

"—for all the Farmers of Michigan!"



MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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Free List or Clubbing Offers

GUARANTEED PRICES CROP SHORTAGE CURE

Reports from One Thousand Farmers Show
Uncertainty of Prices Primary Cause
of Decreased Acreage in Most
Instances

That the fixing of a minimum price on farm products has a very material effect in increasing the acreage planted to those crops is very clearly seen in the survey which we have just completed of the acreage contemplated by Michigan farmers for 1918. The wheat acreage shows an increase of nearly 50 per cent over last year. The price for 1918 wheat was fixed by law before the fall planting, at \$2 per bushel (the Senate has now voted to increase this to \$2.50). The sugar beet acreage shows an increase of 20% and the price of sugar beets was set at \$10 per ton by the manufacturers and the planting yet thirty days away.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING has conducted its survey both by mail and thru the columns of M. B. F. A total of over 1,000 farmers, tilling over 100,000 acres supplied the data from which our facts are gathered. Reports were received from every county in the lower peninsula.

Out of 639 farmers who were asked if they could increase their production with their available help providing they were assured of a profitable minimum price, 492 replied that they could and 116 that they could not. The proportion of those responding in the affirmative shows easily enough that the thing which holds production down is the uncertainty of a profitable market for the products, rather than shortage of labor and implements.

For many months MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING has been trying to convince the government of the need of action along the lines suggested some time ago by Mr. Grant Slocum before the senate committee on agriculture for the fixing of profitable minimum prices on farm products in order to stimulate crop production. That these efforts have met with some success is evidenced by the large amount of interest now being taken in the proposition by certain daily newspapers and by men high up in the counsels of the nation.

As a matter of fact, Representative Young of North Dakota acknowledges in a letter to Congressman Cramton that the articles appearing in MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING upon this subject have been largely instrumental in causing Congress to reconsider action on the Baer bill authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to advance money to farmers for the purchase of seeds, etc., which was voted down several weeks ago.

Congress is undoubtedly awakening to the real needs of the farming business and we believe that some definite action will be taken to guarantee

the farmers of the nation fair prices before 1919 crops are planted. All classes are showing a more sympathetic interest in the problems of the farmers and are coming to understand that the failure of the farmer to increase his production to maximum is not because of indifference, but is due wholly to certain concrete difficulties which he finds almost impossible to overcome, without federal aid. Those interested in the details of our crop acreage survey will find the final summary on the following page.

A BUMP FOR MR. MILLER FROM A NEW YORK FARMER

Cohocton, N. Y., March 23, 1918

Michigan Business Farming,
Mount Clemens, Michigan.

Dear Sirs:—

I have been reading in your paper of March 16th the resolutions adopted by the potato growers' association of Michigan demanding that the present method of grading potatoes be abolished and I heartily approve the same.

I do not agree with Mr. E. P. Miller that this method of grading is popular in this state. Potato growers of the Cohocton valley are almost a unit in opposing the Federal grading rules and I do not wonder at the daily press lying about the facts of the case. They always do. Very truly yours,—Geo. W. Smith.

ENLIST FOR SERVICE WITH UNCLE SAM

Readers of Michigan Business Farming Wanted
to Pledge to Increase Their Acreage to the
Limit of Their Power and Raise the
Food to Win the War

Uncle Sam would be mightily pleased if he could only feel that Michigan's farmers and farm wives had enlisted heart and soul in this war for democracy and the common rights of humanity. So many deluded souls have made capital of the just complaints that the farmers have been obliged to register against the inequalities placed against them, and have spread the story that the farmers are knockers, pacifists, and lacking in patriotism.

We might, with a great deal of truthfulness and justness, enumerate the various ways in which Uncle Sam has not played quite fair with the farmers or has been negligent of his duty toward them; we might in righteous indignation show how money has been squandered right and left; how professional patriots have gone to Washington to corral some of the war funds; how privileges have been granted to one class and denied another; how prices have been guaranteed on manufactured articles and not on food products,—oh, yes there are many unpleasant and perfectly truthful things we might say, but we are reminded that this nation has the biggest job on its hands right now that it has ever tackled and to admit that perhaps these mistakes and the discriminations could not have been avoided.

We want the farmers of Michigan to co-operate with this government by increasing the production of non-perishable farm crops. We want them to stand ready as true soldiers of the soil to carry out the commands of the President, even as the soldier in the trenches obeys the orders of their captains. We've got to get into the swing, and march in step with the vast army of civilians and soldiers who are moving forward to crush the militarism that menaces the peace and safety of the world.

Will you enlist for service with Uncle Sam? It costs nothing but a pledge,—a pledge that you will be willing at all times to give every ounce of your ability to help raise the food upon which the nation depends to feed its soldiers and the soldiers and civilians of the allied countries. MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING is going to organize a "home guard" of loyal, patriotic "soldiers of the soil", and invites every red-blooded Michigan farmer to join. The uniform is a pair of overalls; the shoulder straps are suspenders; the weapon over the shoulder is a hoe; and the pass-words are "plough, sow and reap." Membership roll now open; will you join?

To the Furrow, Loyal Soldiers of the Soil!

SPRING COMES; the planting season is near. As never before the farmer is the man of the hour. Within the palm of his hand he holds the fate of nations, and the anxious eyes of a troubled world are upon him.

Across the seas men are dying. Along that great western front the best trained armies of all history are waging history's most terrific battle. Either within the allied trenches or perhaps a few miles back waiting for the call are American youths who have gone that we might stay.

Near at hand lies ravaged and destitute Belgium, her women and children gaunt with hunger, and waiting in fear and horror for the starvation that seems so near at hand.

In France and England, despite new and most stringent regulations of the diet of the civil population, the available food supplies continue to dwindle.

The Allied governments are depending upon 75,000,000 bushels of wheat which the United States has promised to provide, and there is a great fear that we may be obliged to break our promise because our farmers have not raised enough and our civil population has not saved enough to spare so large a quantity.

"Food, food," is the cry that the soldiers in the trenches, the starving women and children of Belgium, the governments of the allied nations send up in a mighty plea.

Do the farmers of the United States, and particularly of Michigan, realize the grave responsibility that rests upon them in this crisis? Do they hear those pleas; will they heed them?

Yes, a thousand times yes! You do hear them and you will heed them, farmer friends? We can hear you reply in

unison, two hundred thousand strong, and we know that you will not fail.

It is true that your efforts are handicapped by what seem unnecessary regulations; it is true that you are obliged to plant your seed without knowing what the price of your finished product is to be; it is true that your sons and your farm hands have been caught in the draft and that you will have to work very hard and at a great disadvantage to keep your acres busy. No one has realized these hardships and inequalities more than us, and we have tried very hard and conscientiously to secure relief for you. As a result of these and similar efforts by others interested in the farmers, concessions have been made and more are still to come.

But the time for finding fault with things which for reasons perhaps more cogent than we can realize cannot be changed for the time being at least, has passed. Now that the planting season is near and the farmer must soon decide upon his acreage, let us have done with fruitless complaining, put our hands to the plow and do OUR part in winning the war.

Give us your pledge, friend farmers, that you will be loyal to the trust your government places in you; that you will heed the cries of suffering mankind; that you will put every acre to work and produce every ounce of food within your power. Give us your pledge that you will stand back of your country to the limit of your strength, your money, your moral support, and that you will never let it be said that a soldier suffered hunger or that a little child in far-off Belgium died from starvation because you failed in this great hour of need to grow the mite of food which might have nourished them.

CURRENT MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL NEWS

ALL NORTHERN MICHIGAN BOOSTS FOR GOOD ROADS

With the passage of the bond issues and the road plans now being urged in the counties of Midland, Gladwin, Roscommon, Crawford, Otsego and Cheboygan, Northeastern Michigan will be connected up with the rest of the state by trunk line roads and the way opened for the rapid development of the agricultural resources of that section.

At a good roads meeting held in Gaylord, Otsego county, Feb. 22nd, to which all the above named counties sent representatives, plans were laid for the construction of a single highway to pass thru the most populous sections of the counties and to connect with the Dixie Highway at Saginaw on the south, and the straits of Mackinac on the north.

In addition, several of the counties plan on east and west market roads in order to facilitate the movement of crops and make the farmers less dependent upon local markets.

Otsego county, which is one of the best agricultural counties in the group, will vote to bond for \$150,000 at the spring election, April 1st. This amount, it is calculated, will be sufficient to construct state award roads to join Cheboygan on the north, Charlevoix and Antrim on the west, Crawford on the south and Montmorency on the east.

The culmination of the road plans for Northeastern Michigan and the completion of the proposed trunk lines will prove the greatest blessings that have ever come to that section. Roads are the arteries and veins that supply the life-blood to communities. Poor roads are a curse to any county; they repel the newcomer and put an effectual damper upon settlement and development. Good roads, stretching broadly out toward the more populous centers are an ever present invitation to the stranger; they attract the settler and the investor and are the most valuable asset the agricultural and commercial interests of a county can have.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING is interested in Northeastern and Northwestern Michigan because they are the virgin soils to which the state must turn within the near future to produce its quota of foodstuffs for the nation's bread basket. Literally millions of acres of fertile, cut-over hardwood lands await the coming of the settler in those sections. For a decade or more the most of these lands have lain untouched by plow and live stock, yet their potential value if properly developed, would be too great for an approximate estimate.

The section needs settlers, not only for the development of the lands, but to help bear the burdens of local government and public improvements which are necessary expenses in all localities. The tax rate in northern Michigan is relatively low, despite the sparseness of the population, but it will be lower still when the cut-over lands have been cleared, and men, women and children, seeking their living by the sweat of their brow, take the place of the hardwood stumps that bear mute testimony to the giant forests that have fallen before the axe of the lumberman.

The history of all agricultural sections is very much alike. The early pioneers who came from York state back in 1850 and '60 settled upon lands of the lower counties because they were the nearest to the market places. The land had to be cleared, roads had to be built, and other public improvements made. The early rural communities thrived only as they were developed and made more inviting for the stranger to come in and cast his lot. The history of Northern Michigan will follow very much the same lines. Agricultural development has advanced very rapidly the past few years, many good roads have been built, and those who pin their faith to that great section confidently look for an influx of settlers within the near future.

We hope for the benefit of the individual farmers of all Northern Michigan and for the advancement of the section as a whole that the road plans now under advisement in the counties above mentioned will be put into effect at once. The cost of opening up these counties by a system of interlocking highways is insignificant when compared to the vast benefits to be derived.

STATE AGRICULTURAL BRIEFS

Union City—Reports of the West Calhoun Cooperative association, just made public, show that last year the company did a business amounting to \$222,000, handling 112 cars of livestock and eight cars of corn.

Evart—Osceola county will vote on the county road proposition at the spring election, April 1. There is apparently little opposition to the movement to bring the county under the provisions of the county road law, and it is expected that the proposition will carry.

Grand Haven—The Grand River National Farm Loan association has extended its territory to give the farmers of other sections near here the benefits

of membership. The association was organized on March 22nd, 1917, with the total number of loans allowed at \$38,000. On December 31, 1917 the association had \$95,000 in loans applied for.

Tecumseh—Plans for the immediate completion of 16 miles of macadamized road in Lenawee county have been postponed until after the war. Although the proposed stretch of improved road would have been important from the standpoint of better marketing facilities for a large area, the increased cost of material, and the scarcity of labor, served to influence the highway commissioners towards the decision to postpone the work.

Adrian—The charge is being made here that farmers in Lenawee county are grinding wheat and oats for chicken feed. Food conservation rules provide that no wheat fit for human consumption shall be fed to stock. Millers have been notified that no more wheat is to be ground for stock feed. As far as can be ascertained only a few isolated cases of the infringement of this rule have occurred, and it is possible that the wheat so used was of a quality not considered good for human food.

Belding—The license of the E. Chapple Company operating a flour mill and elevator here, has been revoked for three weeks, beginning March 25, by George A. Prescott, state food administrator. M. L. Ousterhout, of the Chapple Company was called to Lansing to answer charges that the mill sold flour without substitutes, sold wheat for chicken feed and took higher prices than the law allowed. Mr. Ousterhout was apparently unable to disprove the charges, as the announcement that the license would be revoked immediately followed.

Birmingham—Farmers in the vicinity of Birmingham and Farmington have the advantage of tractor service without making an investment. E. E. Sweet, implement man, is offering to rent tractors either with or without plow and disc attachments. He offers to furnish operators if needed. Mr. Sweet urges the farmers to work their small fields with horses and to have the larger ones plowed and put in shape by tractors.

Rogers City—Presque Isle county is in the midst of a series of sheep meetings. The slogan is "A Flock of Sheep for Every Farm." Action will be taken by the organized sheep growers of the county as well as the entire state soon towards a new dog law. Prospects are excellent for immediate success in sheep-raising here. The dog nuisance is one which must be met, but little can be done in this regard until a new law is secured. The movement here has the backing of the Animal Husbandry department of the Michigan Agricultural College.

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

	Wheat		Corn		Oats		Rye		Beans		Potatoes		Hay		S. Beets		Cattle		Hogs	
NAME	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917	1918	1917
Totals previous week.....	1634	1495	2702	2744	3122	2676	1244	826	1768	2335	829	1093	4986	4612	114	132	2531	2670	1295	1872
L. Herweyer, Osceola.....			5	11	40	15	13	12	20	30	1	6	42	50	10		20	26	10	14
George Green, Bay.....	11	4	10	10	10	15			30	22	1	1/2	25	28	1	1	13	10	6	6
W. E. Clark, Oceana.....	10	1	20	8	3		15	15	3	15	6	8	40	40			23	33	17	14
Geo. McNitt, Kent.....			9	6 1/2	10	5	6	14	10	13	2	2	17	14			5	6	6	13
Mrs. M. Ellisons & Sons, Kent..	8	9	10	9	10	7	2		8	10	1	1	9	10			14	12	10	8
Adolph Anderson, Wexford.....			5	4	6	11			5	6 1/2	15	8					9	10		
E. W. Lewis, St. Clair.....	17	20	15	13	15	17	5	3	4	20	1	2	24	13			19	21	8	5
Jake DeBoer, Osceola.....			10	7	12	12			4	5	2 1/2	4 1/2	12	7			18	18		
George Deering, Leelenau.....	25	10	12	12	15	10			10	11	3	4	15	40			8	5	1	1
A. J. Francisco, Benzie.....	13 1/2	3 1/2	10	10			21	6	3	8	2	2	15	15			8	7	5	
H. C. Salsgiver, Kent.....	6	5			16	6	13	10	9	5	1/2	10	13	12			12	7	4	
Bert White, Iosco.....			2 1/2	2 1/2	12	14	45	9	7	18	3	1 1/2	15	17			27	22	2	6
J. J. Shafer, Midland.....			9	3	19	14			26	36	3	1	14	26			25	24	8	11
Emanuel Schultz, Monroe.....	8	7	21	15	8	8			2	2	2	10	15				8	6	30	20
E. L. Simmons & Son, Montcalm	20	34	18	20	20	18	44	4	26	21	20	6	43	45			15	17	2	2
John Brmr, Sons, Leelenau.....			10	10	19	19	6		12	18	26	26					18	20	3	5
Victor E. Jones, Eaton.....	9	10	10	10	10	9			3	14	1/2	1/2	30	20			15	17	17	15
Frank R. Vincent, Sanilac.....			3		15	15			1/2	1/2	35	37			1/2		14	10	2	2
Geo. E. Parish, Ogemaw.....	7	10	15	10	10	9 1/2	10	4	2	10	1	3	35	16			32	28	5	4
Geo. M. Mordich, Tuscola.....	3		7	5	7	12			1	3	5	3	50	40			14	13	3	1
Elmer Richmond, Kent.....	25	15	16	12	18	12			16	15	1	6	18	20			18	15	6	20
Mrs. Millie Moore, Montcalm.....			5	7	4	17			15	22	5	15	15	20			16	10	1	12
C. E. Chandler, Montcalm.....	30	16	4	16	10	10			15	22			15	20			4	1	10	20
Wm. Haines, Emmet.....	6		5	7	12	9			5	5	3	3	22	15			16	11	4	4
M. C. Brown, Kalkaska.....			8	8	5	5	11		8	11	2	3	46	42			22	30	30	20
E. J. Haft, Lapeer.....	8	16	24	26	14	20	11		11	18	1/2	2	24	13			24	15	2	2
Frank Henderson, Arenac.....			4	10	13	17	8	2	25	17	1 1/2	3/4	25	18	1 1/2		12	12	17	17
Roy A. Dowding, Eaton.....	9	27	9	15	15	17	9	9	9	13	1/2	1/2	23	23			9	17	35	20
Chas. F. Gardner, Livingston..	5		9	16	9	13	8		9	13	1/2	1/2	23	23			27	30	35	20
A. L. G. Eaton.....	16	4	14	16	20	12			10	13	1/2	1/2	20	10			20	16	2	2
Elden Wideman, Huron.....	6	4	15	7	9	10			10	13	1/2	1/2	14	21			5	5	3	12
Samuel Beaudry, Monroe.....	5	5	7	4 1/2	4	4			23	15	1/2	1/2	19	35			8	17	18	23
O. N. C. Gratiot.....	7	19	8	8	17	22			30	45	1/2	1/2	20	20			9	5	7	7
E. R. B. Kent.....	18	4	12	9 1/2	5	9 1/2			7	30	1	1	8	10			4	2	2	23
E. F. Stowits, Midland.....			4	4	18	6	8		10	11	1 1/2	3/4	13	13			15	13	10	7
L. C. Gardner, Isabella.....	9	10	10	6	8	13			23	28	13	4	28	25			24	14		
B. E. Staines, Montcalm.....	18	19	15	14	15	14			15	15	5	5	35	35			2	3		
Steve Harley, Mason.....			5	4	2		15	7	5	4	3 1/2	2 1/2	4	4			3	5	2	2
J. W. Reed, Osceola.....			10	6	6	6	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/2	2	2	10	12	1/2		5	3	2	2
Lee Ackley, Schoolcraft.....	2		8	9	6	6	8	9	5	13	8	7	10	9			8	9	2	1
Oscar Craner, Wexford.....	5	12	16	14	7	3	7	12	5	19	6	5	14	20			26	20	1	
Wm. R. Harris, Benzie.....			16	14	7	3	7	12	4	5	1	4	14	11			5	5	2	
J. F. R. Benzie.....	8		9	7	8				4	5	1	4	14	11			5	5	2	
Totals.....	1904	1742	3106	3136	3614	3118	1469	939	2075	2842	962	1242	5874	5505	120	138	3118	3236	1526	2206

Grand Total of Reports received from every County in Michigan, submitted by over One Thousand Farmers

	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
Totals of reports thru mail circulars.....	4762	3746	10916	11704	9886	8858	2930	1576	2415	3336	1223	1378	10937	9878	435	324	6779	7003	4573	6159
Total M. B. F. Reports.....	1904	1742	3106	3136	3614	3118	1469	939	2075	2842	962	1242	5874	5505	120	138	3118	3236	1526	2206
Grand Totals.....	6666	5488	14022	14840	13500	11976	4399	2515	4490	6178	2185	2620	11153	10383	555	462	9897	10239	6099	8365
Increase.....			1178				1524		1884				428		93		342		2266	
Decrease.....					718					1658			435		20					
Percentage of Increase.....			21.4				12.7		75				9.2				33.5		27	
Percentage of Decrease.....					5					27			16.6							

WHAT THE FARMERS SAY:

Charlotte, A. L. G.—The banks around here seem real fair. The farmers can get plenty of money at 7 per cent. Mill feed seems too high. Cull beans \$2.25 and \$2.50 per cwt. Middlings costing farmers \$50 per ton.

Butternut, C. E. C.—Wheat is looking bad. It cost a lot of good money to put out wheat last year and it don't look as if the farmers would get their seed back last year. No help to take care of cultivated crop.

Lowell, E. R.—We don't go in for potatoes very heavy but will raise only enough for our selves as long as these grades are in use.

Vassar, G. M.—Will raise all I can of everything.

West Branch, G. E. F. P.—Potatoes and handling. Beans have been too do not pay expenses of growing a failure the last three years.

Olivet, B. A. O.—The bean acreage will be about 60 per cent less than in other years around here. No person going to raise many potatoes. Labor grading. No insurance against loss to blame.

Standish, F. H.—In 1917 farmers plowed up their meadows and planted beans and they are paying \$20 a ton for hay and receiving about \$6.00 a bushel for beans which average about 4 bushels to the acre.

