

"—for all the Farmers of Michigan!"



MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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Michigan Navy Bean Threatened by Pinto Rival

Persistent Popularization of Colored Varieties by U. S. Bean Division Curtails Demand for Michigan Product

The Navy Bean, which won its title by the part it played in the winning of the Civil war, has been prevented from entering active service during the present conflict. In fact, Mr. Navy Bean has been told that he could not enlist; has learned that he is outside the conscription requirements, and has even been given a black eye when he asks his customary recognition from the civilian population. And the fellow who is attempting, thru federal aid, to supplant the staid old navy bean, is a little freckled-face renegade from Mexico,—"Pinto" by name, formerly unknown; of uncertain value as compared with the white bean; but now the little food god of the bean division of the Food Administration.

Hearken to the sad story of the trials and tribulations of the "pea bean;" follow its zig-zag course down the market highway; step out with us upon the trail of the Pinto manipulators, which reaches from the hot sands of New Mexico across the wind-swept plains of Colorado; then on to Washington where the "Pinto Politicians" sit in mighty estate, wielding the fortunes of the bean industry as the wind sways the reed. Many are the complications that enter into the conspiracy to dethrone the Navy Bean from the seat of grace, and place the crown of public approval upon the brow of the lowly Pinto. Only occasionally does the illuminating light of bulletins and correspondence reveal cleverly concealed intentions; some of the details can only be surmised until further investigations have been made; but sufficient information has been gathered to disclose that the white pea bean which has made Michigan and New York famous, has had neither a square deal nor impartial consideration at the hands of the bean division of the Federal food administration.

The bean division of the Food Administration, in the name of the United States government, has underwritten the purchase of the entire Pinto bean crop and through the medium of the postoffice franking privilege and in the columns of the press is urging wholesalers, jobbers, retailers, and consumers to push the sale of and eat Pinto beans in preference to the navy variety.

We are going to ask the reader to carefully follow the evidence here presented in substantiation of the above statement; to note the line of publicity cunningly prepared and faithfully carried out, and then to sit in judgment on the case presented in behalf of the little white bean, a food product of great value and representing one of Michigan's greatest agricultural industries. In the first bulletin sent out by the bean division of the Food Administration, you will notice that the

JOINT MEETING BEAN INTERESTS, SAGINAW APR. 23, 1 P. M.

SOMETHING must be done—and quickly—to save Michigan's \$50,000,000 bean industry from utter ruin. It is time for UNITED action by the COMBINED strength of EVERY enterprise affiliated with the bean industry.

Michigan Business Farming, realizing the gravity of the situation, joins in the issuance of this call to all growers of beans to attend a joint meeting of growers, bankers, elevator and railroad men, at Saginaw, Tuesday, April 23rd, to discuss the situation and take immediate steps to remove the discrimination against the Michigan product.

We likewise respectfully petition Governor Sleeper and State Food Administrator Prescott to attend this meeting, the importance of which should most certainly warrant their presence and advice.

Remember the date—plan NOW to attend—drop the farm work for a single day if necessary—bring along your neighbors—lend your every effort to help in this great movement to SAVE the navy bean.

Pinto is given the title of a "very beany bean;" it is announced that it becomes the pride of the navy and the army, and the white bean is given a black eye by the statement that it has been placed in the "luxury class;" and is less economical for use anyway, because the Pinto contains five per cent less water than the old "navy bean;" while a boost is given the trade through the statement that the bean division would furnish the names of shippers.

BULLETIN SENT OUT TO WHOLESALE DEALERS EARLY IN FEBRUARY
Pinto Beans for Economy

Calling attention to beans as an excellent substitute for meat, the U. S. Food Administration mentions the comparative cheapness and excellence of the variety known as the domestic pinto or speckled bean. Pinto beans are grown in Colorado, Kansas and New Mexico and are now being used by our army and navy. The present retail price of these beans should be from 10 to 12 cents per pound, which makes them an economical food, considering that pinto beans contain about 5 per cent less water than the more familiar navy beans, which are now in the luxury class.

Pinto beans are therefore a very "beany" bean, furnishing more food value for the purchase price than the varieties with which the public is perhaps better acquainted. In cases where retailers do not handle pintos, persons desiring to try them are asked to write the Bean Division, U. S. Food Administration, Washington, D. C., which will furnish the names of shippers.

The bean division of the Food Administration next introduces Mr. Pinto to the wholesale gro-

Alarmed at Substitution of Pinto^s for Pea Beans, All Michigan Interests Unite to Save the Industry

ers. Surely this recommend should give Mr. Pinto the right to step right into the private office of the wholesale grocer, while Mr. Navy Bean was being kicked down the back steps by the office boy.

BULLETIN SENT OUT TO WHOLESALE GROCERS UNDER DATE OF FEB. 15.

The pinto bean is about the size of the navy bean, being rather flat in shape and speckled with brown. Besides being new and therefore limited in distribution, its color has been objectionable by consumers who did not know that its food value and flavor are in every way equal to the white bean.

At two pounds for 25c retail, these beans can be introduced in the large Eastern industrial sections, giving the distributors a satisfactory profit, while consumers would get a food staple equal to the navy bean at considerably lower cost, the latter now selling at 20c a pound, as compared with 11 to 12½c for the pinto bean.

Pinto beans should always be cheaper than navy beans because they do not require the careful hand-picking necessary with white beans. Food Administration tests of the pinto bean, both chemical and cooking, prove that it has nutrition and flavor equal to the white beans.

Several canners are already putting up cooked pinto beans as "Brown Beauties" and a can weighing one pound and four ounces net retails at 15c net compared with 25c for a similar can of white beans.

And herein does the bean division publicity department pull off a patriotic stunt well worth the effort from a Pinto standpoint. And you will note that not only is action taken as a matter of food conservation, but plans are well laid for "next year." The effort on the part of the Food Administration to get the essential foods to the consumer on an economical basis is commendable, but why limit this effort to the Pinto bean? For a period of more than four months retail merchants were selling navy beans at twelve dollars per bushel, while the growers were receiving less than seven dollars for the same quantity.

COPY OF LETTER SENT BY FOOD ADMINISTRATION TO AN EASTERN COMMISSION FIRM LAST DECEMBER

"I am enclosing herewith a copy of U. S. Food Administration release for the papers Monday, Dec. 24, 1917, giving some publicity to the colored beans in *economical comparison with white ones*. (The Italics are ours.)

"As you know, the Food Administration has not only been working for the producers, in order that a large acreage be contracted and planted next year, but that they are also using every effort possible to get the essential foods to the final consumer on an economical basis. It would seem distinctly a conservation and patriotic effort if the wholesale grocers and the retailers in your territory would bring before the public the excellent food value of the various colored beans, and at the same time bring to their attention the fact that they are selling from 30 to 40 per cent cheaper than white beans."

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION.

(Continued on page 13)

Only Ten More Days of the Third Liberty Loan Campaign; Do your Duty as an American Citizen and Subscribe Now!

IN THESE DAYS of stress and anxiety, when the mighty armies of the warring nations are engaged in a life and death struggle across the sea; when every eye eagerly scans the daily press for news, and every ear is attuned to catch the first cheering word from the battle fields, it is encouraging to note the hearty response on the part of the people here at home, to the call of the Federal Government for financial help. From every section of this great free nation comes the reports of over-subscriptions for the Third Liberty Loans, and it is quite evident that not a single county or state will fall short of its full quota.

