

"—for all the Farmers of Michigan!"



MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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WORLD FACES FAMINE, SAYS LORD RHONDDA

British Food Controller Issues Warning and Emphasizes Need of Increased Production if the World is to be Spared From Hunger

"The food wanted by mankind does not exist. The word *SHORTAGE* is not strong enough for the situation. To put the matter bluntly, the whole world is up against a nasty thing, familiar to the people of India, called *FAMINE*."—LORD RHONDDA, British Food Controller.

Thus reads a bulletin sent out a few days ago by the United States Food Administration, without comment.

Are these mere words, or does Lord Rhondda, who is probably without exception the best posted food authority in the world today, actually believe that only a few brief months stand between the nations of the earth and starvation?

The hint of this thing has been contained in every government bulletin issued during the past several months, and it will be remembered that Prof. Schurman of Cornell University sounded the same warning in an address to New York farmers about a fortnight ago. There has been an insistent cry for increased production from the very day this nation entered the war, but very few farmers, farm publications or farm organizations could believe that the situation was anywhere near as acute as Lord Rhondda's short, ugly words would indicate.

And why? Because those in authority who have sounded the warnings have absolutely failed to follow them up with a single practical plan for helping the farmers to produce the food needed to prevent a famine.

If the world faces famine and those in authority know it, then why hasn't there been ACTION to PREVENT it?

If the world faces famine, why is there a maximum price on wheat which allows so narrow a margin of profit that it has discouraged the planting of this vital essential?

If the world faces famine, why has not the American farmer been provided with capital, immediate capital, ample capital with which to finance his undertaking?

If the world faces famine, why has the Food Administration put into effect a grading rule on potatoes which paralyzed the movement of that crop last fall, and which is entirely responsible for the tens of thousands of tons of potatoes that have been frozen in pits and cellars, or fed to the live stock? A rule

WHAT EXPERIENCE DO YOU HAVE IN BORROWING MONEY?

A farmer recently sent us a promissory note which he had given to a certain bank up-state, showing that the bank had charged him a bonus of \$5 for a loan of \$50 for seven months. The bank had included the \$5 bonus on the face of the note, and had then charged the farmer seven per cent on the whole thing! Usury, pure and simple! Contrary to the laws of the state of Michigan.

We want to know what experiences our farmer friends are having this year in borrowing money. Is it difficult to get? What interest do you pay? Will your local dealers take your note for machinery, tools, fertilizer, etc.? Every property owner has borrowed money at some time or other. Tell us about it. Your name will be held in strict confidence if you so desire. We want to find out just exactly what the farmers are up against in this respect.

that has cost the farmers of Michigan a million dollars and will force them to cut their 1918 acreage almost in two.

If the world faces famine how do we explain the wholesale drafting of farm helpers into the national army, crippling the farm factories and curtailing production?

If the world faces famine, why is the machinery of food production subjected to all kinds of arbitrary regulations, price control, labor shortage and kindred handicaps which cause friction and destroy the efficiency of the machine?

No, no, Lord Rhondda must be mistaken. There may be a little shortage, but—hunger and famine,—preposterous!

If the world faces famine today, the governments of the world should have sensed its coming six months ago, in which event they would have taken steps to ward off the disaster. Abundant capital would have been provided to finance the farm factories; minimum prices, flexible enough and high enough would have been guaranteed so that every farmer might be reasonably sure of a profit; there would have been no regulations to hamper the movement of agriculture; and not a single farm hand would have been drafted into military service.

The world facing famine? It cannot be true,—and yet, Lord Rhondda ought to know.

LOWER MILK PRICE IN THE DETROIT AREA APRIL FIRST

Detroit milk consumers are preparing for a novel departure from a hard and fast rule of many years standing. Beginning April 1st, the price of milk will be DECREASED from 14 to 13 cents per quart and from 8 to 7 cents per pint. Oh, no, this concession isn't one entirely made by the Detroit dealers,—far from it. Approximately eleven-twelfths of this decrease comes out of the pockets of the pro-

(Continued on page 16)

FARMERS STILL HOLD MANY WET BEANS

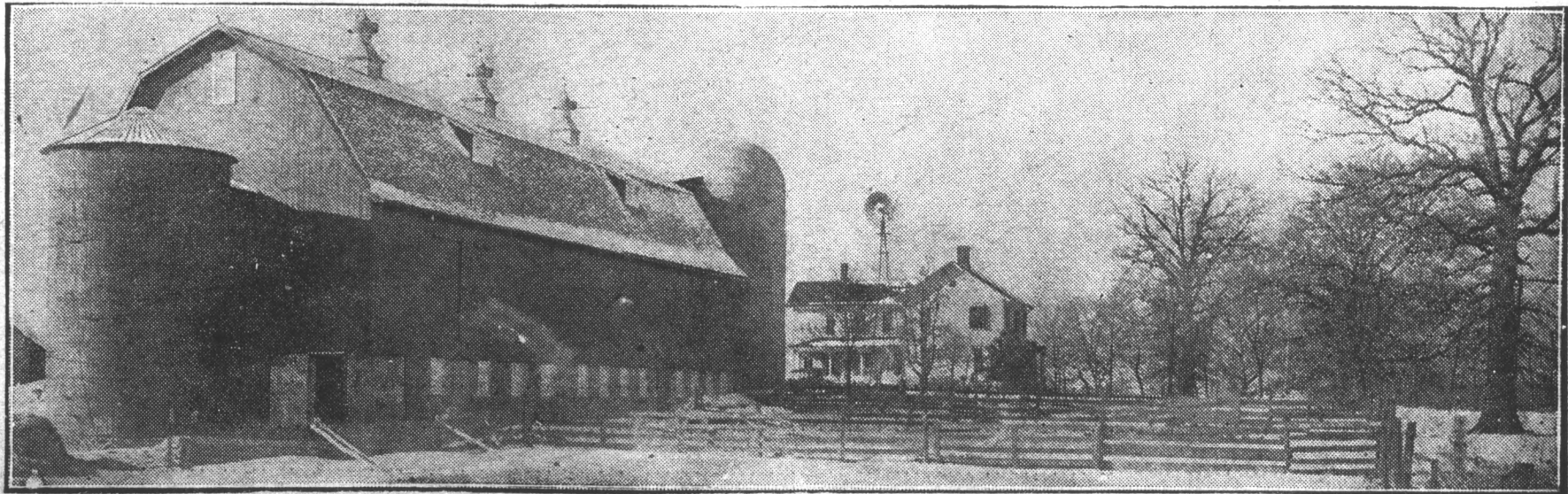
State Bean Authority Estimates That Nearly a Million Bushels of Wet and Frozen Stock Still in Growers' Hands and in Danger of Spoiling

Three quarters of a million bushels of beans still remain in the hands of the farmers, not including large quantities which have not been threshed, and which on account of their condition never will be, according to F. E. Lewellyn, of the Lewellyn Bean Company of Grand Rapids. Of those in sight, he estimates that nearly 60% are damp or frosted.

The gravity of the Michigan bean situation is realized by all who have been in close touch with the situation. As recently as a fortnight ago, the bean division at Washington communicated with MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING and asked this publication if it could make any constructive suggestions as to how best the Food Administration could assist in utilizing the balance of the crop still in the growers' hands and saving them for human consumption. What could we say, with warm weather less than thirty days away? What machinery could be got in motion during that short period of time to do any material good? The time to have planned for the saving of these beans was right after harvest when the entire winter lay before us, and not on the verge of spring.

Several causes have contributed to aggravate the situation. In the first place, the Food Administration attempted to set a price on Michigan beans, and during the normal marketing season kept the growers and dealers on the anxious seat by the threat that the government might commandeer Michigan beans for the use of the army and navy. Of course, this discouraged all trading, and was responsible for holding back many beans which might otherwise have gone onto the market earlier in the season.

One of the first men in Michigan to appreciate the real gravity of the bean situation was Edward Frensdorf, acting warden of Jackson state prison, and his efforts to induce the Food Administration and Michigan War Preparedness board to lend their aid in saving these beans, is now history. Altho the state legislature voted the sale of five million dollars worth of bonds to create a war fund for just such emergencies as this, for some reason or other, it flatly refused to use any of these funds to equip state institutions to can or dry these beans, and if it is a fact that hundreds of thousands of bushels yet remain in the growers' hands because of the lack of canning or drying facilities, someone has got something to answer for.



Washtenaw County Dairy Farm where Carl F. and B. N. Braun of Ann Arbor are building up a fine Holstein herd.

CURRENT MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL NEWS

THE FARMERS OF MICHIGAN WOULD GROW SORGHUM AGAIN

According to the *Belding Banner* the farmers of Ionia county are showing a renewed interest in sorghum growing. A few years ago sorghum was raised in more or less abundance in various sections of the state but the increased production of sugar beets materially lessened the demand for sorghum syrups, and the industry gradually declined. The present shortage of sugars of all kinds bids fair to establish a larger and perhaps permanent demand for sorghum, and it is probable that many farmers will take up its culture. Sorghum is a foreign plant to many people of Michigan. It is species of millet, but grows more like corn. The leaves are similar to corn and it has a tendency to succor. The seeds grow in a cluster at the top and resemble broom corn, except the head is shorter. The seed makes excellent poultry feed, and the leaves cannot be surpassed as fodder for cows. Hence every part of the plant

can be utilized. Five or six pounds of seed will plant an acre, making seed for a few acres a small item.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING has already had several requests for the names of firms who can supply this seed, and our investigations along this line have disclosed the facts that the seed is very scarce this year and difficult to get.

If any of our readers are interested in the commercial growing of sorghum, we shall be glad upon request to secure all information possible regarding the kind of soil required for the crop, the preparation, seeding, care and harvesting, and the marketing.

Gladwin—The business men of Gladwin, unlike those of many other places, are going to offer the farmers something besides advice in meeting the coming labor emergency. An organization called the Business Men's and Farmers' Emergency club which recently had its advent here will do a great deal towards solving some of the problems. The avowed object of the club is to

assist the farmers by sending men to the farms. Every loyal citizen of Gladwin who wishes to work on farms whenever they can find the time are registering. Many business and professional men have pledged themselves to assist farmers in times of pressing need by going themselves to the farms for a certain number of hours each day.

Evart—The milk condensary, destroyed by fire on the morning of January 4, is to be rebuilt at once. The insurance has been adjusted, and plans for a modern, fireproof building are now ready for the workmen. The capacity of the new plant will be much larger than the one destroyed by fire, and will furnish an excellent market for milk to the rapidly developing dairying section surrounding Evart.

Gaylord—The Gaylord-Mackinaw road will soon be a prominent thoroughfare. Representatives of nine counties at the Gaylord meeting recently were enthusiastic for the new route. The route is part of the Detroit to Mackinaw tour which is being pushed by various interests in the state. The route has many scenic attractions, and passes through several important towns, and skirts a number of lakes.

REPORTS FROM FARMERS ON 1917 AND 1918 ACREAGE AND LIVE STOCK PRODUCTION. SEND YOURS TODAY

NAME	Wheat		Corn		Oats		Rye		Beans		Potatoes		Hay		S. Beets		Cattle		Hogs	
	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917
Mich. State Sanatorium, Howell			60	30							10	12	38	28			55	50		
O. A. Deeter, Isabella			15	15	10	8	10		2	18	3	10	12			14	9			9
L. A. Bowen, Isabella			10	15	10	17	19			19	1	17	20			7	17	11	18	
Bert Mellinger, Gratiot	25	50	18	30	10	7			20	40	1 1/2	2	40	25			15	15	2	120
W. R. Enyart, Mecosta	4		8	8	24	4	18	10	8	12	1	14	30	6			12	6	3	3
Delos G. Wright, Clare	10	4	8	8	6	1 1/2	14	6	18	32	1	1	19	12			12	29	1	11
W. J. Church, Grand Traverse	8		8	8		8	30	8		4	8	16	20	28			4	4	5	1
J. B. Kinyon, Ogemaw	6	4	4	8	7	7			1	1 1/2	1 1/2	12	19		1		11	12	10	10
A. J. Wise, Lenawee	10	7	30	24	12	12	25		2	4	1 1/2	4	25	22			16	20	11	23
R. E. Davenport, Kent	10	10	7	5	12	12	15		10	9	3	9	7	10			5	9	5	7
Wm. Jessmore, Arenac			8	5	26	6	3		5	3	2 1/2	1	37	10			8	3	1	1
Leon E. Empe, Kent	8	7	5	5	20	25	15	10	33	28	10	20	37	33			2	2	6	12
Jesse Loder, Saginaw	2		8	10	9	5			10	10	1 1/2	5	8		1		7	9	1	18
Geo. H. Brown, Allegan	5	10	15	14	9	10	8		6		2	3	25	19			12	9	9	7
Joseph J. Yoder, Newaygo	8	7 3/4	13 1/2	9	7	4 3/4	1				6 1/2	19	20				6	7	1	5
Dater Manogly, Montcalm	10		10	10	10	5			14	16	7	10	9	20			10	10	7	5
Aaron Johnson, Montcalm	8	8	8	4	10	7			4		4	12	16	10						
Garrit Bierma, Osceola			13	11	6	16			11	6	4	11	16	4						
Herman H. Weber, Midland	18		10	14	5	14					5	12	20	18			3	7	3	12
Louis A. Gregger, VanBuren	14 1/2	8	10	11 1/2	11 1/2	13						25	23				9	9		
A. P. Hart, Eaton			15	15	18	12			13	1 1/2	1	30	25			7	13	6	1	30
Chas. A. Smith, Lapeer	8	8	16	18	8	9					5	8	15	8			10	10		
C. M. Abbott, Ingham			10	13	16	14				8	1	1	19	10			6	8	8	21
E. S. Britton, Montcalm			9	10	14	7	4		3	8	5	8	11	11			17	15	3	6
R. H. Simons, Presque Isle	1	2	2	13 1/2	4	11	18	10	3 1/2	3 1/2	2	2	42	40			10	10		3
Roy Buchingham, Eaton			8	8	14	13 1/2	7 1/2	10	6	7	1	1	17	20			8	9	7	9
John Pabst, Saginaw	10	6	18	18	18	23	7 1/2		18	4	1 1/2	1 1/2	20	18			15	15	40	40
Mrs. F. V. Wilmot, Kalkaska		4 1/2	8	8	8	7	4		1	1	5	8	20	22	1		10	11	10	10
E. C. C., Oceana			5	5	15	16			15	15	10	13	21	13			3	1	1	3
S. C. Lee, Montcalm	8	6	2	8	10	6	7	5	13	13	3	7	12	16			5	5	1	7
J. E. Small, Isabella	8	5	10	12	12	10			3	8	1 1/2	1 1/2	12	8			12	12	1	17
D. Jones, Osceola	9	2 1/2	9	7	12	7			3	5	2	2	21	28	1		10	10	1	12
F. A. Sprague, Wexford			12	9	10	6	25	3	10	11	5	10	6	20			8	10		
O. L., Wexford			7	7	3		7	5	10	1 1/2	1	6	18	18			6	6	3	3
G. W. Balfour & Son, St. Clair	20	20	20	23	28	14			2	4	1 1/2	1 1/2	32	32			23	19	4	2
John F. Cook, Tuscola	15	8	15	14	20	20			6	8	1	6	30	40			2	6	2	2
Elmer C. Wilk, Muskegon			5	4	4	4 1/2	15	5	9	9	1	1	16	12			8	10	2	1
Matt Freeland, Kent	21	16	10	10	17	13			10	16	4	5	25	23			17	17	7	5
Geo. V. Smith, Mecosta		4	12	7	14	4	5		5	14	2	5	10	8			8	5	1	1
Oliver Munsom, Osceola			10	12	12	13	23		1	13	5	1	10	5			4	5	1	1
J. F. Puterbaugh, Mason	8		8	8	10	4			8	20	1 1/2	5	5	13			19	11	7	2
W. C. Coffman, St. Joseph	1	1	4	5	1	1			1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1	24	20			25	25	30	10
J. M. W., Livingston			10	28	10	28	25	8	10	15	1 1/2	1	37	43			25	25	3	20
Paul O. Marvin, Muskegon	9	5	15	15	15	10		4	8	25	1	3	12	8			25	30	2	2
Wm. A. Olson, Cheboygan	5		15	15	15	9	5		25	30	7	10	18	14			3	5	2	3
J. E. S. Keoch, Montcalm	20	20			10	11			3	1	1 1/2	1	16	14			11	9	1	1
Carl L. Ebeling, Emmet	3		7		5	1	8 1/2	2 1/2	1	1	1 1/2	1	16	14			11	9	4	4
Wm. E. Halfmann, Clinton	23	16	18	15	12	18			3	8	1	1	12 1/2	8	1/4	1/4	22	23	3	4
Walter F. Crawford, Montcalm	16 1/2	21	2 1/2	7 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	7 1/2		5	10	7	7	35	38			20	10	2	9
L. J. Johnson, Manistee			16	15	12	9	12	5	5	10	7	7	35	38			17	27	2	4
A. H. Cleveland, St. Clair	40	5	15	10	30	15	25	12	8	15	1	2	24	21			20	10	3	9
N. E. Higgins & Sons, Ionia	10	17	13	10	20	7			8	15	1	2	24	21			17	27	2	4
E. P. Kinney, Ingham	35	20	40	30	30	20	45	5	20	40	10	5	40	20			17	15	5	4
Carl G. Marschner, Otsego	2		2	5	9	12	8	6			2	7	25	18			2	6	3	11
Ben Richards, Wexford		4 1/2	10	5	14	8			1 1/2	1 1/2	2	8	40	40			10	10	1	2
Edward Emery, Allegan	12	14	15	18	14	12			1	1	1	1	15	15			5	5	40	20
V. V. Knox, Wexford			7	7	6	3	1 1/2	1 1/2	2	5 1/2	1 1/2	1	11	6	2		20	15	2	2
Clare R. Shotwell, Montcalm		15	13	8	10	2	30		8	22	4	7	12	22			1	2	2	5
E. C. Koch, St. Joseph			4	13	18	6					2	3	2	6			21	24	9	17
C. S. Wilson, Ingham	31	22	24	30	38	23			8	32	2	2	40	28	8		4	11	20	20
Edward Knaup, Ingham	6 1/2	10	8 1/2	10	22	14			8 1/2	8	1	3 1/2	17	24			12	23	1	10
D. E. Swift, Montcalm			10	20	10	35	7	6	14	12	2	12	26	18			11	10	10	24
O. G. Weeks, Ionia		10	25	20	30	19			14	30	2	1 1/2	30	24			9	9	2	2
Valmer Bigler, Montcalm	4		8	7	7	4	5	10		4	2	5	16	15			15	12	4	8
Geo. Lattenbacher, Saginaw	9	7	9	17	12	12			8	6	5	1 1/2	22	25			8	10	2	3
D. L. Reed, Mason	1	1	5		4	10	5		5	5	5	5	20	10			4	4		
Ben J. Marshall, Presque Isle	7		5	8	8	7	5		22	7	5	11	35	40			Same	as last year		
W. E. Horton, Wexford	8	8	5	8	12	8	3		2	7	5	11	35	40			7	10	4	10
Irving B. Davis, Bay			5	5	11	13			11	10	1 1/2	1 1/2	10	7			18	18	15	35
Martin Anderson, Tuscola		8	10	10	18	15			8	15	8	8	20	20			25	20	8	10
H. D. Hanson, Mecosta		5	16	18	16	24			5 1/2	6	6	1	35	24			4	2	4	1
S. E. Hopkins, Grand Traverse			5	4 1/2			4 1/2	7	2	2	1	2	10	6			12	8	12	9
A. L., Mecosta	6	10	15		10	6	23	18	10	3	5	1	18	15			1	3	2	2
A. R. Benjamin, Mason			8	4	8	5			2	1 1/2	2	1 1/2	14	9			8	8	20	10
Fred J. Reeves, Ionia	10	9	14	8	10	18		10	18	30	8	16	10	10			5	15	2	2
John Mueller, Saginaw	5		15	13	16	14	5		3	7	1 1/2	1 1/2	14	21			9	7	2	8
Roy S. Moody, Osceola	8		12	8	18	17	5	5	10	10	5	5	23	25			5	3	12	16
Hiram Vannetter, Kalkaska	4		12	6	4	8	20	15	3	3	9	12	7				2	2		
Jose Lake Fruit Farm, Ogemaw			10	6	5	3	6	2	2	3	2	5	5	3			5	3	12	16
E. W. Newark, Allegan			15	10			27	25	14	22	1 1/2	1 1/2	11	10			Same live stock			
P. W. S., Ionia	32	41	30	53	18	25					1	2 1/2	15	8						
S. H. Slagle, Wexford	4		4	4	4		3				1	2 1/2								

WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Word comes from Russia that American Ambassador Francis has taken refuge at Vologda, 375 miles east of Petrograd, where he awaits the culmination of the impending struggle between the invading Germans and the Bolsheviks. The Germans have been reported within less than five hours ride from the Russian capitol, and all factions are rallying about the Bolshevik flag to repel them. Lenine and Trotsky, who formulated a separate peace with Germany and Austria to meet the popular demand, now admit the folly of such a course, and since their plan of arousing the proletariat of those two countries to rise in revolution has failed, they are forced to renew fighting if Russia is to be spared the fate of Poland and Belgium. Ambassador Francis' decision to remain so near the theater of the struggle is looked upon as a comforting sign that he does not believe Germany will succeed in her effort to over-run Russia. The new menace which Germany presents to Russia may be the very thing needed to bring the Bolsheviks back to earth and inspire them to save Russia first from her outside enemies and postpone the inner salvation until the German danger has been effectively removed.

The President is preparing an answer to the German councilor's latest peace "feeler," which is expected to be the hottest arraignment of German militarism the President has uttered. Count Hertling's attempt to draw a comparison between the British and American aims with those of Germany's has aroused within the President a deep resentment. However, von Hertling has asked some very pertinent questions which must be answered completely. Mr. Balfour, Britain's secretary of state, believes that all peace discussions should be taboo until Germany is defeated, and he cannot subscribe to President Wilson's repeated attempts to draw forth from Germany a clear definition of its war aims. In Balfour's opinion no peace proposal that Germany might make could be depended upon, and that consequently further parleys are not only useless but weakening to the morale of the allied countries. Fortunately, the President has his own views on this matter and will continue to make all honorable efforts possible to hasten the blessed day of peace.

