	17 40-17 70	17 75-17 90
100 lbs down	15 75-16 00	16 50-17 00	17 15-17 50

With somewhat lighter receipts and under the stimulus of the Government's recent announcement as to the future hog market, the Detroit market has shown stronger tendencies. The general run of arrivals have shown somewhat better condition and with the feeding of soft corn, of which there is a goodly supply in the territory adjoining the Detroit market, we may expect the shipments to show improvement as to grade, from now on. There is a better feeling among the packers and this is helping the situation.

Last week's receipts of hogs at Chicago were 124,405 head, the largest since July, yet 78,000 smaller than a year ago. The week closed with prices at the highest point of the period. The top Saturday, \$17.60, was only 5c higher than the close of the week previous but some of the light weights were \$1.00 higher and pigs \$1.50 to \$1.75 up. The general price range was the narrowest of the season, comparatively few hogs selling last Saturday below \$17.00. The average price for the week figured \$16.80, 20c above the week previous, \$7.50 higher than a year ago and \$10.00 higher than two years ago. A big country demand for stock pigs followed the announcement by the food administration of the establishment of a \$15.50 tentative minimum for packing hogs at Chicago and a sharp bulge in provision futures were outstanding features in the week's trade. Monday's hog receipts were 40,900. The market opened 5 to 10c lower, but recovered the loss and closed strong. The top was \$17.60 and the bulk sold at \$17.00 to \$17.50, with pigs and underweights largely from \$16.25 to \$17.00.

With 9,600 hogs on sale Monday, the Buffalo market opened 10c lower with the best porkers selling from \$17.75 to \$17.85; mixed, \$17.85 to \$17.90 mediums, \$17.90 to \$18.00; heavies, \$18.00 to \$18.15; pigs and lights, from \$17.00 to \$17.50. On Tuesday, with only 3,500 hogs on sale, the market opened strong to 10c higher.

## SHEEP

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	Buffalo
Top Lambs	16.00-16.25	16.00-16.65	16.50-16.85
Yearlings	15.25-15.50	15.50-16.25	13.50-14.00
Wethers	9.50-10.00	9.75-10.75	11.50-11.75
Ewes	9.00-9.50	9.00-9.50	10.00-11.00

Under lighter receipts and increased demand the sheep and lamb market at Detroit has worked up just a little. Packing houses have been active in the market all week as well as city butchers. Some additional sales of feeders have been made and generally the class of stock arriving during the week has been of better quality than for several weeks past. Shippers will no doubt find a very satisfactory market this coming week.

The Chicago market has changed but little from last week. A falling off of receipts has given sellers a chance to arrest the downward movement previously experienced and bring about some recovery. Fat lambs closed the week with a top of \$16.75 and best fat ewes sold at a top of \$11.25. Monday, with 20,000 on hand, the market was generally steady with last week's closing. Best lambs sold at \$16.65.

Receipts of sheep and lambs at Buffalo on Monday were around 5,000 head. The market opened 10c lower and worked down to 25c lower than Saturday's close. Tuesday, with a run of 1,500 head the market opened around 15c lower than on Monday. With lighter receipts during the remainder of the week the market should work back again and the chances are that next Monday will see a lighter run as shippers will profit by the experience of this week and let the market clean up before shipping again.

## Flour and Feed

New York—Local mills are offering absolutely nothing and the amount of mill feeds coming from Canadian being offered from the West. We are not looking for any change until the mills are in position to make more liberal offerings, at which time prices should decline. Western spring bran in 100 pound sacks is quotable at \$37; standard wheat middlings, \$12.50; flour, in 100-lb. sacks, \$51.50; red dog, \$62.50; bran, 100-lb. sacks, \$37.

Toledo—The market for mill feeds of all kinds continues strong and the demand is exceptionally good. Millers report that they could sell twice their output of bran and middlings. The former is quoted at \$35.00 per ton, bulk, with bags \$3.00 higher. Middlings are quoted at \$46.00 bulk.

Duluth—The demand for feeds is increasing, receipts and supplies offering are comparatively light. Prices are firm with no change likely during the next week or so. No. 1 ground feed, per ton, \$58.75; No. 2, \$53.50; cracked corn or meal, per ton, \$68.75; bran, per ton, \$34; shorts, \$39.

Detroit—The scarcity of corn and a better demand generally has caused a firmer condition in the feed market. Bran is quoted at \$36.00 per ton; standard middlings, \$39; fine middlings, \$42; cracked corn, \$84; coarse cornmeal, \$77; flour, per 196 pounds in eighth paper sacks, best winter patent, \$11.50; second patent, \$11.40; straight, \$11.10; spring patent, \$12.10; rye flour, \$11.20 in jobbing lots.

## Toledo Seed Market

Last week closed quiet with prices a shade lower. The weather is quite favorable. Alsike market firm with the trade very light. Timothy neglected and dragging all through last week. Quotations at the close of the week:

Clover seed, prime \$15.50 to \$15.55; Dec., \$15.50 to \$15.55; March, \$15.45; N. E. G., \$3.60 to \$14.50.

Alsike, No. 2, \$13.50 to \$13.60; No. 3, \$13.25 to \$13.40, rejected, \$13.65 to \$13.15 March, \$14.25 to \$14.35.

Timothy, No. 2, \$3.35 to \$3.45; No. 3, \$3.20 to \$3.30; March, \$3.87.

## Vegetables

The quotations given on carrots, beets and turnips are for the small, table varieties. They must be well cleaned, trimmed and should be sacked. Detroit commission men and dealers generally report a fair demand. Carrots, \$1 per bu., beets, \$1.25 per bu.; turnips, \$1 per bu.; green onions, 20c per doz.; hothouse cucumbers, \$1.65 per doz.; garlick, 15c per lb.; radishes, 50c per doz.; green peppers, 60c per basket; parsley, 35c per dozen.

The best way to take care of our big potato crop is to eat it. Then we can send more meat and wheat to our allied armies.

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"for all the farmers of Michigan."

# MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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

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GRANT SLOCUM  
FORREST A. LORD  
ANNE CAMPBELL STARK  
Dr. G. A. CONN  
WM. E. BROWN

EDITOR  
EDITOR  
EDITOR WOMAN'S DEPT  
VETERINARY EDITOR  
LEGAL EDITOR

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## The Army Y. M. C. A.

IF WE WERE to be asked our choice in subscribing to the Liberty Loan, the Red Cross and the Army Y. M. C. A. fund we should choose the last. The money derived from the sale of Liberty bonds buys our soldier boys guns, ammunition and other material equipment; Red Cross funds nurse them back to health if they become sick or wounded; but the Army Y. M. C. A. provides clean environment and recreation and ministers to their moral and spiritual needs. And of all these, the last is by far of the greatest importance.

For what profiteth a man to have a good sword that he may conquer his physical enemies if he yields to the foes of good morals and character that lurk about the campfires of every military encampment today? Shall we give our dollars to rescue our boys from the shadow of death and lead them back into the light of health, but leave their moral natures to rot in the contagion that infests their surroundings?

We smile when we ought to weep at the ignorance of well-intentioned men and women who extol the merits of training camps. They seem to think that because we are fighting for democracy the almighty has reversed nature's laws for our benefit. But let us not deceive ourselves about this thing. When it is remembered that our training camps represent a conglomeration of humanity gathered in from every strata of society and including the wise and the good, the ignorant and the vicious who spend half their time in idleness, we are compelled to open our eyes to the inevitable evils that arise.

It is almost impossible for us who are busy with our daily routine duties to understand the terrible temptations that are placed before men in training camp, and the saddest thing of all is the vast number who succumb without a struggle to them. Boys of good habits and principles mingle freely with moral lepers who would corrupt their minds and habits with as little compunction as they would kill a worm. To weak-minded youths army life means moral ruin, and those of stronger wills must be ever upon the alert to ward off the temptations that are placed before them.

"The day I left home," said an American farm boy, "my mother took me alone into the kitchen and put both hands on my shoulders, saying, 'Son, let me look into your eyes. It breaks my heart to see you go. I'm not afraid of bullets or rigid military discipline. I'm proud to have my boy give his life for our country, but I fear most the awful moral conditions. Can you come back, if God permits you to return, as clean as you are now?' " This boy has gone to France, and this is what he despairingly told a Y. M. C. A. secretary in a hut, frantically clutching the secretary's arm as he did so: "I'm standing alone against this squad and must have help soon or I'll fall sure. I can't stand the spirit of that bunch, nor listen to its conversation and keep clean much longer. Every one of them is older, some twice as old, and they have secretly planned among themselves to get me to the house of a harlot 'to make a man of me.' My God! Can't you fellows help me in this crisis?"

The Army Y. M. C. A. gathered this boy into its folds as it had thousands of others, surrounded him with clean and home-like influences, gave him wholesome reading, interested him in uplift-

ing amusement, and saved him from a moral death. That boy and his Y. M. C. A. comrades will return to the old farm home as clean in mind and spirit as when they left and the mothers who had tearfully and fearfully watched them go will rejoice that there was someone to keep their boys straight and manly.

The Army Y. M. C. A. has inaugurated a campaign to raise \$35,000,000 to carry on its work. Michigan's quota is \$700,000. It is planned to organize every county in the state and everyone is urged to give a little something thru their county organization to help the great cause along. If, for any reason your county has not been organized and you wish to subscribe to the Y. M. C. A. fund, you may send your remittance to us and we will see that it is placed in proper hands. But give something, if no more than a dollar, for the moral welfare of Democracy's soldiers.

## Michigan Business Farming Scores

IN ONE of the early issues of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING we spoke to our readers as follows: "The opportunity to serve and be of tangible usefulness to the farmers of Michigan stretches out broadly before us. With faith in the ultimate victory of the great cause we represent we shall proceed carefully but fearlessly, protesting against those who would usurp the farmer's common rights, and demanding that he be given a voice in determining the prices to be placed upon his products."