Lapeer, E. J. H.—Barley 1917, 12 acres; 1918, 18 acres.

Sharon, M. C. B.—It may be a change somewhat in potatoes and beans according to what the prices will be in this year's crop.

WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Senate has completely overridden the President's decision regarding the price of 1918 wheat by adopting the Gore amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill, fixing the price at \$2.50 on the basis of No. 2 Northern, and applicable to all local elevators instead of primary points. Providing the house of representatives concur, which it undoubtedly will, the bill will take the matter entirely out of the President's hands unless he should be so unwise as to veto the measure. The amendment required a two-thirds vote for adoption, and was not passed without lengthy debate and considerable opposition. Five days were consumed in debating the various phases of price-fixing, and for a time, it seemed that eastern senators would be successful in defeating the proposal. It was finally adopted by a vote of 49 to 18, more than the two-thirds required.

Both Senator Smith and Townsend voted in support of the measure. Asked for his reason for so doing, Senator Townsend very sensibly replied: "I voted for an increase in the price of wheat to the farmer because I believe that the production of wheat is the all-important thing. The farmer isn't fool enough to raise wheat when he can get more for his barley and rye. The new price will not materially stimulate 1918 production. It will help the wheat planted next fall, and that is going to be the crucial time. All the information that has come to me in letters from hundreds of farmers is that they were not planting and were not going to plant wheat at the existing price."

It is claimed by the Food Administration, which has shown itself decidedly out of sympathy with the farmers in more than one instance, that the farmers have been holding back their 1917 wheat in hopes that a higher price would be set, and inasmuch as the United States is now over 75,000,000 bushels of wheat short in shipments to the Allies, the situation has become very grave. Additional regulations are to be placed at once upon the domestic consumption of wheat products, and Mr. Hoover has announced that it will be necessary for the American people to reduce wheat consumption from 42,000,000 to 21,000,000 bushels per month.

Germany's great spring drive has started. Although official Washington has been prepared for weeks for the opening of Germany's threatened drive, and had calculated that it would be of unsurpassed magnitude and force, it had not anticipated that it would produce such telling effects at the very outset. The news of the shelling of Paris, too, has had a most disquieting influence, and the gravity of the situation is appreciated now as never before. Everyone seems fired with a new zeal and determination to speed war preparations to the maximum. Nothing has ever before transpired to so arouse them to a supreme effort to show the world that America is straining every nerve and fibre to mobilize her resources at the front at the earliest humanely possible moment.

Disgruntled by the action of the United States and Great Britain in requisitioning Dutch ships in the ports of the two countries, the press of Holland is now demanding that diplomatic relations with America be severed. Demonstrations have been made in front of the American embassy at the Hague by students, and the public of Holland generally is working itself into a frenzy of hate which bids fair to exceed the well-known German brand. Just why the Dutch should reserve all of their verbal shafts for the United States, and demand the expulsion of the American minister from the Hague, is arousing no little curiosity in this country. That it shows the hand of Potsdam there is no doubt. The government of the Netherlands has been subjected more or less to German influence since the beginning of the war, and has been more or less hostile to the Entente. Every turn of the negotiations to take over the ships, idle in American harbors, showed the effects of German influence. Every opportunity was given the Hague government to enter into a reasonable agreement, but no matter what terms were proposed by this country Holland always come back with counter proposals. The owners of the ships will

have every reason to rejoice in the action taken by this country, as they will be guaranteed excellent returns and insured against losses.



It is estimated that on May 1st more than 1,000 Chicago saloons will fail to apply for licenses owing to the increasing difficulty of obtaining supplies and the decreased profits.

A definite agreement has been reached between the French and German governments taking immediate effect, regarding the exchange of prisoners past 48.

Governor Jas. P. Goodrich of Indiana has been threatened with death in the event of his permitting Wm. Jennings Bryan to open a prohibition drive in that state April 1st.

The statement of the condition of the United States treasury on March 20th showed the gross income for the year to date to be over 11 billion dollars as compared with 550 million dollars for the corresponding period a year ago.

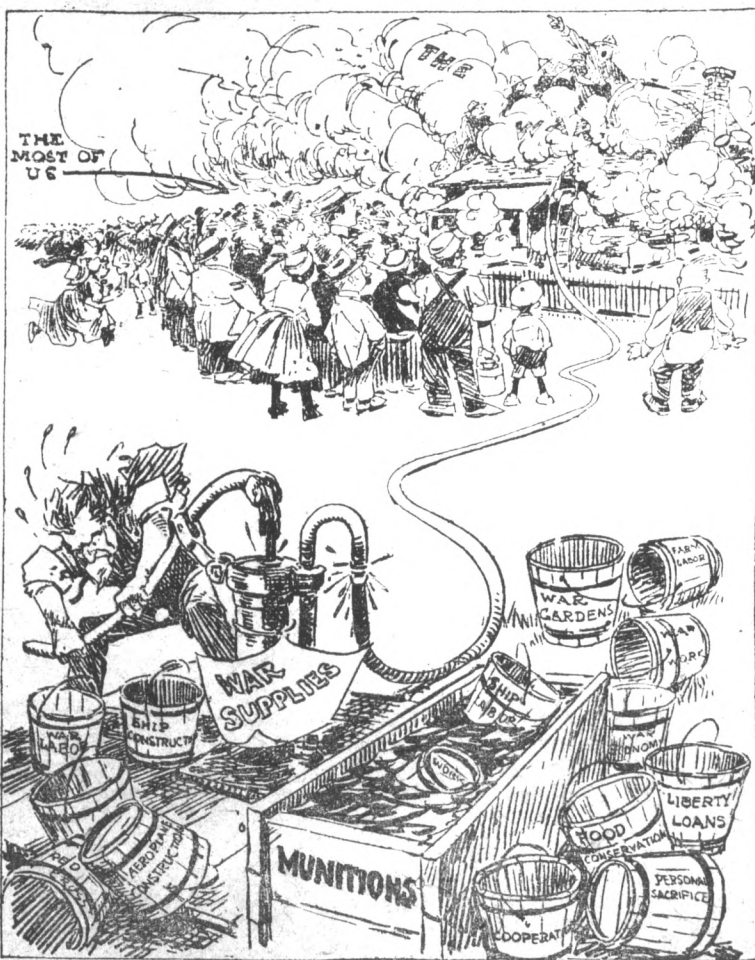
Each year Italy makes more than 27,000 tons of concentrated tomato paste. The shortage of coal now makes the industry most difficult, and besides the government will requisition about four-fifths of the product.

Bermuda onion farmers of south Texas planted the largest crop that has ever been grown in that State. It is estimated that there will be more than 12,000 acres devoted to Bermuda onions in the Rio Grande border region this year. This is an increase of 4,000 acres over last year's crop.

The American Wool and Cotton Reporter says: "Ten million pounds or more of Australian wool to come direct from the ranch to the United States and sold either at private sale or by auction is the plan of a wool grower of Australia. Such an amount which is worth from \$9,000,000 to \$10,000,000 would undoubtedly have an effect on the market and trade. The wool grower talks of operating next October."

The farm labor administrator for Illinois has compiled figures which he declared are conservative as comparisons in the values of city and farm jobs. For married men, according to his figures, a farm job paying \$35 a month is equal to a city job paying \$99; farm job \$40 equals city job, \$104; farm, \$45; city \$109; farm \$55; city \$114. For a single man, these are the figures: A farm job paying \$30 per month is equal to a city job paying \$99 a month; farm job, \$35 equals city job, \$104; farm job, \$40, city \$109; farm, \$45, city, \$114.

IT WOULDN'T TAKE LONG IF WE'D ALL FORM A BUCKET BRIGADE.



WAR WIRES

Preceded by the most painstaking preparations of which the great German war machine was capable, the much advertised drive against the Allied lines in the west, has finally developed. An army estimated at 800,000 men, preceded by picked German shock troops, were hurled against the British line over a stretch of fifty miles. The attack was preceded by a short but furious bombardment, which paled into insignificance any previous big gun offensive. The Germans were successful in dislodging the British from many of the first line trenches, and the force of their attack carried them well into the British lines in many places. They claim to have captured 20,000 British prisoners, but even if this is true, considering the number of men engaged, their successes were but minor. Their losses were tremendous; the on-coming hordes of Germans in close formation, being swept away by the thousands of British machine guns. The British by counter attacks, have succeeded in recovering some of the lost ground. The morale of the British troops is excellent, and the best Allied military experts are confident that the latest move of the Huns is condemned to failure.

The world was astounded Saturday when the intelligence was flashed from the war area that the Germans were using a super-cannon to bombard Paris from a distance of 76 miles. At first the report was not given serious consideration, but as the shells continued to fall, it was confirmed by both the Allied headquarters and from Berlin. Allied commanders attribute the new gun to one of three innovations. The shell is either propelled from a gun of extremely large size and strength by a hitherto unknown explosive; it is an arrangement of a shell within a shell which explodes and relays the other shell along; or it is a shell which travels through the air by propellers like a torpedo through the water. The bombardment has done little damage, and Allied officers maintain that the new gun will prove of questionable value from a strictly military standpoint. It is probable that the Germans relied on the gun to terrorize and break the morale of the Allied armies, although it has had just the opposite effect.

German legions are nearing Petrograd, while the Red forces are arming and attempting to organize for a stand. It is evident that little or no resistance will be encountered by the Huns in reaching the former Russian capital. The seat of government was some time ago transferred to Moscow, the ancient capital and preparations made to take it still further into the interior should conditions demand. The Germans seem determined to push forward and seize as much Russian territory as they possibly can. Working through Hun agents and disloyal Russians, the German and Austrian prisoners in the interior of the country are being organized and armed and are rapidly getting control, even in Eastern Siberia, where Japan stands ready to interfere. There is little or no government in Russia, practically all business having come to a standstill, and what little trading is done is being consummated through peddlers.

A large motor boat bearing a German crew, German flags, etc., was seized last week in the Pacific by an American cruiser and taken to a Pacific port. When the warship approached, a large number of articles were dumped overboard. Although no arms were found on board, it is believed that the boat was fitted out in a Mexican port as a German raider, and that its purpose was to obtain supplies and arms and proceed to help to destroy Allied shipping.

Sergeant Arthur Guy Empey, author of "Over the Top," probably the most popular war volume, is to enter service with the American troops. Empey, well educated American, who had served two enlistments in the American army, joined the British forces a short time after the war broke out. He was given his honorable discharge last year on account of physical disability caused by wounds. After writing the book he toured the country delivering lectures. He finally became convinced that he was commercializing his patriotism and decided to again enlist. In spite of the many wounds he had sustained while in the British service, he was accepted and will serve with the American forces. He has made a fortune from the book, "Over the Top," it is said.

American troops are taking active part in the great battle to retard the Hun offensive. While the sector held by American troops, has thus far not been heavily attacked by the Germans as a part of the great offensive, the Sammies are making it interesting for Fritz by heavy bombardments and occasional trench raids. While it is known that a large number of selected men from the various contingents are in France, it is not thought that these men have seen any fighting. Many American engineers who were engaged at railway work have been pressed into service and are now in the trenches, according to reports made public.

Berlin reports claim that in addition to 20,000 British troops, several hundred guns have been captured in the great drive. London admits the loss of many prisoners and some guns. The Germans have succeeded in bending the British line back, and overrunning Allied territory. The Central Powers, it is believed, have at least a million men in reserve, and indications are that they are willing to sacrifice all of them in order to attain their ends. It is estimated that the German losses have been three to every one of the British, the massed formation in which the Huns attacked, resulting in huge losses. British machine guns swept away thousands of men in every charge, the German dead being piled high on the field.

WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL DIGEST

DEVELOPMENT BUREAU SECRETARY EXPLAINS STATE SHEEP AID

Some time ago one of your subscribers wrote you along the line that he had noted in the papers that a Federal Land Bank had been formed at Grand Rapids and would loan money to those who wished to go into the sheep growing industry. He wished to know how that was going to effect the small sheep owner who had to buy them himself and who had to pay taxes on the sheep as well as on the land on which they were cared for. Your correspondent rather implied that he thought it was somewhat unfair for the Government to apparently make it so easy for those who might desire to compete with the farmer who was already in the business.

To begin with the article seen by your correspondent is undoubtedly a mis-statement of facts but since lately the State of Michigan has made arrangements to assist in placing more sheep on the Northern Michigan lands it may be of interest to your correspondent to know the present status of the work.

In the State of Michigan there are thousands of acres of land admirably suited to the grazing of sheep and cattle; land which unless used for that purpose will undoubtedly be idle. There are also thousands of acres of land on farms which perhaps from shortage of labor or other reasons cannot be tilled this year but which would care for many head of live stock. Many thousands of lambs are going on the live stock market for slaughter; lambs which if carried through this season on some of this unused land would produce many more pounds of mutton to say nothing of the extra wool.

The United States, in fact the whole world, is in desperate need of more wool, more meat. Why then should not every effort be expended towards making those idle acres of service and head off the waste of not utilizing the pasture and in slaughtering those lambs which should be carried to maturity or kept for breeding stock.

Of course, the man with thousands of acres of land can easily secure his own sheep, but the farmer desiring but a few head must go to considerable expense in getting to Chicago or elsewhere to select his sheep. The War Preparedness Board very wisely created a revolving fund of ten thousand dollars and appointed Mr. H. H. Halliday, a man of wide experience in the sheep industry and President of the State Live Stock Sanitary Commission, to assist in selecting the proper stock for shipment to farmers and others desiring this service.

The State does not loan money to the farmers and does not loan them the sheep but simply arranges so that the sheep can be selected and shipped and they have to be paid for upon arrival.

It therefore would appear that your subscriber is on the same footing as others and that neither the State nor the Federal Government is offering inducements or privileges which would interfere or cause undue competition. There is room and need for every sheep and every pound of wool that this State or the United States can handle. Yours respectfully.—T. F. Marston, Secretary and Manager, Northeastern Michigan Development Bureau.

RAILROADS ARE RESPONSIBLE ON BILL OF LADING

The United States Circuit Court of Appeals has rendered a decision of far-reaching effect in connection with the responsibility of the carrying companies under a bill of lading. This decision makes the bill of lading indispensable in claiming shipments, and relieves the shippers from responsibility, where shipments are turned over by the railroad companies, to parties who do not hold the original bill of lading. For example: A farmer ships a car of potatoes to a firm in Cincinnati. When the car is loaded the farmer takes the original shipping bill—bill of lading—to the bank. A draft is made out on Brown & Co. for \$560, the price of the potatoes; this is attached to the bill of lading, and forwarded to the First National Bank at Cincinnati. Now, before Brown & Co. can get this car of potatoes they must go to the Cincinnati bank, pay the draft, and get the original bill of lading. With this in their possession they can secure the car of potatoes; without it the car is held by the railroad company, until some one produces the original bill of lading; after which the carrying company's liability ceases.

The case in question was passed upon by the state Supreme Court, and the responsibility of delivering shipments was placed upon the shippers rather than on the carrying

companies. This decision caused a lot of trouble, and in order to avoid further complications uniform bill of lading laws were passed in many states.

Through this latter decision the federal appeal court declares that a railroad is responsible to the holder of the original bill of lading of a shipment, no matter if shipment is made "to the order of" a third party. It makes a bill of lading as indispensable in claiming a cargo shipped by common carrier as a draft is in claiming money sent through a bank.

In 1911, Barrbarin & Beach sold a carload of beans to Botsford & Barrett, Detroit commission merchants, and shipped them to Pittsburgh, Pa., under purchaser's order, the bill of lading reading "Consigned to the order of Botsford & Barrett, destination, Pittsburgh, Pa. Notify Arbuckle & Co. of same."

At the foot of the bill of lading appeared the name of Botsford & Barrett as shippers. The bill of lading contained this express stipulation: "The surrender of the original order bill of lading properly endorsed shall be required before delivery of the property."

The shippers deposited the bill of lading in the bank, with a draft on Botsford & Barrett and the draft was returned unpaid. Botsford & Barrett,

IMPORTANT TO GROWERS OF CORN

The seed corn situation in Michigan is exceedingly serious. The greatest losses likely to result will come from the planting of untested seed. Such plantings will be made by farmers who have always obtained good stands by planting untested seed, many of whom believe they can determine whether the seed corn will germinate, simply by the aid of the knife and the eye. Such inspections have proved entirely untrustworthy this year, the Department of Agriculture informs me. The greatest alleviation now possible rests with the individual corn producers and must be had by now making germination tests.

That department has just issued Farmers' bulletin 948, "The Rag Doll Seed Tester; its Use in Determining which Ears of Corn are fit for Seed." Every farmer should make at least a preliminary germination test of his seed corn. If such test shows a germination below 80 per cent, there can be no doubt about the advisability of testing individually all of the soundest ears and thus culling out the weak and dead ears. The above mentioned bulletin should be welcomed by those who are alive to the necessity of making germination tests. This paper has a supply of these pamphlets and on application you can secure one. Serious losses will certainly result this year from planting untested seed corn.

the opinion states, obtained payment for the beans, although they never had possession of the bill of lading.

Elmer W. Voorheis, clerk of the U. S. district court in Detroit, to whom the claim of Botsford & Barrett was referred as master, found that the shipment was delivered by a connecting carrier on what purported to be a bill of lading, but was not the original bill. He allowed the claim of Barrbarin & Beach against the Pere Marquette, as the initial carrier is liable for misdelivery by a connecting line. The receivers of the railroad appealed.

Judge Knappen held that by the bill of lading the carrier acknowledged receipt of the shipment not from the "consignor" but from the "owners" that the consignees were only prima facie owners of the beans notwithstanding the shipment had been consigned to their order and that the actual owner of the beans was entitled to the benefit of the express provision of the contract that the shipment should not be delivered without the surrender of the bill of lading.

VAST AMOUNT OF PORK IS SHIPPED TO THE ALLIES

In a recent summary showing exports of food from the United States to the Allies, the Food Ad-

ministration announces these amounts of pork products shipped during the period July 1, 1914, to January 1, 1918:

Product	Pounds
Bacon	1,216,877,289
Hams and shoulders	775,847,401
Lard	721,250,233
Lard Compound	60,411,037
Fresh Pork	57,971,544
Pickled Pork	40,878,787

The total pork products sent to the Allies during the past three and one-half years amount to nearly 3,000,000,000 pounds, or 30 pounds for every person in the United States. These figures show the important part American farmers have played thus far in furnishing food staples for the Allied nations.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT CROP WILL BE REDUCED GREATLY THIS YEAR

Estimated production of wheat in Australia for the season 1917-18 is 114,020,000 bushels as compared with last season's actual yield of 152,565,000. This is a decrease of 38,545,000 bushels, or 25 per cent, and is the result of reduced acreage combined with unfavorable conditions.

The maximum price has been fixed at 95 cents per bushel. Available shipping has been too small to cope with the supplies ready for shipment and the new season has been entered upon with stacks of old wheat on hand amounting to 100,000,000 bushels.

During a three and one-half year period, beginning July 1, 1914, the United States exported to the Allies more than 616,000,000 lbs. of fresh beef and nearly 203,000,000 lbs. of canned beef.

Exports of wheat from the United States to the Allies between July 1, 1914, and January 1, 1918, totaled more than 389,000,000 bushels. Wheat flour exports exceeded 24,600,000 barrels. The total in terms of wheat shows that the United States has sent the Allies nearly five bushels of wheat for every person in this country. Until the next harvest the great need is for wheat from the United States.

UNITED STATES CEREAL EXPORTS TO THE ALLIES

Between July 1, 1914 and January 1, 1918, the United States exported to the Allies the following amounts of the principal cereals. The figures also include flour and meal in terms of the grain required for making them:

Wheat	500,672,417
Oats	320,424,074
Corn	54,351,739
Rye	11,615,139

The total considerably exceeds 880,000,000 bushels and shows the important extent to which American farmers have reinforced the Allied cause. Yet wheat is needed by the Allies more now than at any time since the war began.