BEST OF ALL, people are finding out that the Farmer is anxious to do his full share. Everywhere the farmers are answering the clarion call from across the seas. Not only are they doing their best in the field, but they are backing the Government to the very limit of their resources. Mr. Farmer, don't let the campaign pass without having done your best for the cause. Our President, our Government, our Boys on the plains of France—all are calling, pleading that every American citizen do his best in this great emergency. See that your name is on the Honor Roll; be the best American citizen of all, and subscribe as much as you can to the Third Liberty Loan.

STATE SEED CORN

for MICHIGAN

A comprehensive survey shows the supply of home-grown Michigan seed corn in sound condition to be sufficient to plant not more than one-third of the acreage needed. With the possible exception of Lenawee county, no county in Michigan is able to supply its own needs. Last year's corn crop, as reported by Secretary of State Coleman C. Vaughan, occupied 2,227,832 acres. To plant an equally large crop this spring will require 371,305 bushels of seed corn, considering that one bushel will plant six acres. It is therefore necessary for Michigan to secure from outside sources and by ear testing crib corn not now considered as seed, approximately 240,000 bushels. To prevent the loss which would result to the great dairy and live stock interests, and in the production of corn for human food, the Michigan War Preparedness Board has considered the seed corn question from the standpoint of a war time problem and has voted the use of a part of Michigan's war fund to the purchase of seed corn from the best sources available, the seed so purchased to be sold at cost to Michigan farmers. It is, however, recognized that no seed is as good for Michigan as home-grown seed of good germination, and it is recommended that all effort be made to insure the planting of all available home-grown seed in the state.

Michigan Grown Varieties Best.

Owing to its known adaptation to Michigan conditions, home-grown seed corn is of greatest value. Wherever possible, it is recommended that Michigan grown seed of good germination be planted. A study of results from numerous germination tests show, however, that Michigan seed corn of the 1917 crop, is in very poor seed condition.

Only those farmers who selected their corn in the field during the past season and properly cured and stored their supply have sufficient seed corn in good condition for their needs. It is a fact though an uncomfortable one, that if all Michigan farmers had followed this approved practice, Michigan would not only have sufficient seed for her own needs, but would be able to supply her neighbors in this time of need. It is therefore strongly urged that ear tests of all supplies of doubtful value be made. It is possible by ear testing all

local supplies to secure a considerable amount of good seed. There are a number of effective methods, sawdust box method, ear in box method, and the rag doll test, being the most commonly employed. All of these tests are effective, but owing to convenience and safety the "rag doll" and sawdust box method are considered most efficient.

The War Board Seed Corn.

On December 27th, at the suggestion of President Kedzie of the Michigan Agricultural College, the facts obtained by an extensive survey made by the Farm Crops Department, showing the prevailing shortage of seed corn, were placed before Governor Albert E. Sleeper. Governor Sleeper deemed the matter of gravest importance and requested that these facts be laid before the War Board. On the Governor's suggestion it was voted to begin immediately to purchase all adapted corn that could be secured in neighboring states for Michigan and the Farm Crops Department of the Michigan Agricultural College was authorized to purchase this corn for the War Board. After a canvass of all states where suitable varieties might possibly be secured, it was found that South Dakota offered the only source of dent varieties of value to Michigan, and that New York state could supply early flint varieties in considerable quantity. Mr. F. F. Cornair, Assistant County Agent at Large, was authorized to arrange the purchase of New York flint varieties in quantity for distribution in the Thumb and Northern Michigan. To date seven cars of about eight hundred bushels each have been secured. The varieties purchased are chiefly eight and ten row yellow flint corn. This corn is considered fairly safe for grain purposes in the sections where introduced. It has not been possible to secure enough to answer the state demand.

Mr. R. W. Rice, Assistant County Agent at Large, was dispatched to South Dakota and through his efforts about 25,000 bushels of dent varieties from southeastern South Dakota have been secured for central and southern Michigan. A large part of this corn is of the Wimple's variety. This is a yellow dent corn corresponding to an early Reid's. Shipments also of Silver King (a white variety) and ordinary yellow dents

have been made. These varieties have been tried to some extent in Michigan, and will prove valuable grain producing varieties, should an average growing season occur. They have been distributed in Southern Michigan for the most part and to some extent in central Michigan. Most of this corn must be sorted on arrival to place in proper condition for distribution and cars should not be distributed until sorted under direction of field agent. Owing to labor difficulties in the West it was necessary to buy unsorted.

On February 21st a meeting was held at the Governor's call at the Capitol Building, to consider the advisability of purchasing a large quantity of corn produced in Pennsylvania and Maryland, offered by a New York firm. Representative farmers and grain dealers of the majority of corn growing counties attended this meeting and a committee consisting of L. Whitney Watkins, chairman, J. Frutchey, C. H. Chatterton, John C. Ketcham, R. H. Sherwood, N. F. Simpson and J. F. Cox was appointed as a purchasing committee to investigate the corn exhibited by the New York firm, and to arrange the purchase of desirable corn. After careful investigation of the corn offered by this firm, the International Consolidated Record Association of Elmira, it was found that the corn offered was not as represented and that the seed supplies controlled by this company were held in open cribs in central and southern Pennsylvania. This corn of the Sweepstakes variety had been exposed to heavy freezing while in moist condition and it was ascertained by inspection on the part of the committee and by duplicate tests of Pennsylvania State College, Department of Agriculture, and by further tests of the Michigan Agricultural College, that its germination per cent was dangerously low and that it could not be put in fit seed condition in quantity unless ear tested. The committee decided against the purchase of this corn and recommended that its local sale in Michigan, reported to be extensive, be prevented since its introduction on a large scale would result in great loss to Michigan's corn crop. It was also found that the Sweepstakes corn was used exclusively in New York as a silage variety and that it is not adapted for grain purposes in Michigan.

The above committee arranged the purchase for Michigan of 51,000 bushels of New Jersey varieties of standard types of good germination, (Reid's yellow dent, Leaming yellow dent and white cap). 47,000 bushels from Delaware have since been purchased. These strains are earlier than similar varieties from the corn belt. This corn will prove a valuable silage corn in Michigan and should our season prove a long one, much of it will reach maturity in southern sections. All of this corn will be inspected at loading point and germination tests made previous to acceptance by an assistant from the Michigan Agricultural College, under personal direction of Mr. J. W. Nicolson, Extension Specialist.

Concerning Delaware corn, Mr. Nicolson states:

"The situation is as follows: There is a strip of land about ten by thirty miles to the south of Camden that is nearly as light sand as Roscommon County, Mich. By fertilizing very heavily, they get about 30 to 40 bushels per acre of corn, which when planted May 1st to 10th is ready to cut about August 20th. On account of the land being so light, to save their fodder, they have to start cutting the corn at this date, for when the corn is ripe the leaves dry up and blow away. Hence most of this corn was cut and thoroughly dried out by the middle of September. They had cold damp weather in the state all the latter part of the fall and the late growing corn is all badly injured. It is not safe to buy seed here grown on clay or even good sandy loam land, but this light sand land corn is as dry as a bone. Further, I found a small section yesterday around Milton where they grow a flint corn somewhat mixed with White Cap that is about the size of corn commonly grown in Isabella County, Mich. This corn gets ripe so early here on such poor land that I believe it would have a good chance of getting ripe even in Central Michigan on good land where it can be pushed a little."

The committee has arranged and will make further arrangements with grain elevators, cooperative organizations, county agents, seedsmen and farmers' associations throughout the state to aid in the distribution of corn at cost to farmers of \$5.00 per bushel in their respective localities.