Equal suffrage last week added another strong champion to its constantly increasing ranks in the person of Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire, the Republican senate leader, who openly announced himself in favor of the measure now pending before the senate and which has already passed the House. He told the senate he hoped the bill would pass. Senator Gallinger is one of those politicians who maintains a discreet silence upon measures of this kind until popular opinion has given them its approval.

Congress would employ the most drastic measures in detecting and punishing German sympathizers and agents who destroy or attempt to destroy munitions or supplies of war. A bill that has just been reported out of the house judiciary committee provides a penalty of a \$10,000 fine or thirty years' imprisonment, or both, for the destruction of arms, ammunition, food supplies, or the burning or dynamiting of war factories, mines, machinery, bridges, docks and vessels.

The railroad bill as finally passed by the house gives President Wilson unlimited power to fix freight and passenger rates, and extends the time of government control until two years after the close of the war. The senate amended its previous action in determining that control should end with the war by extending the time limit to eighteen months. The bill now goes to conference between committees of the two legislative branches.

American ingenuity will be put to a severe test when the "non-sinkable" ship, "Lucia" leaves the port of New York this week to bid defiance to the German submarines. Little is known by the public of the method that has been employed to make the "Lucia" impregnable to the submarine's torpedo, but her sponsors fearlessly claim that she will make the journey safely and successfully foil any efforts made by the enemy to sink her.

Mr. Hoover has modified his ban on meats by temporarily suspending his meatless meal and porkless Saturday order. Increased meat production and the necessity for still greater saving in wheat, it was stated, made the change advisable.

The supply of meat products has increased very materially, according to Mr. Hoover. It is less necessary to conserve meat products, but very much more necessary to still further conserve wheat products. Mr. Hoover is in hope a slightly increased meat consumption will result in still further wheat saving. So long as present conditions continue, so stated Mr. Hoover, the only special restrictions asked on meat are the beefless and porkless Tuesday.

WAR WIRES

The Government has taken summary action against mismanaged shipyards. Twenty-four steel ship contracts have been cancelled. Inspection of shipyards is now being made with a view to commander and place them under government control.

During the last four weeks the United States has run ahead of England in the war savings drive by thrift stamps, England selling \$37,000,000 of them against \$40,000,000 by the United States. The total American savings are now in excess of \$70,000,000 and are coming in at the rate of 2,000,000 a day.

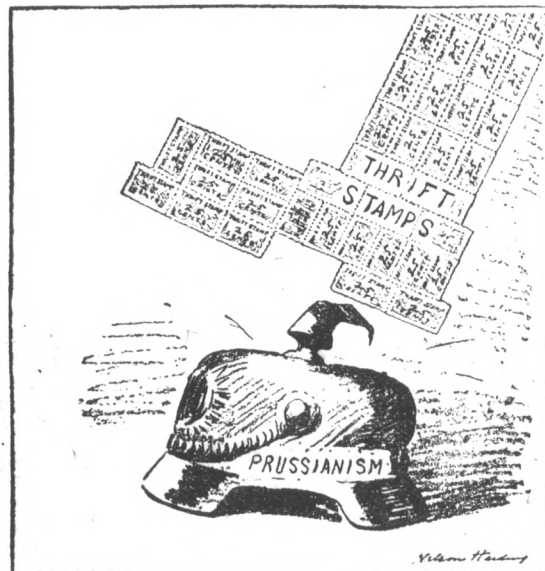
The Russian situation continues to hold the center of the stage in the world war drama. Latest advices state that Ambassador Francis, together with the French and British embassies, has left Petrograd, and as an indication that conditions there after the departure of the Ambassador and staff, has also left the capital. So far as is known at this time the Germans still continue their advance on Petrograd. Austria has refused to join the present offensive, declaring a sort of neutrality, which is taken to indicate a difference of opinion between the Berlin and Vienna governments, and that Austria is tired of the war and does not wish to again arouse Russian sentiment against her. Many authorities contend that this attitude on the part of Austria will compel Germany to abandon the present offensive in Russia.

America and the entente allies are now seriously considering joining Japan in a campaign in eastern Siberia to counteract German activities there. The main object is to save the vast supply of military stores at Vladivostok and along the Siberian railway. Should America decide to join in this movement troops would be dispatched from the Philippine Islands and the Pacific coast. Japan is anxious to co-operate with the allies and only awaits the word to begin operations.

American troops are being constantly transported to France and the number now there, while no positive figures are available, much greater than is generally supposed. American artillery forces are now operating with the Italian armies in Italy, and many American big guns are now in action on that front. Receipt of this information has caused considerable surprise as it was not generally known that an American expeditionary force had been sent to Italy.

An official note announcing that Roumania has decided to enter into peace negotiations with the central powers declares reports that Roumania would accept peace at any price are unfounded. The government, it is added, will only enter into negotiations if assured that they will be conducted on a basis acceptable in every way.

Reports have been received of an action between American troops and Germans in the salient north of Toul, during which the fighting was the most serious of any so far participated in by the expeditionary forces. The German attack was a complete failure and after their withdrawal the ground on before the American trenches was strewn with German dead. There were also severe losses among the Americans, a list of dead not being available at this time. The attack was launched during a storm of driving wet snow. The Germans opened the attack by loosing great quantities of gas, followed by heavy artillery fire. Then came the attacking party and a desperate hand-to-hand conflict ensued. In this fight, as in all others since the one which occurred the first night the Americans were in the trenches, the Germans found the Sammies ready and more than a match for them.



STAMP IT DOWN

—Harding in the Brooklyn Eagle.

WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL DIGEST

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Exports of important foodstuffs, including wheat, corn and pork, showed a marked decrease for the seven months ended Jan. 31, 1918, over the period the year before, figures issued today by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce show. Export of beef products and oats increased during the same period. Exports of wheat fell from 90,166,662 to 29,538,326 bushels; pork shipments decreased from 871,078,192 pounds to 551,384,376 pounds, and corn exports from 32,269,707 to 14,417,728 bushels. Flour exports increased from 6,960,986 to 10,144,494 barrels, and feed products exports increased from 148,185,742 to 191,551,886 pounds. Oats gained from 54,931,735 to 65,164,474 bushels. The total value of all breadstuffs exported for the seven months was \$311,797,743, as against \$291,480,773 the year before. Meat and dairy products increased from \$190,035,557 to \$218,607,573. Exports of cotton and cotton seed oil also decreased, as well as crude oil and gasoline.

CHICAGO—W. F. Priebe, head of the poultry and egg division of the Hoover food board and H. B. Collins, assistant chief of the division of co-ordination of purchases for Mr. Hoover, have been revealed by Francis J. Heney, special federal investigator who is examining the files of Chicago's huge packing firms, as "dollar-a-year-men" for the government and at the same time so-called "\$10,000-a-year-men" on Swift & co. payrolls.

It is believed that a closer scrutiny of the personnel of the food administration would reveal many more "dollar-a-year" men receiving retainers from corporations who expect to profit by their hirelings' presence in Washington.

It is predicted there will be a house-cleaning in the food administration in the near future when aspiring politicians and grafters will make way for men more representative of the people and more careful of their interests.

FRENCH BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY HAS BEEN GREATLY CURTAILED

Information secured by the U. S. Food Administration on the beet sugar industry of France includes these important facts. In 1914 the battle line eliminated from French possession 203 of the 213 factories and a large proportion of them are still in the possession of the Germans. Last year not more than one-fourth as much sugar was produced as before the war. The yield of sugar per ton of beets shows a slight falling off since the war began, which may be due to shortage of both labor and fertilizers.

This serious decline in sugar production of France largely explains her dependence on imports and the necessity for the United States to share its normal supply with France.

THREE MILLION LESS SHEEP IN UNITED STATES SINCE 1914

Sheep in the United States averaged more than 51, 600,000 head during the three years before the war, but since 1914 have gradually decreased to less than 48, 500,000, a falling off of about a million a year. These figures emphasize the need for increased attention to sheep raising to meet the demand for mutton and wool.

LESS BREAD INSTEAD OF THE VICTORY WAR BREAD

Canada is faced with a wheat situation that is even more difficult than the American problem. After a careful survey of the needs for livestock, Canada finds she has no surplus of grains generally used as wheat substitutes. There are not sufficient supplies of barley, rye and oats in the Dominion to justify a regulation compelling the bakers to produce a mixed cereal bread. For Canada, Victory must come through "less bread" instead of "Victory bread".

UNITED STATES URGES SUBSTITUTES FOR WHEAT MILL FEEDS

Present demands for wheat mill feeds exceed the supply to such an extent that they can only be partly filled during the present season. In calling attention to this fact, the Food Administration recommends the use of other by-product feeds such as rye feeds, barley feeds, oat feeds, rice feeds, hominy feeds, gluten feed, linseed meal, cottonseed meal, peanut meal, soy bean meal, dried grains and molasses feeds. The by-product feed mentioned are generally selling at lower prices than mill feeds produced from wheat, corn, or oats, and are generally of equal or higher feeding value.

FARMERS SERVICE BUREAU

(A clearing department for farmers' everyday troubles. Prompt and careful attention given to all complaints or requests for information addressed to this department. We are here to serve you. Call upon us.)

THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS OF PRESIDENT WILSON'S CABINET

Will you kindly give in the next issue of M. B. F. the names of the officers in the President's cabinet?—Miss Lena Button, 8th grade, South Mabel School, Williamsburg.

The heads of all the executive departments constitute the President's cabinet. They are as follows:

Secretary of State, Robert Lansing; Secretary of the Treasury, William Gibbs McAdoo; Secretary of War, Newton Diehl Baker; Attorney General, Thomas Watt Gregory; Postmaster General, Albert Sidney Bursleson; Secretary of the Navy, Josephus Daniels; Secretary of the Interior, Franklin Knight Lane; Secretary of Agriculture, David Franklin Houston; Secretary of Commerce, William Cox Redfield; Secretary of Labor, William Bauchop Wilson

Joseph P. Tumulty is secretary to President Wilson.

WE HAVE SENT AN "S. O. S." TO R. R. M. OF INGHAM COUNTY

R. R. M. of Ingham county put his foot in it when he wrote the M. B. F. a letter telling about his tractor experience, and mentioned the carburetor he improvised to equip his tractor to "eat" kerosene instead of gasoline. It seems as if most everybody wants to buy a tractor now or to equip their old tractor with a kerosene carburetor. At least a number of farmers have asked for R. R. M.'s full name and address, and if they ever get it, R. R. M. will have to get a private secretary to care for the inquiries. Luckily for R. R. M. he failed to sign his name to his letter, so we can't enlighten our subscribers as to his identity and place of abode. But we are sending this S. O. S. in hopes that R. R. M. will see it and heed it, and permit us to send him the names of his inquiring friends.

WANTED—A BOY TO WORK ON A FARM AND GO TO SCHOOL

I am in need of a boy fourteen or fifteen years of age, who would like to learn dairy farming. I would expect him to attend school during school year and would pay him wages during the summer. Must be a boy of good habits, no tobacco in any form. It is about ten minutes walk to good 12-graded school, five minute walk to church and Sunday school. I have a 180-acre farm and keep about 15 cows. A good chance and a good home for the right boy.—Subscriber, Lake county.

Somewhere, there is undoubtedly a boy who is looking for just such an opportunity as this. Will our readers help to find him?

WANTS TO KNOW HOW TO MAKE SYRUP FROM SUGAR BEETS

I would like to see thru the columns of the M. B. F. the method the Montcalm county subscriber uses in making syrup from sugar beets which was mentioned few weeks ago.—B. J. M., Onaway.

The editor will greatly appreciate the favor if this Montcalm county subscriber or any other reader who has made syrup from sugar beets will kindly pass the information on to our Onaway subscriber.

HERE IS A GOOD SUGGESTION TO A. W. M., OF LYONS

Last week A. W. M., of Lyons wrote that he had several tracts of land suitable for sheep grazing for sale. He stated that they ran from 240 acres to 3,200 acres, were all fenced with woven wire fences and had good buildings on them. The communication was referred to Mr. W. P. Hartman, agricultural agent for the G. R. & I. R. R. Co., who has been taking an active part in advertising the merits of Michigan cut-over lands for sheep-grazing purposes and encouraging western owners to bring their flocks to the state. Mr. Hartman replied as follows:

There is a wide and very substantial interest in the proposed sheep program. Our one immediate problem is to get the sheep here from the West, which requires capital, and I regret to have to admit that we have been a bit slow in getting independent capital interested in the proposition. However, we are hopeful. The matter of grazing land fenced, today is a mighty important consideration. If you will write me or Mr. Carton at Lansing perhaps something can be

worked out to the mutual advantage of all concerned.—W. P. Hartman, Agr'l. and Ind'l. Agent, G. R. & I. R. R.

WHO ARE NECESSARY LINKS OF THE MARKETING CHAIN?

M. B. F. readers will recall that several weeks ago we published a communication from K. P. Kimball, head of the bean division of the U. S. Food Administration, showing the cost of the several operations required in moving a bushel of beans from the farmer's hands to a consumer living in Washington, D. C. For the benefit of those who have since joined the M. B. F. ranks we are re-printing the statement below:

Cost of beans to grower	\$11.00
Elevator expense and profit, about 10%	1.10
Freight, 40c per cwt.	.40
Brokerage, 10c per cwt.	.10
Wholesale grocer's profit, about 12½%	1.55
Retailer, about 20%	2.85
Total net selling price to consumer, cwt.	17.00

The example cited above does not show the situation in its worst light, for investigation on our part has shown that the majority of dealers have been selling beans at 18c to 20c per pound, which would make the profits of the agents employed in their distribution much larger still. We asked Mr. Kimball if he thought the five different agents thru whose hands the beans passed from farmer to consumer were necessary agents or entitled to the toll exacted. Mr. Kimball's reply to this follows:

"If you will refer to my original letter of the 24th, you will note that we did not justify in any way any of the prices that were taken by the parties in the case mentioned. We merely submitted them to you showing the exact distribution of profits from the grower to the consumer. So far as the wholesale grocers' 12½% is concerned, the average percent of cost of doing business as submitted up-to-date to us runs in the neighborhood of 10%, so that if a wholesale grocer took 12½% his net profits would be about 2½% on the transaction.

"The real meat of the matter is the question whether the wholesale grocer is an economical necessity in the process of distribution; is the elevator one, or is the broker or the retail grocer. In other words, can the entire crop of the State of Michigan be moved from the grower to the consumer through a smaller quantity of hands and move in an economical way? I think that the present war time is going to prove absolutely whether or not any organization is an economical necessity. If they cannot prove their worth in the process of distribution, they are going to be eliminated.—United States Food Administration, per K. P. Kimball.

KENT COUNTY AGRICULTURIST MAKES REMARKABLE DISCOVERY

Please study carefully this cleverly worded statement. I wonder how many farmers it will fool. And from a "county agriculturist," too. Look him up. Yours for justice,—F. M. C., Stanwood. The clipping follows:

"TEST IS FAVORABLE TO U. S. GRADING"

"Much complaint has been made by the farmers as to the government grading of potatoes. The present regulations require grading into No. 1 and No. 2, and it has been claimed this is unfair to the growers. County Agriculturist H. G. Smith made an experiment with 1,000 pounds of potatoes on a farm in northern Kent county a few days ago. The test turned out 478 pounds of No. 1 which at \$1 would be worth \$4.78, and 522 pounds of No. 2 which at 60 cents would be worth \$3.13, a total of \$7.91. The same potatoes were then run thru a one and a half inch screen, which some of the growers claim would be better, and this yielded 613 pounds of No. 1 worth \$6.13 and the balance were culls worth nothing. The government grading was \$1.78 better than the plan favored by the growers."—Grand Rapids Press, Feb. 28.

Historian, lay not down your pen until you have inscribed the name of one H. G. Smith, county agriculturist, upon the roll of honor. For has not he solved the unsolvable, attained the unattainable, and demonstrated to the whole world the falsity of the theory that two plus two equals four. According to the Smith hypothesis, two plus two equals three, and here's the evidence to prove it.

Mr. Smith is one of those sapient mortals who has long since forgotten all the modern farmer knows about farming. He lives exclusively in the realms of higher science. Among others, he thinks farmers should grade their potatoes, and, by heck, they don't want any farmer gettin' up in the meeting and saying as how he won't grade his potatoes, either. Mr. Farmer's got to grade his potatoes whether he would or no, and Mr. Smith is going to demonstrate the advantages of government grading over the old system. Here goes:

We take 1,000 bushels of potatoes and pass them gently or vigorously (depending upon whether it's the farmer or the dealer turning the machine) over one and fifteen sixteenth inch screen. Result, 478 pounds of No. 1 potatoes. The balance of 522 pounds drop thru the screen on to the inch and a half chain, and grade as No. 2; no culls.

Now, we discard the one and fifteen sixteenth inch screen and run the potatoes over an inch and a half screen instead. Behold! The potatoes that escaped the inch and a half screen in the first sorter, have shrunk until now 387 pounds drop thru the inch and a half screen in the second sorter as useless culls.

Some "tester" is Mr. Smith, b'lieve me. It is our candid opinion that Mr. Smith became so fatigued riding his hobby horse that he had a bad attack of night "mare", and whilst in slumber deep, arose in his pajamas and conducted his remarkable "test". What other alibi can we give this gentleman who aspires to tutor and instruct the farmers of Kent county?

150 BENZIE COUNTY FARMERS LINE UP AGAINST THE U. S. GRADING

At a meeting of one hundred and fifty farmers of Benzie county held at Beulah, February 25th, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

To the United States Food Administration, Washington, D. C.

RESOLVED, That we, the loyal citizens of the county of Benzie and State of Michigan, in convention assembled, do hereby commend our great President of the United States for his splendid efforts in preserving to us the freedom of citizenship, and for the great work he is doing for World-wide Democracy, and believe with him in the great principal self government as enunciated in his recent great speech when he said: "That no law can last long, nor can peace exist long, or ought to last, which does not recognize and accept the principle that governments derive all their just powers from the consent of the governed."

2. We believe it is our duty as representatives of the great producing class in the United States to furnish to our armies and citizens and to our allies the greatest amount of food at the least possible cost to the consumer.

3. That Michigan is one of the great producing States of the Union and that the growing of potatoes and beans constitute two of our principal products.

4. That the farmers of Michigan were encouraged to produce all the beans and potatoes in their power last season, that they entered into the spirit of the call, with splendid results from the producers' standpoint.

5. That some person or persons unknown to the great producing community of this State and without their knowledge or consent invoked, and promulgated an obnoxious grading scheme of potatoes grown in this State, which works an injustice both to the producer and consumer.

6. That by using the double grading system the larger mesh being one and seven-eighths inches square, the second grade being one and one-half inches square, and taking into consideration, the lack of market for the second grade or amount received for them, it practically cuts the potato yield in half, thereby greatly injuring the producer.

7. That this rule has been only enforced in the State of Michigan and Wisconsin and has done a great injustice to this State and particularly to Benzie county because it discriminates against a food product produced by the loyal citizens here and has assisted in the marketing of the potato product in the other States as against Michigan.

8. RESOLVED, That we view with distrust and condemnation the position taken and the work done by Prof. Waid of Michigan Agricultural College and J. W. Hicks of Wisconsin and E. P. Miller of the Commission firm of Albert Miller of Chicago, and all agricultural journals supporting their position, in promulgating the double grade system upon the farmer of this State, and without their knowledge and consent, which has destroyed and is destroying a large amount of food products of Michigan, greatly to the detriment of the consumer and producer alike.

9. RESOLVED, That we, pledge ourselves and our utmost endeavors to do all in our power to produce the greatest amount of food stuff to support the nations, to help win this great war for humanity and respectfully request the abolishment of all obnoxious rules governing the production of food that will in any way have a tendency to reduce or curtail such production, and that the government do all in its power to assist the farmers in this effort.

10. RESOLVED, That we recommend the adoption of a single grade system, for potatoes of an inch and three-fourths, round mesh, also the elimination from market of all diseased, injured or over grown potatoes.

11. RESOLVED, That we extend Grant Slocum and Forrest A. Lord of the Michigan Business Farming our sincere gratitude for the splendid work that they have done and are doing in the interest of the actual farmer, and trust they will continue in their splendid efforts in our behalf.

We, the undersigned committee appointed as committee on resolutions and permanent organization, do hereby unanimously recommend the adoption of the foregoing resolutions.

H. E. MORRIS, B. W. WOLCOTT, H. LATHWELL, DAVID E. BURNS, SILVERT BEVER.

The foregoing report and resolutions was concurred in by the convention of One Hundred and Fifty farmers without a dissenting vote.

P. A. REED, Beulah
Chairman of Convention
JOHN EHMAN, Elberta
Secretary of Convention

Ravenna—Farmers in the vicinity of Ravenna and Conklin will have electric lights and power as the result of action taken recently by a number of public spirited citizens. Development of the water power available in old Crockerty creek will cost \$87,500 it is estimated, but the number of homes which will take the light and power will render an excellent return on the investment, it is thought.

Mt. Pleasant—Here is a new way to dry beans, credited to F. J. McRae. Simply heat a few bricks and place them in the beans. The heat of the bricks and the circulation of air dries the beans, it is said.

One of our subscribers asks us where to secure an oat sprouter. Can any of our readers help him out?



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

Receipts of wheat during the last week were much less than for several weeks preceding and many of the large mills received scarcely a sufficient quantity to keep running. During the past two weeks congress has been discussing the wheat situation and price and bills were introduced seeking to establish a much higher price on the 1918 crop than now prevails. No doubt many growers held back their stocks on hand, waiting to see the outcome of the congressional action.

The matter has apparently been settled by the Presidential proclamation establishing a new price of \$2.20 per bushel at Chicago, for the 1918 crop. No doubt this is the price which will prevail. This will mean that farmers will receive the same price for their 1918 crop as for that of 1917.