500,000 TO BE LISTED IN FARM LABOR ARMY

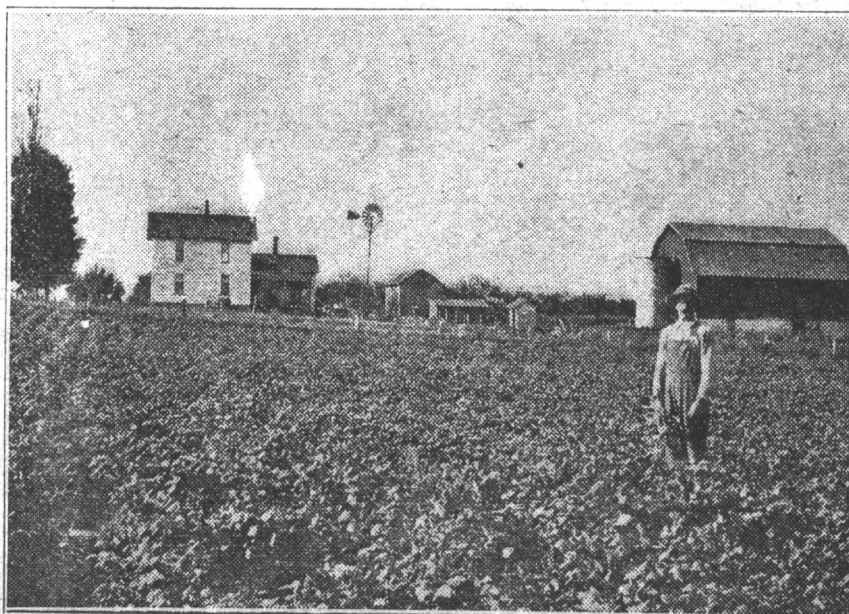
An army of 500,000 war emergency workers comprising men willing to devote two or three days a week, or their vacations, to agricultural labor, will be recruited by the United States employment service. Professional men, college students, clerks and other classes will be enrolled. An army of 250,000 boys is also being mobilized State directors, enrolling mechanics for shipbuilding will extend their organization for the new enrollment.

BRIGHT, CAPABLE BOYS LOOK FOR PERMANENT HOMES

Since the publication of two letters in recent issues of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, from farmers wanting boys to help them during the summer months and perhaps make their home with them, we have received a number of letters from boys ranging in age from 15 to 18 years of age who want to take advantage of the offers, and we have put the various interested parties in touch with each other. However, we now have more applications than we have positions, so if there are any farmers who would like to take one or more boys into their homes, they should advise us at once. All of the boys who have applied to date have had some farming experience.

H. G., of Charlotte, writes that he secured a very capable boy from the industrial school at Lansing, and he suggests that other farmers make applications to that school for boy help.

Applications in such cases should be presented through the county poor commissioner, who will do anything he can to help you to secure the kind of boy you need to assist on the farm.



Scene on Farm of John Shell of Fremont, showing his Field of Beans which paid him a good profit last year.

FLAX PROFITABLE CROP FOR MICHIGAN

Demand for all Flax Products Now Far in Excess of Supply, and Increasing Prices and More Successful Methods of Cultivation Make the Crop Desirable

Fibre flax as distinguished from seed flax, long grown in this state, is only recently becoming an important crop in some parts of Michigan, partly as the result of the increased demand caused by the war.

As the result of numerous inquiries from M. B. F. readers in regard to the possibilities of flax culture, the information contained in this article has been compiled.

In the first place do not rush into the culture of flax because it is something new. There are a number of things to be given consideration, before you decide to raise flax, chief among them being the marketing.

At least one firm, that of the Summers Linen company of Port Huron is taking full responsibility for the financial side of the project by entering into an agreement to rent the land, the farmer planting the flax and doing all the work at a fixed rate. This concern announces that it has all the acreage it can handle this year already contracted for, but that it plans a considerable extension for the 1919 crop.

A deep, fertile and mellow loam soil is best adapted to flax, although it does fairly well on soils which vary somewhat from this. It will not, however, do well on a muck soil, especially if not well drained, or a heavy clay soil. It should never be grown on a light sandy soil. The soil should be rich and made free from weeds by previous cultivation. Clover sod, old pasture, meadow land or land under a hoed crop make the best ground for flax. If it is necessary to use manure for the flax, it should be applied to a previous crop, and not directly to the flax. Ground infested with wire worms can be completely cleared of this insect pest, with flax, which will not be damaged by the worms.

Sowing with a broad cast seeder, produces the best results. Grass seed can be sown at the same time. It is important that the seed be evenly distributed and covered not more than half an inch deep. It is important that the soil be well worked, before seeding, as few crops demand a well prepared seed bed as flax.

Harvesting is one of the most important points in producing good flax. It is heavy flax that pays the grower, as well as the fibre mill. It should not be heavy from greenness or it will mould.

Flax should be pulled about July 1 in this part of Michigan. The flax should be pulled when the seed is quite green and the stalks hardly begin to show yellow. Golden flax, the most valuable for fiber, comes from the crop which is pulled early and not from the ripe straw.

Bundles should not be more than six inches in diameter, and care should be taken to have the straw well butted. As soon as the straw is pulled, it should be shocked.

When flax is properly cured it is a bright golden color and is not moist to the feel. As soon as properly cured, the straw should be delivered. Rain rapidly injures flax. Flax is frequently stacked until it can be hauled to the receiving station maintained in the districts from which the linen companies contract the product.

Seed flax has been an important crop in this country for many years, but until recently the bulk of fiber flax has come from Europe, Ireland being an important flax growing center. At the present time the demand for flax far exceeds the demand, but linen concerns in this country, find development slow, on account of the many difficulties encountered. The labor situation has greatly handicapped these concerns, and they have also found it hard to educate the growers in the many essentials of producing the crop.

FLAX VS. OTHER FARM CROPS

The following record of returns per acre from standard farm crops is very interesting:

Crop	N. Dakota	S. Dakota	Minnesota
Flax	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$14.00
Wheat	10.00	10.00	12.00
Oats	9.00	9.00	11.00
Barley	10.00	11.00	13.00

IMPORTS OF FLAX SEED INTO U. S.

1906	82,907 bushels
1907	81,582 bushels
1908	44,721 bushels
1909	1,479,631 bushels
1910	9,158,779 bushels
1911	7,480,115 bushels
1912	7,833,180 bushels
1913	6,580,154 bushels
1914	9,246,530 bushels
1915	14,696,626 bushels

IMPORTS FLAX FIBRE INTO U. S.

1906	9,195 tons	1907	8,012 tons
1908	10,639 tons	1909	10,503 tons
1910	11,138 tons	1911	7,663 tons
1912	12,609 tons	1913	11,634 tons
1914	9,102 tons	1915	7,210 tons

Grown by Farmers in Foreign Countries

IMPORTS OF LINENS INTO U. S.

1906	127,931,338 square yards
1907	122,145,061 square yards
1908	86,949,431 square yards
1909	144,069,256 square yards
1910	125,799,819 square yards
1911	115,452,862 square yards
1912	136,093,083 square yards
1913	118,423,123 square yards
1914	84,095,413 square yards
1915	48,159,664 square yards

Made from flax grown by farmers in Foreign Countries.

ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION OF FLAX IN U. S.

1907	2,864,000	25,851,000 bushels
1908	2,679,000	25,805,000 bushels
1909	2,742,000	25,856,000 bushels
1910	2,467,000	12,718,000 bushels
1911	2,757,000	19,370,000 bushels
1912	2,851,000	28,073,000 bushels
1913	2,291,000	17,853,000 bushels
1914	1,645,000	13,749,000 bushels
1915	1,387,000	14,030,000 bushels
1916	1,605,000	15,459,000 bushels

STATES IN WHICH FLAX IS GROWN

Wisconsin	5,000	60,000 bushels
Minnesota	275,000	2,338,000 bushels
Iowa	18,000	180,000 bushels
Missouri	5,000	35,000 bushels
North Dakota	790,000	8,137,000 bushels
South Dakota	150,000	1,395,000 bushels
Nebraska	4,000	32,000 bushels
Kansas	30,000	174,000 bushels
Montana	325,000	3,088,000 bushels
Wyoming	2,000	14,000 bushels
Colorado	1,000	6,000 bushels

COMMERCIAL DRYING OF POTATOES MAY BE A SUCCESS IN MICHIGAN

(Continued from last week)

In general the process employed is as follows: The potatoes are washed, ground, diluted with water, and run over the shaking sieve, as in manufacture by the usual methods. The liquor carrying the starch, technically known as starch

HOW TO MAKE POTATO SILAGE

1. The use of 2 per cent to 5 per cent of corn meal mixed with crushed potatoes insures an acid fermentation which converts the potatoes into silage.
2. This work may be done upon any scale. If reasonable care is used, losses should be negligible.
3. The potatoes should be first washed, and then crushed by passing them through an apple grater which has been modified by substituting rows of blunt spikes for the greater knives.
4. The fermentation requires a tight receptacle, which may be a barrel, a vat, a pit, or a silo, but must retain the potato juice.
5. The upper surface of the crushed potato should first be covered to a depth of several inches with an absorbent fibrous substance such as straw, cornstalks, or leaves, then closely fitted with a wooden cover weighted down with stones until the surface of the potatoes is barely covered by juice. The top of the straw and of the board cover should be kept dry.
6. Fermentation begins at once. With the evolution of gas, considerable pressure develops, which should be controlled by extra weights. After a few days this pressure disappears. Acid fermentation continues, however, for two or three weeks. As in other fermentations the length of time necessary is directly dependent on the temperature.
7. The resulting potato silage is refreshingly acid in flavor, free from any putrid odor and of about the same consistency and appearance of the original crushed potato.
8. Potato silage is eaten freely by cattle and somewhat less readily at first by hogs, although they soon learn to eat it.

milk, is deprived of practically all of its starch in a machine known as a thickener. The liquor known as the overflow, flows to waste, or may pass to large settling tanks, where small quantities of the smaller starch granules collect, and can be recovered. The thickened-off crude starch is pumped out of the machine and is delivered to a second thickener, where the conditions are so maintained that the starch, nearly freed of suspended impurities, is pumped out continuously as underflow, while the impurities, mixed with a little starch, overflow and are treated separately. The purified starch is now washed, and de-watered in a continuous suction filter, and delivered directly to an apron or other type of drier. Enough experimental work has been done on this method to show that the first thickening process and the continuous de-watering and drying can easily be accomplished. The second step,—continuous washing—has not yet been so thoroughly demonstrated. Even if standard washing tanks have to be used here a very considerable advance over existing methods is evident.

No potato dextrin industry exists in the United States at the present time. About 5,000,000 pounds per annum is imported in normal times. It is made by carefully mixing potato starch with a minute proportion of nitric or other acid, and then roasting at from 100 degrees C. to 180 degrees C. (212 to 356 degrees F.), the temperature at which starch is converted into dextrin. The color of potato dextrin varies from pure white to brown through various shades of yellow and depends largely on the heat treatment given. The yield is about 80 per cent. of the weight of the

starch. Potato dextrin finds a wide variety of special uses in the arts as an adhesive.

The development of practicable methods for drying potatoes in Germany was a difficult task, as it was necessary that very cheap methods be worked out in order that the finished product could compete with other feeds and food stuffs. By persistent efforts, however, extended over nearly a decade, a number of successful methods were perfected. Descriptions of these are given in the Consular and Trade Reports of the Department of Commerce. The first successful method developed consists in cutting the potatoes into slices or shreds and drying by passing through iron drums which are slowly rotated while hot flue gases are passed through. By another process the potatoes are washed and sliced and fed into heated iron troughs, through which they are moved by means of special mixing paddles, hot gases passing out through openings in the paddles.

The most successful dried potato product now being prepared is dried sliced potato. Large quantities have been dried in Canada and in the United States for use by the allied armies and navies, and by civilians in the war territory. In peace times the considerable labor cost necessary for the preparation of dried sliced potatoes, and the fact that the product competed directly with fresh potatoes, apparently have made its extensive manufacture unprofitable. It has been prepared for years by certain American manufacturers for the Alaskan trade, and for supplying a limited domestic demand.

The situation in this country in peace times is often somewhat similar to that which faced German agriculturists about twenty years ago, when large quantities of potatoes were still available after the needs of the existing utilization industries had been supplied. To meet this situation the German potato drying industry was developed, and today hundreds of driers are operated in the potato growing sections of Germany, converting the potatoes into dried products for use as feed for farm animals and as food for man.

A method of drying sliced potatoes has been developed in the United States and used in peace times in supplying the demand for dried potatoes for the use of explorers and others, and which has an important war-time significance.

The method of preparation is very simple. The potatoes are peeled, trimmed, sliced from 1-4 to 1-2 inch thick and then blanched by dipping in boiling water for from three to five minutes. They are then cold-dipped, spread out on wire-mesh trays, and dried for periods ranging from six to twenty hours. The yield of finished product is from 18 to 20 per cent of the weight of the potatoes, allowing for the loss in peeling. The product is dried until brittle, and when so prepared will keep indefinitely. Temperatures of 150 degrees F. or even higher may be used in drying without injury to the material. A favorite form of drier is the cabinet type. The drying shelves are made of steam pipe, heated by low-pressure steam. In Germany the sliced potato is dried in a heated tunnel through which trucks carrying trays are passed, the arrangement being not unlike what is known in the United States as the progressive lumber dry kiln.

POTATOES FED TO ADVANTAGE IN EUROPE

Europeans have used potatoes for years for feeding swine and other farm animals. They discovered steaming the potatoes fed swine added to the food value. Feeding steamed potatoes, barley and cake, has long proved a profitable business. Boiling the potato is not equivalent to steaming it.

Danish work has shown 400 lbs. potatoes are worth 100 lbs. of mixed grains for swine. Prof. Henry found 445 lbs. of potatoes equal to 100 lbs. corn meal for pigs.

The feeding of horses with steamed potatoes and chopped hay and straw has been developed into a going system, known as the "Weiszermel System." The animals remain in good health, with but slight if any intestinal trouble, and with normal capacity. This means it is possible to almost replace oats when the substances are considered on their dry matter basis.

Its composition is as follows:

Moisture	11.97%
Starch	80.39%
Crude fiber	1.97%
Protein	2.19%
Ash	0.87%
Alkalinity of Ash as Potassium Carbonate	0.356%

ADDITIONAL DETAILS FURNISHED ON REQUEST

Lack of space prevents us from publishing additional details, most of which are of a more or less technical nature, upon the subject of potato drying, but the complete data, together with a list of the articles of machinery needed for the various processes can be secured from the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Upon request we will be glad to supply any reader with the descriptive bulletins.

Various attempts are now being made in Michigan to test the practicability of potato drying as a commercial proposition. We understand that the Northwestern Development Bureau is trying to interest the government in establishing a dehydrating plant at Traverse City, and it is known that other agencies are at work to help solve the problem of over-production of potatoes for the State. That something of permanent value may come from these experiments seems certain.

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.)

PLACE ORDERS FOR SEED CORN THRU PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

In M. B. F. of March 9th issue there appeared a statement to the effect that the Government was shipping a quantity of corn from the State of New York into Michigan for seed corn. Where and of whom can one secure some?—*W. C. S., Alma, Mich.*

Michigan has purchased and is distributing seed corn in carload lots to sections of the state where it is needed. This corn is to be sold to the farmers for \$5 per bushel.—*Frank G. Simpson, Supt. of Farm Production.*

[EDITOR'S NOTE: An early survey of the available seed corn supply showed not more than sufficient to plant about one-third of the acreage needed. The survey indicated that over 370,000 bushels of seed corn would be needed to plant as large an acreage as last year's with only about 130,000 bushels of the native varieties available. In order to supply the estimated needs of the state, the Michigan War Preparedness committee recently purchased 100,000 bushels of New Jersey and Delaware corn, of high germination test, and adapted to the soils and climate of the state. Orders for this corn should be placed with county agents or the chairman of the county preparedness board. The chairman of your county is Francis King of Alma.]

YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN RAG DOLL SEED CORN TESTER

Please tell me the easiest and cheapest way to test seed corn.—*C. M., Monroe county.*

The rag doll seed corn tester, which is perhaps the least expensive and about as satisfactory as any, can be made of a piece of muslin eighteen inches wide and of any desired length, depending on the number of ears to be tested. If the tester is to accommodate twenty ears of corn, a piece of cloth eighteen inches wide and four feet long will be ample.

The cloth should be marked off in 2 x 2 or 3 inch squares. These squares may be smaller or larger as occasion demands, but in general the 3-inch square is large enough to accommodate as many kernels as will be used—usually not more than ten. At least six inches of cloth should be allowed on each end of the tester beyond the squares.

After the kernels have been removed from the ear and placed in the numbered squares, the sides of the cloth may be folded over and the "doll" may then be rolled up without fear of molesting the kernels. The cloth should be thoroughly moistened either by sprinkling with warm water or by immersing in a bucket of warm (not hot) water for two or three hours. After the cloth has been thoroughly saturated it can be put away in a warm place. The rag doll must not be allowed to dry as moisture is essential. A good method of maintaining the moisture in the rag doll tester is to put in a shoe box or small wooden box and cover it with moist sawdust. As with other testers, the sprouting kernels must not become chilled, as this will not only retard, but may actually prevent, the germination of the grain.

SUBSCRIBER GIVES EXPERIENCE WITH EVER-BEARING STRAWBERRY

At the opening of a new season we realize as never before the value of the Ever-bearing strawberry. For family use or commercial purposes there is nothing to compare with them. Instead of one crop in two years you get three.

It has been stated by some they were a failure in a commercial way as a summer berry, i. e., fruiting a bed the second season, therefore would like to state our experience for the season of 1917.

Our method in the past has been to renew the bed each spring, setting two by three feet and allowing all new or runner plants take root, pick all blossoms up to July 1st and fruit during late summer and fall.

The past season on one acre fruited in this way the season of 1916, we dug several thousand plants from between the rows, applied 1-2 ton of 2-8-3 fertilizer, cultivated and hoed frequently until berries began to ripen, but did not irrigate.

From June 25th to July 27 (a much longer season than with common kinds) we picked from this acre 5,336 quarts of fancy berries which sold for \$667.00. On August 7th we began picking the fall crop. After the first few pickings these berries were not as nice as those grown on new set beds so it was necessary to sort them, but nevertheless we picked 1834 quarts which sold for \$300.00, making a total of \$967.00 from the acre.

As a summer berry they are the first to bloom in the spring, if frosted will blossom again, if not frosted will ripen ahead of common kinds, our berries were on the market one full week ahead of the common kinds grown by our competitors.—*W. F. Tindall, Charlevoix county.*

LAW TO CONFINE OFFICE HOLDING TO NATIVE BORN

A few days ago I saw in the *Detroit Free Press* a copy of a bill that was introduced in the house of representatives in the state of New York in substance as follows: That no foreign born citizen can hold office in that state either elective or appointive, and that no foreign born shall have the right to vote until after 10 years of actual residence. Now if that is good for the state of New York why not Michigan? How would it do to call some attention in the M. B. F. and see what is the sentiment of the readers?—*M. W. Rhodes, Michigan.*

Thru the courtesy of the clerk of the New York Assembly, we are able to reproduce here the exact wording of the bill mentioned by our subscriber.

"Resolved (if the Senate concur) that article ten of the constitution be hereby amended by inserting therein a new section to be section two-a, to read as follows: No person shall hereafter be elected or appointed to any public office in the state or any civil division thereof unless such person be a native-born citizen of the United States. All appointments of, or votes given for, a person disqualified for election or appointment under this section shall be void.

Readers are invited to give their views upon this subject.

FARMING THE OLD HOMESTEAD

(Written for Michigan Business Farming by Grant A. Randall, Beaverton, Michigan.)

We're farming today on the old homestead,
Longing for the war to cease;
In a surfeit of work we toil with bowed heads,
Praying for the dawn of peace.
We've given our boy from the old home farm
to march with the stars and stripes,
And ask thee, protect him, Father, from harm,
where e'er he may be tenting tonight.
Farming today on the old homestead, but not
as it used to be;
How we miss him each eve, when we gather for
bed, miss him, his mother—and me.
Farming the fields of the old homestead, we're
toiling for our boy and will stay
'Till each calloused hand may be worn to the
red, and night closes down on the day.
Toiling today on the old home farm, toiling for
our boy and the right;
And we pray thou protect him, Father, from
harm, where e'er he may be tenting tonight.

VALUE OF MARL AS FERTILIZER WHERE HUMUS IS LACKING

I have a lake on my farm which contains considerable marl along the shores. Can you or anyone else give me any information about marl? I have heard that it is good to apply on land as a fertilizer. Do you think it would be valuable in the making of cement?—*M. R., Imlay City, Mich.*

*Acid or soils are rather extensive in the State of Michigan. Such undesirable conditions exist in all soil classes but preliminary studies reveal they are most frequently met with in the sandy group. To correct this undesirable condition has become one of the leading soil problems of the State. Fortunately there are extensive deposits of marl within the borders of the State which can be removed and utilized to correct soil acidity.