Direct Requests for Carlot Distribution to

W. K. BILES, Saginaw, Mich., Chairman of the Committee

SMITH GRADING AMEND'T DEFEATED

Efforts of Michigan Potato Growers to Secure
Abolishment of Obnoxious Grading
Rules Repudiated by Confer-
ence Committee

Senator Wm. Alden Smith's amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill to abolish the compulsory grading of potatoes during the period of the war, which unanimously passed the Senate, met its Waterloo last Saturday afternoon, when the house and senate conference committee, after a lengthy conference and hearing voted to strike the amendment from the bill. Congressman J. C. McLaughlin's telegram appearing on this page, explains the action in detail, and also mentions the "compromises" offered by the bureau of markets and the food administration.

Thus ends for the time being, at least, the earnest efforts of Michigan potato growers to protect themselves from a measure which cost them a million dollars or more on their 1917 crop. Thus also are the rights of the sovereign people and the wishes of the great majority of potato growers subjugated to the whims of experts and the interests of the middlemen.

Read that telegram carefully. 'Tis said that the compromise offered by the food administration is in the interests of the growers; that it practically concedes the very thing for which they have been striving. We have pondered for hours over the skilfully worded "concessions;" we have honestly strove to read between the lines and locate the intent to yield to the wishes of the growers in this important matter, but we must confess that we have utterly failed to find a single word that removes or even qualifies the objectionable features of the grading rules.

As a matter of fact, the modifications promised by the proponents of the measure in effect, actually aggravate one of the principal objections to the rules, viz.: the allowance of a ten per cent variation under the prescribed size, and a three per cent variation under the remaining requirements of the grade.

The original ruling reads as follows: "In order to allow for variations incident to commercial grading and handling, five per centum by weight of any lot may be under the prescribed size, and in addition, three per centum by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade."

This is a provision designed solely in the interests of the shipper. It gives him permission to dump into a car of No. 1 potatoes, an additional 8 percent of potatoes below the requirements of grade No. 1. To illustrate: A dealer loads a car with 700 bushels of No. 1 grade potatoes. Undoubtedly, some of these potatoes are under-grade, but not enough to be readily detected. Acting under the authority of the grading ruling, he is perfectly justified in mixing an additional 56 bushels, representing under-size and off-grade stock in with his carload of potatoes, such being the allowable 8 per cent of the 700 bushels.

Commenting upon this provision, Mr. L. A. Siple, one of the most prominent growers of Montcalm county, and since elected secretary of the Michigan Potato Growers' Ass'n, voiced his opinion that it was one of the worst features of the grading rules.

And now what has happened? Mr. Miller of the potato division, and the representative of the bureau of markets have gone before the conference committee in a most penitent mood, and offered concessions which "they claimed were in the interests of the growers," so the press dispatches read.

The evidence says that these "concessions" now allow for variations of TEN PERCENT (instead of five) under the prescribed size. Hence, the dealer may now in shipping his carload of potatoes, add an additional THIRTEEN percent (instead of EIGHT percent as heretofore) of under-sized and off-quality stock.

We repeat that these concessions are WHOLLY in the interests of the shipper; it is NOT intended that the buyer shall accept at No. 1 stock, and pay No. 1 prices for 13 percent of off-grade potatoes on every load that he buys from the farmers.

Despite the claims of E. Percy Miller that the double grading of potatoes he is promulgating finds favor with the "progressive" farmers and that it is only a few "small" farmers of Michigan who are opposed to these grades, MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING is in a position to KNOW that such are not the facts. No one has followed this matter more closely than we; no one has sounded

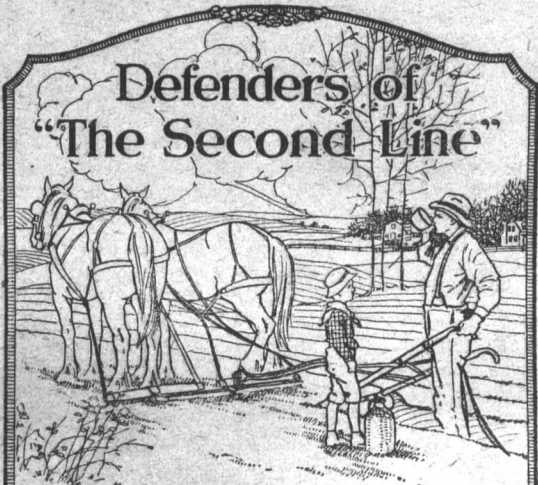
WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

Washington, D. C., Apr. 18, 1918
Michigan Business Farming,
Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Senate and House Conference Committee eliminates entire of Senator Smith's amendment relating to potatoes insisting that some grading is necessary and proper and adhering to universal rule of Congress refusing itself to determine grades and leaving grade-fixing to Department of Agriculture. Mr. A. M. Smith, president Michigan association after conferences with Bureau of Markets and Food Administration, has secured what he believes are important and helpful modifications of grading rule by Bureau and practice of Food Administration. The rule will read that in order to allow for variations incident commercial grading and handling ten percentum by weight of any lot may be under the prescribed size, and in addition three percentum by weight of any such lot may be below the remaining requirements of this grade. In addition to this modification rule Bureau of Markets and Food Administration will co-operate in forbidding use of screens larger than one and seven-eighths inches and promise all possible increase of shipping facilities and vigorous campaign for increased consumption of potatoes.

James C McLaughlin

the sentiment of the growers more carefully, and no one has endeavored more earnestly to gather the facts upon which are based the arguments of the growers against these rules; and no one
(Continued on page 9)



Plod on

Old faithful team—
Each step you take adown the field
Removes a nation just one step
From tyranny's control—the yield
Of crops that follow in your wake,
A nation's freedom helps to make—
Old faithful team,
Plod on.

Turn on

Old faithful plow—
Inanimate—yet what import
Your work is to a nation's life
And liberty! You build the fort
Of food defense, while urgently
The furrow whispers—anxiously—
"Old faithful plow,
Turn on."

Toil on

Son of the soil—
With steady stride—with singing heart
From morn's pale light till setting sun—
A privilege thus to do your part.
Grudge not the perspiration's flow;
'Tis part of freedom's debt you owe—
Son of the soil,
Toil on.

H. M. Paulsbeck

—COURTESY DEERE & COMPANY.

DRAFT QUOTA HITS FARMING HARD

Lansing Reports Nearly 20% of April Quota
Made up of Farmers Leading All
Other Vocations

"Farming was hardest hit in making up the list of men for Lansing's next draft quota," says the *Lansing State Journal*. "Out of the 109 men drawn, 18 are listed as farmers. Machinists are second with 11 men and clerks third with 10 men."

If such is to be the history of all the draft quotas drawn on April 26th, there can be no doubt but what agriculture will be hit hard, indeed. If the same percentage of all quotas are of farmers, that will mean that upwards of 1,000 of the 6,000 odd men drawn will be farmers.

As a result of many complaints from farmers, and believing that agricultural claims were not receiving a fair consideration at the hands of certain local and district boards, MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING suggested to Governor Sleeper a week ago that additional farmer members be added to the district boards, such being the action that Governor Lowden of Illinois found desirable. Our letter was referred to the Adjutant General's office and the following reply has just been received:

"Your letter to Governor Sleeper has been referred to me. When the District Boards were made up, every effort was made to obtain a membership which would be broad enough to understand and appreciate the various problems which might come before it, including that of deferment of men engaged in agriculture. I am of the impression that there is at least one agriculturist on each District Board. These Boards are composed of five members, and up to the present time there has been no intimation from the office of the Provost Marshal General, at Washington, that it would be advisable to increase that membership.