There is no surplus of flour in this country. In fact what stocks there were on hand at the time the price agitation started, have been greatly depleted owing to the reluctant selling attitude of growers, and no doubt this brought about the decisive action on the part of the President.

Conditions of the new crop generally are reported favorably at this time. From New York state comes the information that the planting of spring wheat there will be greatly increased this spring.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 White	.97	.92 1-2	1.06
Standard	.96 1-2	.92	1.05
No. 3 White	.95 1-2	.91 1-2	1.04 1-2
No. 4 White			

All markets have placed maximum prices on oat futures. While the receipts have increased at primary markets during the past week, they have been quickly taken and the price remains about stationary. A large quantity of oats are going direct to the Gulf for export. Exporters on the Atlantic coast are unable to get their supplies moved freely and some uneasiness has developed. The rush to move the wet corn has delayed the movement of oats with an increasing demand the markets generally are bare.

Nothing can effect the market now except exceptionally heavy receipts and there is very little prospect of anything of the kind. We believe the demand for oats is such as to more than take care of any receipts which may come between now and the coming of the new crop and see very little prospect of any material decline.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	1.88	Nominal	1.94
No. 3 Yellow	1.87	"	1.93
No. 2 Mixed	1.82	"	1.90

Corn value have been well maintained during the past week despite a heavy run to primary markets. This run has been greater than at any time this season and it is found that about 60 percent of arrivals must be dried before the grain can go into storage. The car supply is much better and the more favorable weather is also a big factor in the situation. Receipts from growers are satisfactory and everything points to a record movement from this time on. Industries have been able to accumulate somewhat of a surplus, at certain points, for the first time this season. At the same time the demand is so



CHICAGO WIRE—Corn receipts continue to increase and growers are free sellers. Warm weather over the western belt is bringing about conditions feared for some time and every effort is being made to move corn while oats and other cereals, except wheat, await their turn. Oats are stronger accordingly.

PITTSBURGH WIRE—Receipts of potatoes today are heavy and dealers predict a further decline in the market. Bean demand just a little quiet but prices holding steady.

DETROIT SPECIAL—The egg market continues to develop a weaker feeling on receipt of increased shipments, particularly from the southwest. Butter also easy and supplies increasing. Hay receipts Monday and Tuesday somewhat larger than for some days but market is in good shape and all arrivals find ready buyers.

great that no material effect on the price is in immediate prospect.

Just as soon as transportation facilities can be furnished there will be an exceptionally heavy export trade with the Allies. This corn will move from the Atlantic and Gulf ports, the southern shipments consisting of the grain showing least moisture content. Europe is calling for American corn and other grains, providing ocean tonnage can be provided to transport the purchases, and it is gratifying to see the improvement in the corn movement and to know that present conditions indicate that a good share of the present crop will be moved to driers before the warm weather comes.



RYE

Rye continues to work upward in price, in fact it is making a regular balloon ascension. Where this market will stop no one seems to know. The constant demand for this cereal as a wheat substitute in flour, and its great scarcity at the present time, have combined to push the price away up out of all proportion to its real food value. The increase in price has not resulted in any increase in the volume of grain coming and it is very evident that stocks back in the hands of growers and country elevators are very limited. At the time of writing this article the Detroit quotation on No. 2 rye is \$2.50 but sales have been reported at considerably higher figures and we are quite sure a much better price could be secured any time for spot grain. Chicago is quoting No. 2 rye today at \$2.80 per bu.

Barley

The constantly increasing demand for barley as a wheat substitute is forcing the market higher and there will be no relief for this pressure so long as the need for substitutes exist. There has been some talk of a fixed maximum price established by the government but so far nothing has been done along that line and the price has continued to advance. There is not much barley back in producers hands and it appears that present profits are going to those who purchased the bulk of the crop out of

first hands. The present price is the highest known in many years. Not only are millers active in the market but seedsmen are also bidding for choice grain and the demand for good seed is greater than ever before.

The following prices prevail at the principal market for choice big-berried barley testing 48 to 50 lbs., per bushel: Milwaukee, \$2.02; Buffalo, \$2.05; Duluth, \$2.00; Winnipeg, \$1.73; Omaha, \$2.00; Chicago, \$2.03.



HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	26 50 27 00	25 50 26 00	24 50 25 00
Chicago	30 00 31 00	29 00 30 00	28 00 29 00
Cincinnati	32 25 32 50	32 00 32 50	32 00 32 25
Pittsburgh	32 50 33 00	31 00 31 50	29 50 30 00
New York	38 00 39 00	34 00 35 00	30 00 31 00
Richmond	36 50 37 00	36 00 36 50	32 00 33 00

Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	25 50 26 00	25 00 25 50	24 50 25 00
Chicago	28 00 28 00	28 00 28 50	27 50 28 00
Cincinnati	32 50 33 00	31 00 32 00	33 00 33 50
Pittsburgh	31 50 32 00	31 50 32 50	31 50 32 50
New York	34 00 37 00	32 00 35 00	32 00 34 00
Richmond	35 50 36 00	35 00 35 50	21 50 22 00

There is a great diversity of opinion at this time as to the future of the hay market. Some authorities claim that reserve stocks back in the growers hands are just about exhausted and that there will be no material decline in prices. On the other hand there are those who claim that it is just a matter of transportation and that as soon as more cars are available there will be heavy receipts at all markets and a corresponding drop in price. It is no doubt true that there is considerable hay held in storage at certain points, awaiting transportation, and it is also true that in some localities the supply is well high exhausted and how these two conditions will balance up is a matter for the future to decide.

The Detroit market is somewhat firmer and the price has improved. Arrivals there are only moderate at this time and with a good demand conditions prove very satisfactory to shippers.

The Chicago market is firm under light receipts and a good demand. Dealers there feel that the present car shortage is the cause of light receipts.

Offerings of prairie hay are light and all grades are in good demand.

The St. Louis market is strong and receipts there are somewhat increased over those of last week. There is a very good demand there for clover and clover mixed and it appears to be a very good oportunity for consignments from those who can reach the market.

Our Philadelphia correspondent reports that market as practically bare of hay, most of the consumers having low supplies and the demand exceeding the supply daily. Prices remain about stationary with those of last week.

Boston is proving a better market right now for the medium grades than for better class of offerings. The situation there is firm, demand good and general volume of receipts light. Poor grade hay is not wanted at this time.

The New York market is just a little easier. There is some variation in price between the different harbor points owing to uneven distribution. Dealers there believe that any material increase in supplies would break the market and cause a severe decline in values.



CLOVER SEED

The clover seed market has been rather quiet during the past week, as compared with previous weeks, and the price worked downward. Stocks have been greatly reduced however, and the general feeling is one of strength. The sale of seed is now on in earnest and dealers over the country are buying in large quantities. Much dealing among the farmers themselves is reported and those who have seed are not anxious to sell or consign right at this time.

Quotations—Detroit: Prime red clover, \$19.75; alsike, \$15.50; timothy, \$4. Toledo: Prime red clover, \$19.75; alsike, \$16.25; timothy, \$3.55.



BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	13.25	13.50	13.75
Prime	13.05	13.35	13.60
Red Kidneys	15.50	15.50	14.75

The bean price has advanced still further since our last article was written, and despite statements now appearing in different papers and trade journals to the effect that the market is more quiet and the demand again subsiding, we want to say to our readers that we have every confidence in the situation. Remember please, when we make this statement we are not by any means advising our friends to hold wet stock. We have tried to make this very plain at all times and we shall no doubt repeat it hereafter. Wet stock must be dried on the farm in some way or moved to points having driers. Do not under any circumstances leave it in the bins when warm weather comes. But to those who have dry beans we say, have no fear of the future market.

There is now a movement on foot to have all pinto beans taken over by the Government, paying the grower 8 cents per pound, re-screened basis. Should this deal go through it will mean the absorption of around 100,000,000 pounds of beans. On the face of it this appears like a considerable contract and one likely to effect the price of the really good Michigan pea beans. But when you come to think of it, it will simply be a case of riding the market of the undesirable pintos and making an excellent future for our beans more certain and secure. So let Uncle Sam have the pintos now, if he wishes them. It really seems a shame, though, to make our soldier boys eat them, especially boys from Michigan, who have been accustomed to pork and beans "like mother used to make," the real Michigan pea beans with its delicious flav-

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

Every reader of M. B. F. will be in need of one or more of the following items before spring. The next few months is the time you will do your buying for the coming season. Check below the items you are interested in, mail it to us and we will ask dependable manufacturers to send you their literature and lowest prices:

AUTOMOBILE	DYNAMITE	KEROSENE ENG.	STOVES
AUTO TIRES	ELECTRIC LGTS	LUMBER	STUMP PULLER
AUTO SUPPLIES	GAS ENGINE	LIME	SEEDS
AUTO INSUR.	GUNS	MANURE SPDR.	SPRAYERS
BUILDING SUP.	FANNING MILL	NURSERY STE.	SILO
BICYCLES	FERTILIZER	MOTORCYCLES	TANNERS
BINDER TWINE	FUR BUYERS	MILKING MACH.	TRACTORS
CHEMICAL	FARM LANDS	AUTO TRUCKS	VET. SUPPLIES
CLOSETS	FORD ATTCH'S	PAINT	WAGONS
CLOTHING	FURNITURE	FLOWERS	WATER SYSTEM
CULTIVATOR	HORSE COLLARS	POTATO MACH.	WASHING MACH.
CREAM SEP.	HARROWS	ROOFING	WINDMILL
CARRIAGE	HAY RAKES	SAWING MACH.	WIRE FENCING
DRAIN TILE	HARVESTERS	STOCK FOOD	WOOL BUYERS
DAIRY FEED	INCUBATORS	SHOES	

(Write on margin below anything you want not listed above.)

Name
Address R. F. D. State

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING Service Bureau, 110 Fort St., Detroit, Mich.

or; makes us hungry to write about it.

It is estimated that perhaps 20 per cent of the beans in York State are still to be threshed and that the entire crop will have been moved by June 1. Beans in that state suffered from the weather last fall but not to the extent of the injury done the Michigan crop.



POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Medium Round white-sacked
Detroit	1.65 cwt.	1.50 cwt.
Chicago	1.50	1.35
Cincinnati	2.00	1.85
New York	1.80	1.70
Pittsburgh	1.75	1.60
Baltimore, Md.	2.00	1.90

The potato market during the past week has worked lower at nearly all points. Receipts have been more free and the demand somewhat light. We believe that one important factor in the situation has been the belief on the part of the consuming public that the supply would greatly increase with the improved weather conditions and they are holding off in consequence and buying on a hand-to-mouth basis.

Eastern advices state that the market there is the lowest of the season and the market shows a steady decline. This, however, has caused an increase in consumption, especially in New York city, and as a result accumulations are not so great as would otherwise be the case with the increased receipts of the past week.

Stock arriving at this time shows less frost injury and is of much better quality than were the receipts of a short time ago. Receivers are inclined to believe there will be more frosted stock in evidence as the pits are opened and also that this will disclose the fact that much stock so stored has been frosted so as to no longer be marketable. Whether or not this is the case will soon be known. We believe there has been considerable loss here in Michigan from this cause.

Every effort is being made on the part of the food authorities to increase the consumption of potatoes, and they have been made one of the substitutes for wheat flour. A meeting is to be held this week at Chicago to discuss means of moving the potatoes from states having a surplus to those where the tubers are needed.



APPLES

Receipts of apples are light on all markets and the arrivals show less variety now than formerly. Receivers expect more liberal supplies of barrel stock in the near future providing shippers can secure cars. Advices from different sections indicate that there is still considerable of this stock to move to market, in fact the movement has already started. Eastern markets report a firm situation at the following quotations: Baldwins, A grade, 2½ inches and over, \$4.50@ \$5.50 per bbl.; ungraded, 50c less; A grade Greenings, \$5.50@ \$7.50. On box stock the quotations run as follows: Spitzenburgs, \$2.25@ \$4.25; Winesaps, \$2.00@ \$3.00; Rome Beauties, \$1.80@ \$2.75; Pippins, \$1.50@ \$2.50; Ben Davis, \$1.50@ \$2.10; Black Ben, \$1.60@ \$2.25.

The Detroit market is firm and prices have advanced. The demand there is fairly active although this market might easily be over-supplied at this time. Quotations follow:

Baldwins, \$6.50; York Imperial, \$5.50@ \$6.00 per bbl. Western boxes, Spitzenberg, \$3.25.



ONIONS

Receipts of onions have been heavy during the past two weeks and the demand exceptionally light. Even the lower prices have seemingly failed to stimulate consumption and the immediate future is doubtful. The onion market has been more or less of a disappointment ever since the first of the year and perhaps one of the main

factors was the large amount of frosted stock offered during that time. Buyers who received this stock found it unsatisfactory and hesitated to take more. Receivers have felt from week to week that the market would certainly show improvement but to this time such has not been the case. Detroit is quoting the best grades at \$1.90@ \$2.25 per 100-lb. sack. Chicago quotes the best grades at \$1.50 per 100-lb. sack. New York is quoting both yellow and red onions at \$1.00@ \$2.00 per 100-lb. sack, according to quality.

Vegetables

Beets, \$4 per cwt.; carrots, \$2 per cwt.; turnips, \$2.50 per cwt.; rutabagas, \$2 per cwt.; parsnips, \$4 per cwt.; hothouse cucumbers, \$2 to \$2.25 per dozen; radishes, 35c per doz.; green peppers, 90c per basket; parsley, 40c to 60c per doz.

Celery

Receipts of celery at eastern points has been heavy this past week and much of the stock arriving has been of rather poor quality. The Detroit is firm at the following prices: Michigan, 25 to 30c per doz.; Florida, \$2.75 per crate; California, \$4.50 per crate and 50c to \$1 per doz.



FLOUR & FEED

The Government has established a price on bulk wheat feeds as follows: 38 per cent of the cost of wheat at the mills, \$2 per ton over for shorts, \$4 per ton over for mixed feed and \$9 over for flour middlings. The general market is quiet, owing principally to the great shortage of offerings. Detroit quotations: In 100-lb sacks, jobbing lots: Bran, \$3b.50; standard middlings, \$36.50; fine middlings, \$43.50; cracked corn, \$75; coarse cornmeal, \$74; chop, \$60 per ton.

FLOUR—Per 196 lbs., in eighth paper sacks: Standard patent, \$11.10@ \$11.15; straight winter, \$10.80@ \$11; spring patent, \$11.20@ \$11.30; rye flour, \$11.80 in jobbing lots.



BUTTER

NEW YORK CITY, Mar. 2.—That supply and demand are the two great factors governing the prices of commodities would not be doubted by the most radical pessimist were he on the New York butter market this week. Last week we stated in the letter that on Thursday morning of that week, according to the daily report of the Bureau of Markets, there were 55,236 tubs of fresh butter on hand. Yesterday morning according to the daily report there was a total available supply of 66,238 tubs. This morning shows the receipts still larger although the exact figures are not yet available. With the receipts constantly increasing, and at the present time being greater than ever known at this season of the year, the most conservative handlers of butter predict that a further slump can be expected.

The demand of the consumer for butter is not so strong as it has been in the past years. The high cost of butter this winter has caused increased demands for so-called butter substitutes, such as oleomargarine, nut-margarine, etc. Without doubt butter will again come into its own with the decline in price but at the present time the lessened demand can be attributed largely to the use of substitutes. The element in New York which may tend to strengthen the market is the chain store. Up to the present time chain stores have been drawing largely on held stocks but after this week they will handle largely fresh stock.

On Friday the market closed very sluggish with extras quoted at 47½c, with some lots selling under that price. Higher scoring lots of extremely high quality are selling at the usual margin above extras. Firsts are quoted at 46c@47c, and seconds at 44½c@44¾c. There is practically no demand for unsalted butter. More than 20,000 tubs are in the market today. The lots that are moving are selling in most instance from ½c to 1c under quotations for salted butter.

Detroit has a plentiful supply of butter at this time and the market is easy at the following quotations: Fresh creamery, firsts, 45c; extras, 47c.

Cheese

Operations in cheese are practically at a standstill. Only a few small lots are moving. Buyers are unwilling to take cheese ahead of their near future wants. With a limited demand it is extremely difficult to state what prices should be made as quotations. The make of cheese is showing some increase, but few sales are reported on the fresh make that is received. Held flats, specials, are selling at about 26 to 26½c, while held flats, average run range from 25 to 26c. Wisconsin twins, held, range from 24½ to 25c; daisies 27c, and Young Americas 28 to 28½c.



EGGS

Egg values declined radically during the past week. The shortage which had obtained up to Saturday, Feb. 23, was relieved the following Monday when receipts were very liberal. In addition advices regarding increased production in the southwest together with the moderation of weather caused a decline of about 10c per dozen on all grades on that day. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday there were further breaks of 6c, 5c and 5½c respectively. Thus in five days there was a drop of 27c a dozen. The market remains unsettled and no prediction can be made in regard to future quotations. Quotations on Saturday stand as follows: Fresh gathered extras, per dozen, 37c@38c; fresh gathered, extra firsts, per dozen, 36½c; fresh gathered, firsts, per dozen, 35½c@36c; fresh gathered, seconds, per dozen, 35c@35½c. Detroit is receiving a plentiful supply of eggs from the southwest and Michigan receipts are also increasing. Fresh firsts are selling at 34c@35c per dozen.



POULTRY

LIVE WT.	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Turkey	30-32	34-35	25-33
Ducks	30-32	30-32	30-35
Geese	30-32	26-27	30-35
Springers	30-32	29-30	30-35
Hens			

No. 2 Grade 2 to 3 Cents Less

The poultry market is very firm and receipts at the majority of markets are very light. About the only exception is the New York market and the condition there is no doubt but temporary. Many shipments of fowls were made to that market after the governmental order forbidding the shipment of hens until April 30. Before this order went into effect heavy shipments were made to eastern points, particularly New York, and this has resulted in an over-supply for the time.

The Food Commission has established a maximum price on poultry, but this does not mean that all shippers will receive this price. It all depends on the quality. There is no minimum price and off grades will receive the usual discount.

Ducks and geese are coming in only light supply, the season for such offerings being pretty well over. What arrivals there are do not show the quality necessary to bring the top of the market. Turkeys are also coming only in very moderate quantities and the demand for them is exceptionally light although there is every prospect that the close of the month will see a shortage and good demand for almost everything in the poultry line.

Horse Market

Boston reports the horse market as not quite so active during the past week, although fewer animals were on sale. The demand was rather light and all horses were not sold by the end of the week.

Green western horses are arriving irregularly on account of the car shortage, but the consignments received are mostly of large, good quality horses. Of draft and chunk type, and prices are within the same range as has held steadily for the past few weeks. Seconds that are of good quality are

getting scarce, as those who have the good horses are holding to them, and the source of supply comes almost wholly from contractors who have finished their work, and from firms that are closing out their teams to be replaced with auto service. The poorer horses of this type are slow sellers and sell cheap. Good quality, heavy green drafters, of 1,650 to 1,900 pounds weight, sold freely from \$325 to \$375; good quality, medium weight green drafters, 1,500 to 1,650 lbs., sold from \$275 to \$325; chunks, \$225 to \$300.00; heavy wagon and express horses from \$150 to \$225; seconds from \$40 to \$200.

Wool

The wool market remains firm and the demand increases from week to week. Everything is very promising at this time for the coming Michigan clip. Boston quotations under date of March 5 are as follows: Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces: Delaine washed, 83 to 85c; Delaine unwashed, 75c; half-blood combed, 77c; 3-8 blood combed, 77c. Michigan and New York fleeces: Fine unwashed, 63 to 64c; Delaine unwashed, 73c; half-blood unwashed, 75c; three-eighths blood unwashed, 76 to 77c. Wisconsin, Missouri and average New England: Half-blood, 70 to 72c; three-eighths blood, 75c; quarter-blood, 74c.

Furs and Hides

The market on hides is somewhat lower this week, and the fur market has also been placed on the spring basis. It is advisable to dispose of hides and furs before the coming of warm weather, especially those which have stood for some time during the winter. Detroit quotations on hides: No. 1 cured, 15c; No. 1 green, 12c; No. 1 cured bulls, 12c; No. 1 green bulls, 10c; No. 1 cured veal kip, 21c; No. 1 green veal kip, 20c; No. 1 cured murrain, 15c; No. 1 green murrain, 13c; No. 1 cured calf, 26c; No. 1 green calf, 25c; No. 1 horsehides, \$6; No. 2 horsehides, \$5; No. 2 hides, 1c and No. 2 kip and calf, 1½c lower than the above; sheepskins, as to amount of wool 50c to \$1 each.

Furs: No. 1 skunk, \$4.30; spring muskrat, \$1.20; No. 1 mink, \$7.50; No. 1 raccoon, \$4.

Dressed Hogs and Calves

No change in the pork or veal market. Price remains the same as last week, and market is working under a steady demand and fairly free supplies. The time is approaching when dressed pork will be shipped at somewhat of a risk. It can safely be shipped so long as the weather remains reasonably cold but with the coming of the warmer days we advise great caution. Now is a good time to get your dressed pork on the market. Detroit is quoting dressed hogs at 19 to 21c and veal calves from 17 to 21c.

Live Stock Letters

Chicago, Mar. 4.—Today's receipts of cattle on this market were estimated at 22,500 head, the largest run of the year to date and a supply of about 7,000 head in excess of the average Monday runs during the past month. The beef steer market was generally 15c to 25c lower than the close of last week, the decline effacing advances scored during that period on the general run of offerings. A top of \$14.30 was made on one drove of prime heavy Iowa-fed beeves, feed-lot mates of cattle that sold on Thursday last at \$14.50, the year's top. Only a few odd loads, however, were choice enough to reach \$14.00 and the bulk consisted of fair 1,000-lb. to good 1300-lb. bulls that sold within a range of from \$11.50 to \$13.00. Butcher cattle sold on a slow to 10c lower basis with \$7.00 the extreme limit on canner cows and with \$8.00 to \$9.75 buying the bulk of the fair to good fat cows and heifers and prime heavy kosher cows selling in odd lots up to \$11.50 to \$12.00. Bulls of beef class sold mostly from \$9.25 to \$10.00, with a rare, choice specimen up to \$10.50 to \$11.00, whileologna and ordinary light bulls sold mostly from \$8.00 to \$9.00. Veal calves held steady with \$13.50 to \$14 taking good to choice.