This is a service we have tried to render; we have anticipated many of the farmers' marketing problems this year, and have laid careful plans to solve them. We have never been satisfied with treatment that was anything less than fair; we have fought steadily against all attempts to control the prices of farm products below the cost of production, either by government regulation or market manipulation. And we have scored victory after victory.

Take the bean situation, for instance. Attempts were repeatedly made by speculators early in the fall to "pull the wool" over the farmers' eyes by false reports of the crop conditions, the importation of Manchurian beans and of the alleged willingness of western growers to sell their crop at \$6 a bushel. We exposed the scheme and saved the farmers thousands of dollars.

Later, similar efforts were made to deceive the food administration as to the situation in Michigan, in hopes that the government would set a low price on its own bean purchases, enabling growers on this pretext to purchase a lot of cheap beans, fill the government's needs and hold the rest for higher prices on the general market.

This scheme worked; the Food Administration was properly "fooled" and lowered its price from \$7.80 to \$6.90 a bushel. What happened? Farmers all over the state arose in protest; hundreds of letters were written to us, asking that we do something to save the farmers from the loss that was inevitable with \$7 beans. But, even before the growers realized what the new price might mean, we had already got busy, and wired the Food Administration that the new price was unjust and ruinous and offered to give \$200 toward the expense of conducting an investigation into the situation. In the meantime, we told our readers to hold their beans for further developments.

The developments soon came. We convinced the Food Administration that it had been deceived as to the actual conditions in the state, and the latter published on the front page of this issue is written proof that our efforts have borne fruit and have insured the bean growers of the state a square deal and a fair profit.

## Ohio's Dry Fight.

INCOMPLETE returns from Ohio precincts on the state-wide prohibition election give the "wet" forces a slight lead,—less than two thousand votes out of nearly a million and a half cast. It will require the official canvass to determine the correct vote.

The dries do not by any means admit defeat. The first returns on the night of the election with practically the entire urban vote in gave the wets a substantial majority, but this was rapidly reduced and overcome by several thousand votes as the rural districts reported. For a time it looked as though the dry forces had carried the election safely, but the wets, always true to form, suddenly "discovered" an "error" in the Hamilton county returns in which is included the Cincinnati vote, which boosted their figures several thousand and apparently gave them the election.

The temperance forces openly charge the friends of booze with fraud and sufficient evidence of this has already been uncovered to prompt the state

attorney in making an investigation. Both sides have announced their intention of putting up large sums of money to fight the issue thru the courts and a bitter, long-drawn-out contest is looked for.

All Michigan is intensely interested in the outcome. Ohio is, in a certain sense, a pivotal state. Upon her action largely depends the success of Michigan's soon-to-be operative prohibition laws, as well as the success of the dry movement in Indiana and Illinois. Toledo is a notoriously wet city and as long as she retains the saloons she will be an alluring oasis for thirsty pilgrims of dry and desert Michigan, and mock the prohibition laws of the state. A "wet" Ohio means a "moist" Michigan; a dry Ohio means a dry Michigan.

## Have You Bought Your Winter's Coal?

THIS, DEAR reader, is not sarcasm. We recently heard of a farmer in the southern part of the state who had five tons of coal in his cellar and we are wondering if there are any other farmers in the state so fortunately situated.

On the following page is a letter from a Sherwood subscriber who says that he and his neighbors are facing the winter without fuel or any prospects of getting any, and he has asked our assistance. We are taking the matter up with the Fuel Administration, but we have no better hopes that we will be able to secure relief for our subscriber than that the war will end tomorrow.

The coal situation is undoubtedly grave. Every section of the country is suffering from a near famine; in many localities consumers are unable to buy more than a week's supply at a time; the Fuel Administration is besieged with requests, pleas and threats, but to no avail.

Months ago the people were told that the government had "investigated" the coal situation and that very shortly there would be plenty of fuel for everybody at \$3 to \$5 a ton. Winter is coming on and what little coal there is to be had is still being sold at \$9 and \$10 per ton. The people are in a fever of worry and unrest; no explanation has been made of the coal shortage or the high prices.

What is the reason there is no coal? What is the reason that the government which has freely told ten million farmers what they should and shouldn't expect, hesitates to take equally as summary measures with a few score of coal barons who control the mines of the country?

Unless these fellows come to time mighty soon, the government should take over the mines and operate them. Delay now means suffering before the first of the year. Put a brick in your glove, Uncle Sam, and give the operators a punch that will put them in action. If they lay down on you, oust them and mine the coal yourself. But do something, anything, to get coal moving consumerward, and do it quickly.

## Keep Your Shirt On.

WE LIVE in a suspicious and hysterical age. Let an accident take place within forty miles of a military cantonment, or a child die of ptomaine poisoning and we are at once assured thru the daily press that "German agents are again at work."

There is nothing too unreal for this imaginative generation to believe. We strain our ears to catch fairy tales of fiendishness that would put a caveman to blush; we devour the daily newspapers as we would a hash, making no choice between the toothsome and the unpalatable. The fancied appeals more to our imaginations than the real; for some reason or other it is easier to believe that an enemy soldier prefers killing babies to kissing them.

Don't get excited; keep your shirt on. Spare judgment of your enemies until after the war and let history instead of hearsay make the record. There is enough of crime and outrage to feed our passions and justify our action, without bidding our imaginations to invent the improbable and impossible.

## EDITORIALS BY OUR READERS

### Farmer is Slacker Who Quits Now

WHILE EVERYONE else is advising the farmer what to do and what not to do, the writer, a farmer himself, feels it his duty to do his part and offer a little advice which comes from his heart.

I view with grave apprehension the tendency of farmers, young and old, in this vicinity, to



quit their farms and move to the city. I hope this movement is confined to this locality, because it is general it is certainly a serious matter. Our nation is now engaged in unquestionably the greatest struggle of its history. Our sons and brothers are taking their places on the firing line. Our future national life must depend to a great extent upon the outcome of this conflict.

Food is one of the most important, if not the most important factor in this war. Uncle Sam needs producers, not consumers of food. Let me say to you brother farmer, if you cannot serve your country at the front, the next best place is on the farm. A man who is physically fit to farm and quits his farm now is a slacker unless he takes his place in the ranks.

To elderly farmers with long experience in farm management I will say it is your duty to your country and our brave soldiers and sailors to hire available help and keep things going even if you don't clear a dollar.

I know from bitter experience what it is to farm at a loss, but every season cannot be like the last two and anyway we must do our bit. Try it one more year for the sake of Uncle Sam and Liberty. Think it over brother. Am I right?—M. S. G. Hemlock.

#### Something Rotten About Coal Business

Insurance laws prohibit the use of wood as a fuel in threshing grain. I think I can speak for

dozens of farmers in this vicinity when I say that we have no fuel to thresh our beans, buckwheat or cloverseed with. With a family of small children, we are facing the winter with no fuel, even now we are beginning to burn old out buildings, and there are many more around here who have no wood lot to go to for fuel, and those who have are very reluctant to sell us any. Appreciating your past efforts in the interests of the farmer I think I voice the sentiments of all others here in asking you to use your great influence in aiding us to get coal. It seems inconsistent that the government should bar the farmer from getting coal and at the same time demanding the farm products. Something rotten about this coal business anyway.—W. A. J., Sherwood.

## With the Kodaker and Cartoonist



NOT LIKELY.

THE POPE—"Won't you shake hands?"

PRESIDENT WILSON—"Not until he's washed!"

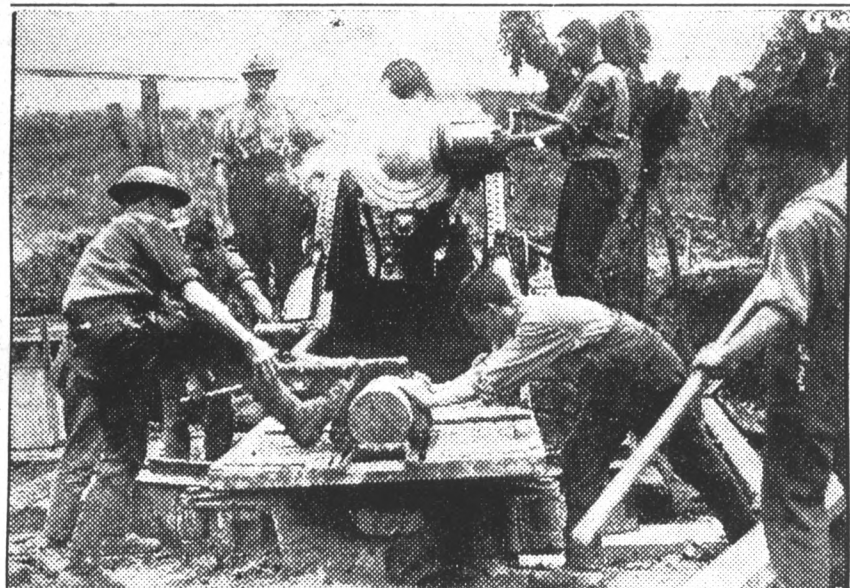
—Westminster Gazette.



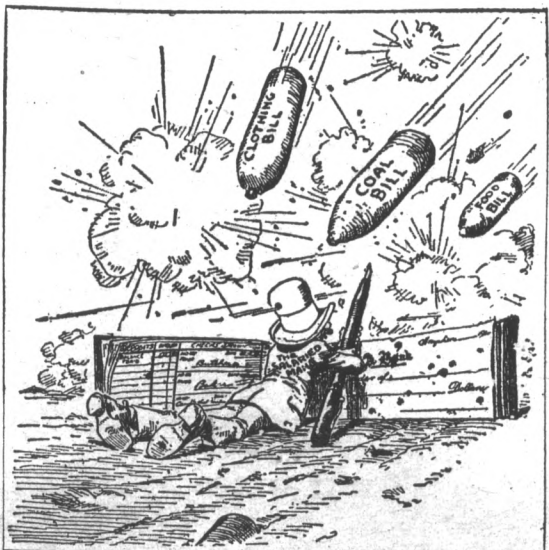
Australian Official Photograph from the front, showing scene on the Menin Road after the battle. Note the long line of wounded soldiers bearing their pain as best they can while waiting to be carried to the hospital. Such scenes soon dispel the glamour of modern warfare.