"You state that it has come to your attention that certain Local Boards have recommended placing in Class I landed farmers and farm laborers, and that the District Boards in several instances have acted upon these recommendations without mature consideration. If you will furnish this office with the details in any such cases, giving the name of the registrant, his residence and his serial and order numbers, the matter will be thoroughly investigated to ascertain whether the District Board in question is performing its duty.—John S. Bersey, Adjutant General, by Albert E. Petermann, Major Judge Advocate, N. G. U. S.

The spirit of the above letter is commendable and we thank the Adjutant General for the assurances therein contained. We have found, since laying the matter before Governor Sleeper, that for the most part local boards are placing farmers in late call, and we are hoping that there may be no further cause for complaint against the taking of farm hands needed for the production of the 1918 crop. If any farmer conscientiously believes however, that he has not been given fair treatment, we shall be glad to assist him in securing a hearing before the proper authorities.

NEARLY \$14,000,000 LOANED TO FARMERS DURING MARCH

During the month of March \$13,471,474 were loaned to the farmers of the United States by the Federal Land Banks on long time first mortgages, according to the monthly statement of the Farm Loan Board. Banks closed loans in March as follows: Omaha, \$3,248,050; Spokane, \$1,923,830; Houston, \$1,711,509; New Orleans, \$1,074,015; St. Louis, \$1,024,805; Wichita, \$950,200; Louisville, \$905,400; Berkley, \$673,200; St. Paul, \$615,400; Columbia, \$539,725; Springfield, \$426,140; and Baltimore \$379,200.

On April 1st the total amount of mortgage loans placed since the establishment of the Federal Land Banks was \$77,927,167, covering 34,145 loans closed, as against \$64,532,343 on March 1st, covering 28,495 loans closed, an average of about \$2,500 each for increased agricultural production. During March 4,832 applications were received, asking for \$13,258,601. Altogether 121,759 have applied for loans under this system, aggregating \$286,624,126.00.

The grand total of loans closed is distributed by Federal Land Bank districts as follows: Spokane, \$12,651,905; St. Paul, \$12,554,600; Wichita, \$10,422,800; Omaha, \$9,526,090; Houston, \$6,240,947; Berkley, \$5,237,000; New Orleans, \$1,910,960; Louisville, \$4,650,900; St. Louis, \$4,112,900; Baltimore, \$2,806,450; Columbia, \$2,455,170; Springfield, \$2,357,245.



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL DIGEST



FOUND! NUMBER TWO POTATOES, AND JUST LOOK AT THE PRICES!

The state food administrator of Illinois in a recent bulletin advises the people of Chicago that they should not pay more than 15 to 16 cents per ten pounds for No. 1 Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan or Dakota potatoes, nor more than 11 to 13 cents per ten pounds for No. 2 potatoes from these states. "The designations 1 and 2," explains the Administrator, "relate only to size, the No. 2 being the smaller."

If our memory serves us right it was about the last of November that representatives of the Food Administration and the Department of Agriculture, M. A. C. professors, potato shippers and divers other advocates of the grading system, assured the farmers that ere another few weeks had passed the demand for No. 2 potatoes would become so strong that the price would automatically mount to within a very few cents of the No. 1 price. The farmers waited. A few weeks passed. Then they waited some more. A few more weeks passed. Still they waited. Months went their fleeting way—and the farmers gave up hope and fed their No. 2 potatoes to the hogs.

But some dealers bought the No. 2 grade, paying at first 60 per cent of the No. 1 price. Others would pay no more than 40 per cent. Few No. 2 potatoes were sold in Wisconsin for more than 50 percent of the No. 1 price.

Five months have passed and for the first time we find the No. 2 grade of potatoes on the market, competing with the No. 1 grade and at a much higher price now, in proportion to the No. 1 price, than that paid to the farmer. In sections of the state, dealers are offering 30 cents a bushel for No. 1 potatoes, while down in Chicago consumers are being urged to buy No. 2 potatoes at 70 cents a bushel.

The expected has happened. The dealers bought sparingly of the No. 2 potatoes at a price mutually agreed upon by the organized Michigan buyers. In communities where competition existed, farmers were able to dispose of quantities of their No. 2 grade, but in other sections the dealers refused to buy them, thus placing the farmers of the latter section at great disadvantage in comparison with those of the first sections. Had there been only a single grade as in former years the farmers of every locality would have been able to sell as large a percentage of their small potatoes as the farmers in every other locality.

When the dealers bought the No. 2 potatoes from the farmers, the spread between the prices of the two grades of potatoes was as 60 is to 100. When the dealer disposed of these potatoes, or at least after they reached the hands of the retailers the spread decreased and the price of the No. 2 grade became 80 per cent, instead of 60 per cent of the No. 1 price.

Hence, the predictions of the "experts" have come to pass,—but long after the spuds had left the farmers' hands. Even so.

FARMERS' AUTOS NOT A LUXURY; GENERAL UTILITY COMES FIRST

While there is a great increase in the number of automobiles owned by farmers in the United States, few farmers are buying cars for pleasure alone. Data gathered by the Automobile Chamber of Commerce shows that the average farmer buys his car for utility, and with him it can hardly be considered a luxury.

It is interesting to note that there are two to three times as many motor cars in proportion to population in Iowa, Nebraska and other agricultural states in the middle west as in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and other industrial states in the east.

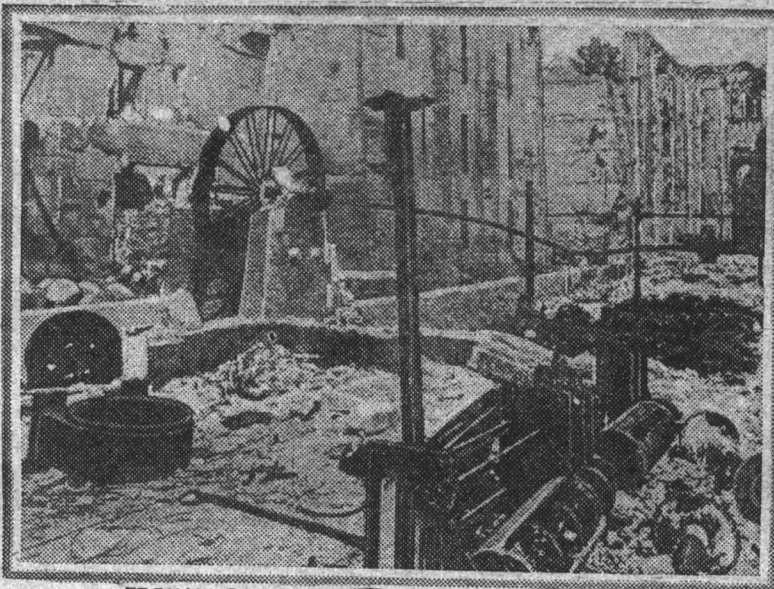
Farmers are estimated to own nearly half the automobiles in the United States and are the largest buyers at the present time. The largest increase in registrations during the first half of 1917 was in agricultural states, being as follows: Arkansas, 64 per cent; Louisiana, 51; Iowa, 41; Oklahoma, 36; New Mexico, 36; Oregon, 35. In the manufacturing states the increases were New York, 24 per cent; Connecticut, 13; Rhode Island,

21; Delaware, 30; Illinois, 13; and Michigan, 18.

"The farmer uses his car as a utility vehicle almost entirely," says President Charles Clifton of the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce. The automobile makes it possible for the farmer to keep in close touch with his neighbors and with the outside world. He and his family can attend church, social gatherings, entertainments, political meetings, lectures on improved agricultural methods, good roads meetings, etc., in the evenings and on Sundays, and return home at a reasonable hour. The younger children can be driven to and from graded schools that are replacing the old one-room district schools, and regularity of attendance is greatly increased.