One load of very heavy long-fed steers reached \$14.50 last week; in fact on the last day of the month, which made a new high record for February. It was the first really prime cattle that have been here for some time. Outlet was particularly good for the good to choice steers all week

and that end of the market closed 15c to 25c higher than a week ago. Cattle have been climbing up the ladder gradually for the last ten years. In February of last year top was \$12.25, which was quite a sensation at that time. In 1916 February top was \$9.75, in 1913 \$9.25, 1912 \$9, 1910 \$8.10, 1909 \$7.15 and in 1908 \$6.24. In other words fat cattle have advanced more than \$8.00 per cwt. in the last ten years with, of course, the greatest jump since the war began and the demand for beef became more extensive.

A better outlet is being noticed right along for stockers and feeders. Demand has been strong throughout the past week, the volume of business larger. Many feeders have been holding back until the weather was milder and transportation more certain before putting in their stock. The advance in the market for fat steers has also brought about a stock of greater confidence and the country is loosening up noticeably. We look for a liberal movement back to the country soon, especially if the railroads will supply the cars and haul them promptly. Some choice well-bred strong wt. feeders sold up to \$11.50 during the past week and the bulk of the stock and feeding steers moved within a range of from \$9.25 to \$10.65. Lighter and commoner quality cattle have sold down to \$8, but outlet is good all around. Good stock heifers have also met with good demand, and where the quality and weight were suitable sales have been made freely at \$7.50 to \$8.25. Buyers are putting a good deal of emphasis on quality.

Today's hog receipts were estimated at 53,000. Choice light hogs cleared at steady prices with a \$17.00 top scored on that kind. Other classes were generally 10 to 15c lower than the close last week. Bulk of the good to choice light weights sold at \$16.65 to \$16.85, while 225 to 270-lb. butchers were slow at \$16.45 to \$16.65, extreme heavy and heavy mixed to \$16.25 to \$16.40 and pigs and underweights \$14.50 to \$15.50. An order from the food administration making Tuesday the only meatless day in the week and it meatless only so far as beef and pork are concerned, should prove an added factor of strength to the numerous other influences which are and have been for months past big props under the hog market.

Sheep receipts today were estimated at 15,000. The market was generally 10 to 15c higher, with best handy lambs selling up to \$17.65. Lightweight lambs are much preferred, as they yield a chop that is easier to sell than the big cuts. Most of the Colorado lambs coming are too large to suit the requirements and 90 lb. and heavier weights have to sell at a discount of \$1 to \$1.50 per cwt. from top classes. This is an unusual discrimination to make against heavy lambs at this time of the year, but it is mainly a question of getting rid of the dressed product. For the same reason the good lightweight ewes have been the best sellers at \$12.50 to \$13.50. Choice light yearling wethers reached \$16.00 and prime aged wethers are quotable to \$14.00. The lifting of the ban against the consumption of lamb and mutton on meatless days, giving these palatable and nutritious food products unrestricted demand in all sections of the country is a big factor in the strong advance the market is showing as compared with the low spot some ten days since when \$16.50 was the limit of the lamb market.

SEED FAMINE 1918— RAISE YOUR OWN SEED

Our greatest garden seed producing countries are at war—France, Belgium, England, Italy and Germany. The great seed producing areas are devastated, the trained seed men are scattered. Their seed supply is exhausted and our seed bins are nearly empty. As the result we will pay dearly for seeds this year; garden beans at \$35-45 a hundred pounds, ordinarily \$5-8; sweet corn \$35-50 ordinarily \$5-6 and carrot seed at \$3 a pound—in fact all available seed have increased in price from 200 per cent to 500 per cent. Many seeds are not on the market as manglers.

As the war continues the scarcity will increase and a seed famine for '19 is possible. This especially is true of all biennials as it takes two years to produce the seed. Farmers and gardeners should plan on raising much of their own seed. A row 25 feet long will produce seeds enough for the ordinary family and will require no more work than a row of carrots until it comes to harvesting and threshing the seed.

The row might be made up as follows: 2 parsnips, two turnips, each two feet apart; 3 celery plants a foot apart; 5 onions 6 inches apart; 2 cabbages, 2 carrots each two feet apart.

Beets.—Two beets will produce an abundance of seeds. Select two well shaped specimens, plant them a little below the surface when the soil is ready for planting. It may be necessary to stake the plants later. When the seed becomes brown and before it is quite ripe, cut, dry and thresh. Preserve the seed in a dry place.

Cabbages.—Two solid heads may be selected and planted so 1-3 the head is in the soil, make a slit in the top so the stalk may grow readily. If possible plant a cabbage with the stalk and roots on. The stalk will grow easily and develop pods which may be harvested when they turn yellow.

Turnips, Carrots and Parsnips.—Select well shaped roots and plant early so the top is a little below the ground. One will be surprised how much seed will be produced by a single root.

Onions.—Well shaped onions may be planted 6 inches apart early in the spring. If the onions are sprouted the sprouts should be cut off so as to give a straighter stalk. The upper part of the bulb should be an inch or so below the surface of the ground. When the lower part of the stalk turns yellow the seed balls may be cut off leaving an inch or so of the stalk attached. Allow the balls to dry and keep the seed dry.

Celery.—Plant the depth they were before and it will not be long before a seed stalk will be sent up which bears an abundance of seeds. The seeds should be cut before the stalks are ripe as they shatter easily.

The growing of a few garden seeds by many will insure the grower seeds at a reasonable price and will conserve the seed supply by allowing the seeds he would buy to be used by some one else. This will be more than worth while, as it now appears that the seed shortage may become a calamity.

SELLING PURE-BRED LIVE STOCK

(Last week we published a splendid article from the pen of Clare B. Ford, but owing to an error, part of it was

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in. and 32 in. Advance grain threshers, 28 in. and 36 in. Case steel frame grain threshers; 30 in. and 34 in. Pitts; 32 in. Wood Bros.; 32 in. Aultman-Taylor; 33 in. Port Huron; 17x22 Ann Arbor baling press; 14x18 Whitman, 14x18 Ohio.

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FARMER NOW IS THE TIME to buy your Seed Corn and Beans while it can be gotten. No. 1 Seed Tested to grow. Send 3 cent stamp for prices. Ionia, Mich., R. No. 5. Box No. 127.

Hatching Eggs from our English Barchons. Heavy winter layers, large birds, easy hatchers and quick growers. Hatching eggs \$6.00 per 100. Large and small orders promptly filled. Fertility 95%. Packed O. K. Satisfaction guaranteed. ZEELAND, Mich. Box B. DEVERIES LEGHORN FARMS & HATCHERY.

omitted. The balance of the article is given below.)

The mail order method is probably the best way of disposing of young breeding animals. It requires persistent advertising and careful replies to all inquiries. A careful study of the different farm and live stock papers circulating in the territory in which you desire to make your sales will give you a very good idea of which ones are in a position to give you the best service. Papers that hold sufficient reading interest to keep up their circulation without giving premiums worth more than their publication are entitled to your support.

The public sale is an excellent way of disposing of bred females and high class males. Present only good stock that is in good flesh at the public sale. Flesh and condition in the sale ring, the same as in the show ring, is an important factor in showing the animal to the best advantage. Have every arrangement made early and plan to keep the crowd in good humor and have competent help to look after the stock so that you will have time to entertain your visitors to the best advantage. Never make a guarantee that you will not be perfectly willing to live up to. Have your pedigree ready to hand over with every animal that is sold. If there is any one thing that pleases the buyer of a pure bred animal it is to have the pedigree and transfer promptly handed over as soon as he settles for his stock.—Clare B. Ford.

FORD used tires, special sale \$3, \$4, \$5; we do vulcanizing. West 2380, 377 Dix Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

SEED CORN—Golden Orange Flint, \$5 bu. Red cob, \$4 bu. Grain Ensilage, \$3.60. Order early. Sample for stamp. Harry Vail, Warwick, Orange Co., N. Y.

200 Bushels of Shelled Seed Corn, yellow, 1916 corn, raised in Indiana, tested by M. A. C. College, tested 85 per cent. Might be O. K. for corn to husk, but would recommend for ensilage or silo. Price, \$5.00 56 lbs., F. O. B. W. E. Rasmussen, Stanton, Michigan.

FOR SALE—80 acres. It was two 40's side by side. Each 40 has a house with a cellar and well, orchard barn with basement and hen house. One 40 has windmill with tanks. Land nearly all under cultivation on main road, half mile to school and church. 1 1/2 miles to market. Good soil. John Edwards, Sears, Osceola Co., Michigan, R. No. 1.

FOR SALE—On account of ill health will sell my 120 acre farm 1 1/2 miles west of the city of Harrisville in Alcona Co. Good land, good buildings, new windmill, 8-room house equipped with Vulcan steam heating plant; nice bath room, hot and cold running water up stairs and down; bath room all modern excepting lights, sewer connections, 5 acre orchard, all bearing, \$4,500.00 takes it, with time if desired. Chas. W. Glover, Harrisville, Mich., R. F. D. No. 1.

FOR SALE—Fine 140 acre farm, near summer resorts. Best markets. Twelve room house, furnace, two large barns, all necessary out buildings, well watered and fenced. Bearing orchards old and new. Large wood lot. General store and post-office in connection, making nice additional income. Photos furnished prospective buyers. Only ten thousand dollars, for quick sale, half cash, balance easy terms. Liberal discount for all cash. Good reason for selling. Write, Mrs. Ella F. Daly, Riggsville, Michigan.

This splendid 40 acre farm, near live village, Ingham Co., has 33 acres work land, 6 acres pasture, one acre fish lake, clay and sand loam, woven wire fences, drive well, operated by engine, cement stock supply tank, new silo, new hip roof barn, full basement, another hip roof barn 16x28, hay and tool barn 20x28, wagon shed, poultry house, well house, wood house, coal shed, granary with pig pen in basement, ice house, 7-room frame house, basement 50-bbl. cistern, yard well shaded, most buildings painted. 60 apple trees, 16 peach, 2 pear, 2 plum 3 cherry, 5 currant, 150 strawberry, 6 rhubarb, 16 asparagus. Orchard good condition, selected fruit. 2 1/2 miles from Lansing-Jackson electric line. Have troughs on all buildings. Price \$4,600, \$3,100 down, balance 10 years at 6 per cent. JAMES SLOCUM, MGR. FARM DEPT. WALTER C. PIPER HOLDEN BLDG. Detroit, Michigan.

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH, 1918

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W. MILTON KELLY
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An Open Letter to the President

MR. PRESIDENT: It is a far cry from the farm fields of Michigan to the White House, and the message we are sending you today may never reach your ears. But futile as the attempt may be it is nevertheless our bounden duty to make it and lay before you a petition from two hundred thousand farmers of Michigan that you stem the wholesale drafting of skilled farm laborers which is rapidly demoralizing the state's food production for 1918.

These are no imaginary grievances that we lay before you. They are founded on indisputable facts from which there is no escape. 50 million acres of tillable soil await the coming of spring to be ploughed and planted to the crops which may save the nation from hunger ere another spring has come. But to plow and to plant, to care for and to harvest, requires labor. Man power is needed on the farms of Michigan today as never before, already the shortage has become acute, and if the promiscuous drafting of not only skilled farm helpers but employing owners as well is permitted to continue, Michigan, one of the richest agricultural states of the union, will fail in its most heroic efforts to supply its quota of food for the world's bread basket.

You have said, Mr. President: "Under the new draft regulations I believe that the farmers of the country will find that their supply of labor is very much less seriously drawn upon than it was under the first and initial draft, made before we had our present full experience in these perplexing matters."

But such are not the facts. The district exemption boards, composed for the most part of men having their residences in the cities, and without any conception of the vital necessity of maintaining our farm factories at their highest efficiency, persist in placing skilled farm laborers in Class 1. We grant that there may be justifiable occasions where a skilled laborer might be placed in Class 1, but we have ample evidence to prove that district boards have not followed and are not following the intent of the new regulations in deferring the drafting of farm laborers. We can cite you numerous instances where an only son, upon whose aged parents have depended for the management of their farm, has already been sent to training camps; where young farmers have been unceremoniously summoned from newly acquired farms leaving thousands of acres to lie dormant at a time when the world suffers for want of the food they should be producing; where some of the biggest farmers of the state have been obliged to curtail their acreage twenty to fifty percent because the farm hands they were depending upon have been caught in the draft and no one is left to take their places.

It is not necessary, Mr. President, for us to follow such practices to their inevitable conclusion. You are a man of great vision and foresight and you know well enough the disastrous effects that would follow in the wake of such a policy if carried out in all agricultural sections of the nation. We appreciate what the government is doing toward supplanting the nation's skilled man power with unskilled boy power but at the best the mobilization of the youths of the na-

tion can do little better than build a reserve to which we may turn in dire extremity.

The farm factories of every state of the union need labor, skilled labor, efficient labor, and they need it NOW. With the labor available sixty days ago, they could have removed all vestige of doubt as to whether their production would meet the demands; with the labor available today there cannot be more than a normal acreage; with the labor available at planting time, providing the drafting of their help continues unchecked, there can be no hope that they will be able by any manner of means to supply the world's food needs the coming year.

The weeks pass by; spring and planting time approach; the labor problem looms up before the farmers like a spectre, elusive and menacing. How can any farmer, no matter how patriotic and willing to do his part, go ahead and plan his production campaign for the season unless he knows where the help is to come from to plant his crops and care for them during the growing season? Thousands of young farmers are in a state of helpless uncertainty as to whether they should plant their usual acreage, for they know not at what moment they may be called.

You have it within your power, Mr. President, to compel the draft boards to abide by the spirit of the draft regulations, and six million farm factories are awaiting your verdict. Your silence upon this subject another fortnight means the permanent crippling of the farming business. With a single flourish of the pen, a word of mouth, you can spare the young farmers of the nation for service another year in the farm factories. There are many to take their place in the trenches; there are none to supplant them on the farm.

"Wal, I Reck'un You'r 'Bout Right, Hoke"

WHEN THEY WERE talking about fixing the price on cotton down at Washington some time ago, Senator Hoke Smith got right up in meetin' and said "I-jim-in-ee-crickets, no bill will ever pass Congress to limit the price of cotton, unless the price of cotton goods is also fixed." And "Hoke" has had his way about it, for neither the price of cotton nor of cotton goods has been meddled with since that strenuous day.

A recent issue of the *Cotton Oil News* gave a little information as to the profits cotton manufacturing concerns were making, and as they have found some way to keep the price of the raw material from going sky-high, the cotton growers are now suggesting action. "The farmer is willing to tote his end of the load in all war matters," says the *Progressive Farmer*, "but he demands a fair and square deal."

By the way, just have a little talk with your wife about the price of cotton goods these days! Cotton goods are clear out of sight, and while the southern farmers are getting good prices for their product, the other fellows appear, as usual, to be able to get most of the leverage on their end of the "teeter-tauter board." A little regulation in this commodity would be appreciated by "you'on fo'ks up norf."

And, possibly, you might be interested in another problem which the southern farmers are discussing: "Shall we harvest and sell peanuts at \$1.75 per bushel or feed them to \$15 hogs?" Think of unexpectedly coming upon a sign somewhere in the north: "Peanuts, \$1.75 per bushel!" Oh, gee; way up here in the "no'f" we pays five cents for enough peanuts to fill a hollow tooth.

Well, We Are Making Progress, Anyway.

THE FARMER can take up his work this spring with at least some assurance that he is going to make good. True, he must take all of the chances; frost, flood, drouth and insects; but when it comes to disposing of his products, he is going to be reasonably sure of good prices. The price on wheat has been fixed—he is sure of two dollars per bushel. And, by the way, wheat is right now the cheapest grain on the farm—but at two dollars, with a favorable season, the farmer will not starve. Neither will he get rich.

The farmer who grows sugar beets will get ten dollars per ton. To be sure he gets that price by the grace of the manufacturers, and for patriotic reasons only, mind you—but he is going to get the "ten," and he will not starve on that price. No doubt the minimum price will be continued on hogs; and, unless there is less profiteering on the part of the distributors, other staple products will be given the "minimum" injection by the Food Administration.

With millions of men on the fighting line, and many more millions now consumers who were producers, the future of agriculture is encouraging. However, the Farmer is not anxious to get rich during the war; he would far rather have the Government set the minimum price on everything he raises, and apply the maximum price to pre-

vent speculation—but the powers that be, simply can't see it that way.

When you commence fixing maximum prices you stir up a hornet's nest all right enough. It is quite impossible to fix a maximum price on raw materials without following along down the line and trying a maximum price on the finished product. And law knows, that would never, never do. The Farmer will take his chances, and will not complain either, should the government desire to try the "cost and ten per cent" plan with all products.

However, Rome was not builded in a day. A year has not yet passed, since this nation turned from peaceful pursuits and jumped into the war with both feet. When you consider all that has been accomplished in eleven short months, one feels like taking off his hat to Uncle Sam and all of his helpers. Things are going to adjust themselves all right, so let's get busy; work like Trojans and, in the meantime, keep our powder dry.

Spartans and Patriots

THE AMERICAN people's devotion to the cause of liberty, their ready acquiescence to their government's decisions, and their calm determination to help rid the world of oppression, are beyond parallel in the world's history.

We count it one of the miracles of the age that a people so rapt up in the material things of life and so characteristically deficient in national pride and spirit as the American people have been, should be so suddenly and completely transformed from a passive onlooker to an eager participant in a conflict, the daily chapter of which is one of wholesale butchery and unutterable suffering.

Less than a year has passed since the United States declared war against Germany, but what tremendous things have been done during that short period! It has been claimed that the American people have been lukewarm, yet it is not within the range of possibility that a nation could take such huge strides in carrying on its war preparations as this nation has taken, without the fullest co-operation of its people.

Already nearly a quarter of a million youths have left mothers, fathers, wives and sweethearts and gone to the battle front. And they have gone cheerfully, even gladly! True, there were tears at the parting with the dear ones, and there are many heart aches which perhaps even the soothing caress of time cannot comfort, but outwardly all is calm and serene.

It is easy to understand how a people can mobilize, fight and die to repel the invader; when a nation's homes are in immediate danger, the law of self-preservation spurs its people to superhuman effort. But the war in which we now engage is three thousand miles across the sea, and there is little fear in our hearts that even ambition-bloated Germany may span that length of land and water and become a menace to our shores. It is not for that we fight and make our daily sacrifices.

It is for something less selfish than self-preservation; something less material than conquest; and something infinitely more worthy than the satisfying of national passion that we have entered this terrible struggle. There are great, vital principles involved in America's sacrifice which are felt rather than expressed. And the fact that the inspiring incentive that drives us forward is born of the abstract,—the almost indefinable, instead of a seeking after material things, makes the miracle of our willing sacrifice all the more wonderful.

The American people have proven themselves patriots in the fullest sense of that pregnant word. And the resoluteness with which they proceed in every field of the war preparations discloses a firmness of character, a fixedness of purpose, and a disdain for physical privations which may be likened to the Spartans of old.

We may complain and criticize because isolated classes refuse support to the country's war aims and place hindrances in the way of preparations, but let us not fool ourselves into thinking that the American people as a whole are lacking in patriotic devotion to the cause of world liberty. There is no nation that has so little at stake in this great conflict as the United States, and there is no nation whose people show a greater willingness to sacrifice and if need be to die that oppression and the menace of militarism may be swept from the earth.

Here is comfort for the rare specimen of farmer who voted for booze in order to save a market for a few bushels of rye or barley. The distilleries have been closed six months and during that time rye has advanced in price from \$1.80 to \$2.80 per bushel, and barley from \$1.35 to \$1.90. Now what argument will the booze makers put up to the farmer that he ought to support their rotten business?

EDITORIALS BY OUR READERS

Allegan Milling Company Challenges the Statements of "M. S."

In your issue of the 9th, instant there appeared an article signed "M. S." as the article is so misleading and so falsifying we take this opportunity to correct same.

"M. S." says that Allegan Mills are not paying government prices for wheat. Owing to be curtailed as to the amount of wheat we may grind, we are obliged to ship out wheat and hence must buy on a shipping basis, to handle wheat for less than a four cent margin is a losing game. "M. S." will find that \$2.08 is the prevailing price.

Why don't "M. S." go to it, it is a free country. He further states that the mills now charge one-sixteenth for custom grinding instead of one-tenth as heretofore.

This is a gross misstatement. We are doing grinding as usual, only difference is that it is carried out in dollars and cents in accordance to government ruling. The farmers get as good a deal as they ever did. We cater to farmers trade and it would be foolish for us to take advantage of the farmer in anyway. We endeavor to make Allegan as good a market as anywhere in the state both in buying and selling, and such false statements are uncalled for.—*Allegan Milling Company.*

Let's Know More of Our Own Business

I have received a copy of your paper and began to take notice. I enclose a check. Will try you out. There are lots of us—Michigan farmers but not so many business farmers. I heard a speaker say (at a farmer's club) that it didn't require extra skill to produce the goods and put it in the bins. But to market the goods was when we fell down. The jobbers and elevator men know more about our produce than we ourselves, and they don't publish it. I asked an elevator man two weeks ago if he thought the bean market would pick up. I thought it would as soon as the wet beans were taken care of. He promptly told me that there were so many bushels of beans in the U. S. and he stated the number and said he did not see how they could get much better. But he is paying 25c per bushel more now than he was then and he did not tell me that there was any spoiled or bad ones. While our beans will only pick about one pound your paper states that there are lots of heavy pickers.

Your paper seems to be the right thing in the right place. Show us what you can do.—*C. A. A., Clare.*

Some Good Suggestions

There is so much being said about waste and saving, but nothing, or very little, about the waste of food that is given to dogs. Some are keeping even two or three. Where they take care of and feed them they usually take good food from the table. Where they do not give them much care the dogs roam about stealing from the neighbors.