Secretary of War Baker visits Officers Reserve Training camp at Harvard, where cadets are being taught the arts of modern warfare by French officers. Our correspondence says that the Secretary of War did not disdain to enter the wet and muddy trenches in his tour of inspection.

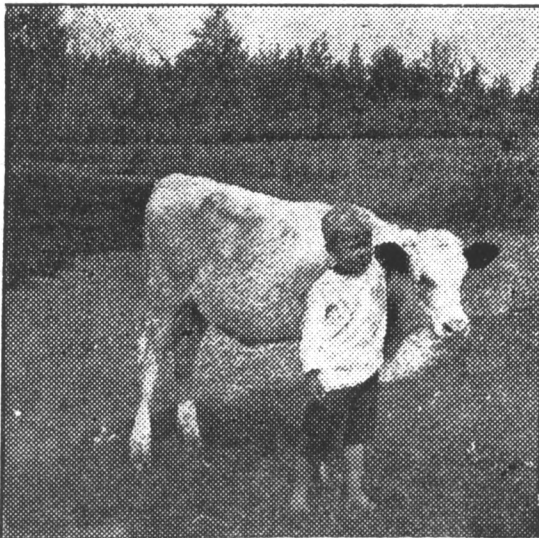


Canadian Official Photograph showing the Canadian artillery "strafing Fritz" near Angres. The gunners are about to load another shell into the breech of the gun. Note the smoke just clearing away from the gun as a result of a recent shot.

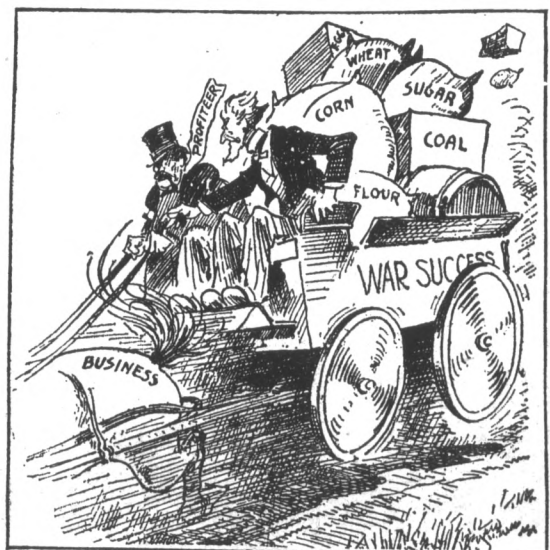


ALL THE EXCITEMENT ISN'T IN THE TRENCHES.

—Sykes in the Philadelphia Evening Ledger.



Here's Master, Guy Lewis of Gladwin county, and his calf, "Bird." Daddy and Mother Lewis say their four boys and the calf are the "only good crops they had this year."



UNCLE SAM—"Give me those reins before you break something!"

—Tuthill in the St. Louis Star.





# Everyday Garden, Field and Orchard Helps

## USING ACID PHOSPHATE IN STABLES

Do you use any acid phosphate in your stable gutters and do you think it pays, also where can we get any at the present time? If you know of any please let me know. Also would it be advisable to use the regular fertilizer in that way?—C. S. C., Sears.

We use acid phosphate in our cow stables every day and in our calf pens, hog pens, and horse stable quite often though not each day usually.

You ask if I think it pays. I could easily say "yes" or "no" but I am going to say simply this: That I don't know, nor have I any way of finding out absolutely, and yet, I believe it does pay. The theory is correct. We know that in all stables unless something of this sort is used there is a strong smell of ammonia, hartshorn. The volatile ammonia that comes from the decomposing manure both liquid and solid, is valuable and is vaporized and goes into the air. This is the salt of ammonia that gives this rather biting sensation to the nostrils. Now, ammonia is a form of nitrogen, the most expensive of plant foods. If by some means we can trap this nitrogen and save it so it won't go off into the air we have saved a most important factor in increased crop production so that we not only get rid of this very unpleasant smell of ammonia but we save nitrogen. I have known a single application of acid phosphate in the horse stable around the hind feet and back of the horses to completely stop the vaporization of ammonia. There was a strong smell of ammonia the moment you got into the stable, but after applying acid phosphate this was entirely overcome.

The reason is that the phosphoric acid and the free sulphuric acid, should there be any in the acid phosphate, form a chemical combination with the ammonia and this volatile salt of ammonia changes to the sulphate of ammonia which is not volatile and yet it is soluble in water. Hence, instead of allowing this available plant food to vaporize and go off into the air by combining it with acid phosphate we save it in such a form that we can put it on our land and feed the crops that are to be grown.

### Why Use Acid Phosphate

Years ago we used land plaster or sulphate of calcium and it was recommended by chemists but experiments proved that sulphuric acid was so firmly fixed in this that very little of it would combine with this salt of ammonia so that you had to use large quantities of it in order to do any good. Again, untreated phosphate rock or floats was recommended. Chemists tell us that the phosphoric acid is so strongly combined up in this substance that it is well-nigh impossible to get any chemical action between the volatile salt of ammonia and this ground rock. Of course, both the land plaster and the ground rock assist in absorbing moisture in the stable by taking up the liquid manure and are beneficial in that way but they are not beneficial in fixing this volatile salt of ammonia while the acid phosphate is.

### Phosphorus

Again, one great reason for using acid phosphate is the fact that all of our land needs phosphorus quite as much as it does nitrogen, in fact both science and practical farming have demonstrated that phosphorus is the limiting factor in crop production on most of our Michigan soils. If there is any one thing that pays to be used in the form of a commercial fertilizer it is acid phosphate, because our soil is deficient in it and you cannot

raise good grain crops especially without an abundance of phosphorus as its function is to hasten ripening and produce seeds, so when we use acid phosphate we are really saving two of the essential elements of soil fertility—nitrogen and phosphorus, and we apply the most important—phosphorus.

A couple of years ago a farmer visited my farm one day when I was at home. We were in the stable just after the gutters had been cleaned out and the barn man was scattering acid phosphate all over the platform here the cows stand and in the driveway and in the gutters. It was a new thing to the man and he inquired about it. I took considerable pains to tell him, explaining that there was a chemical action between the acid phosphate and the volatile salt of ammonia which fixed this ammonia in a soluble form so that it could be incorporated in the excrement and drawn out into the field, also that acid phosphate was our most important food element and that by applying it I was laying the foundation for better crops. Besides this, this dry acid phosphate had the power of absorbing about four times its weight in moisture and this helped to dry out the stables and keep them clean and save the liquid manure, besides this it did away with the bad smells in the stable. He wanted to know how much this phosphate cost. At that time it was costing me about \$17.50 per ton in carlots. He wanted to know how I expected to get my money back. I told him that the only way to get my money back was by putting this ammonia and phosphorus out into the field and plowing it under and growing the crops and getting an increased crop yield. He thought for a moment and remarked that I had "a blamed sight more faith in the proposition than he had."

But why shouldn't I have faith? I know it will trap ammonia; I can tell that by the smell. I am satisfied that our soils need phosphorus and I know that it is a good thing to keep the stable in good condition. Now, why shouldn't I buy acid phosphate, use it in this way and draw it out with the manure just as well as to use it in a drill when I sow the wheat? It is only a question of comprehension that gives a man faith. Faith comes from understanding and I believe that I understand the proposition and believe-

ing this prompts me in saying to you that I believe it pays. Though when it comes right down to facts, how can I prove to you that it pays? Nothing only a very careful, continuous experiment by an Experiment Station would prove anything of this sort. The common farmer can't make the experiment, he can simply accept the facts as given by an Experiment Station and apply them.

You can purchase acid phosphate of any reliable fertilizer manufacturer in this country.

It certainly wouldn't be advisable to use a complete fertilizer in the stable. What is the use of adding nitrogen when you are going to save nitrogen? What is the use of adding potash when you cannot absorb it by acid phosphate, and acid phosphate comes much cheaper than a mixed fertilizer. —Colon C. Lillie.

## FARMERS SHOULD ORDER LIME AT ONCE

Orders should be placed at this time by farmers who intend to use lime on their land in order to increase next season's crop. If orders are placed at the present time the manufacturers will be able, they say, to supply the agricultural needs. By being given orders now they will have six or eight months in which to prepare the necessary supply, whereas they will be swamped if the orders all come next spring.

Lime applied in the fall or winter is as effective as when applied in the spring. Fall and winter application of lime is urged as good farm practice and also as an emergency war measure. By following this suggestion farmers will be improving their land so as to turn out the largest possible crop yield.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING will put its readers in touch with manufacturers of this important soil builder, upon request.

If you can't raise a pig, save one. You can do so by eating less pork.

Dogs may be friends of man, but sheep furnish clothing for his back.

Every cellar of vegetables is a trench of food preparedness.

Comfortable barns keep dairy cows warm far more cheaply than high-priced feed.

## The Aristocratic Potato

How dear to my heart are the dreams of my childhood

When fond recollection presents them to view:

The ax and the sawbuck, the great cord of piled wood

I looked at with horror—that I must saw through.

The jam jars, the apples, the shell-barks, the bacon

That hung in the cellar in slabs long and thin—

What wonderful dreams at this time they awaken;

The old fall potatoes we dumped in the bin.

The plain old potatoes.

The cheap fall potatoes.

The big smooth potatoes

We dumped in the bin.

We bought them by bushels—some fifteen or twenty—

And had them boiled, baked,

creamed, sliced, diced, stewed and fried.