FARMERS IN INDIA JOIN IN THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

The co-operative movement has grown rapidly in India since it was first introduced some twelve years ago, says the *Organized Farmer*. There are now 15,000 societies with 744,000 members and a working capital of \$25,720,000. Most of the societies are co-operative credit unions, although there are many co-operative stores and other co-operative organizations. The village money-lender often charges from 20 to 30 per cent interest on all loans, consequently the great service that the co-operative movement is performing in freeing the Indian peasant can easily be realized. As well as the opposition of the money lender, the societies have overcome the inclemency of the weather and local famines. Fortunately, the government favors them.



FRENCH SUGAR MILL DESTROYED BY GERMANS

GERMANS DESTROY SCORES OF FRENCH SUGAR MILLS

Sugar production in France has fallen to less than 25% of the pre-war output. This picture of a wrecked sugar mill shows one of the principal reasons for the decline. When German troops retreated from occupied portions of France they took pains to destroy virtually all of the sugar mills that would otherwise have assisted the French in maintaining their sugar stocks. That first wave of Teuton invasion was stopped in France after the Germans had established a battle line that cut off 203 of the 213 French sugar mills, as well as much land that had produced sugar beets. In some of the German retreats the mills were left in such shape as to permit their operation. The official sugar production figures indicate the extent of the destruction; and emphasize the French sugar needs which must be filled by American aid. The year of 1912-1913, 213 French mills turned out 967,440 short tons of sugar. For 1916-1917, 65 mills produced only 204,405 short tons.

UTAH-IDAHO SUGAR COMPANY HAS \$1,373,824 SURPLUS

A preliminary statement of the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company for the year ended Feb. 28, 1918, shows surplus of \$1,373,824 in the balance sheet after the payment of a stock dividend of 150 per cent on \$9,499,730 stock and the regular common dividends. There is now outstanding \$23,626,350 in stock. Current assets shrank from \$12,513,509 a year ago to \$9,831,950. Real estate, plant, etc., is marked up from \$9,488,066 to \$16,562,477.

INTERESTING FIGURES ON FOOD OF WORLD SCOPE

Home consumption of wheat in Canada is now being reduced about 50 per cent to make possible an increase in wheat exports.

Compulsory rationing, effective in London and the home counties February 25, allows one and one-quarter pounds of meat, four ounces of butter or margarine and one-half pound of sugar per person per week.

Prices of feedstuffs quoted in Paris markets late in January of this year were as follows: Wheat straw, per ton, \$53 to \$56.40; rye straw, \$40.80 to \$44.20; oats straw, \$47.20 to \$50.40; hay, \$68.40 to \$73.20; Lucerne (alfalfa), \$69.80 to \$74.80.

The first American farm tractors which will be used chiefly in preparing land for grain production are now being operated in France, according to reports reaching the U. S. Food Administration.

English market reports, received by the Food Administration, show the amount of home-grown meat of all kinds coming to the principal markets has averaged since January 1, less than a fourth as much as for the same period of 1916. Hogs have shown the greatest decrease.

CANADIAN GOV'T ADVOCATES INCREASE OF FLAX PRODUCTION

More than five thousand bushels of flax seed now in storage in Montreal will be planted in Canada following instructions from the British government to utilize the seed to the best advantage. The seed is part of a large shipment from Siberia, which was being transported to Ireland via

Canada. The lateness of the season and the difficulties of transportation as well as no doubt as the internal conditions in Ireland have led the British government to change its plans. There is a great deal of land in Canada suitable for flax culture.

Flax is also adaptable to many sections of Michigan and we believe our readers living in those sections should investigate at once the financial possibilities of this crop.

SAYS AUSTRALIA COULD FEED U. S. FOR SIX MONTHS

Reports that Australia has lost vast quantities of wheat through mice and other plagues were branded as grossly exaggerated by A. E. V. Richardson, agricultural commissioner for the Australian government. He stated that there was a mice plague on the farms but that most of the destructive work was on stacks rather than on the grain, and that they have millions of bushels

of wheat in bags stacked in immense piles at the seaboard. Mr. Richardson is here to study agricultural educational conditions in this country.

"Australia has a surplus of wheat amounting to 260,000,000 bushels awaiting for vessel transportation, enough to feed America for six months, and it is all in perfectly good condition," said Mr. Richardson. "The reports of mice plague have been exaggerated and we have conquered this menace by shipping all the wheat to the seaboard. It is a well known fact that mice cannot thrive in that vicinity."

"It is the hope of the Australian government that the United States will speed up their shipbuilding so that most of this wheat can be transported to San Francisco and other Pacific ports and permit more American wheat to be exported to Europe. The wheat is selling at \$1 a bushel."

The Bundle Brigade

How many copies of this issue would you like to have to hand out to your neighbors? Tell us on a postal card so we can send you a bundle by return mail. You do us a great favor when you pass out these samples and whether you wish to act as our agent in forwarding the subscriptions or not you will be surprised how pleased your friends are to have an opportunity to read a copy of the weekly that has made all Michigan sit up and take notice! Join the bundle brigade, friends, let us send you ten, twenty-five or more copies of this week's issue or tell us we can send you a bundle once a month. You know as well as we that you make Michigan a better state to farm in every time you add a new name to MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING list.

MEMBERS OF DRAFT BOARDS WHO PASS ON AGRICULTURAL CLAIMS

At the request of a number of our readers we publish below the names of the men constituting the seven district draft boards of the state, together with the interests which they represent. These are the boards who consider and pass judgment upon all claims for deferred classification upon industrial and agricultural grounds. It will be noted that the personnel of the boards is representative of the agricultural, industrial, laboring, legal and medical interests of the state. Many contend that owing to the extreme gravity of the farm labor situation and the need to give deferred classification to all men whose services are needed on the farms, that additional farmers should be placed on the district boards. Many of the cases that come before these boards require the exercise of the keenest kind of judgment, and it is only natural that mistakes should be made in passing upon the large quantity of claims that come before these boards. The suggestion has been made to Governor Sleeper that he follow the action of Governor Lowden of Illinois and appoint additional farmers to the draft boards before the majority of agricultural claims are placed.

EASTERN JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT NUMBER ONE

Territory embraced—City of Detroit, Village of Highland Park.

1. James O. Murfin, (legal) Chairman, Dime Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan.
2. James V. Cunningham, (Labor) Sec'y, 49 Buhl Block, Detroit, Michigan.
3. Henry Leonard, (Agriculture) Union Trust Bldg., Detroit, Michigan.
4. Frank H. Croul, (Manufacture) 266 Wight St., Detroit, Michigan.
5. Geo. A. Trizisky, M. D., (Medical) 1526 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Michigan.

Secretary of District Board No. 1, Eastern—J. V. Cunningham, headquarters, Municipal Court Bldg, 3rd Floor, Detroit, Michigan.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO

Territory embraced—Counties of Lenawee, Monroe, Washtenaw, Wayne, (exclusive of Detroit and Highland Park), Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer and St. Clair.

1. Albert E. Stevenson, Chairman, (Agr.) Port Huron, Michigan.
2. Wm. VanDyke, Sec'y (Law) 2130 Penobscot Bldg., Detroit, Michigan.
3. Leander J. Hoover, (Mfr.) Care Hoover-Ball Co., Ann Arbor, Michigan.
4. Geo. A. Brown, (Lbr.) 138 North Saginaw St., Pontiac, Michigan.
5. Dr. Clark, (Med.) Detroit, Michigan.