Also with heatless, meatless, wheatless, etc., days, why not have a smokeless day? There seems to be no provision for the non-smokers in the army; why not candy or some luxury for them instead of tobacco?—*Mrs. C. H. W.*

Cull Beans Again

The farmer should have his cull beans. I am writing a few lines on the bean questions. In February 9th issue of M. B. F. I saw that Mr. Kimball thinks that the elevators should have the cull beans for overhead expenses. I think if Mr. K. had grown beans this year he would have changed his mind as the beans are heavy pickers and they are mighty good hog feed and they are just as good to the farmer as to haul them to town and give them to the elevators and pay for picking. What does the farmer do for expenses

in this case? It looks as if he had to hook out for himself which we are going to do from now on. It looks to me as if Mr. K. was upholding the elevators in skinning the farmers. If it was changed around there would be a big holler and they would stop buying. I think that there are too many of these fellows with high collars and pencils figuring to beat the farmer if they let the farmer alone and give them a square deal, they won't put in any holler.—*G. S., West Branch.*

Weigh Your Binder Twine

I see in MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING the Food Administration will control the binder twine industry. I hope they will look after the weight as well as price. Has any of the M. B. F. readers ever weighed a ball of twine? When we buy a ball of twine we pay for 5 pounds. I weighed several last summer and they only averaged 4½ pounds. There might be 50 pounds in the sack when green and the 5 pounds is the shrinkage, but what we sell is the weight at time of selling. We like the M. B. F. as it gives a lot of home truths.—*A. S., Marlette.*

Marketing Conditions Need Repairs

The writer has 60 bushels of beans which all carried more or less dampness. I am trying to dry them as M. B. F. described in the kitchen and I believe I will save them all in good shape. They only pick 3 to 4 pounds except about 8 bushels that were too green and left in the field until the others were cared for. I know of only 3 or 4 other crops in a radius of 20 miles that ripened, some had as much as 20 acres and will not get paid for seed. In my opinion if M. B. F. fails to set our market conditions in better shape,

keep on and fill a paper; and it all comes out of the farmer and the laboring man, because we are the only producers of wealth. We are feeding and clothing the world, and yet the U. S. statistics tell us that farming is the poorest paid occupation, and I think we all knew it before the statistics said so.

But let me tell you, fellow farmers, in order to better ourselves we have got to do more than write to the paper about it, or give our local buyer an over-hauling. He is not to blame. Truth is we have no one but ourselves to blame. Every one we have to deal with has his organization, while we farmers are standing isolated with no one to look after our interest. How could we expect it to be any better? The remedy lies in organization. But when we organize it must be as a class, and we should have our own packing house, as well as flour mills and elevators so we can deal direct with the consumer and let out as many of the middlemen as possible. But in order to do this we must go a step farther. How are we as a class represented in the governing body of the country? We must see to it that we get men of our own class there, the more the better. Our interests and the interests of the banker, the lawyer, the business man and the capitalist do not come together. It is to their interest to buy from us as cheap as possible, and sell again to the consumer with as big a margin as possible, and surely we do not blame them for doing it as long as they have the chance, but the minute we take things in our own hands they are out of the game. To prove that let me just mention the co-operative creameries. Statistics say that on butter the farmers are getting 75 per cent of what the consumer pays for it, while on all other farm

produce farmers are only getting 33 per cent of what the consumer pays. Do you see the difference?

Twenty-four years ago in Denmark all the packing houses were in private hands. Today in Denmark there is only one privately owned packing house, while there are some 30 co-operative concerns and the results are that farmers are getting 76 per cent of what consumers pay for meats. Four years ago the writer was in Denmark and was surprised to find they could buy Minneapolis made flour as cheaply there as I could buy it here in Michigan. All this goes to show there is something wrong and that we must take our own business into our own hands.

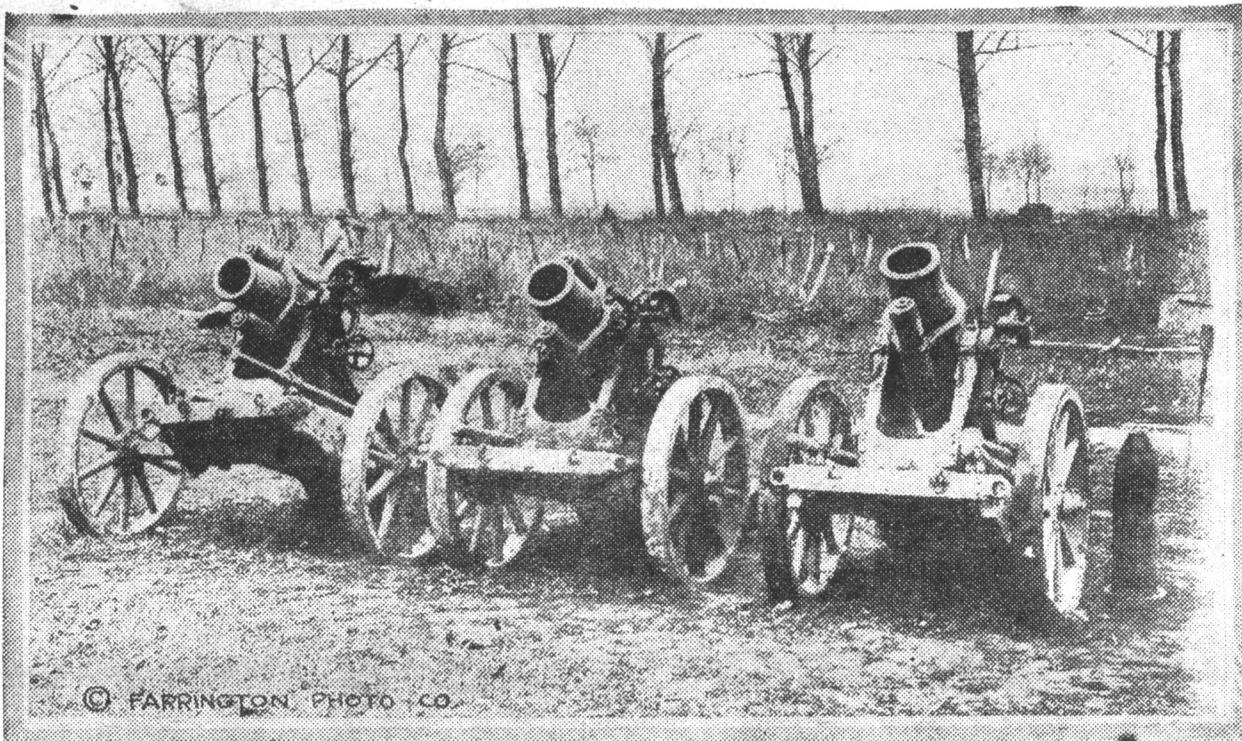
Co-operation is over the experimental stage. I think it is just as necessary for us to organize in politics as it is in business. Every time we go to the polls to cast our vote for a candidate for either congress or legislature who has the endorsement of big business we ought to kick ourselves, because we know he can't serve two masters, and theirs and our interests do not mix.

There are hundreds of farmers who could represent us in Congress and Legislature, and do it with more honor than the professional politician. Surely the one who wears the shoe knows best where it pinches, therefore let us get represented by our own class. Election is coming next fall; let us see what we can do between now and that time to better our condition in this matter. Remember, so long as the other classes are making the laws we cannot and must not expect to get a fair deal, or full and fair returns for our labor.—*N. P. F., Coral.*

Suggestions for the County Agents

Am still enjoying your paper and know it is trying to help out the farmers. The matter of grading potatoes is getting serious. Farmers do not want to sell potatoes when the dealers grade them and then give them a price which does not pay the cost of production. In Evart potatoes have been about 60c a bushel lately. This coming year many farmers around here are not going to plan on planting only what they need for their own use and some for seed if the grading is not stopped very soon. Why not have a minimum price on potatoes so the farmer can make a fair profit. He needs it and the middlemen always have a good profit. So much for the potato situation.—*(Continued on page 11)*

THE FRUITS OF FRENCH VALOR AT GERMAN COST



One of the war photographs which the German people at home are never allowed to see. It reveals the fruits of French valor at German cost.

we farmers are up against it. I am pinning my faith to it for one.

It seems to me when we work three months to produce a bushel of spuds we should get \$1.00. The marketing condition needs repairs. It should be written on the black board before the food administrator in big red letters, that if the bean and potato crops come up short in 1918 the farmer should not be blamed for it.

You can lead a horse to water and yet it may not drink;

You can also fool a farmer and yet he may not think

Let's put our gray matter to work.—*A Subscriber, Cross Village, Mich.*

Farmers, Use Your "Heavy Artillery"

I am enjoying the reading of your paper more than any others. In the Readers' Editorials one cannot help but notice the dissatisfaction there is among the farmers on account of the treatment we are getting on every corner. We all know the railroads get things their own way, they are not run to serve you or me, they are not run with economy, either. Why? No competition, and if they don't pay a fair dividend, that is 7 per cent to the stockholders (watered stock included, which in some instances probably is 100 per cent) they just raise the freight rate. You and I foot the bill! You see they are well represented in the legislature. If the big four (packing houses) make less than 100 per cent a year on their investment they are not satisfied. You and I pay for it! Noticed in a paper a few days ago that a potato dealer over in Flint had made a quarter of a million in 10 years. That was out of our pockets. And that way I could



THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



This Week's Tested Recipe

Risen Cornbread for Supper

The spoon breads are equally good for supper and always make a substantial dish with a meat stew. When company is coming or you want to surprise the family, try risen cornbread for supper. It is not advisable to attempt it for breakfast because meal ferments so rapidly with yeast that the product is likely to be sour by morning.

1 cake compressed yeast; 2 cups sweet milk, scalded and cooled; 2 tablespoons brown sugar; 2 tablespoons lard; 2½ cups white cornmeal; 1 cup sifted flour; 1 teaspoon salt; 2 eggs.

Dissolve yeast and sugar in lukewarm milk and add melted fat. Stir in the cornmeal, flour, salt and add well beaten eggs. Beat thoroughly. Fill greased bowl two-thirds full. Set to rise in a warm place for about an hour. Be careful that it does not rise. It should be baked as soon as light. The baking will require from twenty to thirty minutes, according to thickness of pone.

A Busy Farm Woman Who Has Time for Other Things

My Dear Mrs. Stark:—

This interesting discussion, which is the direct result of Mrs. M. L.'s letter, as to how much woman's happiness depends on her environment, surroundings, etc., moves me to lift up my voice (or pen) and add my sentiments to those wise, and other wise already expressed.

I have always had an idea lurking in the limited amount of gray matter granted me that the woman whose joy in life depended upon geographical position, climatic condition, or density of population, must be very small mental calibre, restricted outlook, narrow soul, limited literary attainments and woefully lacking in an interest in all the beauties and mysteries of Nature with which a beneficent Providence has surrounded us.

I live on a farm of 160 acres, 4 miles from a live town of 5,000 inhabitants. I do all my house work, and the dairy work from a herd averaging 200 pounds per month. I do my sewing, care for the chickens, and much of the garden work falls on me during the busy season. Yet I find time to belong to one civic, and one literary club in town and do social center work in the country. My home is not pretentious, but always hospitable, and is the mecca for my city friends. I have plenty of good books and magazines and I never have a lonely or unhappy moment; never an hour that does not contain sixty minutes of joy that I can live and love and serve. In fact time passes too rapidly; I can not accomplish all that I want to.

I firmly believe a woman's happiness depends not on any phase of her environment, but on the woman herself; for she is master of her fate and makes her own environment. Life is what we make it and we get out of life just what we put into it.

The girl who honestly loves the man she marries is able to say like Ruth "Whither thou goest, I will go; whither thou lodgest, I will lodge. Thy people will be my people and thy God will be my God."

Given a home, husband and children whereon to center ones love and interest, what outside agent does woman need to create happiness? But if these be not sufficient, ye discontented country dweller, make your own surroundings that will bestow a happy frame of mind upon you. Join a club. If you can't join one, invite in a few congenial ones. Do something for some one. Get a hobby, a camera, or collect butterflies, bugs or wild flowers; above all get acquainted with yourself. You may have many latent resources and hidden possibilities hitherto undreamed of, the development of which may place you in an abode of Elysium, Utopia and Paradise combined whether your dwelling place be in the midst of the Sahara desert, on Pike's peak or the most congested district of the city.—A Country Woman.

Have You Any Left-Over Outing Flannel?

USUALLY the prospective mother goes and buys a bolt of longcloth, batiste, and flannel, and proceeds to sit down and make her baby's outfit. More often than not, she has material left over. There's one sure thing, if she has started to make baby garments, she loves to do it. And the young mother usually "has her hand in," and can whip a baby dress together in no time.

When you gaze on your own sweet baby, so daintily dressed in its little handmade garments, sown by you with such loving care, think of the hundreds of babies, children of the refugees sent back from the occupied districts in Northern France, and from behind the American, French, English and Belgian lines, who are in need of clothing. The American Red Cross must take care of these babies, and it needs the help of every woman with the love of her own baby, and every other baby, in her heart.

ANNA CAMPBELL STARK, EDITOR

The colors used in making these layettes should be white, pale pink and pale blue only, and each layette should be either blue and white and pink. The articles are plainly made, and do not require the hand work you thought so necessary on your own darling's outfit.

Following is a description of the articles and the number to be included in the layette:

Two dresses: Made of good quality Daisy cloth or outing flannel. Thin cotton materials should not be used.

One jacket: To be worn outside of dress. Good quality Daisy cloth, flannel, or outing flannel; or may be knitted or crocheted.

Three waists or brassieres. Made of white bleached muslin of good quality.

Three waists or brassieres: Made of thin white flannel.

One cape with hood. Made of either pink or blue heavy Daisy cloth flannel. A wrapping knitted or crocheted, or made of heavy Daisy cloth yard square, may be substituted for the cape, if desired.

Two pairs of booties, pink, blue or white, either

Life's Sun and Shade Checkerboard

WHEN it snows in February,
Don't it make you kinda blue?
Planned to hear the birds a singin'
And to see the grass peep through.
Thought that spring was surely comin'
And you look out in the night,
And instead of warm rain fallin'
The world is still and white!

WHEN it snows in February,
And your disappointment's keen.
And March comes like a lion,
A roarin' forth his spleen;
You hang your spring clothes back again,
And get your muffler out,
And wonder as you grumble,
When the sun is comin' out.

WHEN it snows in February,
Just you keep a smilin' face.
And when March comes a roarin',
Don't you mind, for in a space,
April's rains will whisper Springtime;
May will bring her flowers to you.
And the summer days will follow,
Filled with gladness thru and thru!

SO IT IS, with everybody,
Sorrow comes with snow and rain,
And if only we'll have patience,
Summer skies will smile again!
Life is filled with shade and sunshine,
God knows what is best for all.
We never love the sun so much
Until the shadows fall!

—ANNE CAMPBELL STARK

ted or crocheted, or made of heavy Daisy cloth or outing flannel.

Two swaddling cloths or woolen blankets. Made of all wool white blanketing, 28 inches wide by 32 inches long, and bound with white muslin from 1 to 1 and one-half inches wide; stitched several times to be quite flat. The binding should be cut out on the bias, 2 or 3 inches wide, so that the flannel may be alike on both sides.

Three flannel binders. Made of white flannel, 28 inches long and 6 inches wide. This is a straight strip of flannel, unhemmed. In placing these in the layette they should be rolled tightly and fastened with 3 or 4 safety pins.

Twelve diapers. White diaper cloth, 20 to 22 inches wide and 36 inches long; hemmed on each end.

Three undershirts. Woven wool and cotton, long sleeves. These may be purchased or they may be made from good quality case of underwear.

One bonnet. Knitted or crocheted of pale pink or blue worsted. To knit the bonnet, cast on stitches of pink or blue to measure 14 inches, and knit plain for 6 inches. Break off yarn and join on a fine white wool; knit for six inches more and bind off loosely. Fold the white wool over the colored for a lining. Fold the 14 inch strip, making it 7 inches and set the 7-inch edges together to form back of bonnet. Run a ¾ inch ribbon in and out around the bottom, and leave ends for tying. Crochet in similar fashion.

One bag of sundries. Made of either pink or blue figured or striped muslin and should con-

Uncle Sam's Thrift Thought

Use these good meat-savers:

Cottage cheese is a delicious and easy dish. You can buy it from almost any milkman or you can make it yourself. Add salt and pepper before eating, and if you prefer it more moist, stir in a little milk. It is good, too, served with applebutter, or a bit of jelly. While this is more of a dessert, it can still lessen the amount of meat you eat.

To make cottage cheese warm 'sour milk, whole or skimmed, on the back of the stove or put a bowl of it in a pan of hot, not boiling, water for about 20 minutes. Stir occasionally. When the curd and whey have separated, pour off the whey through a sieve. Work the curd with a spoon and let it drain. When fairly dry work again until smooth. The whey is good to use in making bread.

Nuts are concentrated foods, too. Twenty single peanuts are about the same as the inch cube of cheese. Remember that nuts are good food. Chew them thoroughly or grind them up for a cooked dish and eat them as an important part of your meal.

Save meat and money.

tain: 6 large safety pins, 1 cake of soap wash cloth, either knitted or of bath toweling, 1 box talcum powder, small roll of old linen pieces, piece of flannel or small case containing 6 needles, spool of white sewing cotton, and thimble.

Patterns for dresses, jacket, waists, cape and booties can be procured as official Red Cross patterns from the Red Cross chapters.

Whenever it is possible, the layette should be made complete before it is delivered to the Chapters for shipping. Each outfit should be wrapped tightly in one of the diapers and pinned securely with several safety pins. Separate articles may be sent to the Chapter headquarters. When this cannot be done, they should be sent directly to the Red Cross Supply Depot, New York City.

This will make nice pick-up work for the busy woman. It is surprising, if you make up your mind to it, how much you can accomplish for the Red Cross. This war has gone far enough to impress upon each one of us that we women simply MUST WORK. In our country's great emergency it is a little thing for us to spend our leisure time sewing and knitting, when across the seas brave boys have gone to give their very lives for us. Let every one of us resolve that not one day will pass but we will do our bit, however small!

Dry Bread Made Appetizing

WASTE no dry bread. A single slice is valuable and every bit thrown away means greater hunger in Europe. Here are practical ways to use dry bread and thereby keep in the food saving campaign, as urged by the United States Food Administration:

Cut it in thin slices and toast it. Crisp toast is appetizing with almost any breakfast drink.

Cut dry portions of loaves into cubes about three-fourths of an inch square, put in a shallow pan and toast in the oven to a golden brown. Serve for use in soup.

Revive the old-fashioned dish of bread and milk,—an excellent use for dry bread.

Make into bread pudding, using raisins liberally to give flavor and make the dish more attractive and nourishing.

Or break up the dry bread into small pieces and crush with a rolling pin, saving the bread crumbs for future use in the place of flour. A covered glass jar is a convenient receptacle for storing them.

A Personal Word From the M. B. F. Editor

I HAVE TRULY marveled at the splendid letters Mrs. Stark has been receiving from the readers of this page, the women of Michigan farm homes. Some of them are the best sermons I have ever read, and I am sure that every reader of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING who has followed these letters, has been equally interested and uplifted. We are all seekers after happiness. Some of us find it in the acquisition of material things; others in the attainment of ideals; still others in the interchange of human love and the reciprocal benefits of everyday service to our fellow beings and God. It is easy to be happy if we so will it, and I am glad that so many of our farm women have learned that lesson;—but here I am mounting the pulpit for a sermonette. All I intended to say was that I hope our women readers will continue to write us letters on any aspect of their experiences on the farm or their opinions on the desirability of farm life as a permanent state of being. They teach us all truths that we ought to know.—THE EDITOR.

Editorials by our Readers

Suggestions for County Agents
(Continued from page 9)

ation, and now comes wheat. In Evart the elevator pays \$2.00 for white wheat and \$2.02 for red wheat. What should it be in Osceola county? Besides giving a low price they even rob a man on weight. Many have caught them doing very dishonest work.

The county agents would be all right if they would try and help out

the farmers instead of dictating to them some advice that they don't even know the first thing about. Why don't they do their part in securing good prices for the products? Leave it to the farmers to do their part, they always have fed the world and will now if given a fair chance by being given decent prices and also leaving the boys who have always worked on the farm, where they are. They can do more to win the war than if they had a gun to carry. If "food will win the war" give the producers a good chance. I believe the time has come when the farmers are going to stand up for their rights.—Subscriber, Osceola county.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Our wheat chart shows that the price of No. 2 Red wheat at Evart should be about \$2.06 per bushel.)

Farmers Will Come Into Their Own Some Day

We raised very fine potatoes here last year. I planted one acre and had 75% bu., about one-third of a crop. Will only plant the same amount this year. Help is too scarce to raise potatoes. Also sugar beets will pay better than screened potatoes, as no sorting is practiced with the beets and they will stand the frost. You see the big ones are not doing business for fun and we must copy after them to compete and hold the balance of trade.

Act 1—Big Business had its day.

Act 2—Highbrow has his day.

Act 3—Farmer's day has come and as we intend to join hands with Highbrow, we intend to make it the day of all days. From now on we will make it 50-50 or no deal.

In 1920 we will show them how it is done. With a brotherhood of workers; Brotherhood party, and a new ship of state, we will sail the seas of peace and plenty. So say we all.—G. B. H., Shepherd.

Will Not Raise Potatoes Unless Grading Rules Are Removed

I could not do without the MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, the paper that speaks out from the shoulder; the paper the farmer has longed for. I would like to meet you in Lansing but I cannot leave the farm.