The pies might be few, but of spuds there were plenty

For all of us boys and the neighbors beside.

We called them but spuds—twas no honor to be one;

And some called them murphies, so common they were.

But now I take off my hat when I see one.

And greet it with pleasure and always say, Sir.

The much-sought potato.

The ten-cent potato.

The high-priced potato

I always call Sir.

How old Farmer Si, with his boots and tucked trousers.

Came creaking and swaying upon the highroad.

With bushels of spuds that were certainly rousers

For size, shape and flavor, and sold the whole load

For three or four dollars; and Hod Griggs, the grocer,

Gave Si half in cash and he traded the rest.

I bought me a dollar's worth yesterday. Oh, Sir!

I lost both of them through a hole in my vest.

The precious potato.

The one-carat potato.

Gem-studded potato—

And that is no jest.

—JAMES W. FOLEY in Saturday Evening Post.

## VALUE OF A POWER HOUSE ON THE FARM

In the accomplishment of farm operations, convenience is one of the most important factors. Convenience results in a saving of time and labor, which, in this era of high priced help, means much to the farmer. A farm power house makes for convenience and is not difficult to plan or equip. The lineshaft in the power house permits the accomplishment of several jobs at one time, and eliminates the necessity of moving the engine or the machines from one part of the farm to another.

There is no reason why the gas engine and various power machines should not be installed in the same building. On some farms engine and machinery are scattered in a number of buildings. The engine must be moved about the premises when a job of work needs doing. This moving of the engine not only means a great deal of wear and tear upon it, but also causes the expenditure of much valuable time. Occasionally it takes longer to move the engine and get it in position for operation than to accomplish the job of work. The above are only a few of the many reasons why it is best to install the gas engine in the power house.

The power house may be a separate building erected especially for the purpose; or a basement, granary, etc., may be used for the purpose. The principal essential is to provide a tight roof and walls. A concrete floor gives excellent service. The engine should be mounted securely; ample room should be provided for the engine so the operator can move about it readily when cleaning or oiling.

A few of the various machines which can be installed and run direct from the lineshaft in the power house include the cream separator, washing machine, churn, grindstone, feed grinder, corn sheller, a dynamo for lighting the farm buildings, pump, etc.

The churn and cream separator had better be located in a room by themselves; for it is necessary to keep them in clean surroundings. It is important to give careful attention to the operation of the cream separator, for no engine is sufficiently uniform in speed to give the best power results for this machine. Uniform speed is necessary when a cream separator is operated. A governor pulley is required in starting up the separator because the machine must be started up slowly and gradually worked up to the desired speed.

It is a good plan to install the corn sheller and feed grinder in a separate compartment. The fanning mill can occupy the same room with the former mentioned machines. These three pieces of machinery raise considerable dust when in operation, and for this reason should be separated from other machines.

A compact, serviceable and economical farm power plant is needed upon every farm where business methods are in vogue. At first thought the farm owner may not see the many advantages which result from grouping various machines under one roof, where they are operated at will from a lineshaft; but a little consideration of the matter will show that a power house is a profit-maker.

When two or more machines are operated at the same time, the cost of operation is reduced to a minimum. Consider the advantage of doing the washing and churning, in one room, while the work of shelling corn and grinding feed progresses in an adjoining room. The power house makes for business farming.—Clement White.



# LIVE STOCK ON THE FARM

POULTRY, SHEEP AND SWINE DAIRYING BEEF PRODUCTION BREEDING PROBLEMS

## HOW TO GROW BEEF AND GET A PROFIT

The growing of beef with profit is a matter that is not mastered without care and watchfulness. However, I too, often hear people say that they cannot make anything growing and feeding beef cattle. I have raised and fed some beef cattle for several years, and have learned from that experience that there is profit to be made at the business; provided, however, it is done in a business-like manner. I believe, and I think that the reader will agree with me, that there is not profit in feeding cattle just any old way.

First of all I will say that my experience has been with raising both the feeding cattle and the feed for them, except perhaps some of the commercial concentrated feeds. These however, I have tried as far as possible to leave entirely out, believing that I could furnish similar feeds that were grown on my farm much cheaper, and thus save the expense of buying. I do not believe that much profit can be made feeding cattle where all of the feed must be purchased, and also where the cattle must be purchased and fed without the aid of any silage or grass or some form of green crops among the cheapest and best beef producing foods that can be had. It is nature's feed and when supplied abundantly with a little other food, fed in connection, I have been able to make some good gains in cattle.

I had always thought that I could make some good money with a few feeding cattle, but just for the sake of experiment, I tried a little bunch of ten head for a period of six months. My experiment began with eighteen months' old steers taken off the grass and late forage crops and was commenced on November 15. They were placed in good, clean comfortable quarters and fed what they would consume of such as the following: Good clean clover hay, crushed corn (cob and all) a little corn stover, with enough good sweet silage to keep them in good condition. The daily ration given each steer during the feeding period is too tedious to give here, however, and I will give some totals to show that there was a profit. Just to say that a profit can be made is not showing that it was made.

Having raised the cattle as we farmers should do, (and by the way, I see that many are now taking to raising them) I cannot tell exactly what they cost me, but I feel safe in saying that they had not cost me near the market price up to the time of beginning the feeding experiment. But taking them at what they were selling at on the market at that time (of course cattle are higher now and so is feed) feeders were worth then \$4.50, and at the beginning of the feeding they averaged 900 pounds. At \$4.50 per cwt., ten steers at 900 pounds would be worth \$405.00.

During the feeding period the steers were each fed an average of \$35 worth of grain and hay, counting crushed corn and cob at \$12 per ton (its value at that time), clover hay at \$9 per ton, and silage at about \$1.50 or \$1.75. I hardly know just what it did cost.

The ten steers during the six months of feeding consumed in round figures, near \$350 worth of feed. Feed is of course higher now, and therefore the beef would cost more to produce today. But I do not think that my steers cost me what I have figured at the time of beginning the experiment. I can raise them cheaper than buy them. But taking the ten head as they sold, counting the worth (at the beginning) \$405 and feeding them \$350 worth of feed, that meant an investment of \$755 in the ten head of steers.

They sold at that time to a buyer at 6 1-2 cents per pound, and they averaged 1,400 pounds, making a total of \$910 for the ten head of steers. They made a gain of 500 pounds each during the six months period.

I find then, that I received the market price for my feed, and after counting the steers at the market price at that time, had a balance left as clear profit of \$15.50 per head. This without anything being counted for the manure produced. Counting anything like fair for it, I would figure it worth at least one-third the feed bill. Besides there were while feeding, some pigs running with them, to clean up all the waste, and they brought a neat little profit also.

Where plenty of grass can be had for summer feed and good clover hay can be produced, and also silage stored away, I cannot see why anyone cannot make some profit raising and feeding beef cattle. The fault must surely be in the management, poor selection of feeders, or some other poor method.

It seems to me that the time is now ripe for the farmer to raise and feed more cattle. It looks to me like they will command a high price perhaps for years to come, and we can still feed a steer on the same amount of feed that we could when they were cheap, and if we manage rightly we can produce them pretty cheap yet, and then selling them for prices such as they are now worth, why should we not all try and raise and feed a few. I say raise them yourself.—R. B. Rushing.

## HOW TO PREVENT HOG TUBERCULOSIS

The United States Department of Agriculture gives some timely advice upon the subject of hog tuberculosis. This disease last year was found in the carcasses of over 66,000 animals making them wholly unfit for human consumption and entailing a direct loss of nearly \$2,000,000. The following advice is given by the Department to prevent and eradicate the disease:

Hogs contract tuberculosis chiefly from dairy cows, which are also very subject to tuberculosis. The disease in a cow affects her milk system, her lungs, and her throat with tubercle bacilli—the germs which cause tuberculosis in men and animals. Some of these germs escape from the cow in her milk or in her droppings, or she may cough them out on feed or bedding. Hogs get the disease from the raw milk or droppings, or feed infected by a tuberculosis cow. Pasteurized or cooked milk will not pass this disease from infected cows to other animals.

Therefore, to protect your hogs from tuberculosis and to make sure that your feed will be turned into meat instead of into fertilizer—

1. See that all milk, especially all skim milk from the creamery, is pasteurized or cooked before it is fed to the hogs.
2. Keep your hogs from following dairy cattle, unless the cattle are tuberculin tested. Keep them out of cow lots and barns, and keep dairy drainage out of hog lots. Hogs can follow steers without much danger.
3. Give your healthy hogs a chance to keep healthy. Give them clean, well-drained lots and plenty of fresh air, sunlight, and clean water. Shelter them in well-lighted and ventilated sanitary hog houses. Keep the houses clean and use plenty of white-wash and disinfectants.

One benefit of the war is that it has induced consumers to study foods and food values.

## HUGE DEMAND EXPECTED FOR AMERICAN HORSES

Many military experts declare it is more than possible that the horse may be the determining factor in the war. The transport of food to the trenches, the supply of ammunition for the guns, the rapid movement of artillery—these are duties which only the horse can perform. And if open fighting should develop, as it may in some desperate effort to force a final issue, there will be terrific slaughter of cavalry men and horses.

Europe's horse supply, with the sole exception of Russia, which has enormous resources, has already been sorely taxed. Britain, France, and Italy have been buying from outside sources practically since the war broke out. Canada has furnished enough horses for her own army of half a million, with the prospect of just being able to supply the needed re-inforcements as required to make good her casualties. The allied nations are looking to America as their main hope in the matter of horse supplies.

The importance of the horse may be judged from the following facts:

There are 4,500,000 horses engaged in this war.

On the western front the losses over a considerable period averaged 47,000 horses a month.

In eight hours fighting along a three mile front at Verdun the French lost 5,011 horses.

Over a million and a half of America's horses have been purchased for service with the allies.

In the first seven months of 1917 the value of horses shipped to Europe from American ports was \$25,327,333.