Marl is found underlying many of the peat and muck deposits of the state and is frequently met with along the shores and in the beds of lakes. The depth at which it is encountered varies from a few inches to several feet and the thickness of the bed likewise varies enormously.

Marl is easily recognized in some cases by the presence of shells and the material in many deposits when first removed is usually a pasty mass ranging in color from light to dark gray. Upon drying the color usually becomes white and the mass may be easily crumbled or broken up. This latter property, however, is governed largely by the purity. In addition, it is readily dissolved, giving off bubbles of gas when brought in contact with either muriatic acid or vinegar.

The marl beds vary enormously in their composition as well as in their mechanical properties. Some are almost pure carbonate of lime and others are composed largely of carbonate of lime and magnesia, while others contain less carbonate and more impurities. Marls containing as much as 75 per cent of carbonate of lime are usually classed as high-grade material.

When marl is first removed from the bed it contains a high per cent of water; the amount retained depending upon the impurities present as well as the composition of the mass. After all dripping has ceased or the so-called "free water" has drained away the water content may still be high. The weight of a given volume of marl depends upon a number of factors such as purity or carbonate content, water content and texture. The results of studies on different samples of

marl bring out a few general facts. The average water content of high grade marl is approximately 30 per cent on the wet basis and the weight of a cubic yard of the same is about 2400 pounds. When one applies a yard of wet or dry marl to soil he adds approximately 1400 to 1600 pounds of carbonate of lime. These studies are of a far reaching economic importance and should be considered when contemplating applying marl to soil.

Marl, as well as other forms of lime, when judiciously applied to soils may perform diverse functions. It is generally looked upon as being an improver of the fertility of all classes of soil, making the finer textured ones somewhat less plastic and the sandy ones less porous. It is well known that it generally increases the activities of certain of the desirable soil bacteria, such as those that form nitrates in the soil, those that enable the leguminous plants to increase the nitrogen content of the soil and those that fix atmospheric nitrogen in the soil in the absence of growing plants. These are all looked upon as being of great importance in governing the soil productivity.

Marl brings about reactions in some soils, the results of which is more available phosphorous for crops. This probably takes place to a greater extent when applied to very acid soils. It releases, but perhaps to a less degree, potassium from certain compounds in the soil. In addition, acid or sour soils may be sweetened by applying sufficient quantities of marl to them, this being the most important function of marl or lime when applied to the soil.

It is sometimes thought that marl is a "cure-all" for any poor soil, but this is not so. Marl certainly will not take the place of systematic crop rotation, the growing of catch crops, the conservation and judicious use of manure, of fertilizers, drainage or proper tillage. In other words it should be looked upon as one of the underlying principles of good soil management and therefore, its application should be repeated from time to time.

The efficiency of marl when applied to correct acidity or sourness of soils depends upon the purity and the thoroughness with which it is incorporated in the soil mass. It is perfectly obvious the higher the carbonate content the more valuable it is. It should be constantly kept in mind that marls and other forms of limes must be dissolved before they are of value and moreover, the finer a given mass is subdivided the more rapidly it will pass into solution and, therefore, the more quickly will it perform its work. Under natural conditions marls are in a very fine state of division and if when applied to land the lumps are thoroughly broken up and incorporated in the soil, should furnish a material which is just as available, if not more so, than any of the raw forms of lime.

Marl may be applied to a soil by means of a shovel, a manure spreader or a lime spreader. The method employed is governed largely by the water content and by the texture of the marl. It is probable that more marl is distributed by the means of a shovel and the manure spreader than by other methods. Marls are generally applied to plowed ground and thoroughly incorporated with the soil by means of a harrow. Experience teaches that it is usually best to apply marl to soils previous to the seeding of alfalfa and clovers but we should not lose sight of the fact that marl may be profitably applied to the soil any place in the rotation except where potatoes are grown and then the application should be as far as from this crop as possible.—*Geo. M. Grantham, Asst. Prof. of soils.*

FARMER GIVES FIGURES ON THE COST OF RAISING BEANS

Rent of land.....	\$32.00
Plowing, harrowing, cultivating, harvesting.	64.00
Seed, 5 bushels @ \$10.00.....	50.00
Fertilizer, 1 ton.....	27.50
Threshing	8.00
Screening at Elevator.....	.40
Picking 486 lbs. @ 5c.....	24.30
	\$206.20

These figures do not include interest on investment, boarding threshers or wear and tear on machinery and our nervous system. We had 20½ bushels machine measure.

Screenings, 167 lb.....	No value
Picks, 486 lbs. @ 2½c.....	\$12.15
Good beans, after shrinkage, 554 lbs. @ 13c..	72.02
Value of crop.....	\$84.17
Cost to raise.....	\$206.20

Now this is no isolated nor extreme case as we know of many farmers in this locality who replanted and then lost their entire crops. Guess us farmers will be able to stagger along under our loads of filthy lucre all right for awhile.—*Subscriber, Cass City.*

READERS ADVISE WHERE OAT SPROUTERS MAY BE PURCHASED

A number of our readers who read our request for information as to where oat sprouters may be secured, advise that they are sold by the Rayo Incubator Co., of Omaha, Neb., and the Des Moines Incubator Co., of Des Moines, Iowa. Our readers state they have found the sprouters manufactured by these firms to be very satisfactory.

INCOME TAX COLLECTOR EXPLAINS DEDUCTIONS TO STOCK OWNER

I had forty head of steers in November, 1917—they were worth \$40.00 per head and I kept them through the winter fed them costly feeds and last May sold them at \$70.00 per head. The extra amount I received from over the cost was profit, less what it cost to feed. Now forty head of steers at \$70 per head means an income of \$2,800—\$1,600 of this amount represents a previous investment. Now what I want to know is, how do I report this transaction? Surely I should not be obliged to pay income tax on the whole amount.—*Subscriber.*

Where the cost of the stock purchased in 1916 for resale has been claimed as a deduction or taken into consideration in ascertaining liability to income tax for some previous year, the entire proceeds of the sale should be returned in the year in which the sale is made for the reason that the farmer having once received benefit of the deduction is not again entitled to it. If, however, such cost or expense has not been claimed as a deduction or taken into consideration in the previous year, the amount of such cost or expense may be deducted from the selling price and the difference only returned as income. Respectfully,
—James J. Brady, Collector First District of Michigan.

NO RULE PROHIBITING SLAUGHTER OR SALE OF VEAL CALVES

Will you please tell us whether there is a law against selling veal calves? Some say farmers have no right to sell them. Also would like to hear from some farmer who has raised spring wheat, and what he thinks of it for Monroe county.—*W. H. L., Monroe county.*

There has been no rule directed to out attention, which would prohibit the sale or slaughter of veal calves. The only restriction on the sale of veal is on Tuesday, meatless day, at which time veal should not be offered for sale in public eating places. This rule would not, however, restrict the sale of this meat on Tuesday by retail meat dealers.—*Federal Food Administrator, by F. D. Fitzgerald, Executive Secretary.*

FOOD ADMINISTRATION RULES GOVERNING FLOUR SALES

How much flour do retail dealers sell to consumers at the present time? Can they compel the consumer to purchase the same number of pounds in cereals, such as oatmeal, corn flakes, rice and shredded wheat, with every sack of flour purchased.—*Subscriber.*

1. Consumers in buying wheat flour must purchase at the same time an equal weight of other cereals (corn meal, corn starch, corn flour, hominy, corn grits, barley flour, rice, rice flour, oatmeal, rolled oats, buckwheat flour, potato flour, sweet potato flour and meals.) Substitutes must be sold with graham flour and whole wheat flour in the proportion of six-tenths of a pound of substitutes for every pound of graham or whole wheat flour sold—in other words, in selling a 25-lb. sack of graham or whole wheat flour the dealer must sell 15 pounds of substitutes. The housewife may use these cereals separately or mix them.

2. Retailers are to sell wheat flour only with an equal weight of these other cereals. Rye flour is not a substitute for wheat flour.

3. Wholesalers cannot buy to exceed 70 per cent of the amount of wheat flour used in the corresponding month of 1917. Sales to the retail trade must be in the proportion of one pound of wheat flour to one pound of other cereal unless wholesaler satisfies himself that the substitutes have been already purchased from another source.

4. Millers are required to produce one hundred ninety-six (196) pounds of wheat flour from two hundred sixty-four (264) pounds of wheat.

5. Custom Grinding.—Millers may make exchange with farmers without insisting on farmers taking substitute commodities, but millers are requested to urge farmers as a patriotic duty to co-operate in flour conservation by the use of substitutes for wheat flour.

6. Substitutes.—Mills and elevators may exchange flour for wheat with farmers without insisting on the farmer taking substitute commodities providing he will furnish to such mill or elevator a statement setting forth that he has on hand an amount of substitutes equal to the amount of flour delivered, against which substitutes there has been no previous flour purchase.

7. Quantity.—Such farmers will be allowed to take a quantity of flour which shall not be in excess of the amount required for their individual use until the next harvest.—*George A. Prescott, Federal Food Administrator.*

GROWERS HAVE NO POWER TO ENFORCE GRADING WISHES

I take your paper and understand by what I read in the March 16th issue that at the growers' association it was decided that potato grading was abolished. I took a load to Mecosta yesterday and they are grading there just as they have been and when I spoke to them about it they said they hadn't heard anything about it. They said it was all hot air talk. I took about thirty bushels and they took about 14 bushels of seconds out of them and I sorted them at home just as I always have done. Please let me know through your paper if the grading is to continue or not so I will know what to depend on. I am a new subscriber to your paper and appreciate the interest taken in the welfare of the growers. This certainly has been a discouraging year.—*B. W., Blanchard, Michigan.*

The growers who met at Lansing merely recommended the abolishment of the potato grades. They have no authority whatever to enforce their wishes in this matter excepting thru congress. Undoubtedly the present grades will continue in force until the 1917 crop is harvested, but it is confidently believed that before another season the rules will be abolished. The Senate has already passed an amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill making the grading of potatoes according to size, unlawful, and the amendment will shortly come before the house, where it will have the active support of all Michigan representatives and will probably pass. It is not believed that the Food Administration which was responsible for the grades, will take any action toward modifying them, but congress has full control of the situation, and if Senator Smith's amendment becomes a law, the grades will be automatically abolished. Every reader can help secure the passage of the amendment by writing his representative urging him to support the measure.

HOW FARMERS CAN SECURE ONE OF THE FORDSON TRACTORS

There are four different mediums thru which M. B. F. readers can place their orders for Fordson tractors. They are the county agent, the chairman of the county war preparedness board, the Michigan War Preparedness Board at Lansing, or M. B. F. We have already received and placed with the Preparedness Board a number of these orders and are glad to render this service to any of our other readers.

A survey has been made to determine approximately the sections in greatest need of tractors and the number which should be allotted thereto. Immediately upon receipt of application for tractor, the Preparedness Board sends to the applicant blank contracts which read as follows:

"War Preparedness Board, Lansing, Mich. I hereby order of you one Fordson Tractor as per specifications in catalog, for which I agree to pay the sum of seven hundred fifty dollars, f. o. b. Dearborn, Michigan, plus cost of delivery at destination, on delivery of the tractor to me at (blank), payment to be made by draft or certified check, payable to the War Preparedness Board, Lansing, Michigan. In purchasing this tractor from the state I agree to keep it in service as much as possible during the season; that I will do work with the tractor for my neighbors at a reasonable price whenever I can spare the tractor from my own farm."

"Payment for this tractor to be made by draft or certified check for seven hundred fifty dollars on delivery. The freight and delivery charges are to be paid in cash. (Signed)"

"Note: The War Preparedness Board has purchased these tractors for sale to the farmers of Michigan in order that there may be the greatest possible crop production in the state this season. To accomplish that end it is necessary that these tractors be kept in service as much as possible and these machines would be made whereby the purchaser would agree to keep the tractor at work all the time possible during the season."

We are advised by the War Preparedness Board that plows will not be supplied with tractors. The Fordson Tractor Company recommends the No. 7 gang plow built by the Oliver Chilled Plow Works, but every purchaser may arrange for this or any other make of two-bottom plow thru his local dealer.

If any of our readers are interested in any other make of tractor, a letter addressed to the Tractor Service Bureau, M. B. F., will bring them full information regarding the tractor they would like to buy.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON READER, FORMERLY OF MICHIGAN

I am the person who acted as your crop reporter at Boon, Michigan, for some time, and when I came away my sons, who will do the farming in my absence, promised to take up the work I had been doing. I tried to impress upon them the importance of doing all they could to help M. B. F. make a success.

On my way here I visited a few days in Wisconsin. I found several styles of potato graders in use, and no two doing the work alike. Farmers were very much dissatisfied and were predicting a reduction of acreage next season. On the 18th the buyers were paying 70c per hundred for No. 1 and 42c for No. 2. Farmers told me that nearly half of the crop was still in their hands. This was at Grand Marsh, 117 miles northwest of Milwaukee, on the same date elevator men were paying \$2.75 per bushel for rye. On arriving at Tacoma, Washington, I visited the public market in search of information on the potato question and could not find any evidence of grading there. Some lots were of good size while others contained all sizes and were scabby, sunburnt, cut and of rough growth. I made inquiry and learned that the dealers knew nothing of the U. S. grading rules. The average retail price was two cents per pound.

Range stock was looking good in Montana. Not much snow along the route except in South Dakota. It is not much of a farming country in this immediate vicinity as ranch lands are in small patches, but very productive where found. If I can be of any help to you in this country let me know.—*A. A. H., Elbe, Washington.*

SMALL SHORT-TIME LOANS SHOULD BE MORE THAN SEVEN PER CENT

EDITOR MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING:—I want to express my appreciation of the splendid work you are doing for the farmers of Michigan. And let me add right here, that the publication which assists the farmer in solving his problems, is helping to solve the problems which confront both state and nation. Many do not yet realize what the farmers of the nation are up against, but each passing day brings true conditions closer home to our brothers in the city, and some day they, too, will realize that when the farmer is prosperous the nation prospers. But what I wanted to ask you is this: Do you feel that the legal rate of interest, seven per cent in this State, is enough for the country banker on short time loans—say \$25 for thirty days. I feel that the legal rate on long time loans is enough, but on short time loans I can't see how the banker could pay expenses on the seven per cent rate.—*J. E., Harbor Beach, Michigan.*

Our correspondent takes a very reasonable view of the situation, and we quite agree with him that a bank can not make short time loans at the legal rate of interest. Let us take this proposition as an example.

At the legal rate it would cost the borrower just fourteen and one-half cents to secure the use of \$25 for thirty days. Now the banker would be required to furnish the blank the note, and ten days before the note was due, send the notice as required by law. Postage three cents, envelope, notice and the work involved would at least be 2½ cents, leaving just nine cents from which must be paid a percentage of the overhead cost—building, heat, light, taxes, etc. It can readily be seen that where a bank pays four per cent interest on deposits, that loaning a small amount for a short time on this basis, would not net the banker four per cent. All banking institutions which carry on a legitimate business, have established certain rates for short time loans; making a charge commensurate with the costs involved rather than an interest charge based upon a certain annual rate of interest. The bank which charges one dollar for the use of \$100 for thirty days, is charging at the rate of twelve per cent per annum; and yet if you take the cost of loaning, collecting and reloading this \$100 twelve times, from the interest earnings received, and you will not find excessive interest rates have been charged.

Accommodation loans are usually made for a specific purpose; the transactions are quickly made, and the interest rate should be in accordance with expense involved. When it comes to loaning sums of money in amounts of \$100 or more for periods of one year the farmer, with good security, should be able to get his money at the legal rate. However, we regret to say that in northern part of this State there are many banking institutions which are not only charging rates far in excess of the legal rates and then tacking on a good big bonus. In some instances farmers who are struggling along, burdened with debt, industrious, economical, working from early dawn to late at night, are not only being charged twelve per cent interest on yearly loans, but have been obliged to put up a good big bonus, which was added to the note, and they were obliged to pay interest on a sum of money which they never received, in addition to the sum borrowed. These institutions are not banks; they are "shave shops" pure and simple, and should be operated under the sign of the three bulls. Not only are the men who run these banks robbing their fellow men, but they are preventing the development of the territory in which they are located.

It will be found that the southern part of the state is now practically free from these "shave" shops; but the territory north of a line drawn from the southern boundary of Bay county, west across the State, still contains many of these institutions, and some of them are jointly owned by men who should not countenance such unjust and unfair business dealings and utter disregard for the laws of the State. It is these three-ball men; these Shylocks who are demanding the pound of flesh, that we are after, and we should have the support of every honest banker and legitimate banking institution in our efforts to either drive these fellows out of business, or make them scurry to cover, and place their institutions and operations within the requirements of the law.

Next week we shall have an article covering the subject completely, and certain facts and figures will be furnished which will prove that "Old Shylock" wasn't a very bad fellow after all, when compared with some of his tribe of these latter days. "Shylock and His Pound of Flesh," will appear next week, don't miss it.

"The Allies are all in the same boat, a long way from shore and on limited rations"—and Uncle Sam is running the relief ship.

—for all the farmers of Michigan—

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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

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The State's Tractor Deal

IT IS NOT clear to all wherein the state of Michigan has performed a valuable or patriotic service in purchasing one thousand Fordson tractors for resale to the farmers, inasmuch as the transaction is purely a cash one, with no provision so far as they are able to learn for buying on a credit or contract basis.

A. B. Cook, State Labor Administrator of Owosso, who was instrumental in interesting the War Preparedness Board in the purchase of these tractors, explains that Henry Ford had refused to sell the tractors to individuals, but would dispose of them in quantities to the state. Hence, by agreeing to underwrite the purchase of the machines, the state has made them available to the farmers and thereby rendered a service in behalf of the state's food production campaign.

This assistance should not be underestimated, and there is no question but what this action has materially stimulated the interest of the farmers in tractors and will result in the purchase of a much larger number of all kinds of tractors than would otherwise have been the case.

If every farmer who needs a tractor and can profitably operate one, had the cash to invest in a Fordson, we should say that the state has done all that could reasonably be expected of it. But in view of the fact that only a comparatively few farmers have sufficient cash at this time of year to invest in a tractor, the state has overlooked a magnificent opportunity of rendering a still greater service if it has failed to provide for such a contingency.

There are hundreds of farmers in this state who ought to have tractors, but who are handicapped by lack of funds. In many instances their local bankers take advantage of the scarcity of money to charge borrowers exorbitant rates of interest which discourage farmers from asking for a loan for such an investment. Meritorious cases of this kind should be reported to the War Preparedness Board and steps be taken to provide the local banks with sufficient funds for taking care of such loans and at a reasonable interest charge.

We suggest that the War Preparedness Board name a Board of Credits whose business it shall be to determine the financial responsibility of all "credit" applicants for tractors. If the local banks are unable to finance the farmers in this proposition, it should become the duty of the Board of Credits to see that these banks be given access to the war fund, and every possible encouragement and aid be otherwise extended to the honest farmer who wants a tractor and needs a tractor, but is unable to buy it on strictly cash terms.

Is Germany Playing Her Last Card?

IS THE GREAT offensive that Germany is staging on the western front her last, desperate effort to destroy the morale of the Allied armies and open the way to Paris? Has she mobilized the flower of her army, the most powerful of her guns, and her vast fleet of air machines with the expectation of crushing now and for all time the resistance of England and France and of intimidating the United States?

It would look that way. We are in the very midst of our war preparations. Great things have been accomplished since we cast our lot with the Allies against the German menace. We

are now about to bring forth the fruition of our efforts of the past year, and to strengthen the Allied forces with men, food, money and fighting machines. If Germany could discourage us at this stage of the game, Germany would win the war.

But the Kaiser has not yet learned the temper of his latest powerful foe. Because we have been charitable in the past, and slow to anger, he has been deluded into thinking that we are a nation of milksops, and undoubtedly thinks that his latest show of gigantic military strength will frighten us into a reconsideration of our action.

But once again the German mind plays its own false. The effect of the great German offensive upon the American people has been quite the opposite of what the German intended it should be. It has speeded up our war preparations, it has converted thousands of luke-warm supporters into zealous patriots ready to do anything to advance our war preparations. It has solidified public opinion more than any other single event since the opening of the war, and has increased the fighting efficiency of the nation a hundred per cent.

Germany cannot always win, and she will not always win. When she started this war, her resources and her efficiency were maximum, and every day's fighting has weakened her morale. The Allies, on the other hand, have been spending the three and a half years in both fighting and preparing, and now with the addition of American resources their fighting strength is being augmented day by day.