Unless they take the potato grades off before planting time there will not be many potatoes raised around here this year. My neighbor had 10 acres last year and only had 135 bu. of No. 1 grade. He has quit the business. As for me, I am feeding my potatoes to my stock; they would run two-thirds No. 2's. They are nice, white potatoes. I treated them for scab so they were all salable before the grading struck them. A few men can knock us farmers out on this crop, but look out for the next! The grade should be put out in March if they want potatoes next fall. In the bean deal my neighbor went in debt \$50 for seed last spring and got four bushels of very poor beans. I got my beans in before the rain; they pick 1 pound. They are fine seed. I am taking your advice through the paper to hold good dry beans. Losing my potatoes through the grading rules I must have \$8 for my beans to pay my last year's expense. With help and seed so high I hardly know what to plant. I shall raise oats in the place of potatoes.—H. D. S., Kent City.

Farmers Left to Mercy of Jobbers

I have taken much pleasure in reading your paper since the first issue of the same. Will say I have been a great admirer of the snappy way in which you have wielded your cudgel (the pen) in behalf of the farmer, especially as regards the present bean and potato situation. It seems to me it would be no more than fair to the farmer to establish a minimum price on his products, giving him a fair return for his investment and labor expended. But so far the farmer has not been very successful in getting in with some senator or other high official with pull enough to flim-flam the government into paying two prices for the products of the farm necessary to the successful carrying on of the war. At least I have not read of any investigation being held at Washington to expose a skin game of that kind. So far the farmer has been left mostly to the mercy of the jobber and the local buyer. Just ask any farmer and he will soon enlighten you as to the amount of mercy

those fellows show when we drive in town with a load of farm produce. But if the other fellow so felt and was willing to turn over the product of his labor for the next 12 months regardless of what that labor was, farming or otherwise, except a living for those at home, I would most cheerfully turn over the products of my farm on the same terms, because I think the sooner we get in earnest about this thing and sacrifice some of the things we have been accustomed to, the sooner this awful thing called war will be over and our boys be back into God's country, the good old U. S. A. It may be that I am pretty sensitive about this subject you will say, but I think I have a license to be as I have a boy "somewhere in France" with Uncle Sam. Do you not think I would give the product of one year or five years of labor if necessary to have him back home at the end of an honorable peace? Any parent who would not do as much stand up!—I. H. F., Columbiaville.

Building Up Fine Herd of Holsteins in Washtenaw County

I believe your paper will rattle some dry bones from the energetic tone of the few numbers I have seen. The farmer is not a profiteer; but he is patriotic. He is just as much entitled to cost plus ten per cent as any other manufacturer; and measuring costs I do not find him figuring the labor at sixty to seventy cents per hour, but at about twenty-five. If farm produce was figured today on the cost basis that is used for other manufactured products, that is eight hours as a day's labor and sixty to seventy cents per hour the cost of living would go so high we would have a revolution.

Perhaps you will be interested in the pedigree of the bull we have to head the herd of Holsteins we are building up at Washtenaw Farm. This bull's dam has a record of 30 lbs. which is nothing remarkable these days, of course, but she has a very good private record, 900 lbs. for a year and it's the yearly records that really count. Her yearly record and the sire's dam's yearly record average considerably better than 1000 lbs. of butter for a year. Her sister made 1470 lbs for a year a world's record at the time; another sister holds the world's seven-day record for age; another sister held the seven-day world's record as a three-year-old. She is also sister to the dam of the 50 lb. cow so we have both long time and seven-day records in the dam's side.

The sire is out of a cow that made 1226 lbs. in a year and she has four sisters with over a thousand pounds a year. Her dam made 1088 lbs. in a year and has three sisters over 1200 lbs in a year, so I believe we have a right to expect that we will have some good yearly producers in a few years. This bull is almost pure white and a good square individual.—C. F. B., Ann Arbor.

"EAR TEST YOUR SEED CORN," SAYS UNCLE SAM

It is absolutely necessary that a wide-spread campaign of ear testing be begun at once, in order to obtain a sufficient supply of seed corn of strong germination for the Northern States, and a large part of the corn belt States as well.

The rag doll method of testing individual ears is one of the simplest and economical, and is efficient. The tester consists of a strip of cloth, preferably bleached muslin, sixteen inches wide and from three to five feet long. The cloth should be marked off into squared sections and the squares all numbered. The ears to be tested should also be given corresponding numbers. Six or more kernels should be selected from different parts of each ear, and placed in the proper section. When the tester is filled, fold over each side so that the edges meet in the center, roll up and soak the tester for a few hours in lukewarm water. Drain the excess water off, and place the dolls in a warm place to germinate. They should be covered with a wet cloth to keep them moist, and in about five days should be sufficiently well germinated to show their fitness for seed.

Farmers' Bulletin No. 948, "The Rag Doll Tester," describes fully this method of testing seed corn.



ISBELL'S Seed Potatoes

Isbell's Northern grown Seed Potatoes assure you of Earlier, Larger and more saleable crops. Ideal varieties that come from clean fields free from potato diseases. All are carefully graded and sorted—perfect specimens. To plant Isbell's potatoes means big crops—400 bushels and more per acre.

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Describes many famous Isbell varieties at money-saving prices. Write us today for bigger potato profits.

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Insure success in your garden. Each lot of Maule's seeds is tested for vigor and growing power, and is backed by our 41 years' success as seed growers.

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176 pages full of valuable planting and gardening information **FREE**

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Include 10c and we will send you a packet of specially selected pansy seeds—a generous assortment of beautiful Giant pansies—the largest known.

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30,000 SOLD—FIFTH YEAR

More Comfortable, Healthful, Convenient

Eliminates the out-house, open vault and cess-pool, which are breeding places for germs. Have a warm, sanitary, odorless toilet right in your house. No going out in cold weather. A boon to invalids. Endorsed by State Boards of Health.

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The germs are killed by a chemical process in water in the container. Empty once a month. No more trouble to empty than ashes. Closet absolutely guaranteed. Guarantee on file in the office of this publication. Ask for catalog and price.

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Ask about the Ro-San Washstand—Hot and Cold Running Water Without Plumbing

Don't Wear a Truss



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

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For That War Garden
Progressive Everberries Strawberries

Plants set April 1, have produced \$1,000 worth of fruit per acre before the first snow flies in November. Most bountiful and desirable of all garden products. Introduced by us in 1913. The most valuable of all varieties today and growing better every year. Be sure you get the genuine. 100 plants postpaid, \$1.25.

Other Best Varieties—List FREE.

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BEAN SEED, 100 per cent purity. Sample and price on request.

Mayer's Plant Nursery, Merrill, Mich.



Up-to-Date Fashions

The whole family is represented this week.

In the spring a mother's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of clothes! This is paraphrasing an old saying and isn't it the truth? She not only thinks about her own wardrobe, but her children's and her husband's as well.

The patterns for this week cover the whole family. Little Boy Blue is represented by No. 8677. This comes in sizes 4, 6, 8, and 10 years. The coat is a double breasted model with a diagonal side closing; the separate straight trousers are included in the pattern. Perhaps father's old blue serge suit can be cut up and used to advantage in this way.

A classy little dress for spring, which can be worn without a coat is Sister Sue's little model, numbered 8666. This comes in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. The dress has a plain waist with a straight, one-piece skirt gathered to it; the long sleeves are gathered into straight cuffs.

Daddy gets a new shirt. Some folks think shirts are hard to make but I have found them very easy indeed. This one comes in sizes 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 inches neck measure. The shirt has a soft, turn-over collar attached to the neck; the breast pockets are box-plaited and finished with neat pointed flaps.

For mother there is a house dress, a skirt and a nice little "best dress." The house dress, which is a very pretty style and suitable for afternoon wear is numbered 8648. It comes in sizes 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. The shoulder edges of the back extended over to the front where the lower sections are gathered. The skirt is three-gored.

The two-gored skirt, No. 8652, comes in sizes 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. The skirt has two gores, and there are 2 inverted praits at each side of the back and the same at the front.

Unusually neat is mother's "best dress." It comes in sizes 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. The waist fits rather closely and it buttons at the center front; the two-gored skirt is cut wider at the top than at the bottom. This is one of the newest models for spring.

These patterns are ten cents each, and all questions about material, color, etc., will be cheerfully answered by the PATTERN DEPARTMENT, Michigan Business Farming, Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

SAVE! TIME-LABOR MONEY AND BUTTERFAT

\$46⁹⁰
375 lbs.
Capacity

AS A WARTIME ECONOMY.

Never was there a time when it was so important that you get every ounce of butter-fat. With cream and butter commanding top prices you actually throw good money away when you waste the smallest particle of butter-fat by old-fashioned methods of separating or by using an out-of-date model separator.

Get a Galloway Sanitary Separator

Then you know positively that you are skimming clean, right down to the last drop. My new 1918 separator is not just a warm weather skimmer. When your cows are on dry feed it will skim just as close as when the cows are pasturing. In cold weather you are

not so particular if your separator doesn't skim up to rated capacity. But in the spring and summer when the grass is green and the milk flow is heavy you want a separator like the Galloway. A few minutes saved in the morning and evening mean just that much more time in the fields.

Sold Direct to You from My Factory!

And the best thing about my wonderful New Sanitary, next to its perfect skimming qualities, is that the price is right. A too cheap separator is not economy. It's just as bad to pay too little as too much. My Sanitary is in the class of the best machines, but is sold at a fair price because you can buy one direct from my immense factories at Waterloo. This plan saves you the difference in price. I cut out all waste and sell you at the rock bottom factory price. Examine the Galloway Sanitary thoroughly. Test one for 90 days. Note its strong, sturdy base. Big, roomy, seamless supply tank of pressed steel; Heavy tinware; Sanitary bowl; its self-centering neck bearing and simple but effective two-piece lower bearing. Then look at the discs which separate from each other for washing. Takes only a few of them to skim a lot of milk. Cream pail shelf and bowl vice combined in one, with hinge for lowering. Examine its helical drive gear; high crank shaft (just 60 r. p. m.); its high carbon steel worm wheel shaft; oil bath and sanitary drip pan.

Write for Free Book at once. Get the big 1918 spring Catalog. Find out how much you can save when you buy direct—not only on Separators, but on Spreaders, Engines, Tractors and other implements as well. Close shipping points save you freight. C. A. Vick says: "I like your separator just fine. I think it is as good as they can be. If I were to buy another, I would not want any but a Galloway."

Wm. Galloway Co., President
4147 Galloway St.,
Waterloo, Iowa

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Day
Trial
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Back
Guarantee

TRACTORS

A regular farm power house on wheels. Has anti-friction bearings. 21 sets Hyatt roller and ball bearings. Only 13 1/2% of motor's power needed to pull tractor under load. Plows, discs, harrows, hauls, threshes, fills silos, shreds, grades roads, fills silos. Pulls three 14-in. bottoms 8 to 9 in. deep.



12-20" Size



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Slow speed because that's the way to get the great power. All parts are perfectly balanced, standardized and interchangeable. Runs at uniform speed. Starts easy. No cranking. Has valves-in-head like break ignition. Special magnet produces hot spark. Requires no batteries. Fool-proof and frost-proof. Portable or Stationary. 5 to 16 H.P.

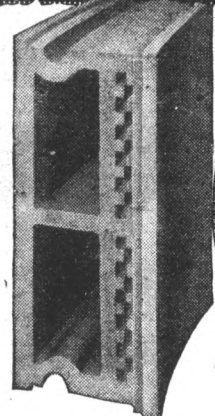
SPREADERS

The best of its kind and lightest in draft; patented roller feed; steel beater; V rake; automatic stop; uniform clean-out push board strong tongue; double chain drive spreads from four to twenty-four loads per acre.



Low Draft Light Draft

More Beautiful - More Durable



and gives
you better silage

Vitrified tile—the ideal silo material—lasts for generations. No upkeep cost—no painting—no hoops to tighten. Write for catalog.

Lansing Vitrified Tile Silo

—with the "ship lap" blocks. Ends overlap—adds strength. Notches in ends prevent mortar from slipping. Extended shoulders top and bottom—less mortar exposed—silage settles better. More beautiful wall—blocks all same shade. Steel hip roof—extra space in silo—steel chute—frost-proof—continuous doorway. Write for Catalog and Prices.

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Also get our offer on Climax Silo
Fillers and Redwell Threshers.



Cow Comfort in Zero Weather

You can hold your cows to full milk flow during a cold snap—if they are housed in Natco Barns and fed from a Natco Silo. The dead-air spaces in the hollow tile walls keep out the cold yet prevent dampness and frost from gathering.

Natco Hollow Tile

buildings save painting—will not rot, crack or crumble. Will not harbor rats, mice or other vermin. The glazed dust-tight walls make it easy to produce clean milk. Natco Hollow Tile is widely used in fire-proofing "skyscrapers"—let the same material safeguard your stock and reduce your fire-risk.

Your building supply dealer will gladly show you samples of Natco Hollow Tile and quote prices. Also, write us at once for new, illustrated "Natco on the Farm" book—1918 Edition. It's free!

23 Factories assure a wide and economical distribution.

National Fire Proofing Company

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HANDLING LIVE STOCK ON SWEET CLOVER

With the exception of alfalfa on fertile soils, no other leguminous crop will furnish as much nutritious pasturage from early spring until late fall as sweet clover, when it is properly handled. Live stock thrive on it. Animals which have never been fed sweet clover may refuse to eat it at first, but this distaste can be overcome by turning them on the pasture as soon as the plants start growth. There is practically no danger from bloat from sweet clover, according to Farmer's Bulletin 820, "Sweet Clover; Utilization," which has just been issued by the United States Department of Agriculture.

When sweet clover has been seeded two years in succession on separate fields, the fields sown the first year may be pastured until the middle of June, when the stock should be turned on the spring seeding. When handled in this manner excellent pasturage is provided throughout the summer and a hay or seed crop may be harvested from the field seeded the previous season.

Some of the best pastures in the middle west consist of a mixture of Kentucky blue grass, timothy, and sweet clover. On one large farm stock is pastured on meadows containing this mixture from the first part of April to the middle of June. From this time until the first part of September the stock is kept on one-half to two-thirds the total pasturage acreage. The remainder of the pasture land is permitted to mature a seed crop. Usually from 2 to 4 bushels per acre of recleaned seed is obtained from thin portion of the pasture. After the seed crop is harvested, the stock again is turned on to this acreage where they feed on the grasses and first-year sweet clover plants until cold weather. The seed which shatters when the crop is cut is usually sufficient to reseed the pasture.

It is essential that sufficient stock be kept on the pastures to keep the plants eaten rather closely, so that at all times there will be an abundance of fresh shoots. Grazing induces the plants to send out many young shoots close to the ground, so that when the plants are permitted to mature seed a much larger number of stalks are formed than would be the case if the first crop were out for hay. Excellent stands of sweet clover will produce an abundance of pasturage for 2 to 3 mature animals per acre, from early spring to the middle of June. Cattle which are pastured on sweet clover alone crave dry food. Straw or hay should be present in the meadow at all times.

Experiments by many farmers in the Middle West show that sweet clover is an excellent pasture for dairy cattle. When cows are turned on sweet clover from grass pastures the flow of milk is increased and its

quality improved. Other conditions being normal, this increase in milk production will continue throughout the summer as the plants produce an abundance of green forage during the hot, dry months. If pastures are handled properly they will carry at least one milch cow to the acre during the summer months.

Sweet clover has proved to be an excellent pasturage crop for hogs. It is usually seeded alone and pastured for two seasons. The hogs may be turned on the fields the first year as soon as the plants have made a 6-inch growth. From this time until late fall an abundance of forage is produced as pasturing induces the plants to send out many a tender, succulent branches. Pasturing the second season may begin as soon as the growth starts it is advisable to clip it occasionally, leaving an 8-inch stubble so as to produce a more succulent growth.

An acre of sweet clover pasture ordinarily will support 20 to 30 shoats. For the best growth of the hogs they should be fed each day 2 pounds of grain per hundredweight of the stock. Hogs are very fond of sweet-clover roots and should be ringed before being turned on the pasture. The tendency to root may generally be overcome by adding some protein to the grain ration.

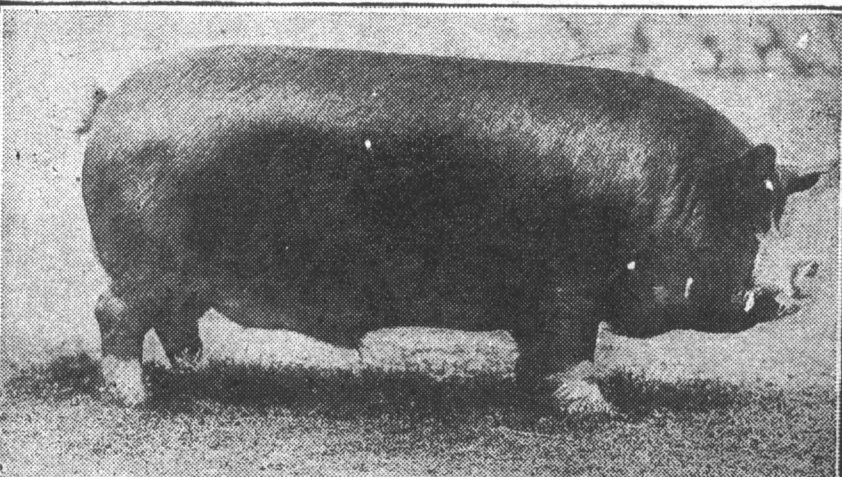
Sheep relish sweet clover and make rapid gains when pastured on it. Care must be taken to see that pastures are not over-stocked with sheep as they are likely to eat the plants so close to the ground as to kill them. This is especially true the first year before the plants have formed crown buds. Yellow biennial sweet clover probably will not suffer from this cause as much as the white species, because the plants make a more spreading growth and are not likely to be eaten so closely to the ground.

PASTURE NECESSARY FOR THE POULTRY

(Continued from preceding page)

fruit also helps to feed the fowls and is readily eaten by them. Chickens love to rest under low fruit trees and are better protected from hawks if there are trees and growing crops under which they can hide. Plowing and cultivating the ranges not only puts the ground in the best sanitary condition for the fowls, but properly managed, it can be made to contribute largely toward the support of the flock.

Abundant range is essential to the thrift of the flock and economy of feeding. Confinement is artificial and unless feeds are supplied to replace those gathered when free range is given, one cannot keep the flock healthy and producing profitably. Let the runs be fertile and productive, not sterile, of green feed and animal feed, with plenty of shade. If confinement in small yards must be practiced at certain times of the year make the rations approach as nearly as possible



Recently a Berkshire pig sired by Epochal, the imported Berkshire pig owned by H. W. Gossard of the Gossard Breeding Estates, Martinsville, Ind., was sold to Mr. Thomas Stanton, Wheaton, Ill., for \$10,000, which is a new record price for the breed, as well as the highest price on record for a pig of any breed.

Veterinary Department

I would like a little advise regarding a cow that does not eat enough. I wish you would tell me what I can give this cow to make her eat more and to loosen her bowels.—A. H. H., Kingsley.

Anorexia, or lack of appetite, is usually only one of the symptoms of a disease, however, there are cases in which the inappetency or anorexia persists for some time without any evidence of other disease or a sign upon which to base a diagnosis; the cow just "won't eat anything," nothing else of an abnormal nature can be seen; the loss of appetite being the only symptom, if such is the case with your cow give dilute acetic acid, two ounces morning and evening for two or three days with an equal amount of water.

I have a heifer freshened the first time last May. She is due to freshen again in May. About six weeks ago I noticed a whitish discharge when she lies down, some of the organs protrude, but as soon as she is on her feet it is all right again. She is three years old in July. What Can I do for her?—A. P., Pentwater.

Your cow has "ante-partum vaginal prolapse," due in this case to some catarrhal condition which is evidenced by the discharge you speak of. An examination should be made when the cow is in a standing position to disclose if possible the direct cause of the prolapse. If unable to find any ulceration in the vagina a rectal examination should be made. If lesions are present in either the vagina or rectum cauterize the same with Tr. iodine, (this can be done by the use of a cotton swab). The after treatment consists of mild antiseptic irrigations twice daily until healing takes place.

POULTRY

WE HAVE THEM

S. C. W. Leghorns; Trapped stock. Hens, Pullets, Cockerels and Cocks. Will take orders for hatching eggs now. We also have good seed beans. Write us. Hill Crest Poultry Farm, Ypsilanti, Mich.

FOR SALE—S. C. White Leghorns—Year Old Hens, Pullets, Cockerels, Ferris Strain, \$1.50 Each. Russell Poultry Ranch, Petersburg, Michigan.

Superior Farm White Wyandottes, Good winter layers, and fit for any show room. Eggs after March 1st, \$2.00, \$3.00 and \$5.00 per 15. \$8.00 per 100. Send for mailing list C. W. Honeywell, Plymouth, Michigan.

MISHLAND'S WHITE ROCKS—The direct blood of a well-known 200-egg strain. Eggs for hatching \$1.50 for 13; \$5.00 for 50; \$9.00 per 100. L. Seamans & Son, Belleville, Michigan.

CHICKS We ship thousands each season, different varieties, booklet and testimonials, stamp appreciated. Freeport Hatchery, Box 10, Freeport, Michigan.

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS for breeding purposes from good layers. \$3.00 each. Write R. R. Bowman, Pigeon, Mich.

JOHN'S BIG BEAUTIFUL BARRED Rocks are hen hatched and sold on approval \$3 to \$10 each. 1 male and 4 females \$12.00. Good layers. Circulars. Photos. John Northon, Clare, Michigan.

"BARRED ROCK COCKERELS Prize Winning Stock, Thompson Strain, \$3.00 and up. Pullets and hens cheap. Sam Stadel, Chelsea, Mich.

BARRED ROCKS The farmer's kind. Eight years of careful breeding, large, heavy-laying fowls. Eggs \$5 for 50; \$10 for 120. Chas. I. Cook, Fowlerville, Michigan.

Barred Rock Eggs From strain with records to 290 eggs per year. \$2.00 per 15 Prepaid by parcel post. Circular free. Fred Astling, Constantine, Michigan.

If this is a mild case and no ulceration is present all that need be done is to compel animal to lie with the hind quarters raised considerably. This will prevent the prolapse.