For the month of July alone the value was \$1,377,202.

When the American army takes its place in force on the battle-field next Spring it will require 400,000 horses for the fighting equipment of a million men. Every month the losses will have to be made good, which means that constant drafts will have to be sent to Europe, to take the place of those animals killed in action, dying from disease, or lost by submarine attack. America has approximately 22,000,000 horses but less than one-fifth of these are available for war service. Already, according to Capt. Ral Parr, and other authorities there is a decided shortage of the best type of cavalry remount. The strongest evidence of this is to be found in the fact that for some time past every suitable horse offered for sale has been purchased either by the American or Allied Governments. An enormous share of the responsibility of maintaining the forces at full strength, therefore, falls upon the agriculturalists of this country.

The American Red Star Animal relief is acting as an auxiliary to the field forces in saving and conserving the horses sent to the war. Volunteer effort has played an enormous part behind the battle lines of Flanders. Every horse that can be saved and restored to health is being carefully nursed and sent back to the firing lines. Behind the British lines there is hospital accommodation for 12,000 horses under the care of Army veterinary corps, and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. So efficient is this hospital system that 80 per cent of the animals treated are cured and sent back to help in the fighting. Wherever fighting is taking place there is a hospital in the rear within a distance of four miles. Hundreds of horses and motor ambulances collect the injured animals and rush them to animal hospitals where they are treated with skill and care.



THERE'S something about the fit and "feel" of the "Old Reliable" RACINE flannel shirt that makes it the favorite among active, hard-muscled men who enjoy physical comfort and freedom.

Full-cut to give your muscles play, and your body a chance to "breathe"—it's the ideal farm shirt. It feels good and looks good. It's clean-cut and dressy—just the thing for informal gatherings, or for driving to town in the evening. Equally good for work or dress.

Your dealer will show you the RACINE flannel shirt in olive, khaki or gray—with buttons that match the color of the shirt. If he doesn't have it in stock—write us.

**The Chas. Alshuler Mfg. Co.**

Makers of Soft Cotton and Flannel Shirts for Work, Dress or Sport

Living in Racine is ideal. We constantly require female operatives who appreciate good wages—light, airy, roomy factory—good social atmosphere—Considerate supervision. Write us.

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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. Send on trial to prove it. Protected by U. S. patents. Catalogue and measure blank mailed free. Send name and address today.

C. E. BROOKS, 463 State Street, Marshall, Mich.

Enlist Now in Our Army of Regular Shippers



FOR SALE—80 acres of unimproved land on Section 8, Larkin Township, Midland county. Will make some man a fine home, situated 8 miles from city of Midland. F. F. Lathrop, Midland, Mich. R. No. 6.

WANTED—Girls to take the nurse's training course in our hospital. Inquire CHARLOTTE SANITARIUM, Charlotte, Mich.

I OFFER FOR REMAINDER OF SEASON a limited number of Strong Vigor—our Registered Shropshire ram lambs, good size, well covered and ready for service. C. Lemen, Dexter, Mich.

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS for sale, \$2.00 to \$5.00 each for strain with records to 290 eggs a year. Circular free. Fred Astling, Constantine, Mich.



## WHY INTENSIVE FARMING PAYS

Nathan F. Simpson Cites His Experience and Observation Upon Subject Which Ought to Interest Every Business Farmer

"Back to the farm," is fast becoming a popular slogan with our city cousins.

This applies especially to that portion of the city population who were born on the farm and spent their boyhood and perhaps their early manhood in the country, before making the city their home.

"Back to the farm" is growing in popularity, prompted by an impulse of patriotism, to respond to the call of the allied nations for food, so essential in the great struggle for world democracy.

"Back to the farm" is the solution of the problem of reducing the high cost of living. The natural law of supply and demand has controlled the economic relations between producer and consumer, excepting where unnatural trade and marketing wastes have interfered.

Previous low prices for farm products as compared with the liberal wage paid by intensive manufacturers, caused the rush from the farm to the city. Whereby food producers were transformed to consumers, thus diminishing production and increasing consumption, resulting in the high cost of food stuffs, for the natural law of supply and demand, uninterrupted, regulates the price.

So the young man on the farm who was attracted by the high wage of the manufacturer now finds that his large salary in the city has been absorbed by the high cost of living, and that the brother remaining in the country is now realizing a profit from his farming operations on the old homestead. And in this we find a financial reason, which, added to the patriotic impulses and popular trend, has strengthened the "Back to the farm" movement.

But conditions have changed in farm values, and the man in the city discovers that it takes more capital than is represented in his entire savings to purchase a farm sufficient in acreage to support himself and family—this conclusion measured by experiences in general farming. So he hesitates in his start back to the farm for prompted only by his knowledge of general farming, he believes it will require a large acreage to support himself and family, and at present values, a greater investment than he can command.

So, in order to encourage the patriotic as well as economic movement "from the city to the farm," publicity should be given to the greater possibilities which may be developed from intensive farming, as compared with results from general farming.

Experiences in general farming has taught that it does not require a hundred acre farm, an eighty, or even a forty, to support a family, but that 20 acres favorably located and properly managed, along the lines of intensive farming, is quite sufficient.

So, with intensive farming well in hand, the greater investment required in the larger acreage necessary in general farming, may be avoided, and farming made possible to many who are now prohibited by lack of capital.

A few years ago intensive farming was associated only with the producing of crops requiring the maximum of hand labor. Not generally so today. To illustrate, a crop of different varieties of fruit can be produced, not including the harvesting, at no greater cost than a crop of corn, and even the extra labor in harvesting may be done by women and children, thus avoiding a shortage of labor, while the

gross annual receipts from the fruit is often greater than the original cost of the land producing.

Twenty acres set to tree and small fruit, with poultry raising as a sideline, would satisfy the most ambitious farmer as to profitable employment for himself and family. In addition to his fruit growing and poultry raising now established, with but small investment, an apiary could be added which would add materially to his income. The apiary would not require additional acreage, for the bee, unlike the chicken, is not expected to stop at the line fence, and again, unlike the chicken, the bee does the neighbor a benefit rather than harm, when trespassing.

Thus we have described a haven for the factory-worn toiler, not a dream, but a real home, wholly within his financial reach as an investment, and made possible by intensive farming.

However, opportunities along the lines of intensive farming are not confined to fruit growing, poultry raising and bee keeping, or a combination of these industries, but there are numerous lines and combinations known to intensive farming, quite equal to what is heretofore presented, in fact, a farmer following intensive lines becomes so accustomed to intensive yields and profits as compared with the acreage under cultivation, that he ceases to be interested in a crop which does not yield a gross annual profit, or even a net profit, equal per acre to the original cost of the land, and this on a small farm is

often accomplished within the resources of the family, as to both supervision and labor.

The writer does not mean to convey the idea that the opportunities for intensive farming are alike equal to all. Location as to large city markets, opportunities for shipping, local factories absorbing farm products in manufacturing, advantages of climate, soil conditions, etc., all have to do in making intensive farming possible.

But what the writer does wish to convey, that at the present price of producing farm lands, only men with considerable capital can afford to invest in the acreage necessary for the support of an average family. But that men in the city with limited means can procure sufficient acreage, which under intensive cultivation can be made to amply provide for his family. And to encourage intensive farming is to stimulate "back to the farm" movement.

To make a finished food product of farm produce is promoting a condition making intensive farming possible, all of which the writer will discuss in a subsequent article—Nathan F. Simpson.

Warm drinking water for the dairy stock will save feed and also benefit the milk flow. It saves feed because it does not draw on the vitality of the cow as does cold water. It benefits the milk flow because a cow will not reach her maximum production unless she drinks water abundantly. This she will not do if it is ice cold.

## NATIONAL CROP REPORTS

**Snowhill, Md.**—The late crop of potatoes is being dug. The indications point to a full crop, equal, if not larger than that of last fall.

**Washington**—The export of eggs for the first eight months of 1917 were 9,868,488 doz., valued at \$3,298,871, against 14,804,682 doz., \$3,419,920 last year and 10,189,551 doz., valued at \$2,201,625 in 1915.

**Fithian, Ill.**—Eggs are the scarcest they have been this fall and are only enough for home consumption. This has been the first week there has been no surplus. Butter is about the same as usual, as most of the large producers are shipping cream.

**Harris, Minn.**—The early freeze damaged potatoes fully 20 per cent. Hundreds of acres were not dug and some farmers are still digging, as it was impossible before this to secure help. In addition, it is almost impossible to obtain cars in which to ship. Hay is very scarce and there are more buyers than there is stock.

**Crandon, Wis.**—A small percentage of the potatoes here were damaged in the ground when the cold weather prevailed. The average yield per acre is about 100 bu. The quality is considered good this year and more potatoes have been shipped this year than during the entire season last year.

**Stanton, Mich.**—Farmers have marketed their potatoes freely at this and other nearby shipping points, but since the heavy freeze of Oct. 24 the movement has been limited, as operators do not want stock until after it has been in the cellar for some time. Receipts are light. Beans are rotting in the fields.

**Hanford, Calif.**—Turkeys are plentiful in the Tulare section, according to J. A. Marr, but the birds are much lighter than the average at this time. The late spring is held responsible, as the eggs were not hatched as early as usual and the birds are now old enough to have the weight they usually have at this date.

**El Centro, Calif.**—At a meeting of the turkey raisers of Imperial Valley during the past week it was estimated that the turkey crop will be considerably lighter than original estimates some weeks ago. It seems that the first hatching of turkeys was not a success and as a result the birds are all young and lighter in weight than those sent to market last year.

**Los Angeles**—According to latest reports apple holdings here are 416,000 boxes, an increase of 38,000. Onions holdings are 39,000 sacks, an increase of 29,000.

**New York**—There was a fair supply of Canadian rutabagas on the market this week and prices were steady at \$1.50 to \$1.75 per barrel. Canadian shippers are quoting 47 to 50c per bu. delivered New York duty paid.