Be not discouraged. The tide is about to turn, and the Kaiser's Waterloo is not many moons away.

The Third Liberty Loan

THE THIRD Liberty Loan campaign to sell \$3,000,000,000 worth of U. S. government bonds, will open on April 16th, 1918. The bonds will bear interest at the rate of four and one quarter per cent per annum, which is a fourth of one per cent higher than the interest paid on the second Liberty bonds. The status of the new bonds, however, is somewhat different than that of the preceding, in that they cannot be converted into any later bonds that may be issued.

Many of the farmers are going to say right off, without giving the matter much thought, "Oh, we can't buy Liberty bonds at this time of the year. It's all we can do to find the money to plant and care for the bumper crop the government has asked us for. The city people will have to purchase the third Liberty bond issue."

In a way, this line of reasoning is sound, but it does not unfortunately relieve the farmers of their duty to help as others are helping to finance the great war. Be it remembered that the money MUST be raised, if not thru the sale of bonds which are really very desirable investments, then thru the levying of taxes which constitute a liability which every man must pay.

We cannot urge our farmer friends to buy generously of this third Liberty bond issue, for we know something about the financial problems some of them are up against, but we do hope most sincerely, that every farmer who owns a piece of land and expects to have fifty spare dollars before the end of the year, will plan on buying at least one bond, and more if possible. The farmers know pretty well what their duty is in this respect; we do not have to remind them of it, and we are confident that the majority of our readers will go to their local banker and arrange thru him for the purchase of some of the third Liberty bonds.

Don't Give Up the Fight

SENATOR SMITH has sent us a letter which he received from Charles Ousley, acting secretary of agriculture, remonstrating against the Senator's amendment which recently passed the Senate, abolishing the grading of potatoes. The arguments presented in favor of the grades are as vague as those employed by the Food Administration. That they have had little effect upon Senator Smith is evidenced by the latter's comment that "I am very hopeful that the contention of the Senate conferees will prevail in which event the potato grading humbug will disappear as a factor in the American market place as it ought to disappear at a time when conservation of food is so vital to the welfare of the country."

Judging from the tone of communications received from Michigan's congressmen, Senator Smith's amendment will receive their hearty and united support, but it would be well for all individual growers, and growers' associations to write their congressman and emphasize the need of this support. Bear in mind that the double grading has the powerful backing of the Food Administration, the Department of Agriculture, and the organized shippers in every potato growing state. A stiff fight will undoubtedly be

staged in the house of representatives when this amendment comes up. Therefore, let every grower be on his guard and do everything possible to convince his congressman that he ought to go out of his way to help secure the passage of the amendment.

A Cheap Libel

Federal speakers were hissed when they talked to Michigan potato growers at M. A. C. The speaker may have gotten in wrong by wearing a Liberty bond button.

THE ABOVE item was sent to us by an Ingham county subscriber, who clipped it from the March 9th issue of the *Lansing State Journal*. The editor, if a term so polite could be applied to one who has so far forgot all principles of decency and justice as to pen such a libel, could not have insulted the farmers of Michigan more had he said: "The farmers are a bunch of traitors", for that is exactly what he had in mind when he wrote those words.

Now mark you, that insult was published AFTER the potato growers had left Lansing. Why? Because the wizened-souled individual who would stoop to so dirty, mean and contemptible an insinuation, didn't have the moral courage to write it while the farmers were yet in Lansing. He might have been treated to a coat of tar and feathers.

The man or the newspaper who in these troublesome and suspicious times, would openly question the patriotism of an individual or a group of individuals, deserves the rude hand of the law in exactly the same manner as he who gives aid and comfort to the enemy. A few short years ago, when newspaper editors mistook liberty for license, and libeled a citizen, it was the prevailing custom for the libeled one to pay the editor a visit with a bulging hip pocket. The visit was some times followed by a funeral. But in this enlightened era, there is nothing to do but swallow the medicine, bitter as it may be; but we may have the consciousness, that despite the lies and libels spread about us, someone knows the truth and understands.

Listen, Solomon Speaks!

"THE MICHIGAN potato grower," says the *Michigan Tradesman*, "is the dupe of fool friends in the shape of crafty publishers of misleading farm journals and penny-a-liners on the daily press who know more about politics than potatoes. Because the potato grower has permitted himself to be advised and led by this combination of craft and ignorance, he is likely to suffer severe loss on his last year's crop. Michigan is the only locality which has opposed the equitable grading system established by the Government, which William Alden Smith is seeking to abolish thru Congressional action. In the meantime potato growers generally are marketing their crop on the basis established by the government while Michigan growers, who hold back on the advice of fool friends at Detroit and Grand Rapids and political quacks at Washington, will find themselves with their potatoes rotting in the bins, while the southern crop comes to the front and supplants the Michigan crop in the markets which would have been available to Michigan farmers if they had not listened to the siren voice of the betrayers."

Well, well, what a fatherly interest this old friend of the speculator is taking in the farmer. Talks quite learnedly, too, doesn't he? His jargon could almost fool a Hottentot nigger or an Alaskan Kolush who never saw a potato, but if he thinks he can convince the farmers of Michigan that he knows more than they do about potatoes and potato grades, he's forty years behind time and losing ground every day. Maybe some commission merchant or retailer who is making a wad by mixing up the two grades of spuds has misled the poor soul into this public display of ignorance. How long, how long, must we put up with the pest who talks for the sake of talking, who knocks for the sake of knocking, and who butts into other people's business because he is incapable of attending to his own?

Judging from information we have received the past few days, the calling of farm hands in the first draft is much more general than supposed, and unless something is done very soon to compel exemption boards to reconsider agricultural claims, many Michigan farms will lie idle this season because the owner has gone to war. We have sent a lengthy telegram of protest to Provost Marshal General Crowder, explaining the situation in detail and asking how farmers can secure deferred classification. As soon as the information is received we will pass it on to the scores who have asked for assistance in the matter.

EDITORIALS BY OUR READERS

(This is an open forum where our readers may express their views on topics of general interest. Statements appearing in this column will not necessarily indicate our own editorial opinion. Farmers are invited to use this column.)

The Government Should Provide Farmers With Tractors

I notice B. J. M. of Onaway wants to know how to make syrup from sugar beets, and you request someone who knows how to give the information. The recipe for making is: Clean the beets thoroughly, slice them and cover with hot (not boiling) water. Keep in hot water 24 hours; do not boil. Drain water off and boil down to suit your fancy. Nothing is added. I took one dozen beets, cleaned and peeled them; sliced them and put them into a ten quart pail, covered them with hot water, and as we did not keep fire over night we kept them in hot water two days, then drained and boiled down, and fed the pulp to the cows. Mr. Longwood, the Owosso Sugar Beet field man for this section, was here recently and pronounced the syrup excellent. He took a sample with him for demonstration purposes.

I think the grading of potatoes was the most unfair deal the farmer has ever been hit with. The U. S. grade No. 2 is just the size that has been boosted in the past as the most desirable. I think that all sound potatoes that will pass over a screen with 1 1/2 inch square, or 1 1/2 inch round mesh are good enough for anyone, and should be taken as No. 1 potatoes.

It seems to me that considering the shortage of farm labor the U. S. government ought to take one step that would help the production of food supplies considerably, and it is this: To illustrate, should you wish to find a Polar bear you wouldn't go to Florida; neither would you go to the northern regions to look for crocodiles. Why? Because they do not live there. Now, if you look for millionaires you do not go to the farms, but to the manufacturers. Who gets the big profits? Evidently the manufacturer. Now, since the light farm tractor, giving 5 to 8 drawbar h. p., and the auto tractor attachments are a big help, if the Government would investigate and find the real cost of putting these and other "farm helps" on the market and either take control of the factories or compel the owners to supply the farmers direct at a profit not to exceed 25 per cent of the cost, I feel certain it could be done at about half the present price and many farmers would be enabled to buy and double their acreage of crops. But will it be done, or will the manufacturer continue to be petted and allowed to make their millions of profit while farmers go "broke" and the country short of food supplies?—E. H. W., St. Charles, Michigan.

Michigan Potatoes are the Best in the World

We have raised potatoes on our farm for sixty years and H. P. Miller don't scare me a bit. Michigan potatoes are the best in the world, especially those grown around Greenville as anywhere they have the same soil. Our soil is a little heavier, so don't have so many medium sized potatoes; unless we get a pinch like we did the last 2 years before they ripened. Farm papers have preached to the farmers for ten years to raise less and a better quality. We can raise as many or more potatoes by planting in hills but they would be like cocoanuts with as big a hole, so we plant in drills with a planter. It is cheaper even if one could get the help which we cannot. We had to work the telephone and auto to the limit to get our ten acres dug last fall. We use a digger also. Greenville potatoes that would go through a 1 15-16 inch mesh screen would be the screen for most people like medium sized potatoes. My sister and brother in Kalamazoo never heard of No. 2 potatoes when we visited them last winter. The retailer is the man to do the grading if people want them graded. The Hinyon agent advertises in a Lowell paper: "Save the high cost of living. Buy No. 2 potatoes and the editors prints in the same paper that he don't know where the No. 1 and No. 2 potatoes go to. We only have culls here. I know a Lowell merchant who sold Early and Rose and Beauty of Hebron potatoes for seed out of the same heap. William Alden Smith is all right. He is on the right track, so is M. B. F. and we should stick by them just as long as they stay on the track.

Would plant beans thirty inches each way. Take corn planter, open it up so to plant all you can. Have raised as many bushels that way as in drills. Easiest to keep weeds down. If I sowed spring wheat would want Michigan grown. Saw a piece of spring wheat, Dakota seed. It went Dakota. No more in Michigan said he. I would Dakota. No more in Michigan said he. I would rather risk oats and sow to winter wheat. This is not an editorial but a heart to heart talk with an old hayseed of a farmer.—W. R. B., Lowell.

"Sell No. 2 Potatoes for Seed," Urges a Covert Reader

We have read a great deal in the M. B. F. about potatoes—mainly potato grades Nos. 1 and No. 2. Number two don't seem to find a market readily, many farmers keeping same rather than to humor the trade. These No. 2 should make ex-

cellent seed if clean and mature and many could be disposed of to farmers for such purpose, in localities where potatoes are scarce and high in price, in this locality. I think for desirable varieties prospective planters would be glad to pay a fair price f. o. b. to holders of such potatoes. Quality and condition would have to be guaranteed and price made low enough so there would be some little object in purchasing such seed, as freight would be a factor. In such localities as mentioned above, no doubt parties could be found who would be glad to act as distributors for expense money for so doing. Mr. Farmer, get busy with your printer's ink and let us know what you have for sale. The market for thousands of bushels of such potatoes is right at your doors among the prospective potato growers of Michigan.—J. F. T., Covert.

Michigan Climate Not Conducive to Spring Wheat Growing

In your issue of March 16, there was an article on "Suggestions on holding and Handling Wet Beans." In regard to this question I have something of interest to say. In 1915 I had beans, wet beans, they heated and actually molded in the bags, so they were black and musty. I set them aside in burlap bags for feed, and one bag containing three bushels I did not feed at the time, and if possible, I think that sack was the worst of all. This winter when loading my cull beans to take them to the feed mill, I loaded this sack of originally wet and musty beans, and upon examination found they had become bone dry and sweet in smell the outside dirt and mold had peeled off, leaving the beans clear white again. In 1916 I raised no beans, but last year I raised a crop of pea beans, planting them early, and had no frost on my farm until October 10th, so I harvested them dry, threshed and stored them in my house which is heated by furnace, and thus they were away from winter freezing. I had them tested by the Agricultural College and it is, germination, 90 per cent strong, and 10 per cent weak. I was also fortunate with my corn, which ripened well. The variety is Hathaway Dent. I stored forty bushels in the house over the kitchen, away from frost. I had this tested also, and the result



Good grade Durham cow and her twin calves, owned by Wm. Christian on his fine 120 acre farm near Hesperia.

was 82 per cent strong and balance weak germination. This corn and these beans I shall offer for sale as seed. The corn is a particularly good variety, it grows large ears and deep kernels. I would rather sell it in small quantities so it can have a wider distribution. The corn is shelled and the tip ends of the ears put in feed. The price of the corn will be 20 cents per pound and the beans 18 cents a pound.

I am now 70 years old and have farmed in Michigan more or less, for fifty-four years, and in every case where I have observed farmers try to raise spring wheat in this lower peninsula it has always been blasted and shrunken so that it was fit only for feed. I think this is due to the excessive heat and dry of the Michigan climate about blossoming time for the spring wheat.

My seed, farm, stock and tools are for sale on time or for cash on account of my age. I was born in Ontario, Canada, but since I was ten years old I have lived in Michigan. And since our beloved country has entered the great world conflict, we can hardly guess the final outcome, specifically or in detail, except that we can see tragedy and hardship to many and final victory, but victory will not come in just the way we expect it to come, but in God's way. For is not our nation on its knees in prayer to God for victory? And if so, will he not now grant and answer prayer? The answer may be in disguise of chastisement or disappointment, we shall in any event obtain results that will be of profit to our nation.—O. C. T., Sand Lake, Michigan.

Give the Farmers a Voice in the Government and We'll Raise "Food to Win the War"

I am an American citizen and I want to do all I can to help win the war. I have no patience with the so-called pacifist, or half German, as I look at it, and I would like to see all spies shot as soon as

convicted, and all pacifists put under a ban. As to the main part of the cry that is going the rounds, "Food will win the war," I believe it will. The first step was to put a price of \$2.20 on the farmers' wheat, so that the farmer actually receives around \$2.08 for his wheat; but the grain binder has gone from \$125 to \$225, or as much more as they can bleed the farmer for, and now they are talking as a basis of 19 cents per pound for binder twine, and allowing the trust from three to five cents a pound profit, which brings it up to nearly 25 cents, which was the high price of last year.

The potato situation has been cursed and discussed so much that it seems to me that the only thing now would be for a guarantee of a dollar a bushel for the next crop. The farmer thought he could about make a living and a small profit, and being patriotic he planted a large acreage. Along in the fall comes plenty of potatoes, just what the country wanted, and when the farmer is filled with the hope of playing even, along comes the grading rule, which leaves about one-quarter of his best potatoes on his hands if he sells. In the meantime potatoes are sold by the hundred weight instead of by the bushel. At the present time 60c a hundred is paid to the farmer here—36c a bu. with one-quarter out for grade. Then the buyer, if he can get the second grade for about half price, buys them and they become first grade immediately, and the consumer goes to market to buy second-grade potatoes which he should buy for about half the price of first grade, which, by the way, he, the consumer, knows are better potatoes than the so-called first grade, when lo and behold, there are none, so thus we have the consumer and farmer both stung at both ends of the game—and the world crying for food!

I have paid \$10.50 per ton for soft coal at the elevator this winter and could get but little. Last fall we were promised plenty of coal and cheaper rates and so on, but here I stop, still thinking the government meant all right, but has been badly mistaken, and why? Because they do not seem to think the farmer knows enough to help regulate his own business.

If the war is to be won and food is the hub of the wheel, give us a voice in these regulations; put some of us on some of these committees! Because the farmer has always been kept in the background, do not let the world starve by making more mistakes. Give us a voice that can be heard and a strong arm that can be felt.—R. S., Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Farmers Need Capital

Your article "Time to Act" hits the exact spot, as farmers are not as short of help as of capital, and while Pres. Wilson tried to help out last year by the loan plan, the banks worked every effort to keep it from being put into practice, and the board drew their pay just the same. I decided it was no good so started an inquiry to test it, and have letters now from the loan board, the bank and county agent. I asked the agent how it was to be loaned and he didn't know. The Board at Lansing said they had no orders to either furnish cash or seed, but the local banks had offered to loan and take crop security. The bank said that was impossible and the only way they would loan was on secured notes. Their promises headed off the government loan, and then they flunked.—C. W., Hartford.

Will be Glad When the Nation Goes Dry

I am very glad that I receive your paper every week and believe you are trying to help the farmer. I am a farmer but I think we are to blame lots of time on account of not getting better prices as we don't stick together. I have been trying to get a milk meeting started for the last two months but our secretary doesn't think many would come if we had one, so unless we do we can't get in the State Association as milk producers and get their help. I sell milk to the Detroit Creamery Co. at Clio. October price \$2.35 per hundred, 15c for hauling; November price, \$2.40 and 15c for hauling; December price \$3.00 for 3.5 test and 4c above or below for each point and 37c for hauling, 1-2c a hundred for advertising; January \$3.00 per hundred and 3c above or below 3.5 test and 38c for hauling, so you see we are not getting what they agreed to in Detroit, less freight. I just call the factory and they say only \$2.75 a hundred for this month. I am not kicking about the price we get for produce but it is hard on the farmer who raises cattle to fat for beef for he can't get his money out of them on account of the high cost of cotton seed meal and corn, but I do kick on the middleman being allowed to make so much on the things we sell. Its the same old story you have to sell to the middleman even if you have a carload to buy or sell. I went to the shipyards at Saginaw yesterday to see if I could sell a car load of white oak piling but they told me they bought 3,000 piles of a firm in the Eddy building in Saginaw and that I had better see them. I suppose that is all right but our buyer here wants 20 per cent and I suppose the other firm would, too, so what would I get. Hardly any potatoes or bran here on the County Line between Clio and Birch Run as they were a failure. No corn scarcely at all, a fair crop of wheat, oats and hay, a third of the hay here yet to be moved. I can't see the sense of crying scarcity of grain and still allow the breweries to make liquors out of it. I for one will be very glad when the nation goes dry.—F. B., Birch Run.



THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



My House-Cleaning Experience

THE SUNSHINE of these bright, spring days seems to get into the remotest corners of the house, bringing to light the cobwebs and accumulations of the winter, which have been overlooked in the daily sweeping. Every room from cellar to garret, has a sort of shabby, "shut-in" appearance, which only the thoro application of brush and cloth, broom and mop, and the fresh spring air can brighten.

Last week the boys at Camp Custer cleaned "house", and 'tis said they did the job without ever interfering with the daily routine of the camp. The daily press quite agrees that the Michigan housewife may well take a lesson from the men at Camp Custer when spring house-cleaning time arrives. Oh, well, any time the men folks want to relieve us of this dreaded task, there will be no protest from us. We've done the task fairly satisfactorily before and can do it again. It is quite true, of course, that some of us find house-cleaning a greater dread and drudge than others do. No doubt some of our methods could be improved so that the work would be made easier and more agreeable to everyone concerned.

Mrs. S., of Fife Lake, in the following communication, is kind enough to tell our readers how she cleans house, and I presume there are many more who could give us all new and helpful suggestions for spring house-cleaning. It would also be interesting to know how you re-finished some of the old furniture so that it looked like new, how you changed the entire appearance of your rooms with a little paint, varnish, or wall-paper. In short, tell us about any of the "fixins" you have made or intend to make during house-cleaning time, to make the house more cheerful and home-like.

I have enjoyed your page much and have had very good advice on many things, and thought perhaps my experience in house cleaning would be useful to some of our readers. In March I clean my piece box and sort all the spring clothes and mend what needs mending and sort what magazines I think useful and burn the rest. If I intend refinishing a piece of furniture, I sand paper and get it all ready for the stain. I mend all small rugs and draperies as it is much better to darn these things before cleaning.

Then when the nice warm weather comes I clean the bedding of one room. I think it much better to start on the bed rooms first as they do not get tracked as the living rooms are apt to, and then the living room, and lastly the kitchen. I think cleaning one room at a time much easier and a great deal more pleasant for the whole family. During house cleaning time I always prepare my baking so as not to stop while working. Simple, but yet satisfying meals can be gotten in a very short time by careful planning and enjoyed much better by the whole family than to have a worn-out mother trying to do everything at once. I will send a few of my recipes which might be useful to others.

Take about a quart of your bread sponge and mix a cup of sugar or less to suit taste, a half cup of lard, a half pound of raisins; mix all together and knead as for common white bread.

The best of all pudding. One quart of milk scalded, mix one cup of yellow corn meal, a half cup of sugar, a cup of shredded cocoanut. Beat the whites of three eggs real stiff. Fold in carefully and set in a pan of water and bake three hours. Good either hot or cold. Serve with sugar and cream or make a meringue to cover and sprinkle heavily with cocoanut.—Mrs. S., Fife Lake.

Where Can I Get My Rags Woven?

I wish to write and to tell you how much I enjoy reading the department for women in the M. B. F. I find everything so helpful. I am 17 years old living on a 160 acre farm and have to keep house for a family of 5 as I have no mother. I have always noticed people writing to you asking questions, which, if possible, you always answer, so I am going to ask one too.