Secretary of District Board No. 2, Eastern—Wm. VanDyke, Headquarters, 310 Ford Bldg., Detroit, Michigan.

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE

Territory embraced—Counties of Branch, Hillsdale, Calhoun, (including Battle Creek), Jackson, (including the City of Jackson), Ingham, (including Lansing), Livingston, Clinton, Shiawassee, Gratiot, Saginaw, (including city of Saginaw), and Genesee, (including Flint).

1. Francis W. Redfern, Chairman, (Agr.) St. Johns, Michigan.
2. Homer D. Luce, Sec'y (Mfr.) 711 Capitol Ave., Lansing, Michigan.
3. Orra A. Reeves, (Labor) Industrial Accident Board, Lansing, Michigan.
4. Earl J. Davis, (Law) Care Otto & Davis, Atty's., Saginaw, Michigan.
5. Joshua G. Manwaring, M. D., (Med.) The Dryden, Flint, Michigan.

Secretary of District Board No. 3, Eastern—Homer D. Luce, Headquarters, Federal Building, Lansing, Michigan.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR

Territory embraced—Counties of Sanilac, Huron, Tuscola, Bay, (including Bay City), Midland, Isabella, Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Iosco, Ogemaw, Roscommon, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, Otsego, Cheboygan and Presque Isle.

1. W. H. Aitken, Chairman, (Law) Crosswell, Michigan.
2. Dr. C. M. Swantek, Sec'y (Med.) 240 Washington Ave., Bay City, Michigan.
3. Robert H. Rayburn, (Mfr.) Alpena, Michigan.
4. A. J. Doherty, (Agr.) Clare, Michigan.
5. John S. Cardas, (Labor) 922 S. Madison, St., Bay City, Michigan.

Secretary of District Board No. 4, Eastern—Dr. C. M. Swantek, headquarters, City Hall, Bay City, Michigan.

WESTERN JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DISTRICT NUMBER ONE

Territory embraced—Counties of Berrien, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, (including city of Kalamazoo), Allegan, Cass, Barry, and Eaton.

1. Carmi Smith, (Agr.) Niles, Michigan.
2. M. H. Goady, (Labor) Kalamazoo, Michigan.
3. Frank S. Cummings, (Mfr.) Centerville, Michigan.
4. Wm. W. Potter, (Law) Hastings, Michigan.
5. Paul T. Butler, M. D., (Med.) Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Secretary of District Board No. 1, Western—W. H. Stewart, Care of Court House, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO

Territory embraced—Counties of Emmet, Charlevoix, Leelanau, Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Mason, Lake, Osceola, Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Montcalm, Ottawa, Kent, (including Grand Rapids), and Ionia.

1. George M. Petrie, Chairman, (Mfr.) Cadillac, Michigan.
2. Clyde C. Slemmons, M. D., Sec'y (Med.) 1324 Logan St., Grand Rapids, Michigan.
3. Luther Hall, (Agr.) Ionia, Michigan.
4. John Dykstra, (Labor) Muskegon, Michigan.
5. Farm. C. Gilbert, (Law) Traverse City, Michigan.

Secretary of District Board No. 2, Western—C. C. Slemmons, M. D., City Hall, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE

Territory embraced—Counties of Keweenaw, Houghton, Ontonagon, Baraga, Gogebic, Iron, Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Alger, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce, Mackinac, and Chippewa.

1. J. C. Kirkpatrick, Chairman, (Mfr.) Escanaba, Michigan.
2. Dean Robinson, Sec'y (Law) Houghton, Michigan.
3. W. S. Prickett, (Agr.) Sldnaw, Michigan.
4. Joseph E. Sandercock, (Labor) Iron Mountain, Michigan.

5. J. A. Ferguson, M. D., (Med.) Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.
Secretary of District Board No. 3, Western—Dean L. Robinson, Headquarters, Michigan College of Mines, Houghton, Michigan.

OVERHEAD IRRIGATION FORM OF EFFICIENCY THAT GETS CROPS

Efficiency is the keynote of Dair, this "model farmer," who makes it rain on his farm whenever he pleases. He gets crops when others fail, and produces these crops by his overhead irrigation plant. "Efficiency" is his watchword.

After all, this question of whether we can feed ourselves and our allies merely is one of efficiency. Here is how it works: The nation looks to the farmer and the farmer looks to the ground, and the returns therefrom are in exact proportion to the efficiency invested.

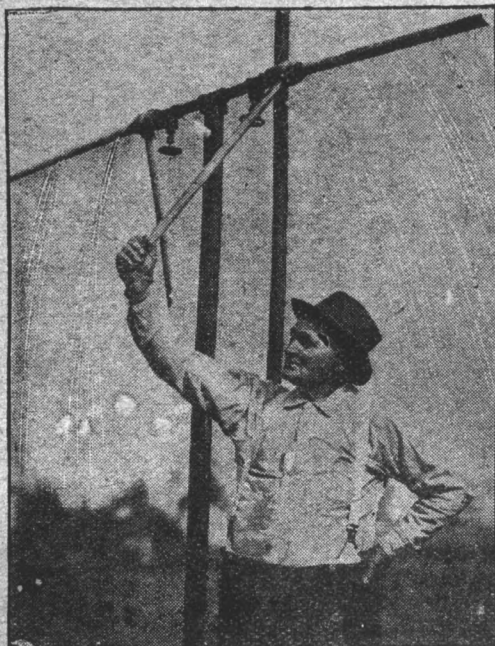
"It's a very simple thing," says Dair. "I have been watching the cause and effect for years. Intensive farming and intensive gardening go hand in hand," remarks Dair.

This idea does not originate on the Dair farm, located just outside of Cincinnati, but it does center there. Henry Dair, owner and manager, has proved the money value of it.

"There is a time for everything," observes Dair. "There is a time to plant and there is a time to cultivate. There is a time to get up and go to work and there is a time to quit."

Thus the affairs of the Dair farm move on as the clock-regulated. There is no hitch. The 56 acres under over-head irrigation cultivation is operated precisely as a business and an expertly conducted business.

"The great trouble with the farmers is that they do not work by system," Dair reasons. "No matter how much you know, if you do not know how to be systematic you cannot make a success."



Dair netted about \$4,000 off his truck products last year. Here is a point to remember. He is his own commission merchant. With a few exceptions all the foodstuffs he raises is sold over his own stand in the market.

Five or six years ago the question of sufficient moisture became a vital one. It was a "dry season." Crops literally burned up. Dair suffered along with the other farmers. But he decided he would never be caught "bone-dry" again. So he had installed an overhead irrigation system which now covers his whole farm and represents one of the reasons his farm is called the "model farm."

Water pumped from a pond fed by springs, is forced by air pressure thru pipes which run underground until the fields are reached. There the pipes are strung overhead the entire length of the rows and thus the fields are watered.

"The investment has earned itself over and over," said Dair. "I no longer fear a drouth. I have but to start a gasoline engine and turn a faucet and behold, it begins to rain on my crops and my fields are sprinkled as though it were actually raining on them."

Again, the question of farm labor hit Dair, even as it is hitting countless farmers this big year in the nation's agricultural history.

"Why worry about hiring and keeping young men when old men can do the work and are more inclined to stay on the farm?" figures Dair. And he found he was right. The old men are steady, reliable, and satisfied. Of the farm hands he now has, the oldest is 71. Dair himself is 72. They are all hard, efficient workers, these old men, and while not so speedy as young men, the older help work steady and accomplish just as much in the end as younger men.—J. R. Schmidt.