PASTURE NECESSARY FOR THE POULTRY

One of the most important factors in successful poultry-keeping is that of providing clean yards and runs. It is a mistaken notion that poor, rough and barren range is suitable for poultry. Hens and growing chicks require grass and green forage crops in abundance and variety.

An acre of range is necessary for every 100 fowls, but this does not mean that valuable food crops may not be grown on land utilized for range. It is no wonder so many farmers fail to obtain satisfactory returns from poultry when they locate their yards and runs on sandy and gravelly land, where about all the fowls find in sand and sharp stones. It is always better to locate the yards and runs on fertile land, for on such land grass and forage is sure to abound, and where vegetable growth is present insects and worms are sure to be found.

Poultry can be kept successfully in small yards if green foods and meat are fed. Yards on poor, sandy ground are usually destitute of vegetable and animal foods. Fruit orchards, clover meadows, old berry patches and fields of corn with little brooks in proximity make ideal runs for poultry. A small, wet piece of ground with a small brook in it makes a fine place for poultry to gather worms, bugs and insects; besides the problem of supplying clean water for drinking is greatly simplified. The sweet, juicy grasses that grow in these places are an important factor in balancing up the grain feeds and maintaining the fowls in healthy and vigorous condition. If such runs are bushy or contain a few small trees it will afford the fowls a place to retreat during the heat of the day. Meadow land or grain stubble fields that are dry also furnish suitable range for fowls of all ages.

For several years I have practiced a method of rotating yards and runs by growing field crops on the land inclosed by poultry fences. On five acres adjoining the hen houses and orchards wheat, corn, clover, buckwheat and rye are grown on the land utilized for range during considerable of the year. The wheat and rye furnish green feed at times when other green feed is scarce and more or less grain when the crops mature. A crop of buckwheat comes after the wheat and matures in time to cut and save for winter feeding. Clover seeded with buckwheat comes on and furnishes green feed for the next spring and summer. If cut early it makes excellent green feed for the winter. In fact there is nothing better than clover rowen to feed laying hens during the time when other green delicacies are scarce. Corn planted in one of the runs matures a good crop of grain for winter feeding, put in place and the fowls given the range of the field until the crop is harvested. This permits no waste of land, it conserves fertility and a big saving is made in the cost of feeding during the winter. Good land can be made to furnish more than grass, worms and insects. With long yards and short end fences to remove it requires but a short time to detach the slats from the posts and remove a few lengths of the fence so that the ground can be plowed, harrowed and cultivated.

A fruit orchard is the best kind of range for poultry of all ages. Grass, shade, moths, flies and other kinds of insect life are always present. Fallen

(Continued on following page)

BREEDERS DIRECTORY

Rates:—Up to 14 lines or one inch and for less than 13 insertions under this heading, fifteen cents per line. Title displayed to best advantage. Send in copy and we will quote rates. For larger ads or for ads to run 13 issues or more we make special rates which will cheerfully be sent on application to the Advertising Dept., 110 Fort St., Detroit.

CATTLE

"TOP-NOTCH" HOLSTEINS

"Milk production is an inherited ability." Good cows must be bred to good pure-bred bulls if progress in dairying is to be made.

Extract U. S. Dept. of Agric. Bulletin.

Buy this young bull and give your milk and butter production a "push." King Colantha DeOakdale, No. 182837, Born Nov. 4, 1915. His sire's 3 nearest { Butter 7 days 30.87
Dams average { Milk 7 days 579.06
His Dam's Dam's { Butter 7 days 30.59
Record { Milk 7 days 565.90
{ Butter 30 days 124.19
{ Milk 30 days 2436.90
(She heads one of the ten only combinations of three direct generations of thirty pound cows.)
His dam's record at 3 years { Butter 7 days 23.33
{ Milk 7 days 429.40
His five nearest dams average { Butter 7 days 29.30
{ Milk 7 days 546.68
(Including 2-3 and 1-4 1/2 yr. old.)
Ideally marked, about half and half. Price \$250.

McPherson Farms Co., Howell, Mich.

E. L. SALISBURY

SHEPHERD, MICH.

Breeder of purebred

Holstein-Friesian Cattle

Young bulls for sale from A. P. O. Cows with creditable records.

WOLVERINE STOCK FARM

FOR SALE, a beautifully marked bull calf, born Aug. 3, 1917. Sire Judge Walker Pieterje whose first five dams are 30 pound cows, his dam a 24 pound 3 year-old granddaughter of King of the Pontiacs, and second dam a 26 pound cow. This calf will please you.

Price, \$200.

T. W. SPRAGUE,
Route 2, Battle Creek, Mich.

READ WHAT MR. HOOVER SAYS

"We have a very good lot of young bulls coming out that will be fit for service in a few weeks. These bulls are sons of Fairview Colantha Rag Apple 141,297, a son of the great Rag Apple Korndyke 8th."

"We always have a number of choice females from which to make your selections. They are all daughters of 30 pound bulls, the only kind we use at Rosewood Farm." ROSEWOOD STOCK FARM, Howell, Mich.

250 STEERS FOR SALE

Ones, twos, threes, Herefords, Angus and Shorthorns. 600 to 1200 lbs. Choice quality sorted to size, age and breed. In ear lots. Write your wants. C. F. Ball, Fairfield, Iowa.

HATCH HERD HOLSTEINS

YPSILANTI We have been "breeding Up" for the past eleven years. Pontiac Korndyke and King Korndyke Sadie Vale bulls in service. Select your next sire now.

For Sale, Registered Holstein Bull

10 months old, whose sister is champion 2-yr.-old of the state. Record, 26 months, 26 lbs. butter in 7 da. Sire a son of Pontiac De Nijlander, Record 35.43 butter in 7 da. Dam's record as 3-yr.-old 21 lbs. butter in 7 da. Price, \$100.00. L. C. Ketzler, Clover Dairy Farm, Flint, Mich.

HOLSTEIN COW 8 yrs. old, due to freshen in April. Is right in every way. A.R.O. 18.46, dam 26.28, 2nd dam 24.78. A. F. Loomis, Owosso, Michigan.

WHAT DO YOU WANT? I represent 41 Shorthorn breeders. Can put you in touch with best milk or beef strains. Bulls all ages. Some females. C. W. Crum, Secretary Central Michigan Shorthorn Association, McBrides, Michigan.

For Sale Registered Holsteins—Bulls ready for service, and bull calves from 30 lbs. bull and A. R. O. dams; also females of all ages. Wm. Griffin, Howell, Mich., R. No. 5.

FOR SALE One 11 mos. old grandson of Royal Majesty whose dam as a 3 yr. old produced 406.24 lbs. of butter in 1 yr. Solid color. First check of \$90 takes him. Registered, transferred and delivered to any point in Michigan. Fred A. Brennan, Capac, Mich.

CHOICE REGISTERED STOCK

PERCHERONS,
HOLSTEINS,
SHROPSHIRE,
ANGUS,
DUROCS.

DORR D. BUELL, ELMIRA, MICH.
R. F. D. No. 1

FOR SALE A Reg. Jersey Bull 10 mo. old. Dam is an imported Daughter of Noble of Oakland. Price, \$90.00. Tosch Bros., Capac, Michigan.

HOLSTEIN FRIESIAN CATTLE—Howbert Maplecrest Jetske, Sire's dam 30 lbs., full sister with 1200 lbs. butter, semi-official, dam of calf 20 lbs. butter from 452.6 lbs. milk in seven days. Well marked; born Jan. 12, '17. Price \$75.00 F. O. B. Bull calf born Jan. 9, '18, from untested dam. Price \$50.00. Howbert Stock Farm, Eau Claire, Michigan.

THE WILDWOOD JERSEY FARM

Breeders of Jersey cattle strong in the blood of Royal Majesty. We have stock for sale from R. of M. dams and sire. Herd regularly tested for tuberculosis. Herd ave. profit per year \$100 over cost of feed. The kind that pays. We invite inspection. Satisfaction guaranteed. ALVIN BALDEN, Capac, Mich., phone 143-5

Reg. SHORT-HORN BULLS from 9 to 17 months old by Maxwalton Monarch 2nd. A son of Avondale who has 3 sons and 2 daughters that have won the Grand Championship at International and American Royal. John Schmidt & Sons, Reed City R5 Mich.

FOR SALE Holstein bull calf out of 12.2 mos. old. Pounds 25 M granddaughter of Homestead Girl De Kol Sarcastic Lad 106 A. R. O. dau. by grandson King of the Pontiacs 230 dau. Carl F. & B. N. Braun, Ann Arbor, Mich.

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN CATTLE

I always have a few good individuals for sale. Some young bulls from A. R. O. cows. Not the cheapest, but worth what I am asking for them. Arwin Killinger, Fowlerville, Michigan.

FOR SALE—Registered Jersey Bull 15 mos. old. Write for price and Ped. Carlton R. Lewis, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

For Sale Two Registered Shorthorn bulls 11 and 14 months, roan and white \$125.00 each. C. V. Tracy, Ithaca, Mich., Union Phone.

SHORTHORNS 1 bull 10 mos. old, 5 females, 2 years to 7 years old. Frank Rohrbacher, Laingsburg, Michigan.

Registered JERSEY COWS for sale. Your choice of one, two or three from a dozen, just fresh or due soon. Waterman & Waterman, Packard Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

REGISTERED HOLSTEIN bull calves for sale—Breeding very high, but prices very low for a short time. Model Stock Farms, E. P. Kinney, Prop., East Lansing, Michigan.

DISPERSION Twenty head of Registered Holstein cows. Strong in the blood of Pontiac Korndyke. Eight head sired by Sire Abbekirk Del Kol Marcena. Large, thrifty young cows in good condition. A number of these cows have made good records. I want to sell this offering to men who have use for a carload or more of such stock. Edgar Collier, Fowlerville, Michigan.

HORSES

PERCHERON STALLIONS, one 3 years old, driven single and double. One ten years old, thoroly broken single and double. Will work like a mare. Heavy boned gentle fellows. Price \$400 and \$300. Fred N. Randall, Manchester, Mich.

SHETLAND PONIES For Sale. Write for description & prices. Mark B. Curdy, Howell, Mich.

FOR SALE—Percheron Stallion, black, No. 121705, foaled June 23, 1915; No. 131951, foaled June 29, 1916. J. F. Gladys, R. 7, Vassar, Mich.

For Sale One 2-year-old Black Percheron Stallion, weighing 1800 lbs., also our aged Stallion Ingomar 30047, that has been at the head of our stud for 10 years. M. A. Bray Est., Chas. Bray, Mgr., Lansing, Mich.

HOGS

LEONARD'S POLAND CHINAS Bred sows, fall pigs, either sex, at reasonable price. E. R. Leonard, St. Louis, Mich., R. No. 3.

O BRED GILTS To Wm. B. No. 47049. Longfellow No. 18575 Sire of 1st prize young herd at Iowa State Fair. Fall pigs and breed serviceable boars. J. CARL JEWETT, Mason, Mich.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE BOARS and bred gilts for sale. John W. Snyder, R. 4, St. Johns, Mich.

O. I. C. BOARS and sows of fine quality. Prices reasonable. Registered freg and will ship C.O.D. Floyd H. Banister, Springport, Mich.

O. I. C. Choice young boars ready for service; also fall pigs either sex; sired by 1st prize yearling boar Mich. State Fair 1917. Clover Leaf Stock Farm, Monroe, Mich., R. No. 1.

SHEEP

Shropshire Ewes A limited number of bred ewes; bred right! Prices right! A son of Tanner's Royal in service. H. F. Mouser, Ithaca, Michigan.

FOR AUGUST DELIVERY 50 Registered Shropshire Yearling ewes and 30 Registered Yearling Rams of extra quality and breeding. Flock established 1890. C. Lemen, Dexter, Michigan.

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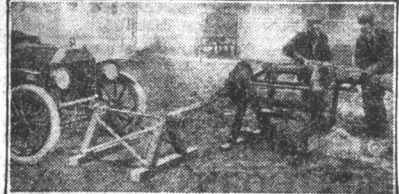
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Turn them into ensilage, the best and cheapest feed. A TRIPLE WALL SILO on your farm means bigger profits and convenient feeding. Three wall construction. NO HOOPS TO TIGHTEN. Practically frost proof. The permanent silo. Write for our free booklet and price now.

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Gives you a 12 h. p. engine for less than the cost of a 2 h. p. Ford builds the best engine in the world—it will outlast the car—and you might as well save your money and use it to do all your farm work.

Re wear on tires or transmission. Hooks up in 3 minutes. No permanent attachment to car. Cannot injure car or engine.

Friction Clutch Pulley on end of shaft. Ward Governor, run by fan belt, gives perfect control. Money back if not satisfied. Ask for circular and special price.

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895 Buys 140-Egg Champion Belle City Incubator

Prize Winning Model—Hot Water, Copper Tank, Double Fibre Board Case, Self Regulated, Thermometer Holder, Nursery. With \$5.25 Hot Water 140-Chick Brooder—both only \$12.95.

Freight Prepaid East of Rockies and Al-

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With this Guaranteed Hatching Outfit and my Guide Book for setting up and operating you are sure of success. — My Special Offers provide ways to make extra money. Save time—Order Now, or write for Free catalog. "Hatching Facts" — It tells all. — Jim Rohan, Pres.

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SEED CORN

Owing to the bad railroad conditions, our corn is slow in coming from the growers. We expect to have our stock complete this month. Do not write us, we will make our announcement in this paper.

We offer for immediate shipment:
Lincoln Seed Oats @ \$1.50 per bu. (5 Bu. or more sacks included.)
Six Row Seed Barley @ \$2.75 per bu. (Bags extra 40¢ each, 100 lb. per bag.) All f.o.b. Ypsilanti, Cash with order.

MARTIN DAWSON COMPANY,
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Ypsilanti, Michigan.

SEED BEANS

I have a few bushels left for sale, not frosted and never saw water. Hugh B. Walker, Rives Junction, Mich., R. 2.

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Large profit from small investment and little labor. Choice, mature breeding stock for sale with sows in profit, following low prices for 30 days:

3 females and 1 male \$ 5.00

6 females and 1 male 8.00

12 females and 1 male 15.00

A few youngsters at 60¢ each.

Send M. O. pigs forwarded by first express. Dr. E. C. Goodrich, 416-418 State St., St. Joseph, Michigan.

FARMERS CAN INCREASE
THE SUGAR SUPPLY

Sugars and sirups can be produced on the farms and in villages by the use of ordinary kitchen equipment to help make up the average of eighty one pounds, the estimated sugar for each person in the United States last year. A few sugar maple trees, well-kept colonies of bees, a hundred feet of sugar beets raised in the garden, or a small patch of sweet sorghum, and cull or other surplus apples which might go to waste unless made into apple sirup may each be made to contribute to our sugar supply.

The present limited sugar supply can be increased if many more families, in regions where the sugar maple grows, would each make maple sirup of sugar from 10 or more maple trees. Ten trees under ordinary conditions can be expected to yield about four gallons of sirup or thirty pounds of sugar.

Maple sugar making is an art the pioneer settlers of America learned from the Indians and for years it has been a home and farm industry. The process is not so complicated that anyone who has the opportunity need hesitate to try it. Find a sugar maple tree ten or more inches in diameter; bore a hole three-eighths of an inch or slightly more in diameter; insert a metal spout or one made by punching the pith from a section of elder; set a bucket under it that the sap may collect; boil this down in a kettle or shallow pan on the kitchen stove to the proper density for maple sirup. If sugar is preferred, boil it down further until it is quite thick, taking care that it does not burn, and let it crystallize.

"Sugar weather" often starts by the middle of February in the southern part of the sugar-maple region. The first sap is sweetest. There is no time to be lost in talking; get ready to take advantage of the first warm sunny days. "Old timers" say the outlook is fine for a good sugar season.

The Office of Sugar Investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture upon application will send instructions for making sirups and sugars at home.

LIVE STOCK ON FARMS
AND ON THE RANGES

During the first half of 1917, there was particular apprehension lest the number of live stock should be decreased. As a matter of fact, owing to the greater abundance of food-stuffs that the large crops of the year

made available and the prevailing prices, there was revealed a most gratifying increase in the principal classes of live stock—an increase in the number of horses during that year of 353,000 or 1.7 per cent; of mules, 101,000, or 2.1 per cent; of milch cows, 390,000, or 1.7 per cent; of other cattle, 1,857,000, or 4.5 per cent; of sheep, 1,284,000, or 2.7 per cent, and of swine, 3,871,000, or 5.7 per cent. The increase of 4.5 per cent in the number of "other cattle" is due to an increase of 4.2 per cent in calves; 22.7 per cent in heifers for milk; 8.5 per cent in other heifers; a decrease of 3.2 per cent in steers, and an increase of 1.9 per cent in "other cattle" (milch cows not included.) Swine over six months old increased 4.5 per cent; those under six months 7.8 per cent. Sheep over six months increased .3 one per cent; under six months, 11.1 per cent.

It will be of interest to note that the number of live stock estimated on January 1, 1918, shows the following increases over January 1, 1914, the year before the beginning of the European war: Horses, 601,000, or 2.9 per cent; mules, 375,000, or .8 of one per cent; milch cows, 2,547,000, or 12.3 per cent; other cattle, 7,691,000, or 21.5 per cent; swine, 12,441,000 or 21.1 per cent. It is especially noteworthy that within the last year, for the first time in many years, the number of sheep has shown a tendency to increase.

SEASONABLE SUGGESTION
FROM EDMORE READER

Here is a little suggestion, also, which might prove helpful to the great majority of farmers; for there are few, I take it, who have sheds for the barn-yard manure:

These frosty days when one can do little else but chores around the house and barn, it would be time saved in the busy rush of spring, and a conservation of value to gather up the frozen chunks of cow and horse droppings in the feeding yard and barns and haul them out upon the field and place in large piles here and there. When the full spring thaw comes, and the rains fall the leaching of this manure will not be received by the ground that needs it, and not in the barnyard lagoon. The piles should be placed on the highest parts of the ground preferably sloping ev-

erywhere so that the leachings will, by gravitation, be well distributed. When thoroughly thawed out the manure spreader can be taken to these piles and the manure quickly loaded and scattered over the field. A Subscriber.

AMONG THE BREEDERS

By W. MILTON KELLY, Field Editor
Home Address: Howell, Michigan

Clover Leaf Stock Farm, Monroe, Mich. offers some bargains in O. I. C. boars and fall pigs. These pigs are sired by the first prize yearling boar at the Michigan State fair and are from large sows.

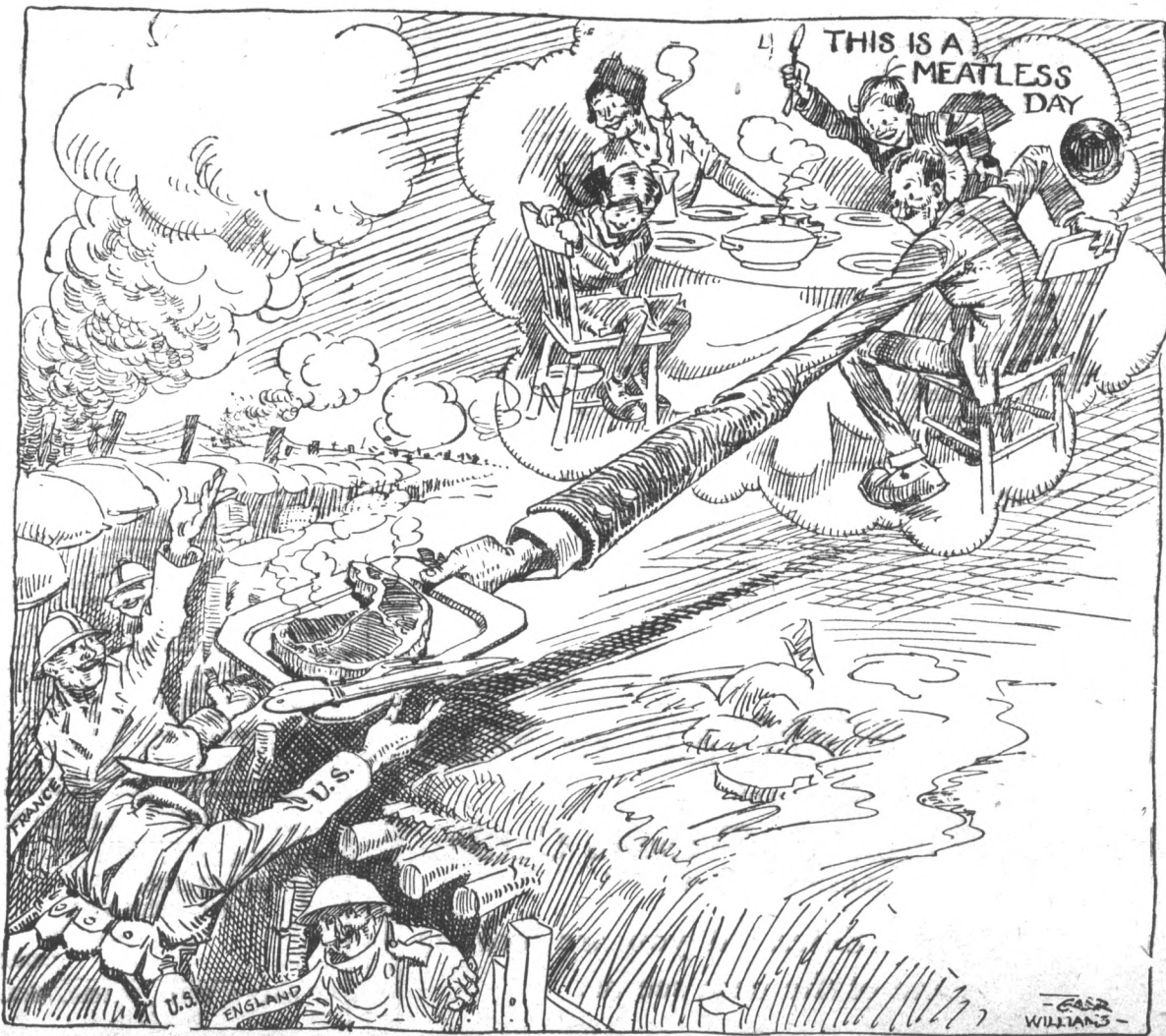
With so many excellent young pure bred dairy bulls being offered at from \$50 to \$200 it is time for our farmers to cash in on their scrub males that are spreading seeds of mediocrity and begin in a systematic way some well defined plan of breeding up their herds.