Do you know of any firm or factory that weaves rag rugs? To whom may I send my torn rags and have them dyed and woven? I have been told that there was such a place and thought I would inquire of you. You see I can't afford to get nice rugs and still if I could, I would like to have something different from what the weavers around here make. I have my rags nearly all torn, about 50 or 60 pounds.—V. B., Lapeer County.

Can any of our readers give us this information? It is a pleasure indeed to be of any assistance to such a brave little lady. Her daily work and responsibility of the children and home would be commendable enough but what interest she shows in making everything as homelike as possible.

Communications for this page should be addressed to Editor Farm Home Department, Mt. Clemens, Mich.



A WORD TO THE WISE

We learn that the United States is over seventy-five million bushels short in the quota of wheat products to feed the soldiers and the women and children of stricken Europe. Do you know what this means? It means that while we are living in plenty and comfort, millions across the seas are facing starvation. We have all been lukewarm in our efforts to save and substitute, but the time has now come when we must face our duty intelligently and faithfully and let no day pass by to take the opportunity of saving some precious article of food for our allies. I know that the readers of the Farm Home Department will gladly join in a systematic campaign of saving, and co-operate to the fullest possible extent with the United States Food Administration. To make this co-operation practical I am preparing a series of daily and weekly menus and have written the Food Administration for sample menus. Any suggestions that my readers can give along this line will be helpful.

What the Women of the World are Doing

One hundred American women physicians will leave within a few days for France, where they will undertake to save the lives of the children of the Allies. Many of the physicians are specialists in tuberculosis and diseases of children. Thousands of babes of the allied countries that have been swept by the war are dying for lack of medical attention. In many cases it is stated there have been no doctors during the last three years.

Mrs. John W. Blodgett, head of the War Service movement of Vassar college is touring the mid-western states, pleading for girls to enter war service by training to become Red Cross nurses. "The nation is demanding 50 per cent more nurses than are now here," said Mrs. Blodgett. "A woman's patriotic work begins when she enters a hospital to take the training course. By so doing, she releases a trained nurse for army service. 5,000 nurses will be needed for work in this country and abroad by June 1st, and more than that number must enter for training to take their places."

The war work council of Y. W. C. A. have established thirty-four Hostess Houses among the army camps. These homes are hourly receiving prayers of gratitude from mothers, wives and sweethearts who come from far and near to visit their soldier relatives.

The U. S. military authorities are urging the fiancée of the soldier boy to wear a service emblem in honor of her betrothed. The design suggested consists of a white flag with a red heart in the center bearing a blue star. As is the custom in other service flags, the star will be changed to gold if the young man meets death. The official order has it that only women actually engaged will be permitted to wear these flags.

Michigan suffragists are jubilant over the large number of subscriptions to their campaign fund, they have received during the last few days. At a banquet in Detroit Monday night, over \$50,000 was pledged in less than an hour. Suffrage leaders are working for the immediate enfranchisement of all women so that their war work may be given more encouragement.

Spring Fashions

WHEN DAME NATURE dons her spring garments, we, too, hasten to shed our drab and heavy garb and dress up in lighter, brighter wear. Won't it be a relief, after the long dreary winter, to discard the heavy woollens and dark materials and get into some fresh, crisp gingham. The children will be equally as tired of their sweater jackets and flannels, and we must now be planning their wardrobes as well as our own. With gingham at 25c to 30c a yard, many of us find it necessary to use all possible "left-overs." Even the fashion designers seem to be in sympathy with us as you will note by looking over the patterns we publish this week. Several of them are particularly adapted to be used with partly worn or outgrown garments.

I must tell you what I am doing with pattern No. 8738, designed for a child's coat. In rummaging thru some old garments the other day I came across a coat that I had discarded several years ago. The material was white wool serge and in excellent condition. The thought immediately came to me that I could use it to very good advantage in making a coat for my little girl, four years old. I washed the material and dyed it a dark, olive green. From this I cut the body of the coat, omitting the cuffs which I finished in a tailored facing. I had originally planned to make the collar which to my notion is one of the most important features of a child's garment, of knitted white angora yarn which makes a warm, serviceable collar. But when I found that it would require ten balls and that the price of each had advanced to 35 cents, I decided the cost was more than I cared to pay, and so I made the collar of a pretty, light tan, white washed silk instead. I used the pattern as given for shaping the neck but enlarged it by bringing the back down to a point and extending the fronts in two tabs about nine inches long, which I gathered across the ends and finished with a knitted ball. The buttons on the sleeves, and as I used them on the front placing nine very close together, give that military effect seen so much this year. This pattern comes in three sizes, 2, 4, and 6 years. Size 4 may be made of two yards of 36-inch material.

It is always a problem to know what to make for boys. The stores are showing very good looking khaki and blue cotton suitings which combined with waists

are going to be very popular this year. No. 8733, with the peg-top effect of the trousers is sure to be becoming to small boys. The pattern comes in sizes, 2, 4, and 6 years. It is as suitable for play suits as for the more dressy ones and will cut to good advantage. No doubt some of you mothers have an outgrown corduroy skirt and a silk blouse which could be used for

's pattern. From the skirt you would perhaps be able to cut two pairs of little trousers



Contin. on page 13).

Price of patterns ten cents each. Address: Farm Home Dept., Michigan Business Farming, Mt. Clemens, Mich.



MARKET FLASHES



WHEAT

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

Weather conditions at the present time are very favorable to the new winter wheat crop. While the weather has been warm there has been no extreme freezing and thawing weather and we are rapidly approaching the time when this condition will no longer cause worry. Ample moisture is reported in the great majority of sections although the southwest could stand more rain.

The Argentine harvest is about finished and the result is very satisfactory, especially in the north. The yield is reported well above the average with the possible exception of the extreme south.

Movement of wheat continues extremely light. Meetings are being held at this time throughout the country, relative to the proposed new wheat grades. Opposition has developed in many western sections. The American people are to be asked to further curtail their consumption of bread.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 White	97 1-2	92	1.08
Standard	97	91	1.07 1-2
No. 3 White	96	91	1.06
No. 4 White	96	91	1.06

The oats market has worked lower under almost a total absence of export buying. There is also a feeling that the crest of the corn movement has passed and that equipment will soon be available for the movement of oats in much larger quantities. Receipts of oats at many western points have during the past week been greater than the demand, this condition existing for the first time in months. There has been a noticeable slackening of the tension all along the line and buyers generally anticipate a further decline, the price at this time having worked a few cents lower than that of last week.

Seeding of oats is general in the big surplus sections and in southern Kansas and Oklahoma the grain is coming up in fine shape. There will be an increased acreage, according to present indications.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	1.81	Nominal	2.00
No. 3 Yellow	1.80	"	1.98 1-2
No. 4 Yellow	1.70	"	1.92

It is now generally considered that the crest of the corn movement has been passed and that the greater portion of the wet stock is out of growers' hands or has been fed on the farms. Deliveries to country elevators are lighter, farm work having begun. It is believed that considerable quantities of a better grade of corn will be offered in the future.

Prices have worked lower and with cars are plentiful we shall no doubt see a further reduction. For some time the Detroit market has been out of line with other points, lack of the cash article enabling the market to maintain this position. Now that shipments are becoming more plentiful we may expect to see an adjustment to bring the market into line; this, of course meaning a lower scale of prices.



RYE

The rye market has worked lower during the past week, but not because



DETROIT SPECIAL—Hay is arriving in increasing quantities. Market inclined to weaken. Beans firmer under steady demand and lighter offerings. Potato market fairly well supplied but no considerable surplus at this time. Buyers expect heavier shipments in the near future.

CHICAGO WIRE—Receiving rather heavy shipments of hay and while the demand is good, both consumptive and shippers, still it is not equal to arrivals and a further decline in price appears probable. Bean market is rather quiet, although dealers report somewhat of a better inquiry and a cleaning up of spot stock.

PHILADELPHIA WIRE—A better feeling prevails in potatoes and prices are a little higher. Onions show no improvement and very few sales are reported. Celery plentiful and weak. Apple offerings moderate and prices firm.

of any material increase in the supply. There is no more rye being offered but the price had reached a point where something had to happen. Then again western millers have found it almost impossible to make shipment east and for this reason the demand from that quarter has become much lighter. Buyers are looking for a further decline and for that reason are not anxious to buy. Despite the decline we feel that rye occupies just as strong a position as ever and we look for a reaction although the price may work lower before it occurs. We do not, however, expect to see prices go much above the recent high point and doubt if it will again be reached.

Barley

Milwaukee—In sympathy with the sharply downward tendency of other cereals, the barley market declined 25 to 30c during the past week, a decline of 8 to 15c coming at the week end session. For several days buying was confined to the choicest qualities, millers and malsters being practically the only interests in the market. Receipts for the week were 204 cars, against 227 last week and 204 cars a year ago. Current quotations are: Choice big-berried Wisconsin and eastern Iowa, testing 48 to 50 lbs., per bu., \$2.10 to \$2.15; 45 to 47 lbs., \$2.06 to \$2.10; Minnesota, western Iowa and Dakota, 48 to 50 lbs., \$2.10 to \$2.12; 45 to 47 lbs., \$2.05 to \$2.10; all states, 42 to 44 lbs., \$1.98 to \$2.05; feed \$1.75 to \$1.95.

Buffalo—Barley prices reached \$2.50 for fancy, but with the decline in the West there were sellers at the close of the week for less money and no disposition was shown to buy. There were only a few cars on the spot and the uncertainty of getting anything shipped by rail was discouraging to malsters who will be in need of stocks before the opening of navigation. The quoted range was from \$2.15 to \$2.30.



CLOVER SEED

Clover seed had a firm undertone for the futures, but the cash was less

strong. The March contracts are being gradually closed out, but it is expected there will be no deliveries on contracts until the cash and March come together. Stocks at Toledo decreased materially during the week; alsike quiet; timothy attracted attention, and few price changes were made during the week. Timothy receipts were extra large and all were easily absorbed. As to the futures September from now on will be the active month. This, of course, means new seed. Prices closed Saturday, March 16, as reported by J. F. Zahm & Co. as follows:

Clover—No. 2, \$19.35@19.60; No. 3 \$18.50@19.25; rejected, \$18.50@18.75; N. E. G., \$3.60@18.25.

Alsike—No. 2, \$15.05@15.30; No. 3, \$14.70@14.95; rejected, \$14.30@14.60; N. E. G., (mixed with clover, timothy, etc.) \$3.60@14.10.

Timothy—No. 2, \$3.50@3.60; No. 3, \$3.25@3.45; rejected, \$3.00@3.20; N. E. G., 45c@3.



BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	12.25	13.25	14.00
Prime	12.15	13.18	13.85
Red Kidneys	15.00	15.00	15.00

No change in the bean situation. Buying is just a little light although there is no oversupply at any point. Buyers have anticipated a heavier movement with the coming of warmer weather and apparently are waiting for this to develop.

From reports reaching us we are of the opinion that the major portion of the wet stock in Michigan has been moved, or will be shortly, from the hands of growers. The loss on this class of stock will not be nearly so heavy as was at first thought. On the other hand, our New York reporters tell us that there is still a large portion of the wet stock there, still in growers' hands and that some of it is beginning to show signs of mold. It is expected however, that before many days a definite plan will be worked out between growers and

dealers whereby the greater portion of the wet stock will be turned over to canners.

We have every confidence in the bean market. Good beans will be worth more later if the market is permitted to take its natural course. We advise our friends who have good dry beans not to worry about any temporary decline. These beans are worth \$8.00 and if they are good seed stock they are worth more.



HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	25 50 27 10 25 50	26 00 24 50 25 00	24 50 23 00
Chicago	28 00 29 00 26 00	27 00 25 00 23 00	29 50 31 50
Cincinnati	33 00 35 50 32 00	33 00 28 00 29 00	29 00 29 00
Pittsburgh	32 00 32 50 30 00	31 00 28 00 23 00	23 00 23 00
New York	39 00 30 00 25 00	27 00 22 00 23 00	32 00 32 00
Richmond	36 50 37 00 35 00	36 00 31 00 32 00	

The warmer weather and increased deliveries, also a somewhat lighter demand, has caused the hay market to weaken just a trifle at most points.

The Detroit market remains at about the former level. Some Canadian hay coming, also fairly plentiful supplies from the state.

Chicago reports a slackening in the demand and a somewhat easier market, particularly on the lower grades. Offerings of timothy are rather light but still ample for the present demand. Quite a bit of prairie hay arriving.

The St. Louis market is dull and somewhat lower. Plenty of prairie hay arriving and the market is slow on this class. Not much doing in timothy or clover mixed. Some demand for clover but the market generally is not in very satisfactory condition this week.

Pittsburgh is also receiving somewhat of a surplus supply this week, shippers evidently taking advantage of the spring weather and the fact that a few more cars have been delivered, adding to the supply on hand.

The New York market is still in a demoralized condition. There is a heavy offering at all track delivery points. The market is in buyers' favor and they are holding off in order to take full advantage of the situation. There is still plenty of hay moving toward the city and river shipments will soon start. However, new consignments are fewer and shippers are alive to the situation. Decreased receipts is the one remedy.

Boston has been receiving a more liberal supply of hay, and this has been augmented by shipments turned that way because of the present condition of the New York market.



POTATOES

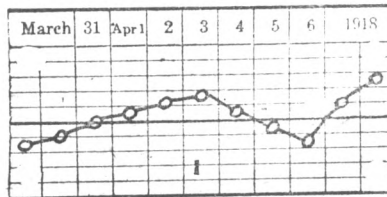
Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Medium Round white-sacked
Detroit	1.55 cwt.	1.40 cwt.
Chicago	1.20	1.05
Cincinnati	1.50	1.35
New York	1.90	1.70
Pittsburgh	1.60	1.40
Baltimore, Md.	1.75	1.60

Potatoes are more plentiful on the Detroit market but still there is somewhat of a shortage there owing to the light deliveries of the past week. Country roads have been in such shape as to just about stop deliveries although there is plenty of stock to come. Dealers look for a much more plentiful supply now that the roads are getting into better condition. The Detroit market seems to be about as good as any if not a little better just at this time.

Chicago is receiving heavier receipts and the market is inclined to go lower. Potato producing sections in nearby states have been getting more cars lately and there is a decided increase in the movement. The demand remains about the same as that of last

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., March 30.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbances to cross continent April 7 to 11, warm wave 6 to 10, cool wave 9 to 13. Usually high temperatures will accompany a cold wave follow the storm. It will increase in force as it progresses eastward; will cause general rains; middle northwest will get least rain; southern and eastern sections most. Good cropweather will prevail and prospects of 1918 crops will look good.

Next warm wave will reach Vancouver about April 11 and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. It will cross crest of Rockies by close of April 12, plains sections 13, meridian 90, great lakes and Ohio-Tennessee valleys 14, eastern sections 15, and reaching Newfoundland about Apr. 16. Storm wave will follow about one day behind warm wave and cool wave about one day behind storm wave.

Temperatures of this will not go so high as in the previous storm and the cold wave will go much lower, carrying frosts farther south than usual. This storm will be unusually severe and will increase in force as it progresses eastward. Rains will be quite general but heavier in southern and eastern sections than toward the middle northwest. Not much rain on Pacific slope.

Thru the past winter these bulletins advised farmers and others not to hold grain at the very highest prices. During the week ending March 16, they realized that our advice was good. We have also held steadily to the belief that the world war would end before the 1918 crops mature. If we are correct in that belief grain and cotton must go away down, unless bad crop-weather holds prices up. Farmers can benefit themselves most thru their organizations by putting shackles on the millionaire speculators and remaining on good terms with local grain and cotton dealers. It is a very bad mistake for local dealers and producers not to pull together. Their worst enemies are the millionaire speculators, who should be put out of business.

W. T. Foster

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We handle poultry, eggs, butter, veal calves, dressed hogs, maple syrup, onions, apples, potatoes, hay, beans, or anything raised on the farm. On car lot shipments we reach all the leading market centers through our chain of personal representatives. We get shippers the very outside market price because we have the facilities and know how.

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week, not sufficient however to take care of the increasing arrivals.

Eastern points report a lighter demand and an easier feeling. This is accounted for by the fact that last week there was increased buying in anticipation of the Jewish holidays. Buyers stocked up freely and have not been so active since. The great majority of arrivals are from nearby points although some western shipments have been received.



FLOUR & FEED

The feed situation remains unchanged. There is a constant increase in the use of feed manufacture from corn by-products, and other substitutes for the usual wheat products. Detroit quotations on feed are as follows:

FEED—In 100-lb. sacks, jobbing lots: Bran, \$34.50; standard middlings, \$26.50; fine middlings, \$43.50; cracked corn, \$76.50; coarse cornmeal, \$74; chop, \$60 per ton.

FLOUR—Per 196 lbs. in eighth paper sacks: Straight winter, \$11.30; spring patents, \$11.50; rye flour, \$14@14.50 in jobbing lots.



BUTTER

New York, N. Y., Mar. 25—At the close on Friday market conditions looked brighter than at any other time during the week. The demand was strong enough to be felt and buying was fairly active. The increased demand was caused to some extent because of delays in getting butter unloaded at terminals but particularly because of increased consumption. The early part of the week witnessed a sharp decline in price. Monday there was particularly no demand and on Tuesday there was a general decline of three cents. While the market became somewhat firmer during the week there was at all times an unsettled feeling. Whether or not the present firmer tone will continue is debatable as the unusual conditions this year make reliable predictions impossible. Quotations at the close on Friday were: Extras, 41@41½c; higher scoring than extras, 42@42½c; firsts, 39¾@40¾c; seconds, 38@39½c.

Cheese

New York, N. Y. Mar. 25—Our market has continued weak with some further decline on all descriptions of whole milk cheese. The heavy reserve has increased the nervousness of holders and there has been more pressure to unload. As a result cheese has been offered quite freely to the British Commission the past week and it is reported that the 12,000,000 lb. order has been about filled, possibly even exceeded. No definite statement has been made as yet by the British Commission regarding continued purchases.

Under the present conditions of trade here it is difficult to sell round lots of large cheese promptly at any price above the export basis. A good many lots, chiefly large sizes, have thus been sold. Local jobbers as a rule are able to supply their wants at 25@25½c, for the best colored and 35c for the best white flats, 24@25c for twins and 25@26c for Daisies. White cheese is more freely offered than colored. Some holders of high cost State colored flats still ask 26c but there is little outlet at that figure at present. There is a free offering of medium grade flats around 24½@24¾c. Young Americas are weaker on fresh and quieter on fresh and quieter on held cheese.



EGGS

The egg market is easy and demand lighter than was expected for the Easter buying. Eggs are coming from the west in constantly increasing quantities and at a much earlier period than is usually the case. There is very little buying for storage at this time, dealers waiting until the Easter season is over, anticipating a lower market at that time. Detroit is quoting fresh firsts at 36c per doz. Chicago quotes fresh firsts 34¾c.



POULTRY

LIVE WT.	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Turkey	34-35	25-26	34-35
Ducks	34-35	28-31	34-35
Geese	34-35	20-25	34-35
Springers			
Hens			

No. 2 Grade 2 to 3 Cents Less

All poultry markets are firm under the recent advance. Shipments are light. The Detroit market is away short of supplies and no immediate prospect of an increase. Chicago reports the market at a standstill. No car lots arriving and less than car lot shipments are at a minimum.

The dressed poultry market is very quiet. The same is true of frozen poultry but dealers expect a good trade when the season opens.



ONIONS

The onion market continues in a very unsatisfactory condition. The demand is light and supplies at all points are entirely too heavy. There is a large quantity in storage and whenever the demand picks up at any point there is an immediate flood of storage stock until the market is killed. Many shippers have found that dealers are not anxious to even receive consignments until such time as the market cleans up. We believe that shipments should be withheld for some time until conditions become more favorable. A few weeks will often times work wonders in a market and we believe the same would be true in the present case. Detroit is quoting choice Michigan stock at \$1.25 per cwt. Above the highest price at Chicago during the past week was \$1.00 per cwt.

Wool

Assorted grades from east of Missouri river—Tubs washed 60@75c; medium, unwashed 55@60c; coarse unwashed 55@60c; light, fine, bright 33@35c; heavy, fine, unwashed 30c; dark and dingy, medium, unwashed 40@55. Taggy fleeces, burry and black wood 5c per lb. discount.