**Clear Springs, Md.**—Eggs are scarce and not much increase is expected. Butter supplies are not able to take care of home requirements. Late potatoes are about all dug. There is a good crop of nice size stock.

**Winchester, Va.**—The appeals made by the government to conserve food and save wherever possible have had the effect of inducing many country people to do home drying and all kinds of dried fruits and vegetables are commanding good prices. Dried apples are particularly in demand. Buyers are offering 10c per lb. for apples in large lots delivered at the stations.

**Hornell, N. Y.**—Many potato fields in this district are still unharvested. A few days ago it was predicted that unless more laborers were secured in gathering the crop a considerable part of the Steuben county potato crop would go to waste. This year the area planted was an exceptionally large one although the yield is not so great this year per acre as compared with former years.

**Los Angeles**—The honey market keeps on climbing. Middle western dealers who declined to consider Nevada and California comb extract in August but became slightly interested in September, are now insistent. The honey crop is far shorter than the trade realized. Houses who turned down propositions in September on a basis of \$3 case f.o.b., are now unable to get their orders filled at \$4.

**Syracuse, N. Y.**—The total potato crop for Onondaga county is estimated at 1,000,000 bu., according to figures secured by the farm bureau. This is based on an estimated yield of 100 bu. to the acre. Some of the best potato farms in the county have yielded 125 to 150 bu., but others, probably in the large majority, have run considerably below that figure. The average yield seems to be about two-thirds of the normal crop. Buyers have been paying \$2.80 to \$3 per cwt. at shipping stations.

## U. S. ARMY NEEDS HORSES

Valuable Information for Farmers of Michigan Who Want to Sell Horses to U. S. Government for War Purposes

In the month of July the United States government began buying horses direct from the farmers. The plan has worked well but some delay and dissatisfaction has resulted from the farmers pricing their horses at too high a figure. But the system has a great many advantages over selling to dealers and the following information is given to the men who have horses to sell for army purposes:

Any responsible farmer or dealer who is capable of supplying a carload of animals should send information as to age, weight and the like to the purchasing officers in remount zone in which he is located.

The classes of horses which the government wants are, cavalry and riding horses, light artillery horses, heavy artillery horses for siege batteries, wheel mules, lead mules and pack mules.

He should state the price at which he will enter into an agreement to supply animals of each class to the government and the place where he will offer the animals for sale.

Farmers in the States of Michigan, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, are located in the central remount zone and should write to Quartermaster, 410 Searritt Arcade Building, Kansas City, Mo. Full information can be obtained by writing that office and giving the information specified above.

Farmers living in a community can pool their horses and they will find their dealings with the government satisfactory. The army demands for horses are somewhat exacting but they are assured of a good price for every animal accepted by the government.

Army officers say that one difficulty has been the tendency of farmers in some localities to price their horses too high. The best guide to follow in setting a price on horses to be sold for army uses is the prevailing local prices.

The horses must be at least 15.2 and not over 16 hands high. The British buyers will accept horses as high as 16.3 hands high. The government wants horses at this time mainly in the following classes: Stock weighing 1,100 to 1,300 pounds three to 10 years old for the artillery at prices \$175 to \$180. Every horse that passes the examination is taken. There is urgent need of good stock in all other classes.

All things considered, this method offers a good opportunity for farmers to dispose of their surplus horses at fairly good prices. As stated before it would be a wise thing for farmers in a community to carefully look over the available animals for sale, class them as well as possible and write the purchasing officer in their zone. There is still a great demand for horses for war work and this demand will increase as time goes by because horses are becoming scarcer each week. Reliable figures show that the average life of a horse on the battle front is about three weeks. —Bernard E. Coffin.

"Drink buttermilk freely," says the U. S. Food Administration in its efforts to encourage the use of dairy by-products. The use of buttermilk is largely a matter of habit. Southern cities consume almost as much buttermilk as sweet milk. The difficulty of keeping milk sweet has been largely responsible for the popularity of buttermilk as a beverage.



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# THE FARM HOME

*A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm*



## This Week's Tested Recipe

### GRAHAM BREAD

One egg, 3-4 cup white or brown sugar, 1 1-2 cup sour milk, large table spoonful molasses, level teaspoon soda dissolved in water, salt, 2 cups graham flour, 1 cup white flour. Let rise one-half hour. Bake in moderate oven 45 minutes to one hour.

## The Common Things

SOMETHING happened this week which caused me a great deal of worry and distress. And I had occasion, as have many other worried, harrassed women, to thank God for the common things of life.

I had company that day for luncheon, and it was while fussing around the kitchen preparing the little dainties which girls like so much, that I had occasion to think of how blessed we women are that we have so many little common tasks to do.

In the front of my cook book is this "forework:" "The best things are nearest. Then do not grasp at the stars, but do life's plain, common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things of life."

Isn't this true? I know that I lost all my worry that day while I was getting luncheon. I mixed it in with the tea biscuits, I guess, or just steamed it out of me over the hot stove!

The fact that a person has duties to perform has saved many a poor grief-stricken mortal from insanity, and many of our little perplexities just smooth themselves out automatically, because we are so busy we haven't time to brood over them.

I know a woman with six children, and she is the happiest woman I know. She hasn't time for the little worries of the mother with one chick. She hasn't time to think about herself. And self-forgetfulness is the secret of happiness.

Let's thank God this month of Thanksgiving, for the little common things of every day; the routine at which we rebel at times, and call monotonous; the duties which we are compelled to do in spite of the little worries and tragedies which assail us. Thank God that we can bury our faces in the soft hair of our children; that we can make them and our husbands happy; that we can do "life's plain common work as it comes, certain that daily duties and daily bread are the sweetest things of life."

## Renovating Spots From Clothing

I RECEIVE many letters in the course of the year asking me how to renovate spots from clothing. Imagine how pleased I was then, to find that the government had issued a publication the object of which was to teach us how to take care of garments or fabrics which appear to be hopelessly stained. The name of the bulletin is "The Removal of Stains from Clothing and Other Textiles."

Uncle Sam says that if the housewife knows the cause of a stain, she can find a common-sense way to get rid of it by following the directions given in this bulletin. Methods are outlined for the removal of practically any kind of stain, from "acids" all the way through the alphabet to "white-wash." They have all been tested by experts.

One of the first requisites in removing stains, says the bulletin, is to know the kind of fabric which is spotted and, if possible, the nature of the stain. Some stain removers which will give admirable results on cotton, or linen may, if applied to woolen or silk, remove pieces of the fabric as well as the stain. Likewise stain removers which are entirely satisfactory for cleaning silk or woolen materials cannot always be used for removing stains from vegetable fibres, such as cotton or linen. Similarly, treatment which will remove some stains immediately will cause those of a different nature to take a firmer hold on the fabric.

The second cardinal principle in spot removal is to work while the stain is fresh. Cold or lukewarm water is usually the housewife's best bet for a first step, the bulletin indicates, if the nature of the stain is not known and if the fabric is not injured by water. Hot water should not be used until it is determined that the staining material is such that it will not be "set" by heat. Stains from meat juice, blood, egg, milk and other materials containing protein are set by hot water.

If stains are of such a nature that they will not yield to laundering or sponging with water or with water and soap, it is necessary to use one or more

of a number of chemicals. Besides water and soap the bulletin names as the substance most useful in removing stains, Javelle water, potassium permanganate solution, oxalic acid solution, ammonia water, carbon tetrachlorid, French chalk, and cream of tartar, each of which may be used successfully, provided the right one is used at the right time. Detailed instructions for treating various stains are contained in the publication. Copies of the publication, Farmers' Bulletin 861, may be had free so long as the supply lasts, on application to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

## Singeing the Hair

"I AM afraid to singe my own hair," complained the Highschool Girl to the Hairdresser. "A girl friend of mine burnoed hers almost off by singeing it."

"It is rather difficult," granted the Hairdresser, "but it can be done. The hair should be singed regularly every month. If you are afraid to singe it, instead of using a match, clip the ends with scissors. Singeing is much better, however, as it seals up the little tube which runs through each hair."

## God's Gifts

NOVEMBER came and hopelessly each day

A chill sun rose on clouds of darkest gray.  
We settled down for winter and felt sure  
That weary months of cold we must endure.

A week passed, and one day a golden sun  
Arose and cheered the heart of every one.  
All through the winter, every little while  
God gave such days; His gifts to make us smile.

ASORROW came, and crushed us to the earth;

We vowed we were forever done with mirth.

The laughing pleasures that were ours before

Would never come to cheer us any more.

We settled down to grief, but through our tears

Somehow we glimpsed the blessed, healing years.

We knew that God Upon our stricken soul

Would send His gifts sometime, to make us whole!

AND now that all the world is plunged in pain,

It seems we'll never be as glad again

As in those happy days before the war;

There is so much to make our hearts feel sore!

We've settled to despair; it seems so long

Before we'll sing together Freedom's song!

But God, who never failed us yet, will give

His gift of Peace that we in Peace may live!

—ANNE CAMPBELL STARK

"First comb the hair very carefully. Then make it into a number of small braids. Braid these very tightly. Now smooth each braid backwards; do you understand what I mean? No? Well, run your hand backwards over each braid, to draw out the ends of the hair."

"Then take your match, and run up and down the length of the braid, burning off all the little split ends. If you have braided it tightly, the braid itself will not catch fire. Perhaps you might find it easier to use a lighted candle for singeing. Place it on the dresser, and hold the braid just near enough to it to singe the ends of the hair. You can use your other hand to follow the tiny flames up the hair and put them out before they burn the braid."

"Of course, dear, the best way to do it to let me do it for you, or ask your mother to do it."

"However, when it is absolutely necessary to do it yourself, you will find my suggestion a good one."