Mr. Chas. I. Cook of Fowlerville, Mich., is offering hatching eggs from his choice pens of Barred Rocks at \$5 for 50 or \$10 for 120. Mr. Cook has been breeding up his flock for eight years. All of his hens are large vigorous birds and his males are from some of the best utility flocks in the country.

L. W. Barnes & Son of Byron, Michigan, veteran breeders of Poland China swine, have a choice lot of young brood sows for immediate shipment. The editor recently visited this herd and will guarantee these young sows to be right in every way. No farmer can make a mistake by carrying one or two of these young sows and their coming litters along in good growthy condition until his grain crops are fit for feeding.

After many years of successful breeding, failing health has made it necessary for Mr. Edgar Collier to offer his entire herd of more than 40 head of Holstein-Friesian cattle for sale. Very few herds in the country represent better blood than will be found in this herd. Most of the cows are granddaughters of Pontiac Korndyke and from heavy producing dams. Any young breeder in search of a few choice females of the right kind will do well to visit Mr. Collier's farm and select some of these young cows and heifers. And it will not require a fortune to take home a lot of good stock.

In this issue you will find the advertisement of Deveries Leghorn Farms & Hatchery of Zeeland, Mich., breeders and importers of the English Barron White Leghorn, the greatest egg producing Leghorn the world has ever produced and are the real 240 egg per year birds and winter layers. They are large and proven money makers in egg production. This plant is the largest exclusive Leghorn farm in the state and with its thousands of breeders is in a position to supply the readers of M. B. F. with thousands of hatching eggs in small and large lots. This is an old reliable concern and all farmers who want better poultry or to improve their flocks will do well to write Mr. Q. Deveries for hatching eggs and get some of these money-making egg machines. Mr. Deveries takes pleasure in referring his customers to the Zeeland State Bank or any business place in the city of Zeeland.—Adv.



County Crop Reports

ISABELLA (West)—Farmers not doing much. Weather warmer and snow about all gone. Roads all ice. Farmers are selling a few beans but are holding potatoes on account of bad roads and higher prices.—E. B., Remus, Feb. 26.

MECOSTA (Northeast)—Farmers are busy cutting summer wood, hauling manure and getting ready for spring. We are very glad that report was sent out from Washington in regard to farmer doing up all their odd jobs in the winter as we never even thought of doing them before. We can now begin our sixteen hour day the first of January instead of working only ten hours a day in the winter as we have always done. If the roll-top desk farmer will only figure a little more to save our time we will be able to work the whole 24 hours.—F. M. E., Millrock, Feb. 28.

MONTCALM (Southwest)—The order of the day is trying to locate our U. S. mail carrier and we have information from our postmaster at the local town that we will have no mail service unless more talk is stopped. Farmers are taking advantage of the warm weather by drawing corn in the shock which is very disagreeable in drawing on account of the thawing of the fields. No hay is being sold as the roads are in a poor condition for heavy loads of any kind. Not much produce is moving except a few bushels of oats and there is no sale for potatoes at the nearby stations which we imagine is on account of the shortage of cars but they made us grade our potatoes on a first-class condition and now they want us to give these produce gamblers the rest. A carload of soft coal was received at Millers this week which was a very nice quality comparing to coal that was shipped to other parts of the county and was hauled away almost as fast as possible at \$8.50 per ton. Weather is warmer than usual with snow and ice remaining on the soil.—W. L., Greenville, March 1.

ALLEGAN (Southeast)—Farmers have begun tapping their maple trees. Weather quite moderate. Couple inches of snow on wheat at present. Farmers selling a little hay. No potatoes being sold.—W. F., Otsego, March 2.

CASS (West)—All farmers who can get sap pails are tapping their trees this spring. Maple syrup is bringing a good price. Most farmers who have opened their potato pits find them frozen. Stock is about all shipped out of these parts. We had a thunder storm on the 25th, one barn was hit and burned to the ground with 20 tons of hay. No stock lost. We are having some nice weather just now.—W. H. A., Dowagiac, March 2.

BERRIEN (West)—Farmers are pruning fruit trees and trimming grape vines. Many farmers report their peach trees frozen; those who have maple groves are making syrup, which retails here at \$2 per gallon. A carload of corn arrived here from Ohio, another coming. Price \$1.65 at beginning fell to \$1.25; corn was in poor condition after thawing out. Great shortage here of clover seed and seed corn. Farmers are worried about getting a supply. Farmers who planned a big acreage of potatoes are going to sow oats and barley instead.—O. Y., Baroda, March 2.

CALHOUN (Northwest)—Farmers are getting up wood. Weather fine and lots of water and snow all gone. There are some potatoes selling at \$1.00. There have been lots of potatoes grown in the county. Seed corn is the next thing to look for as there is but little in the country. Hay is very scarce around here.—C. E. B., Battle Creek, March 1.

LIVINGSTON (West)—Most of the farmers are busy cutting wood. Weather fair and lots of frost in the ground yet, although snow banks are about gone. Some beans are going to market both of the elevators at Fowlerville have built buildings for drying them. Some are bailing hay.—G. A. W., Fowlerville, Mar. 2nd.

MISSAUKEE—Farmers are not very busy now, only chores and wood. Weather is more spring like. Farmers are selling some potatoes now and are getting 75 cents per hundred at Lake City. Quite a number of horses being sold and at good prices a good many old horses have died during the winter. A big demand for milk cows and good prices.—H. E., Cutcheon, March 1.

TUSCOLA (Northeast)—Weather fine and snow going fast. Some beans are being sold, also grain and hay. Not many potatoes for the market here. Rough feed for stock is scarce. Spring election is near and some people are getting excited.—S. S., Cass City, March 2.

INGHAM (Central)—The weather and roads prevent much doing but chores. The rain has removed most of the snow banks. Fields are bare. Freezing nights. Wheat not looking good. Some are ready to tap sugar bush few having been done so already. A number of auction sales. Some farmers quitting farming as they are not able to run farms alone and no prospect of help, but high school boys and not time to break them in and teach them how to do farm work.—C. J. M., Mason Feb. 25.

NIXONIA (West)—Auction sales are coming thick and fast and everything has been selling at high prices. Feed is the greatest problem the farmers have to solve. There has not been many western lambs fed in this part of the county this winter. As the snow and ice are going fast, traffic on our highways is getting normal. All are looking eagerly forward for spring with renewed hopes that the coming summer will be more successful

for the farmer and Uncle Sam.—A. W. G., Saranac, Feb. 25.

MISSAUKEE (South)—Farmers can do little now. Selling nothing but a few potatoes. Some call for cattle but none moving.—H. E. N., Cutcheon, Feb. 21.

ARENAC (East)—Very changeable is the weather lately. Farmers are signing up \$10 beet contracts. Hay is selling at a high figure and many of our farmers are compelled to buy. Oats are being marketed at 85c. It looks as though good seed will be very high.—M. B. R.

ST. JOSEPH (East)—Farmers are doing little but cut and sell wood, hay and fodder.—W. W., Colon, Mar. 2.

TUSCOLA (Central)—There is lots of ice and water on the wheat which does not look very good for a big crop. There is nothing selling here but hay and straw. There will be a big acreage of oats sown here this spring, but not many beans or potatoes.—R. B. C., Wells, Mar. 2.

SAGINAW (West)—Some farmers are tapping their sugar bushes. Most of the farmers are getting up their summer's wood. Everything is selling good at the auction sales.—G. L., St. Charles, Mar. 2.

GENESEE (South)—Farmers are getting ready for their spring work. Soil is without any protection and fall sown crops look poor. Farmers are selling potatoes, wood, cattle and hogs, also wet beans if they can find a place to handle them. The potato market is weaker and prices are about \$1 per bu. in Flint and considerably lower in other parts of the country.—C. W. S., Fenton, Mar. 1.

LAPEER (Southeast)—March came in like a lamb all right—springlike weather. Some hay is moving with the price a little better. Ice nearly all off the wheat. At auction sales farm machinery is selling for more than it cost when new. A hay loader sold the other day that five years ago sold for one dollar, it brought \$40.—C. A. B., Inlay City, Mar. 2.

HURON (Central)—The recent thaw followed by freezing has covered the wheat and clover fields with a heavy coat of ice. The horse buyers are shipping a good many horses from here.—A. F. C., Pigeon, Feb. 27.

GRAND TRAVERSE (South)—Some beans are being threshed here. Farmers are getting up their summer's wood. Some talk of a tractor being bought in this neighborhood this spring. A few will make maple sugar. There are some potatoes in the farmers' hands yet. Seed corn is hard to find, and the price is very high. Graham flour is selling at 8 1-3 cents per lb.; cornmeal at 7 cents. It is quite a problem to know how to make everything go as far as possible, and still make both ends meet.—C. L. B., Williamsburg, Feb. 28.

ANTRIM (Northwest)—Fine weather the past few days. Farmers are doing chores and cutting wood. Cattle at a sale here sold at an average of \$62 per head for cows and from \$15 to \$50 for calves and yearlings. Hens sold for 86c each. Horses were sold cheap. Hay brought from \$16 to \$20 per ton in the mow. The soldier boys from this section arrived safely in France the first of the week.—G. A. D., Charlevoix, February 28.

SANILAC (Southeast)—Auction sales are plentiful; machinery, cattle and poultry and selling high, horses are plentiful and cheap. Threshers are beginning to thresh beans. Beans are bringing \$13 a hundred.—N. J. V. C., Crosswell, Mar. 1.

NEWAYGO (Northeast)—Some potatoes are being in r. t. while some are being held on account of price, and also on account of the grading system. Quite a few potatoes frozen.—R. T. Woodville, March 2.

CHEBOYGAN (Northwest)—Some farmers have been hauling potatoes to Cheboygan and the dealers are paying 55 and 60 cents per bushel, therefore the farmers are discouraged on account of the price. The Riggsville branch of the Cheboygan County Farm Bureau was organized by the county agent recently.—O. W. B., Riggsville, March 2.

BAY (Southeast)—The farmers here can't do much now on account of the wet weather. Grain and hay are mostly disposed of.—J. C. A., Munger, March 2.

SANILAC (Central)—Some farmers are pressing hay and drawing it to town. Some are drawing oats to town; they are a good price, now selling at 91c per bu. A big acreage is being taken here for sugar beets. There will also be a lot of chickory planted here this year, the price being \$12.50 per ton.—A. B., Sandusky, March 2.

CLARE (North)—All farm produce here was sold last fall. Farmers are getting ready for spring work.—D. B., Lake, March 2.

MASON (North Central)—Farmers are beginning preparations for the spring work. Weather mild. Potatoes moving to market rapidly; price dropped to \$1 per cwt. Choice hand-picked navy beans bring \$12 per cwt.—B. M., Ludington, March 2.

HURON (West Central)—The weather has been much warmer the past few days. Plenty of water in the low places. We have no seed corn here. Farmers are buying feed, hay \$20 per ton. Are not selling much grain now.—G. W., Elkton, March 1.

OCEANA (North)—Signs of spring are beginning to show, and it will bring a big problem to the farmers in the matter of how to obtain seed. The failure of all crops last year makes all seed very scarce.—H. V. V. B., Hesperia, Feb. 26.

MORE CROP From LIME!

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Put one large lump of rock salt in a gallon of water. How much stirring will it take to make the salt dissolve? A considerable amount to say the least. Try the same amount of finely ground salt and only the slightest stirring will be necessary. You get the results in **MUCH QUICKER TIME.**

Its the same in using limestone on your soil. Limestone in lumps is used for the foundations of your big buildings and the walls of your banks. Does it dissolve? Of course not.

But when limestone is used on your soil, it must be acted upon by the weak acids of the soil exactly as the salt is acted upon by the water. It must dissolve. That's why the more finely the limestone is pulverized, the more quickly and more permanent are your results.

The Solvay Process Co. guarantees that 95% of

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passes thru a 50 mesh screen. That this is the correct percentage necessary to guarantee economy for you is proven by the following quotation;

What an Authority Has to Say

Wm. Frear, of the Pennsylvania State College, in a special treatise on limestone records, "Pot experiments with clover on sour soil, in which limestone, sifted into different grades of fineness, was so used as to compare the efficiency of these respective grades showed,—both in six month experiments and in eighteen month experiments, that the **COARSE LIMESTONE HAD PRACTICALLY NO NEUTRALIZING EFFECT** within these periods of time. Limestone crushed to one fortieth inch particles had very good effect while that crushed to particles of one sixtieth of an inch had much more effect."

SOLVAY PULVERIZED LIMESTONE is pulverized so that 95% is finer than one fiftieth of an inch.

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In Bulk in Box Cars, or in 100-lb. Dry, Air-tight Paper Sacks



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94% Carbonates
95% thru 950-mesh Screen
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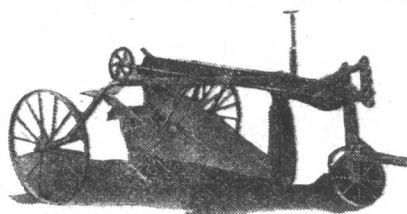
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SENATOR DUNLAP STRAWBERRY

PLANTS, money makers. Propagating rows trimmed; 1,000 for \$2.25; 500 for \$1.25. J. E. Hampton, Bangor, Michigan.

SEED BEANS

Dry hand picked. Write for prices. F. E. FRENCH, Elwell, Mich.

CONGRESS MAY OPPOSE GRADING

Senator Wm. Alden Smith Takes Lead in Plan to Test Authority of Food Administration to Fix Grades

The following is a Washington dispatch to the *Grand Rapids Press*, under date of March 4th:

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Congressional action looking to the abolition of the obnoxious potato grading rules and the provision of cars to move the immense crop was forecast in debate in the senate in which representatives of four states made protest against existing conditions. Senator William Alden Smith declared that when the agricultural appropriation bill was reached he proposed to test whether the food administration was to be allowed to enforce unfair grading regulations. He said that food officials had been deaf to the appeals of farmers.

Senator Jones of Washington said this was no time for inaugurating a system of grading. Senator Poindexter of the same state declared that 3,000 cars were needed at once to keep the crop from spoiling. Senator Borah of Idaho read telegrams to show the situation was desperate in his state and declared it would result in a small crop being planted this year. Senator Kellogg of Minnesota stated that thousands of carloads of potatoes, many of them needed for seed, could not be moved in his state.

It is evident that facts in relation to the potato grading situation in Michigan, recently laid before the senate agricultural committee, have had an effect. Michigan growers, headed by Jason Woodman of Kalamazoo, member of the state board of agriculture, made bitter complaint. Senator Smith, declaring that he intended to get some reform of the rules, said: "Food administration officials have disregarded common sense and resorted to the scientific aspect of potato growing only. They arbitrarily classify our immense crop and throw out 70 per cent of the output as unfit merely because the circumference of the potatoes is not large enough to suit them."

LOWER DETROIT MILK PRICE

(Cont. from page 1) ducers, and one-twelfth out of the pockets of the distributors. However, there's no reason for complaint on the part of the producer, as the price of \$2.85 which he will receive for April milk and \$2.45 for May milk will be the highest he ever received during the same months.

The above action was taken at a meeting of the milk commission on Monday of this week and is designed primarily to encourage greater consumption of milk. The price will drop to 12 cents per quart during May. This will be the first time that the public has been given any part of the advantage of lower milk prices during the summer months. In fact, it may be supposed that they have lived all this time in blissful ignorance of the

A HARD ROW TO HOE



fact that the distributing concerns have been able to buy milk during the summer for from one-fourth to one-third the price paid in winter.

GOVERNMENT BUYS 25 CARS MICHIGAN SPUDS

Twenty-five carloads of Michigan potatoes will soon be en route to the Flanders dehydrating plant at Elba, N. Y., where the potatoes will be dried for the use of the army and navy. The potatoes were purchased thru the War Preparedness Board "somewhere in Northern Michigan." It is understood that the proposition is in the nature of an experiment and that if found to work out satisfactorily and economically, a larger number of potatoes will be purchased and similarly dried.

The Preparedness Board also authorized the purchase of 60,000 bushels of New York seed corn, which will be sold the farmers of the state at \$5 per bushel.

HOW MANY BEANS HAVE YOU YET TO SELL?

It is claimed that nearly a million bushels of wet beans are yet in the farmers' hands. We should like to know if this is a fact, and would appreciate it if our readers would write us stating how many wet or unmarketable beans they still have on hand. Do this at once. Reports of this kind from representative farmers over the bean growing districts will do much to throw light on the actual situation at the present time, and perhaps inspire last minute efforts to save the situation.

NO PRICE SET ON SEED CORN

There has been a story going the rounds that the government has set a price on seed corn. Please let us know about this thru the columns of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING.—B. H. E., Richmond.

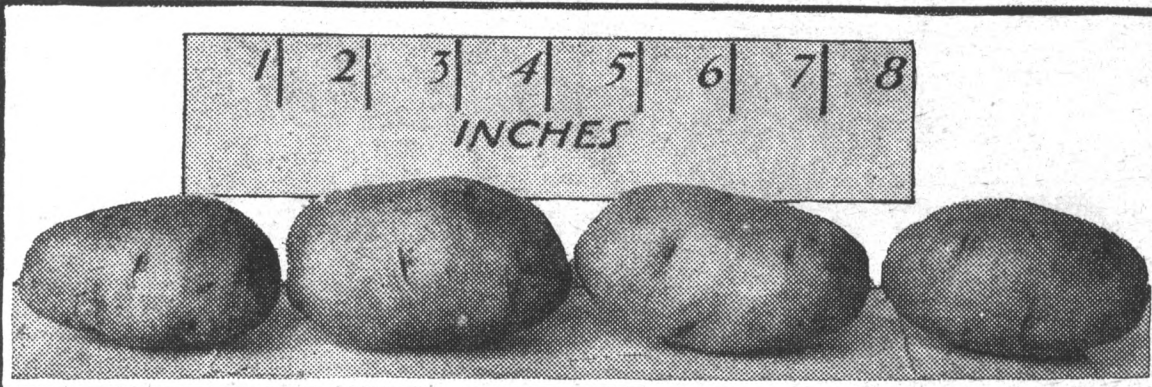
The government has fixed no price for seed corn. There have been rumors circulated to that effect, and the daily press has carried stories about the probability of such contingency.

Caro—Tuscola county is laying claim to leadership in new and improved methods of farming. Lenawee county has long been counted among the banner counties in the matter of farm products and the amount of money invested in farms, stock and implements. But when it comes to real enterprise among the farmers, Tuscola county, according to the *Caro Advertiser*, has long stood at the top of the list. Improved methods of drainage are coming in for much attention. The scrub sire is almost a thing of the past in Tuscola county. Farmers' organizations are rapidly coming to the front. In other words the farmers of the county are rapidly attaining a place where they may soon be regarded as leaders and models for the remainder of the agricultural counties of the state.

Fertility that runs down the creek won't grow more wheat for the Allies.

Putting tile in the wet swales is one way of helping Uncle Sam win the war.

HOW A CITY DAILY NEWSPAPER LOOKS UPON POTATO GRADING



MR. CONSUMER, shake hands with Mr. Potato. You think he is an old acquaintance? You must be introduced again. He is a vegetable of class now. There are three classes of him—U. S. grade No. 1, U. S. Grade No. 2 and the proletariat.

It is with U. S. grade No. 1, the aristocracy among tubers, that you should make your acquaintance. Has he not been dubbed by the sovereign power of the great American government. And does he not enjoy these honors by right of his own inherent worth and bigness? For it has been decreed that every potato which aspires to acceptance in the mart shall pass the ordeal of the chute.

To speak plainly—there is a ruling of the United States food administration that dealers in potatoes may require every farmer to run his potatoes over two screens, the meshes of which are respectively 1½ inches and 1¼ inches in diameter. All potatoes that roll over the first screen are U. S. grade No. 1; all that roll over the second screen are U. S. grade No. 2; all that fall through both screens are culls which the farmer must not sell.

Query for the consumer—Are you getting potatoes of U. S. grade No. 1, or of U. S. grade No. 2, or both? Your storekeeper could buy potatoes, U. S. grade No. 1, the nice, big, round white ones, this morning for \$1 to \$1.10 per bushel. He is selling potatoes to you for from 30 to 50 cents a peck. He is making between 20 cents and \$1 profit on every bushel. He ought to sell you U. S. grade No. 1 at the price. Are you getting that grade? The man who put the potatoes into the car out of which your grocer bought, dealt with the farmer. For

No. 1 grade he paid the farmer from 60 to 90 cents a bushel, according to the market in his locality. But he also bought the farmer's grade No. 2 potatoes. For them he paid from 35 to 50 cents a bushel. He ought to have kept the two grades separate and given you the benefit of the difference in price. Did he do it? Have you seen any potatoes in your store labeled U. S. grade No. 2 and priced about 40 cents a bushel below the price of the larger size? Or have you been paying the long price for mixed No. 1 and No. 2 grades or for straight No. 2 potatoes?

Look at the picture. These potatoes were screened from a farmer's load and graded No. 2. Some varieties of potatoes grow long and some grow round. The round potatoes grade evenly, but a long potato, even though it is pretty large, may go through a 1¼-inch screen if it happens to fall upon the screen endwise. The potatoes in the picture are each about three inches long, but they grade No. 2 because in their short diameter they measure less than 1¼ inches.

Farmers who grew the long varieties of potatoes lost thousands of dollars by this grading rule for a large part of every crop fell below the No. 1 requirement and was discounted in price at the caprice of the buyer.

But you, Mr. Consumer, were not benefitted, for the dealer was at liberty to mix the grades and sell all at the highest market price.

This is the federal rule for potato grading. The man who has charge of the potato transportation department of the United States food administration in Washington is one of the largest potato dealers operating in Chicago.—Detroit News.