Hides and Furs

HIDES—No. 1 cured, 15c; No. 1 green, 10c; No. 1 cured bulls, 10c; No. 1 green bulls, 8c; No. 1 cured veal kip, 18c; No. 1 green veal kip, 17c; No. 1 cured murrain, 13c; No. 1 green murrain, 10c; No. 1 cured calf, 25c; No. 1 green calf, 23c; No. 1 horsehides, \$6; No. 2 horsehides, \$5; No. 2 hides 1c and above; sheepskins, as to amount of wool, 50c@\$3.50 each.

FURS—No. 1 skunk, \$4.30; spring muskrats, \$1.20; No. 1 mink, \$7.50; No. 1 raccoon, \$4.

Dressed Hogs and Calves

The dressed hog market remains about the same. The first class article is bringing around 21c per lb. delivered at Detroit. There is a little better demand for dressed calves and the supply is not quite so plentiful. Prices have stiffened a trifle. The fancy article is worth 22 to 23c delivered Detroit. Choice sells for around 21c and common for 20c per lb.

Live Stock Letters

Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Mar. 25—Receipts of live stock at the leading market centers during the last week or so, and comparatively speaking, the little difficulty experienced in moving outgoing shipments from these markets demonstrate a general loosening up of the winter's railroad tie up. Every branch of the trade has felt the beneficial effects of the relieved situation. It is evident that the railroads are now able to take care of a normal volume of business. This, with the abnormally broad outlet that exists for meats and fats, the faith that has been evidenced in recent weeks in future market conditions by stocker and feeder buyers, the response food administration officials are making to the pleas of producer's representatives insuring co-operation helpful to the interests of the latter and the fact that such inroads have been made on the large supplies of live stock accumulated in the country during the period of severe winter storms and demoralized transportation conditions as to indicate a dropping off of the marketward movement with-

County Crop Reports

OSCEOLA (Northeast)—The snow is about all gone and the field are bare. Wheat and rye do not look very good. Banks around here will not advance any money to farmers to buy seed. It will be impossible for many farmers to do seeding this spring on account of the price of clover seed.—W. A. S., Marion, March 22.

IONIA (East)—The snow is gone and spring is here. Although we have had some hard weather the past few weeks wheat and rye are looking as good as they did a year ago at this time, and if we get about the same kind of weather we had last spring we will have about 65 per cent of a crop of wheat and a good crop of rye. The weather the past few days has been warm and farmers have been trying to do anything that will relieve the stringency of labor a little later on. Many are culling down on the number of acres intended to be planted this summer and some will suspend almost entirely on account of the shortage of labor. Everyone who had a few or many maple trees is making sugar. The prices on all farm produce remains about the same with the exception of rye which has gone sky-high, the farmers now receiving \$2.50 per bu.—S. W. K., Lyons, March 21.

ARENAC (East)—Spring is with us and we are all glad. The roads are in bad condition. The draft is taking our farm hands by the wholesale and they still expect us to grow more crops. Wheat and rye look bad and new seeding is injured badly. The past year as a whole has been a serious one on the farmers. We are always ready to do our bit but we expect a reasonable pay for our labors and expense.—W. B. R., Twining, Mar. 23

ANTRIM (Northwest)—Farmers are cutting wood, shoveling snow and some are making maple syrup. Some planning to build barns this season. The snow is going very fast and the roads are in bad condition.—G. A. D., Charlevoix, Mar. 20.

KALKASKA (Western)—Lots of snow on the ground yet. The farmers are forced to buy feed. The county agent secured a car load of seed corn for this county from the state. The farmers are paying \$5 a bushel for it. Potatoes are only 60c a hundred lbs, but very few of the farmers are selling.—R. B., South Boardman, March 17.

MECOSTA (Northwestern)—Farmers are cutting wood and drawing potatoes and hay and getting ready to begin farming as soon as the weather is favorable. There will not be much farming done here this year until after March has passed.—L. E. M., Hersey, March 18.

IOSCO (Southeastern)—Weather has been fine lately and the snow is leaving. Farmers are buzzing wood and drawing manure, getting ready for spring work. Nothing much selling except some hay, which brings a good price. We expect to see a lot of silos put up this spring with a good price for everything. We are offered 60c per bu. by consumers up here, but no buyers in sight.—C. B. L., Tawas City, March 18.

INGHAM (Central)—Spring-like weather. Farmers are getting ready for the spring work. Feed scarce and high, hay is selling at \$20 a ton at the barn. Wheat don't show much on the ground; rye is very small. Some real estate changing hands. Three cheers for the Smith amendment on the spud grading business.—C. I. M., Mason, March 18.

CHEBOYGAN (South)—Lots of snow up here yet. Business among farmers is slack. All pleased over the lifting of the ban on potatoes. It will increase the acreage here a third. We can thank the M. B. F. for this to a great extent. A few farmers have opened pits of potatoes and find them nearly all frozen. Considerable spring rye and wheat will be sown here this spring. A few auctions are being held, and all stock is bringing good prices. Seed corn is very scarce. A few sugar beets will be sown. A few of our farmers are preparing to make maple sugar. Hay, \$26; butter, 50c; eggs, 48c.—Wolverine, March 18.

CASS (West)—We have been having beautiful warm weather the past few days and farmers are all busy hauling manure, fixing fences and attending auction sales. At an auction today one sack of seed corn and the cob sold for \$12.75. Not many potatoes going to market yet. Buyers paying 85c per hundred. Farmers seem more interested than ever before in this section on how to increase production.—M. R. P., Dowagiac, March 20.

LAPEER (North)—The weather is fine and farmers are busy getting ready for spring work, and those who have maple trees are tapping them, and some have made quite a lot of syrup already. There have been a few sales around here but not as many as usual. Everything sells high but horses, and they are not as high as usual at this time of year. Farmers are going to plant a lot of sugar beets this year in this part of the county, since they get the \$10 per ton, thanks to the M. B. F.—L. G. S., North Branch, Mar. 20.

ISABELLA (Southwest)—Many auction sales and lots of property changing hands. Everything going high at sales, especially stock and feed. Good stock ewes are selling at from \$25 to \$30 each; cows as high as \$105. The government has sent this county ten carloads of spring wheat and the farmers are taking hold of it with a vim. Not many potatoes will be planted here this spring. We are proud of the editors of M. B. F. and Senator Smith for the stand they are taking for the farmer.—W. T., Blanchard, March 18.

MANISTEE (Northwest)—Farmers are getting ready for the spring work, some are making maple sugar and getting up wood and hauling manure. The weather is fine; if it keeps on it will not be long before we can get out on the land once

more. There is nothing doing with potatoes yet, only what the farmers are feeding. Beans are about all gone from this part of the country, but we had to haul them twenty miles in order to get a fair deal. Feed is scarce and the price is out of sight. There are lots of auction sales this spring, feed and cattle go high but horses do not sell so well.—C. H. S., Bear Lake, March 17.

GENESEE (Southern)—Farmers are busy buzzing wood, testing corn, hauling manure and trimming trees. The weather has been warm during the past few days and the soil is getting thawed out and is also getting dry. Farmers are selling potatoes, apples, hay, beans and cattle very liberally. They are not holding any very large quantities of anything. Those who have seed corn for sale are not having any trouble in disposing of it. Several who thought they had good seed corn find upon testing it that only a small percent of it is good for seed. Several farmers here are tapping their sugar bushes. Auction sales are being held in every section of the county and good prices are being had for everything.—C. W. S., Fenton, March 21.

LAKE (Northeast)—The snow is going very fast and farmers are making maple sugar and buzzing wood. Roads are almost impassable. There is quite a demand here for good young horses at present but not for older horses.—E. G. D., Luther, March 21.

MONROE (West Central)—We have had a week of beautiful weather, and the fields are drying up nicely. Over in Ida the farmers are plowing, and one farmer was drilling barley. There was a good run of sap this year and a lot of sugar and syrup were made. There are a few good looking fields of wheat at this writing.—W. H. L., Dundee, March 25.

SHIAWASSEE (Central)—Wheat looks very good, but little spotted on flat land which is caused by being smothered by the heavy ice. Hay is nearly all in the hands of the buyers. Looks like a shortage of potatoes in the county. It was estimated at 5,000 bushels in the farmers' hands.—J. E. W., Owosso, March 25.

TUSCOLA (Central)—Farmers here are looking for a good crop year, as the spring looks fine so far. The frost is most all out of the ground on the high land. One farmer was plowing last week. There is little demand here for horses. There is not much buying or selling. Oats took a drop to 86c, but are back up to 90c again.—R. B. C., Caro, March 23.

Spring Fashions

(Continued from page 12)

which with the silk blouses would form exceptionally pretty and serviceable suits. They are easily laundered and keep their shape well.

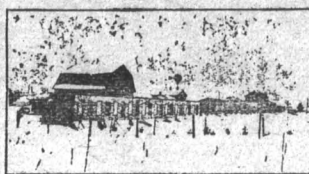
A misses' and small women's dress, comes in sizes 16, 18 and 20 years. What a girlish afternoon frock, all one-piece, and so easy to slip into after dinner work is done. A dainty figured or striped voile with organdy collars and cuffs trimmed with narrow ruffles would make up attractively. The new wash silk is extremely popular for collars and trimmings and it is really practical. This material comes at \$2 per yard, thirty-six inches wide, launders more easily than cotton, and there is no danger of fading or shrinking. If your home merchants are not showing this material they will no doubt be glad to get it for you. The waist shown has a duchess closing with fastenings on both sides. The skirt is one-piece.

Patterns No 8745 and 8737 could well be combined. The blouse in size 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 bust measure. The inset vest giving the round neck effect is such a change from the common V-neck, and isn't it a clever way of enlarging a waist? The vest and collar may be of different material than the waist. The two-gored skirt when made up of white pique or any of the sport materials becomes an indispensable item in the spring and summer wardrobe. The more simple they are made the better style they have. Buttons and odd shaped pockets are all the trimming necessary. No. 8737 has two gores but with a straight lower edge. The pattern comes in 22, 24, 26, and 28 waist measure.

For a long time I have been looking for an apron pattern suitable for use with flowered cretonne. These colored aprons are as dainty as white and can be worn much longer. I find them very handy to slip on afternoons to protect your dress, especially if there are small children around. No. 8537 appealed to me at once. Requiring little material and so simple in construction are greatly in its favor as we so often have pieces left from our house dresses not large enough to be used up in any other practical way. This pattern comes in small, medium and large.

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we are all sold out of cockrels and hens. Also please

send our bill for same. We will send another ad about

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Breeders' Directory

Mt. Clemens, Mich.



Rates:—Advertisements classified under this heading, with the first three words displayed in bold face type at three cents per word. Count initials and figures as words and remit with copy wanted to the Advertising Dept., 110 Fort St., Detroit, Mich.

FARMS AND FARM LANDS

FOR SALE—House and 5 acres of land in small town. For information write Box 47, Summit City, Michigan.

FOR SALE—70 acres, 9 timber, buildings, 3 miles from town, bargain at \$3,000. Easy terms. Box 82, Dryden, Michigan.

214 ACRES HAY, grain & stock farm, 70 acres in meadow, 40 acres fall plowing, heavy soil, \$50.00 per acre. Particulars J. Van Ness, Big Rapids, Michigan.

FARM FOR SALE—80 acres, or 120 acres black loam clay sub-soil, new 2-story 8-room house, new barn. A bargain, near market, store, milk selling station and school. Christian C. Eichbrecht, New Haven, Michigan, R. No. 1.

I HAVE ONE of the best producing farms in Michigan (260 acres) I have thirty pure-bred Jerseys, some registered. I have full set of tools. I want an active business farmer to help build up the business and assist in the management. Salary and per cent of profit to capable man. Permanent. W. E. D., care Michigan Business Farming, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

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.

80 acre Farm for sale. Good soil, improved, 6 miles from town on rural route. Cheap if taken soon. Mrs. Iva Koch, Walkerville, 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. Might sell separate. Good soil. John Edwards, Sears, Osceola Co., Michigan, R. 1.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—40 A. stump land in Osceola Co., for 2nd-hand Ford car in good repair. Cash-price of Farm, \$400. T. G. Ward, R.F.D. 1, Sumner, Michigan.

SEEDS AND PLANTS

Seed POTATOES. Late Petoskeys. Clean seed. Ask for price. Holsteins for sale or trade for light tractor. Lyman Baker, Morley, Michigan, R. No. 3

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.

FOR SALE FRANCIS Fall - bearing Strawberry plants \$1.50 per 100; \$10.00 per 1,000. W. F. Tindall, Boyne City, Mich.

SEED BEANS

Little white 98 per cent germination. Write for prices.

Greenhoe Bros., Elwell, Michigan.

I HAVE 100 bu. or more of old corn in crib which I offer for sale at \$3.00 basket of ears. If shelled \$6.50 bu. I have bearded barley for 5c lb. and early Ohio potatoes for \$1.00 per bu. and bags for same at cost. Orson N. Bradford, Sparta, Michigan, Route No. 1.

CHOICE hand-picked Pea Beans, first test 100%, 2nd test 96% germination in soil, price, \$9.00 bushel. Sacks free. Charles Tripp, Shepherd, Michigan.

SEED BEANS

100 bu. dry, hand-picked white beans. Cash orders received before April 15th, filled at \$9.00 per bu. f.o.b. Standish. Sacks included. A. M. Robosz, Standish, Michigan.

FOR SALE—Salzer's Six weeks early seed potatoes. John Brian, Milford, Mich.

SEED BEANS \$9.00 per bu. F.O.B. Sterling, Mich. Bags free if cash is sent with your order. This offer good only to April 15th, 1918. Farmers' Co-Operative Produce Co., Sterling, Mich.

Seed Beans

Choice Medium Pea Beans that have been run thru fanning mill and pick three pounds per hundred. Threshed from field without excess moisture, \$9 per bu., bags extra. J. R. Campbell, St. Johns, Mich., R. No. 10.

SEED BEANS

Name Prolific. State tested big yielders, yield 60% more than pea or navy, \$10.00 per bu., bags 25c. A. A. Lambertson, Cedar Springs, Mich.

Use Your Ford!



Ward Work-a-Ford

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. No 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. **WARD TRACTOR CO., 2066 N. St., Lincoln, Neb.**

Contract Grown Seed Corn

We have final reports from our growers and are prepared to offer Seed Corn grown by experienced men. These growers make a business of growing corn for seed and had the facilities for drying and preparing the corn for seed. Our Seed Corn has just been tested and all will germinate 70% or better.

We have handled and put out this same Seed Corn for years and it is no experiment with us this year, we have always found it the most reliable to be obtained.

White Cap Yellow Dent	\$8.00
Pride of the North Dent	8.00
Wisconsin No. 12 Dent	8.00
King of the Earliest Dent	8.00
Reid's Yellow Dent	8.00
Improved Leaming	\$8.00
Smoot Nose Flint	8.00
Longfellow Flint	8.00
Red Cob Ensilage	4.00
Leaming Fodder	4.00

Bags Extra 50c each.
All shelled Corn, 56 lbs. per bu., f.o.b. Ypsilanti.
If, on receipt of your order we cannot ship within the next thirty days, we will advise you immediately.

MARTIN DAWSON COMPANY
Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Don't Wear a Truss



C.E. BROOKS, 463-A State St., Marshall, Mich.

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

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 Allowed Towards Express
With this Guaranteed Hatching Outfit and my Guide Book for setting up and operating you are sure of success. — My Special Offers provide way to make extra money. Save time—Order Now, or write for Free Catalog, "Hatching Facts"—It tells all. — Jim Rohan, Pres.
Belle City Incubator Co., Box 30, Racine, Wis.

Get Silver's NEW BOOK
ON SILO FILLERS
Now ready to mail. Learn how "Silverized Silage" increases yield of farm stock. This 52 page catalog covers all styles hand or power cutters. Send for it.
The Silver Mfg. Co.
506 Broadway, Salem, O.

YOUR FORD WILL USE HALF COAL OIL if you use our 1918 carburetor. 34 miles per gallon guaranteed. One-third more power. Use cheapest gasoline or one-half kerosene. Quickly starts cold motor even at zero and moves right off with full power. No spitting or popping. Slow speed on high. Fits exactly. Attach it yourself. 30 off list where no agent. Big profits selling our goods. We fit all motors. Write for 30 day trial offer and money back guarantee. The Air-Friction Carburetor Company, 559 Madison St., Dayton, Ohio.

We Have for Sale

A fine Farm of 530 acres—2 miles from town. Improvements in every way up to date. Basement barns, Silos, Stone House, Orchards and Sugar Bush.

McClure-Stevens Land Company
GLADWIN, MICH.

LIVE STOCK HINTS

MANAGEMENT OF THE EARLY SPRING PASTURE

The early spring management of pastures is a limiting factor in the production of grasses later in the season. In the spring when the earth thaws and the ground softens the stock should be kept off the pastures. The first green grass does the stock little good, and to eat it down close as fast as it grows is injurious to it. Grass after the weather has held it in check needs leaf surface, and needs its natural early growth. If it is kept grazed down its roots are exposed to the sun and do not develop sufficient strength to carry the plant into the summer in good condition. Every experienced stockman knows that pastures allowed to get a vigorous start before being grazed have a much greater carrying capacity than those kept closely grazed.

Give the grasses an opportunity to become palatable and capable of nourishing the stock before turning the stock out to pasture. In the cornbelt states that time seldom comes much before the first of May. Young cattle and dairy cows should be kept on winter rations until the sun has had time to fill the grass with nourishment. It is useless to attempt to fatten animals or to keep dairy cows up to high production when they are running about the pasture after tender bits of watery grass during the early spring. I have seen dairy cows fall off in milk yields when turned out early and their grain rations continued. In spite of the grain the cows lost in condition and milk flow because they expended their energies running after new grass. Keep dairy cows and fattening stock out of the pastures until grass is big enough to stand grazing and conditions are favorable for grazing; then one can turn the stock out and know that they will make rapid growth and economical production.

Judgment must be exercised to avoid overstocking pastures in the spring, or allowing them to be tramped in wet weather. If one seeks to derive maximum returns from a pasture he must regulate the number of animals kept in the pasture according to its capacity for furnishing feed at the different periods. If silage is fed a week or ten days later in the spring a smaller quantity will be needed during the summer.

It is a perplexing problem to keep the pastures eaten down sufficiently to keep the herbage fresh and sweet early in the season and still not leave the stock in the lurch later on. Of late it has become almost imperative to provide some means of tiding stock over the midsummer season instead of vainly regretting that it has occurred. Fortunately, however, this condition can be controlled successfully by feeding silage during the spring and summer and regulating the quantity by the condition of stock and pastures. Then, too, if more silage is fed during the early part of the season a small amount will suffice later in the summer.—W. M. K.

BE CAREFUL WITH MARES WHEN THEY ARE IN FOAL

Experienced horsemen tell us that brood mares can perform a full season's work on the farm and raise a strong and vigorous colt, but on the writer's farm it requires six mares to raise an average of four colts a year, and to make up two efficient teams for farm work. Of course there are times when there is a surplus of horsepower, but again there are times when it is necessary to change mares at noon in order to make up two teams that can do a full day's work without any danger of injuring the mares or colts.

The farm mare can do a pretty good season's work if handled by a careful driver, but when work is so pressing that she must be kept on the plow right up to the time of foaling, and then put back in the harness in eight or ten days after she drops her foal, we shall quit breeding our mares or keep an extra team to give them a

longer period of rest. As a rule the place for the foal is in a cool, darkened stable and not wearily plodding after the mare in the hot sun. The occasional nursing while the mare is in a heated condition will do more harm than good. Give the mare a few weeks' rest so that her milk flow may become regulated and then work her a half day at a time until she is in condition to do a full day's work. Keep the foal inside and darken the stall.

When the foals are about four weeks old, encourage them to eat a grain ration of rolled oats and wheat bran, moistened with water and sweetened with molasses. About a pint of such a ration a day, fed in three feeds will be a liberal amount for the first four weeks. This ration may be increased gradually until weaning time.

When the mares come in from the field at noon and night, give them plenty of time to cool off before the colts nurse. Heated milk frequently proves disastrous to the colt that is allowed to nurse while its dam is in a heated condition.

By working our mares moderately and giving the colts proper care we raise better horses than would be possible if we forced the mares to the limit of their endurance and allowed the colts to follow them about the fields. In these days of high priced labor we cannot afford to have our hands herding colts in the field, or have them held back from doing a full day's work for fear of overworking the mares. By keeping an extra team and giving the mares and foals a square deal we gain enough by increasing the efficiency of the teams and hired hands to more than pay the cost of maintaining two extra mares.