STATE AGRICULTURAL BRIEFS

Charlotte—In a report from the state analysis under date of April 10, samples of bread baked in Eaton county bakeries analyzed to that date, were found to contain substitutes in excess of the 20 per cent required by law.

Charlevoix—"Grow an acre of beets," is the slogan in this county. An effort is being made to secure a large acreage and have it well distributed over the county. The western part of the county formerly produced large quantities of beets.

Yale—An elevator and hay shed at Yale, together with 17,000 bushels of oats and barley, were destroyed by fire late Saturday. The loss is between \$35,000 and \$40,000. The fire started from a bonfire near the Wharton shed and there is no suspicion of incendiarism.

Dewitt—Clinton county board of supervisors have voted to adopt the county agent plan. The matter has been agitated for some time and met with no little opposition, but it was evident that a majority of the people of the county wished to try out the county agent plan.

Boyne City—The Springvale Farm Loan association has been organized in the townships of Chandler, Boyne Valley, Hudson, Melrose, Bay, Evangeline and Wilson. Twenty farmers have taken membership, and a number of others are expected to go into the organization.

Grand Rapids—Scores of farm tractors, including practically every type, in addition to other farm implements will be seen in operation at the West Michigan Better Power Farming show at this place on April 23, 24 and 25. The slogan will be "Raise More Food With Power."

Milliken—McNaughton & Peabody, operators of an elevator at Milliken, were cited to appear before the Federal Food Administrator at Lansing, on Friday, April 12, to show cause why their license should not be revoked for alleged violation of the Federal regulations regarding the sale of wheat flour and substitutes.

Grand Haven—Ottawa county voters by a majority of 210 have rejected the proposition to continue the county farm agent. As there was considerable opposition to the project, it was put to a popular vote. The city of Grand Haven gave a 208 majority for and the city of Holland a 39 majority against. A majority of the townships were registered against the agent proposition.

Caro—Tuscola county has a number of lusty farmers' clubs whose members make the occasion of their meetings not only times of social enjoyment, but of practical discussions. The members are not backward about bringing up and discussing problems of vital import to farmers. The Wells-Dayton club and the Liberty Farmers' club each held meetings last week. The last named is a new club, recently organized.

Adrian—The work of the Lenawee county agricultural agent has had a great deal to do with combatting the ravages of hog cholera. The ultimate plan is not the control, but complete elimination of the disease. Lenawee county is one of the leading hog raising counties in the state, and cholera formerly made serious inroads among the herds. Now the disease is completely within bounds, and recent losses have been small.

Eaton Rapids—T. A. Farrand of this city who was formerly county agriculturalist of Van Buren county, and who recently resigned after two years of service, has accepted a position as temporary agriculturalist of Eaton county. An organized effort is being made in Eaton county for the production of more and better crops for meeting the war needs and for domestic use, and Mr. Farrand is giving the matter a healthy boost. Among his efforts is the encouragement of treating oats for smut, and the introduction of new and better varieties of grain as a means of advancing crop production.

Adrian—Farm work is being delayed in parts of Michigan by the failure of the Fordson tractors to operate properly due to the work of enemy agents at the factory, it is believed. Mr. Ford made a personal investigation in Lenawee county this week and found two tractors in which oil tubes had been plugged. He immediately called the Dearborn factory on the phone where it was found that 12 out of 80 machines ready for shipment had been similarly interfered with. Mr. Ford announced that no expense would be spared in running down and punishing the guilty parties, who are evidently employees of the Fordson factory.

Lansing—The use of Michigan potatoes in preference to southern potatoes until the first of June is advocated by State Food Administrator Prescott. Southern potatoes which are already on the local markets are not only much more expensive than the Michigan tuber, but lack the food value of the mature potato. Scores of Michigan retailers have pledged themselves not to handle southern potatoes until June 1, and if Mr. Prescott is successful in obtaining similar pledges from a majority of the dealers it will do much towards moving the surplus of Michigan tubers.

WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Raising the draft age limit to 45 or even 50 years is favored by Provost Marshal General Crowder. While it is not probable that any action will be taken by Congress to pass such a law in the near future, there are many influential men at Washington, and not by any means all of them are connected with the war department who would be glad to see action taken towards this end. Such a move is not necessary at the present time from a military standpoint, it is admitted, as Class 1 of the present registration will furnish all the men which can be trained within the next year. By June 5 next, nearly one million young men will have attained the age of 21 and at least 50 percent of them will be physically qualified and otherwise eligible for military service.

However, the new draft measure is favored for other than military reasons. In the first place, according to its supporters, it would provide a census of the labor ranks of the nation. Every registrant would be required to fill out a questionnaire and would be properly classified. This would permit the drafting of single men not engaged in farming or any business or industry not essential to the welfare of the country. All idlers or those engaged in non-productive work would be required to get into useful occupations at once or be drafted. It would give the government better supervision over labor conditions as strikers who refused to come to just terms could be drafted. Labor unions will oppose the measure as they claim it would be unfair to them.

It is hardly expected that the farmers of the nation will show any enthusiasm for the measure, in the face of the uncertainty which now exists regarding the present status of farm labor subject to draft. The average farmer feels that an extension of the draft ages would only add to labor difficulties, and make the uncertainty still greater.

Despite the protests of Mr. Gompers, labor's champion, the Senate has decided to retain in the bill to prevent interference with the war preparations, a provision to prevent laborers from declaring peaceful strikes. The proposal is meeting with vigorous opposition from the labor unions and is scheduled for a hot fight when the bill reaches the house. Senators from agricultural states declare that they know of no reason why the government should have the power to commandeer the farmer's crop or exercise other control over the farmer's business, and not have an equal right to exercise a similar control over the laboring interests. Had the farmers gone on a "strike" at the instance of the wheat price-fixing episode as many of them threatened and would no doubt have been justified in doing or taking other retaliatory measures, what a hullabaloo there would have been raised over the whole length and breadth of the land. Even now Food Administrators are threatening summary measures in order to force the farmers to dispose of their wheat holdings. Why should labor be immune from a control equally as drastic and arbitrary?

The action of the House of representatives in sustaining the plan of the war department to base quotas on the number of remaining registrants in Class 1, instead of on population, is particularly favorable to agricultural communities, many of whom of whom have been meeting with great difficulty in raising their quotas because of the large number of farm boys who have enlisted. Rep. Shallenberger of Nebraska, championed a plan to base quotas on total registration and liability to military service which would have the effect of enforcing many draft boards to reclassify industrial and agricultural registrants into Class 1 in order to meet their quotas. Another amendment introduced by this same member directing that credits be given all draft districts for all volunteers in the military or naval service since April 1, 1917, was adopted. This amendment will give agricultural sections a much better showing. Another amendment was proposed by Rep. Harrison of Virginia, to specifically exempt farm labor.

For the first time since the beginning of the war, the government is seriously contemplating the fixing of prices on manufactured articles. No one seems able to give a lucid explanation of why the government has seen fit to establish a price on the farmer's wheat and leave the prices of other articles to go scot free. It appears to the average man that such a move was the height of injustice and clearly a piece of class legislation. It is only natural that the prices of manufactured goods have steadily advanced, and the time has come, it appears, when the prices of shoes, cloth-

ing, cotton goods, hats, etc., have reached such an altitude that the government must intervene.

As an aftermath of the recent investigations of the lagging of the aircraft program Rep. Gould of New York has introduced a bill authorizing the President to appoint an aircraft administrator capable and experienced enough to produce the maximum of results in this department. The bill would also abolish the present aircraft production board, of which Howard Coffin, formerly of the Hudson Motor Car Company, of Detroit, is the head. An appropriation of \$25,000,000 would be given the aircraft administrator with which to carry out his program, and the aircraft sections of both army and navy would be combined under his control.