## Uncle Sam's Thrift Thought

It is said that potatoes may be cooked in more ways than any other vegetable, and a score or more variations are within the knowledge of any good hotel chef. Seven ways, one for each day in the week, beginning with Monday's, Tuesday's and Wednesday's dinners, thru Thursday's lunch, Friday's dinner, Saturday's lunch, and Sunday's supper will be given from time to time in this paper.

### Stuffed Potatoes

Cut baked potatoes in half, remove the pulp, mash it, add enough milk for the usual consistency of mashed potatoes, and season with butter, salt, and pepper. Fill the baked skins with this mixture, dot the tops with butter and bake for eight or ten minutes in a hot oven. To vary this add to the mashed potatoes, before the skins are filled, any one of the following: Beaten white of egg (1 egg to 3 medium-sized potatoes); grated cheese (1-2 cupful to 3 medium-sized potatoes); chopped meat (1-2 cupful to 3 medium-sized potatoes); chopped parsley (1 tablespoonful to 3 medium-sized potatoes.)

## How to Mail Christmas Presents to Soldiers

THE LAST mail for the French front will be collected not later than Nov. 15th. The Government cannot promise to get away any parcels mailed after that time so that the boys will get them Christmas morning.

When you are wrapping your Christmas presents for the front, remember that there are thousands of others doing the same thing, and cover them with wrappers strong enough that they will resist the heavy pressure of the other mail. When there are several articles going in one parcel, including soap, candies, toilet articles, etc., be sure that the container is tightly bound up. Boxes or candy should be re-bound in wood, tin, or corrugated pasteboard. Be sure and protect the sharp points or edges of razors, knives, etc.

The address should be plainly written on one side and the words "Christmas Mail" should be written in a conspicuous place. The recipient's company, regiment, or other organization, followed by the words "American Expeditionary force," should be included in the address. In the upper left-hand corner the sender's name and address should be written in ink.

Postage must be prepaid at the rate of twelve cents for each pound or fraction thereof of a pound, and all Christmas parcels are now limited to seven pounds instead of ten, as first announced by Postmaster General Burleson. Parcels may be registered or insured at extra cost.

Do not paste stickers on to seal the parcel, and do not place Red Cross and other stamps on the address side of the parcel. Any pasters or stickers resembling postage stamps are not permitted to go through the mails on packages. Holiday greetings, such as "Merry Christmas," "Happy New Year," "With Best Wishes," "Please do not open until Christmas," etc., may be written on the outside of the parcel if this does not interfere with the address.

## To Kill Blackheads

THE UNSIGHTLY blemishes called blackheads, are often caused by improper diet, heads with which so many persons are and carelessness in washing the face. If your skin is thin and dry, use a pure castile soap in warm water, and wash the face thoroughly. If your skin is thick and greasy, then you cannot scrub it too vigorously. Once a day wash your face with green soap, according to the following directions:

Green soap is amber in color and comes in the form of a jelly paste. Wash your face in water as hot as you can stand, using green soap and a complexion brush. Rub the soap on the face freely, until a face lather is secured. Rinse in hot water. Apply more soap with the brush. Rinse in clear warm water. Then rinse in cold water and apply benzine to the face with a piece of clean soft cotton. Rinse again in cold water, and massage the skin with cold cream. In the morning dash cold water on the face.

## Some Don'ts For Careful Folks

If you want to be careful of your clothes here's some don'ts for you:

Don't mend your clothes after they are washed. Mend them before. A small hole will become a large one in washing.

Don't forget to brush your woolen clothes, suits, dresses, etc., frequently, and watch them closely for such matters as loose buttons, frayed skirt-brails, missing looks and eyes.





Cider apples have been selling at \$1 to \$1.10 per hundred pounds at Fennville, a few sales being reported as high as \$1.35.—*Allegan Gazette*.

Farmers in the vicinity of Eagle Lake west of Lawton, have been making an effort for several weeks to get in their beans. It is said that there are some fields of as high as twenty-five acres.—*Lawton Leader*.

Aside from his tailor shop, the automobile agency and various other things, Bill Watson of Fenton is doing some farming. During the past week he and a gang of helpers have been busily engaged in digging Murphies. Mr. Watson will have in the neighborhood of 1400 of 1500 bushels of potatoes. Aside from this he had a fine crop of rye on 23 acres, thus he will be all set for winter.—*Fenton Independent*.

Clare Lemen of Dexter recently bought of John Humphrey of Hamburg, 24 head of grade Shropshire breeding lambs, the produce of 12 ewes, that weighed 2292 pounds, at 15 1-2c a pound, bringing \$355.26. Last spring Mr. Humphrey sold to William Benham, of Brighton, the wool from the 12 ewes for \$50.50, which makes the total income from the ewes \$405.76.—*Dexter Leader*.

An up-state paper tells of a resident who has in his possession a grocer's day book kept during the Civil war from 1863 to 1866 by his father, Mayor Kaufman who kept a general store at Negaunee. It shows some interesting comparisons with the present high prices. Potatoes sold for \$2.50 per bushel, flour \$14 per barrel, beans \$1.50 a bushel, sugar from 16 to 25c a pound according to grade, matches 30c a box, peaches 60c per can, ham 28c a pound, salt pork 20c and lard 30c per lb. Prohibition laws were not very strict as the grocer was permitted to sell intoxicants. The book shows many entries of whiskey at 50 cents a pint. The cheapest tea was sold at \$2.32 per lb. Coffee was not weighed, but measured, and sold at 40c a pint. Salt and kerosene were away above the present prices, the former selling at 20c a pound and the latter at \$1 per gallon.

Never before has the price of cider apples reached the high spot of 1917. This week hundreds of loads have been marketed in Bangor at \$1.00 per hundred pounds. The season's price started at 55 cents and Barrett & Barrett got some at this price—in fact it seemed a very good price compared with former years, although we understand that it was about 20 cents below the price paid in surrounding towns. As soon as it was rumored that 75 cents would be paid when a car could be had in some instances the price jumped to 75 cents at Barrett's, while others were offered much less. The shortage of cars kept the price down, but when a car was secured it jumped to \$1.00 per hundred immediately, and Barrett & Barrett paid the same—that is, if the farmer happened to see their man on the street and get a ticket to that effect—otherwise he didn't get so much. The result is that three cars of cider apples, containing about 60,000 pounds each, have been shipped out, while the local mill has got a few. Of course we would not attempt to tell Barrett & Barrett how to conduct their business—that's up to them—but it makes a farmer very weary to get an offer of 55 cents for his apples when his neighbor across the road gets 75 cents. It's not to be wondered at that the outside buyer gets the cider apples.—*Bangor Advance*.

[EDITOR'S NOTE:—Just a typical example of how the local buyer holds up the farmer when there is no competition, and loses the cream of the business when outside buyers come in.]

The early beets harvested this season contained about 17 per cent of sugar. The continued rains had the effect of reducing the sugar content to about 14 per cent, but with dry, sunny weather it is expected that the beets still in the ground will improve in quality.—*Blissfield Advance*.

A short time ago we mentioned an exceptionally fine field of potatoes on the farm of Stephen Shepard, north of the city a mile. The field contains by measurement one and seven-eighths acres, and when the potatoes were dug the first of the week they showed a yield of 447 bushels per acre. If anyone in Michigan or any other state can beat that this year, we should be glad to hear from them. Until we do we claim for Mr. Shepard and Charlevoix county the champion field of potatoes in 1917.—*East Jordan Enterprise*.

Dr. Newton of the state division of the federal bureau of animal industry was in Adrian conferring with C. L. Coffeen, director of the Lenawee Co. farm bureau and with Dr. Kilmer, the Lenawee resident representative of the federal bureau of animal industry. Dr. Newton at the present time is working for the prevention of hog cholera. Michigan as a whole is free from that stock plague at the present time but there are a few scattered cases. Kalamazoo county has the largest number of cases and the poor farm in that county is in danger of losing some stock because of the existence of the disease. According to Mr. Coffeen and Dr. Kilmer, Lenawee is practically free of hog cholera. Some evidences of the disease are still found in Ogden and Riga townships but the situation is said to be under perfect control.—*Adrian Telegram*.

#### DON'TS FOR FEDERAL LOAN BORROWERS

Don't try to get money enough from the bank to pay the full contract purchase price of land you are buying.

Don't apply for more money than you need; you may want to borrow on a second mortgage some day. If your mortgage is small you may increase the loan thereafter.

Don't think your appraiser is a cold-blooded shlylock. He isn't. He is working in your interest as well as the interest of the bank.

Don't spend borrowed money for an automobile when the implement shed is empty.

Don't ask for \$1,000, expecting to be cut down to \$700. The banks look with more favor on the borrower whose application is approved in full by the appraiser.

Don't think the first loan will end your business with the bank. Some time in the future if you need more money, and a re-appraisal of your property may justify an increase in the future when you need it.

Don't think the Federal Land Banks were created to make money from the farmer. They do business for you on a cost basis.

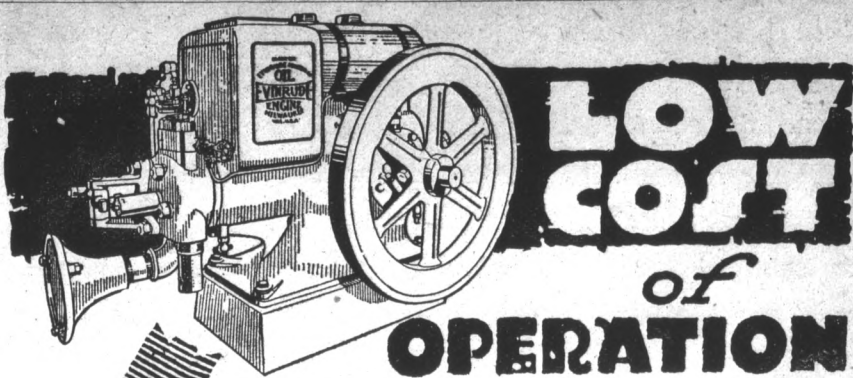
Don't ask for more in the way of a loan than could be obtained from any careful lender.