While the mares are working in the field a part of the time we feed them a ration of oats and bran in equal bulk with about one-fourth bulk of cornmeal added, and moisten the mixture before feeding. We allow each feed to ferment before feeding, and find it a safeguard against colic. If the feed is not properly moistened several hours before the feeding fermentation will come after the mares eat it, which means colic or indigestion.

We prefer spring colts and plan to give mares that are not being worked on the farm the run of a large yard and shed during the winter. For a noon-day meal we feed hay and straw and a few ears of corn. In the stable mornings and nights they are fed mixed hay, with a grain ration of oats, corn and wheat bran.—L. J. M.

THE PRAYER OF A CONTENTED COW

Scientists, practical housewives and mothers have discovered that clean, sweet, pure cows' milk is a fundamental food product from infancy to old age.

I am a milk machine.
I ask only for proper food and care and I will produce rich, pure, sweet milk.

The more care given me, the more and better milk I can and will produce. I want to do it because it is my life's work.

Please remember, dear master, I must work 24 hours each day that I can produce milk, both night and morning. In order to produce the maximum efficiency, I must work under favorable conditions.

I must have good food from rich pastures.

I must have water and I must have plenty of fresh air. I must not be compelled to stand out in the rain or in the boiling hot sun.

Do not tie my head so that I cannot protect myself from the pesky flies, and so I cannot lie down and rest with ease and comfort. If I must be tied in a stall, wash and brush me regularly, so that foreign dust and dirt will not get into my milk. Please look after my hoofs and keep them healthy.

Please do not swear at me and do not strike me.

I like to be petted often.

Kind words also will help make me happy and contented.—Written by Elbridge A. Stuart, A lover of the Holstein dairy cow.

BREEDERS DIRECTORY

LIVE STOCK

REGISTERED HOLSTEIN BULL 11 months old. Grandson of Hengerveld De Kol, red by Johan Hengerveld Lad who has 61 A.R.O. daughters and out of a granddaughter of Pontiac DeNijlander 35.43 lbs. butter and 750.26 lbs. milk in 7 days. 3090.60 lbs. milk in 30 days. Price \$125.—F.O.B. Flint. Write for Photo and pedigree. L. C. Ketzler.

HICKORY GROVE STOCK FARM
Offers for immediate sale 12 daughters of King Hengerveld Palmyra Fayne bred to Mutual Pontiac Lad. All of the cows in this herd are strong in the blood of Maplecrest and Pontiac Aggie Korndyke. We can always furnish carloads of pure bred and grade cows.
D. Owen Taft, Route 1, Oak Grove, Mich.

WANTED—50 to 100 Angora Goats. State lowest cash price, point of loading and age of goats in first letter. Address H. L. Ostrander, Legrand, Michigan.

SHEEP

Shropshire Ewes A limited number of bred ewes; bred right! Prices right! A son of Tanner's Royal in service. H. E. 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.

HATCHING EGGS

Hatching Eggs from our—English Barren Strain White Leghorns. Heavy winter layers, large birds, easy hatchers and quick growers. Hatching eggs \$5.00 per 100. Large and small orders promptly filled. Fertility 95%. Packed O. K. Satisfaction guaranteed. ZEELAND, Mich. Box B. DEVERIES LEHORN FARMS & HATCHERY.

EGGS for Hatching from a winter laying strain of S. C. R. I. Reds. 15, \$1.00; 30, \$1.50; 50, \$2.50; 100, \$5.00. Mrs. Edith Park, Maplewood Farm, Coopersville, Michigan.

HATCHING EGGS From Prize-Winning Barred Rocks, Thompson strain. \$6.00 Hundred; \$3.25 Fifty; \$2.00 Thirty. Special mating \$1.50 per 15. Sam Stadel, Chelsea, Michigan.

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

WHITE ROCK EGGS \$1.50 per 15; \$7.50 per 100. C. L. Thompson, Ewart, Mich., R. No. 2.

SEEDS AND PLANTS

Inspected Pedigreed Oats and Barley

College Wonder, College Success, Alexander and Worthy are the pure bred oat varieties available. These were developed at the Michigan Agricultural College and so are especially adapted to Michigan conditions. Pure, clean seed for sale by the members of the Michigan Crop Improvement Association whose seed in field and bin met the inspected seed requirements. If you are interested in these or if you buy inspected seed and would like your crop inspected, ask for these requirements, when you write for list of growers of Pedigreed grain. For this list or any other literature of the Association write the Secretary J. W. NICOLSON, East Lansing, Michigan.

NAVY SEED BEANS

of both 1916 and 1917 crops, 15c per pound, bean sacks 35c. Tests have shown 100 per cent germination. Not the slightest sign of disease infection. Can ship parcel post, express or freight same day received. H. H. Hinds, Stanton, Michigan.

SEED BEANS

Pea or Navy Beans, each lot tested for Germination. Nine Dollars per bushel f.o.b. Boyne City. All northern grown but protected from frost by our lakes.
Farm Products Co., Boyne City, Mich.

SENATOR DUNLAP STRAWBERRY

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

MISCELLANEOUS

FORD USED TIRES. Stock always on hand. Special sale \$4, \$5, \$6, New Tire Co., 377 Dix Ave., Detroit, Michigan.

8-16 YORK TRACTOR, three bottom plows. Outfit a bargain. Chas. E. Eichbrecht, R. 1, New Haven, Michigan.

WANTED—Position as Farm Manager by experienced and expert all around man. Only big job considered. Address, L. B. No. 129, Covert, Michigan.

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. 12337, Born Nov. 4, 1915.

His Sire's 3 nearest	Butter	7 days	36.97
Dams average	Milk	7 days	57.00
	Butter	7 days	30.50
His Dam's Dam's	Milk	7 days	565.00
Record	Butter	30 days	124.19
	Milk	30 days	2436.00

(She heads one of the ten only combinations of three direct generations of thirty pure cows.)

His dam's record at 3 years	Butter	7 days	23.33
	Milk	7 days	429.40
	Butter	7 days	29.30
His five nearest dams average	Milk	7 days	546.68

(Including 2--3 and 1--41-2 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.

DISPERSION

Twenty Head of Registered Holstein Cows. Strong in the blood of Pontiac Korndyke. Eight head sired by Sire Abbecker DeKol 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, Mich.

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN CATTLE

Account present labor conditions and sickness in the family we offer for immediate sale our entire herd of about 20 choice cows. This herd is composed of large vigorous cows, of the most popular lines of breeding. The individuals offered are in excellent health, good flesh condition and are capable of going on and doing a profitable year's work. The entire lot will be priced right.

DELOSS EDDY, Byron, 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 car 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.

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

Dispersion Sale

Rosewood Stock Farm. This sale will be held at my farm 1 mile west of Howell on May 4th, 1918. Everything will be A. R. O. tested, including 14 fresh cows, and many others coming in soon, and a No. of yearlings and calves that are bred in the Purple. I only have 2 bulls left ready for service that I will sell privately. Watch for larger ad. next week. D. H. Hoover, Prop., Howell, Mich.

HOLSTEIN BULL CALF born Jan. 28, 1918. A fine individual, nicely marked from a 29.42 lb. Sire and 23.80 lbs. 4 yrs. old dam. A. F. Loomis, Owosso, Mich.

HEREFORDS FOR SALE, two big strong yearling bulls ready for service, younger ones coming on. For early-maturity and economical production unsurpassed. E. J. Taylor, Fremont, Michigan.

REGISTERED GUERNSEY BULL calf for sale. Four months old, well marked, of excellent breeding and a fine individual. Eugene Wilcox, R. No. 2, Bangor, Michigan.

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

CHOICE REGISTERED STOCK

PERCHERONS,
HOLSTEINS,
SHROPSHIRE,
ANGUS,
DUROCS.

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



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 will make special rates which will cheerfully be sent on application to the Advertising Dept., 110 Fort St., West, Detroit.

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.

Half Ton—O. I. C.s—Half Ton

Spring pigs sired by the Five greatest boars in use in one herd in America and from the sows that were undefeated at Ill. Mo., Ohio and Mich. state fairs. Write for our catalogue, it's free, we want you to see it before you buy. We guarantee satisfaction. Crandell's Prize Hogs, Cass City, Mich.

FOR SALE—8 Reg. Shorthorn Bulls from 9 to 17 Mo. By Maxwellton Monarch a son of the noted Avondale who has 3 sons & 2 daughters that have won the Grand Championship at the International and American Royal, as well as won 1st Prize on get of Sire 4 times at the above named shows. Herd just tuberculin tested without a single reactor. John Schmidt & Sons, Reed City, Michigan.

Holstein-Friesian Cattle

Under the present labor conditions I feel the necessity of reducing my herd. Would sell a few bred females or a few to freshen this spring. These cows are all with calf to a 30-pound bull. J. Fred Smith, Byron, Michigan

One Car-load Registered Holsteins

Yearlings sired by 30 pound bull and from heavy-producing cows. Also some choice Duroc open gilts. J. Hubert Brown, Byron, Michigan.

HOLSTEIN FRIESIAN CATTLE

FOR SALE—Young Holstein bulls from good A. R. O. dams and sired by 30 lb. bull, few females whose dams have good A. R. O. records, bred to a 30 lb. bull. Howbert Stock Farm, Eau Claire, Mich.

CATTLE FOR SALE

2 Loads feeders and two loads yearling steers. Also can show you any number 1, 2 and 3 years old from 500 to 900 lbs. Isaac Shanstun, Fairfield, Iowa, R-8.

ROBT. R. POINTER & SON

Breeders of

Registered Holstein-Friesian Cattle

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

Stock for sale at all times. If you are looking for some of the best, see us.

Maplefield Stock Farm

Sale of Registered Stock

Owing to failure of water supply on this farm, I am obliged to sell all of my stock, including 18 head of Registered Holsteins and 5 head of Grade Holsteins better than 15-16 pure. 3 registered O. I. C. sows, two with litters of 9, each farrowed March 15th, also 11 fall pigs, 1 registered O. I. C. boar, a yearling. The cattle offerings are very choice. They include 3 daughters of Maple Crest Korndyke Hengerveld No. 84478 with a yearly record of over 1200 lbs. of butter. A very choice young animal is a bull from a daughter of "Maple Crest Korndyke Hengerveld" and "King Ona," who has 7 day backing of 30.29 lbs. butter. Yr. record of 1345.55 lbs. butter. 2 daughters of a 30-lb. sire, 4 grand daughters of that great sire "Tiday Abbecker Prince." Farm is situated 6 miles west of Detroit cut Grand River Avenue, on Mill Road 1½ miles south. Sale will start at 12 a. m. sharp. All females old enough have produced a living calf within the past year and all females of breeding are safe in calf to a 20-lb. bull, a son of "Tiday Abbecker Prince," which makes these calves they are now carrying very valuable. These daughters show very good conformation.

Elmer E. Smith, Redford, Michigan

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

HORSES

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.

FOR SALE, Percheron Stallion 121705. Black, Heavy bone fellow—foaled June 23rd, 1915. J. F. Gladly, Vassar, Michigan, Route No. 7.

3 year old BELGIAN STALLION for sale. Can be registered in purchaser's name. Price \$300.00. Geo. M. Williams, Route No. 1, Big Rapids, Michigan.

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

PERCHERON STALLION prices reduced. One coming four, steel gray, will weigh a ton, broken single, driven double, Price \$350. One coming eleven, black, will weigh 1900, broken single and double, Price \$250. Colts to show. Fred N. Randall, Manchester, Michigan.

HOGS

Bred Gilts and Serviceable Boars
J. Carl Jewett, Mason, Mich.

Recorded Big Type Poland China bred sows and gilts, for sale. Leading blood lines of the breed, at our herd's head. C. A. Boone, Blanchard, Michigan.

BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS. Choice sows bred for April and May farrow. L. W. Barnes & Son, Byron, Michigan.

A Registered Hampshire Boar, very fine \$60.00. Four pure bred registered Hampshire boars 5 months old \$25.00 each. A registered Jersey bull 5 months very fine \$40.00, pure bred Black Langshan pullets \$2.50. My flock 21 for \$40. L. H. Cheeseman, Waterford, Mich.

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE BOARS for sale, John W. Snyder, R. 4, St. Johns, Michigan.

YOUNG O. I. C. sows of fine quality. Boars and bred sows all sold. Floyd H. Banister, Springport, Michigan.

LEONARD'S POLAND CHINAS. Nothing for sale but fall pigs. Orders booked for spring pigs. E. R. Leonard, St. Louis, Michigan.

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.

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.

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20,000 Standard bred White Leghorn (Young strain) and Ancona chicks for April delivery at \$13 per 100. Satisfaction and safe arrival guaranteed. Order at once and get catalog. HOLLAND HATCHERY, R. No. 7, Holland, Michigan.

Live Stock Letters

(Continued from page 12)

In the near future, should go far indeed in providing a healthy and remunerative set of markets. The advances registered the first half of March in every department of the trade clearly demonstrates the strong underlying conditions of the market, and although some of the bloom that then appeared in the cattle and hog trade has been effected by heavy runs the last ten days, the situation is one that seems to offer abundant reason for optimism. Sheep and lambs are selling at the year's high point. With the Lenten season terminating March 31, the Jewish week of Holy days over by April 5, a strong prospect that the government will remove all meatless day regulations and every prospect of a broad, healthy demand for meats, the general outlook carries considerable encouragement for producers. The heavier weight cattle have been in much better request, and this is extremely gratifying to the trade, as it is not a healthy condition of affairs when cattle of just ordinary quality and flesh are eagerly sought after and steers of good flesh and quality go begging. It tends seriously to discourage feeding and investment in feeders.

Best beef steers sold here today at \$14.50, about 25c lower than the high time ten days past. The lighter and lower priced killing steers have meanwhile lost 35 to 50c in value, while stock and feeding classes are about 25 cents below the recent high spot. Most of the steers selling for slaughter are going within a range of from \$12 to \$13.50 while a spread of from \$9.75 to \$11.25 is taking the bulk of the stocker and feeder classes. In the butcher cattle market a spread of from \$8.75 to \$10.00 is taking the bulk of the medium to very good fat cows and heifers selling on up to \$11.50 to \$12.25. Canners and cutters are now going mostly at \$6.85 to \$7.50, good to choice fat bulls from \$9.65 to \$10.50 and bolognas from \$8.75 to \$9.35. Veal calves scored to new record levels early last Tuesday, when under stress of urgent Easter demand, prices for prime vealers were run up to \$17.50 to \$17.75. The market collapsed, however, as this demand subsided and closed last week with \$15.75 to \$16.00 buying the best vealers, a decline of \$2.00 from the week's high spot. Receipts of calves for the week were 20,356 head only 29 head below the yard record. Today's trade was steady with last week's closing. A big spring run of calves is on the market horizon, and prices may show a further run of calves is on old fashioned bargain sale is likely with lambs on a \$18.00 to \$18.90 basis, a bond of sympathy existing between the two markets.

Hog receipts today were 77,000, the largest run in over two years. There have been only a half dozen days when receipts have been heavier. The market naturally declined, the loss ranging from 15 to 40c from last week's closing, the bulk selling a big 25c down. The close was the low point. A \$17.85 top was made but it was out of line, as few hogs sold during the day above \$17.60 and \$17.75 was the practical top. Bulk sold between \$17.00 and \$17.50, pigs mostly from \$14.75 to \$15.75. Common mixed heavy packing sold down around \$16.50 to \$16.75 and selected heavy hogs at \$17.00 to \$17.15 while best selected light hogs made \$17.50 and higher. The market prospect is bright and the trade figures a gap in the supply coming within the next two or three weeks, when farmers all get busy in their fields, that will force prices up sharply. It is a war market and the trade realizes that anything is possible.

Sheep and lambs sold today at the highest prices of the year and a strong prospect exists as to trade conditions for the remainder of the fed season. The Government strongly intimates that lamb and mutton will not be replaced on the restricted list and the supply sheep and lambs left on feed is in comparatively few and strong hands. A 3-car string of Colorado-Mexican woolled lambs sold today by Clay, Robinson & Co. at \$18.90, or 15c above the extreme top last week, previous high spot this season. The bulk of the woolled lambs cashed at \$17.75 to \$18.60, depending on weight and quality. Shorn lambs carrying about a 30-day wool growth sold up to \$15.95 with some of 100-lbs at \$15.25 while Michigan feeders took out at a cost of \$17.50 some 76-lb. Montana lambs to shear and finish. Shorn 86-lb. west-

ern yearling weathers touched \$14.50 and shorn aged wethers \$12.90. Best light woolled yearlings were nominally quoted at \$17.00, and choice woolled ewes up to \$14.50.

Detroit, March 26.—Cattle: Canners 25c lower, others steady with Monday; best heavy steers, \$11.50@12; best handy weight butcher steers, \$10.50@11; mixed steers and heifers, \$9.50@10.50; handy light butchers, \$8.50@9.25; light butchers, \$8@8.50; best cows, \$9@10; butcher cows, \$7.50@8.25; cutters, \$7.00@7.25; canners, \$6.50; best heavy bulls, \$8.50@9.50; bologna bulls, \$8@8.75; stock bulls, \$7@7.50; feeders, \$9@10; stockers, \$7@9; milkers and springers, \$60@90. Veal calves: Market steady, best \$17@17.50; others \$9@15. Sheep and lambs: Market steady; best lambs \$18.25@18.50; fair lambs, \$17@18; light to common lambs, \$15@16.75; clipped lambs, \$14.50@15.25; fair to good sheep, \$10@12.50; culls and common, \$6@8.50. Hogs: Market dull; good pigs, \$17.50; mixed grades, \$17.50@17.65; few at \$17.75.

East Buffalo, N. Y., March 26.—Receipts of cattle Monday, 110 cars. The trade opened steady on medium wt. and weighty steer cattle which were in moderate supply; butcher steers and handy weight steers sold steady to 10c higher than last week; fat cows sold 25 to 50c lower than last week; heifers sold steady; bulls of all classes sold steady, canners and cutters were in very light supply, sold steady; feeders and stockers were in light supply, sold 15 to 25c higher than last week; yearlings were in very light supply, sold steady. At the close of our market about 15 cars going over unsold.

The estimated receipts of hogs for Monday were 8,800 head. The market was steady to strong, with the medium and heavy hogs selling from \$18.25 to \$18.50; mixed hogs, \$18.75 to \$19.90; yorkers, \$18.90 to \$19.00; pigs, \$18.25 to \$18.50; skip pigs, \$15.00 to \$17.00; roughs, \$16.50; stags, \$13.00 to \$14.

Receipts of hogs Tuesday totaled about 3,500 head and the market opened 25c lower on pigs and steady on all other grades, with the heavy hogs selling from \$18.35 to \$18.50; mediums, \$18.50 to \$18.75; mixed and yorkers, \$18.85 to \$18.90; light yorkers, \$18.25; pigs, \$18.00 and a very slow sale; roughs, \$16.50; stags, \$13.00 to \$14.

The receipts of sheep and lambs on Tuesday were sixteen cars. Best lambs sold from \$19 to \$19.35; throwouts, \$18 to \$18.50; yearlings, \$16 to \$17.25; wethers, \$14.50 to \$14.75; ewes, \$13 to \$14; heavy lambs, \$18 to \$18.50.

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In the heart of Northern Michigan the soil and climate are ideal for the growing of good seed potatoes. Our soil is new and not full of potato diseases, we are about 1,000 feet altitude, the nights are cool and the days but moderately warm, the growing season is short which

gives my seed potatoes the "Hustle Habit." They are full of pep and gumption and will grow right away from the lazy southern grown potatoes, mature earlier and produce a better crop. No crop is so greatly improved by the judicious change of stock as potatoes.

It is an old and true saying that when potatoes are low at planting time it is a good sign that they will be high the following year. There are never two seasons alike. I am going to plant my usual acreage and am advising my friends to stick to their knitting and raise potatoes not only for business but patriotic reasons. Order early. I will ship when weather permits. Remember the supply is limited as I only sell what I raise.

The price is \$1.00 per bushel, sacks free f. o. b. Elmira. No order accepted for less than 2 bushels. You can have your choice between Grade No. 1 and Grade No. 2. The number 2 are just as good for seed as the No. 1 and will go farther.

I also have a limited supply of Bliss Triumph which I consider the best early potato. The price is \$1.50 per bushel, conditions same as above.

Remember, poor seed is largely responsible for the low yield per acre in the U. S. Get the seed. It will pay you. Yours

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