Don't inflate your values on land or buildings in order to obtain large loan. You will be disappointed after the appraisal is made.

Don't fail to answer every question asked in the application if you desire the banks to give you quick service.

Don't suppress the facts; state the answer truthfully.

Don't offer the poorest of your possessions for the loan wanted; and keep your best land unincumbered.



## LOW COST of OPERATION

THE steady price increase and scarcity of gasoline have demanded economy in farm power fuel.

The foremost feature back of this new farm engine is its proven economy. Constructed throughout for the perfect combustion of kerosene and fuel oils, it operates at a clear saving of **four-fifths** of the fuel cost—a saving so ample as to be a conclusive recommendation in itself.

However, other features of unusual merit have combined to make the

## EVINSRUD OIL ENGINE

(unconditionally guaranteed)

the final word in economical, simple and efficient farm power.

The usual maze of mechanism is lacking—no carburetor or mixing valve to become disarranged—no timer to get out of adjustment. Neither has it batteries, magneto, wiring, coils, spark plug or switches to provide the usual annoyance of faulty ignition.

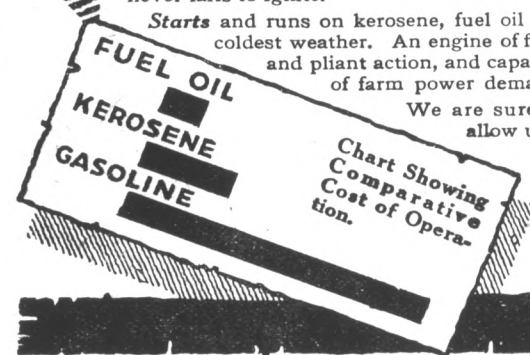
An old principle—that high compression produces extreme heat—is employed for ignition. The fuel is introduced directly into the cylinder and never fails to ignite.

Starts and runs on kerosene, fuel oil or any oil that flows, even in the coldest weather. An engine of final simplicity, inherently smooth and pliant action, and capable of the heavy strains and grief of farm power demands, is placed within your reach.

We are sure you will be interested; at least allow us to send you a catalog.

DEALERS—Responsible dealers are invited to write for full information as to exclusive territory.

EVINSRUD MOTOR CO.  
718 Evinrude Bldg. Milwaukee, Wis.  
Also manufacturers of the Evinrude Detachable Rowboat and Canoe Motor



## Michigan Live Stock Insurance Co.

Home Office: Graebner Bldg., Saginaw, W. S., Michigan.  
Executive Office: 319 Widdicombs Bldg., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

This Company is backed by more than 500 of the best live stock farmers of the state, and we have more than \$100,000 deposited with the State Treasurer as a guarantee of the Company's responsibility.

We insure all live stock—horses, cattle, sheep and hogs against death from any cause.

We issue individual and blanket policies covering any and all conditions—herd policies, feeding policies, shipping policies, 30 day foaling policies, etc.

We want a local agent to represent us in every community in Michigan.

We want every farmer in the State of Michigan to insure his live stock with us.

We will give you a square deal  
Write for information.

Colon C. Lillie, Pres. and Supt. of Agts.  
Harmon J. Wells, Sec'y and Gen. Mgr.

**WE HANDLE HAY, POTATOES, POULTRY, VEAL, Etc.,**  
and guarantee through our farmers'-owned company to give an honest return for every shipment. No one can look after your interests to better advantage on the Detroit or other markets. Write what you have to sell, or call and see me. **N. F. SIMPSON, Gen. Mgr., THE CLEARING HOUSE, 323 Russell St., Detroit, M.**  
(In writing please mention Michigan Business Farming.)

#### DEPARTMENT ASKS EARLY PURCHASE AUTO LICENSE

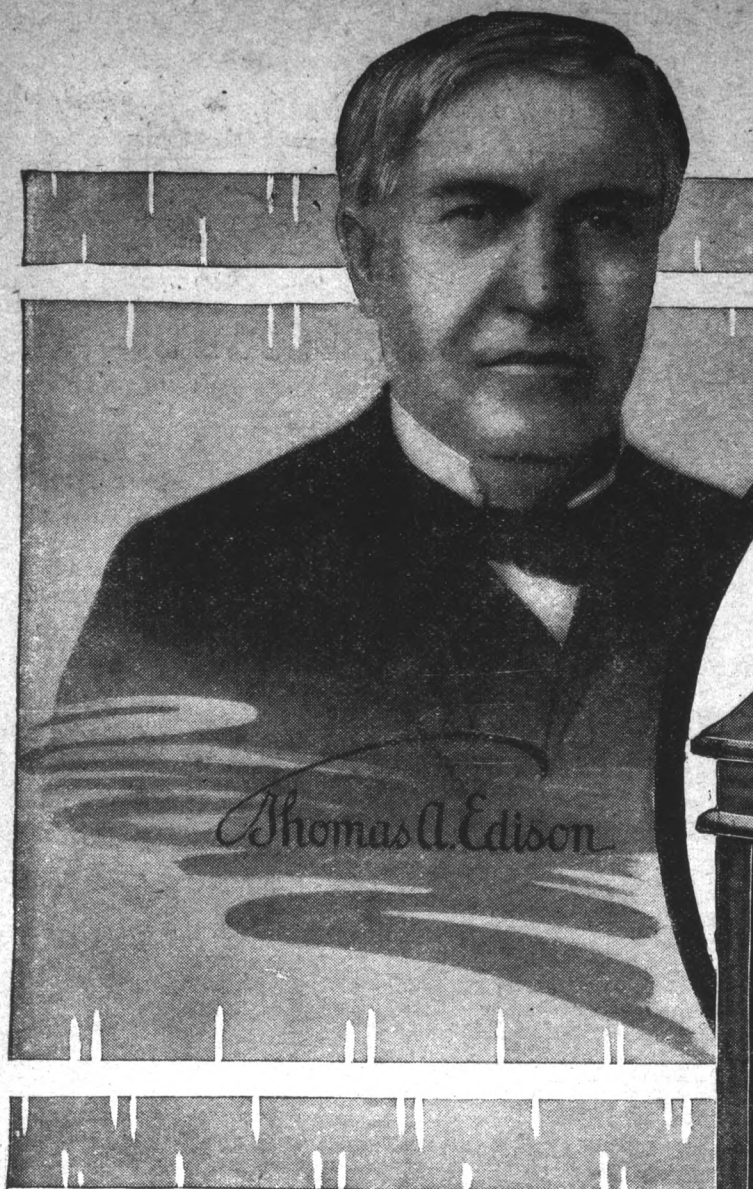
The Department of State, charged with collecting the state tax on motor vehicles, would be glad if those interested in registering cars by January 1st would send in their applications at once. Holding back until January, by those who want plates immediately, imposes a great task on the Department and occasions delay

and discomfort that can readily be avoided if applications are sent in this month or early in December. All those who will require plates are urged to take prompt action as suggested.

NOTE—For the year 1917 to November 1st, registration under the Motor Vehicle law was as follows: Pleasure cars, 205,557; commercial cars, 19,518; chauffeurs, 19,651; transfers, 10,882; motor cycles, 8,685; manufacturers and dealers, 850. Motor tax collected, \$2,469,812.08.



## Mr. Edison's Wonderful New Phonograph



**Only  
\$1.00**

*For years, the world's greatest inventor worked night and day to make the music of the phonograph true to life. At last he has succeeded. Now that you can get THE BEST on the wonderful offer below, you need no longer be satisfied with anything less than Mr. Edison's great instrument. Just read below how easily you may have the genuine New Edison in your home.*

**and after trial!**

Yes, we will send you the New Edison, the product of the world's greatest inventor's genius, the phonograph with the wonderful diamond stylus reproducer and your choice of latest Diamond Amberol Records on *free trial without a penny down*. On this offer, you can now have the genuine Edison, the instrument which gives you real, home-like music, the finest and best of all phonographs at a small fraction of the price asked for imitations of Mr. Edison's great instrument. *Seize this opportunity! Send coupon today—now!*

### Rock-Bottom Direct Offer—

If, after the free trial, you decide to keep Mr. Edison's superb new instrument, send us only \$1.00. Pay the balance on easiest kind of monthly payments. Think of it! A \$1.00 payment, and a few dollars a month to get this wonderful new style outfit—Mr. Edison's great phonograph with the Diamond Stylus reproducer, all the musical results of the highest price outfits—the same Diamond Amberol Records—yes, the greatest value for \$1.00 down, balance on easiest monthly terms. Convince yourself—free trial first. No money down, no C. O. D., not one cent to pay unless you choose to keep the instrument. Send coupon!

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Happiness is life—and real happiness is found only in a real home. And by a *real home* I do not mean a house with a yard or farm around it. Oh, no! A real home is the place where the happy and united family gather together for mutual enjoyment and recreation. And the Edison makes this possible, for it stands supreme as the greatest home entertainer. It will mean more than amusement, yes, it will mean genuine pleasure of the lasting sort—helpful entertainment and culture of the most beneficial kind. It will mean the family united—a new home.



### Entertain Your Friends

Get the New Edison in your home on free trial. Entertain your family and friends with the latest up-to-date song hits of the big cities. Laugh until your sides ache at the funniest of funny minstrel shows. Hear the grand old church hymns. Hear the crashing brass bands, the waltzes, the two-steps, the solos, the duets and quartettes. You will sit awe-stricken at the wonderful grand operas as sung by the world's greatest singers. You will be moved by the tender, sweet harmony of quartettes singing those old melodies that you have heard all your life. Make your choice of any kind of entertainment. All on free trial. Then, after the trial, send the outfit back at our expense if you choose. Or keep it on our great rock-bottom offer. **Send the coupon today!**