The renovation process at Hog Island, started by the investigations of the senate committee, continues unabated. High-salaried managers, assistant managers, assistant-assistant managers, clerks, and all other excess baggage have been removed by the wholesale, and a total daily saving



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"HEY! COME OVER HERE AND FIGHT!"

—Caption in the New York Evening Post.

of nearly \$4,000 effected. With graft thus throttled, and everyone on the job impressed with the necessity of "speeding up," it is anticipated that ship-building operations at the Hog Island yards will soon compare favorably with other government yards. The country never wants another Hog Island scandal.

The war trade board has authorized the immediate shipment of two shiploads of wheat to Holland in order to relieve the desperate food shortage of that country. A condition of the shipment is that an equivalent tonnage of products needed in this country will leave Dutch ports simultaneously, Germany having agreed to refrain from sinking such vessels in view of Holland's extreme need, which in the beginning was caused by the U-boat depredations.



Canada has only two inhabitants for each square mile of territory.

According to Amsterdam correspondence, paper trousers are now being worn by a large proportion of German men.

Practically all of the electric power used in the Italian city of Milan is obtained from hydro-electric plants in the Alps.

Holland, Michigan, is soon to have a new fertilizing plant, to be modern in every respect.

Every church in Greece is obliged to pay a tax of three per cent of its annual income and every monastery a tax of five per cent.

More than one-half of the Fordson tractors which the state of Michigan purchased a few weeks ago are already reported as sold to farmers.

Machinery will be shipped from Seattle to the Prohibition Islands by the United States bureau of Fisheries with which to extract the oil from the seal, carcasses which at present are thrown away will be used.

Genesee Chapter, Red Cross, shipped 76 cases of surgical dressings, hospital garments, knitted articles, gical dressings, hospital garments are valued at nearly \$16,000.

For years every Detroit visitor planned on seeing the wonderful Ford factory, but now that the plant has been turned over to the Government work, this is no longer possible.

Field and garden seeds will be unconditionally exempted from all embargoes, according to an announcement from the United States Department of Agriculture and instructions issued to all railroads in the United States by the Director of Traffic to do everything possible to expedite the movement of field and garden seeds.

WAR WIRES

American marines have been landed at Vladivostok. The fact that American forces have been added to those of the Japanese and English now guarding the far eastern port has had a reassuring effect upon the Russian people, who at first were loud in their demands for war with the Japanese. While ostensibly for the protection of American lives and property, it may be that the landing of American forces was more for the effect upon the Russian people than anything else, as they appear to have greater faith in the representations of this country than any of the other Entente powers. It is probable that all of the foreign forces at Vladivostok will be withdrawn as soon as the present disturbances at that port have subsided. The Allies will keep an eye on the vast store of military supplies at Vladivostok, however, as they do not wish to have these stores used for the advantage of the Germans.

According to neutral dispatches the Germans are preparing for a great naval offensive. Naval guns in use on the western front have been withdrawn and sent to Kiel it is said, and there are further indications that the Huns are going to risk a naval battle in the near future. That such a contest would be welcomed on the part of the Allies goes without saying. The American fleet has been co-operating with the other allies for nearly a year, and has had only an occasional brush with U-boats to reward it. While the Germans would hardly be expected to advertise a naval contest in advance, still they made no efforts to suppress rumors of their great land offensive. In fact they relied on the stories of their preparations to unnerve the Allies. An Allied naval drive against Kiel has been suggested, but this base is so strongly fortified that it would probably result in failure.

The German high command is taking special precautions to hide the true number of Teutonic casualties from the people back home, according to reports leaking out. The German casualties were estimated at nearly one-half million before the second phase of the great offensive began several days ago. Their losses have been fully as great or greater since that time. German wounded are for the most part being transported to Belgium for treatment instead of being sent back to Germany. Reports through neutral countries indicate that soldiers' correspondence with their home folks has been discontinued, in order that the truth may be kept from the German people. The general staff evidently is staking all on winning a victory of sufficient magnitude to compensate for the vast toll of blood spilled since March 21.

Allied prisoners have been subjected to untold cruelties by the Germans, according to a report just made public by the British government. The Germans have constantly defied the Hague conventions covering the usage of prisoners. It is charged that prisoners have been forced to work near the battle lines where they were constantly in danger of death from the shell fire of their own forces. It is further charged that prisoners have been denied food and shelter. Deaths from starvation are frequent, and many of the prisoners have become physical wrecks who will never be able to again take their places in trade and industry, because of the deprivations to which they have been subjected.

The critical need of more troops in France to withstand the onslaughts of the Teutons, has caused a radical change in the draft plans. Men are to be called in much larger numbers than was at first planned. The fact that American troops will be placed with French and British will make it possible to cut the training time and rush them to Europe after only a few months in camp. Training will be completed in France or England. It has been found that the long period of intensive training here which was at first deemed necessary can be greatly shortened without seriously impairing the efficiency of the men when they finally meet the Huns.

The Huns are evidently surprised at the initiative and bravery displayed by individual American soldiers on the battle front. The Germans while they are not cowards are frequently driven to the attack by their officers. On the other hand the American officers have a hard time to restrain their men, and there are many stories being told of individual Americans going into "No Man's Land" and bringing back prisoners. After the war when the veil of secrecy can be lifted, and the censor is relegated to the background, the many deeds of bravery on the part of Americans will make interesting reading.

The second phase of the great German offensive which for a time threatened to break the British line and reach Amiens, now appears doomed to failure. Although they have won minor successes and bent the line backward in several places, the German onslaughts have not resulted in their objectives being reached. In the Picardy region the offensive has failed completely. American forces supporting the British and French have succeeded in repulsing the Germans in many minor engagements.

The giant American naval collier Cyclops, which was on a voyage from South America to an American port on the Atlantic coast has been overdue for more than a month and all hope has been given up for its safe arrival. The boat which was loaded with manganese was last reported from the West Indies. Two hundred and ninety-three officers, crew and passengers, eight being from Michigan, have been given up for lost. A German plot is suspected.

The giant Krupp gun which has been bombarding Paris from within the German lines, still continues to deal death and destruction to helpless women and children, although the Huns are well aware that the bombardment has no direct military value. Several Americans were among the killed when a shell from this gun struck a Paris church on Easter Sunday. Recently a number of children in a fondling asylum were victims.

The Germans are training dogs to assist blind soldiers. The animals are so well trained that they lead the blind soldiers about, conducting them safely even in crowded streets.

FOUR BROTHERS CIVIL WAR VETERANS

Sons of Milo Miner, All Over the Age of 72, Have Given the Best of Their Years in Service to Their Country

America's most precious traditions center around the heroic undertakings of her early pioneers and the eventful part they have played in the several wars thru which this nation has passed in its glorious struggles for human liberty.

More than half a century has rounded its course since the stirring days of the Civil War. The majority of the Grand Army of the Republic who returned to their homes and peaceful vocations following Lee's surrender, have long since answered the final summons. But there yet survive thousands of men and women who took an active and leading part in that great conflict. They were the flower of the nation in the days of '61; of rigorous constitution, living lives that were clean and wholesome, they successfully withstood the weakening influences of the war and during the intervening years have lived usefully and well, serving their country and the interests of mankind as nobly and faithfully in civil life as during the dark days of the Civil War. And of these there are yet many still in the prime of manhood and womanhood, with perhaps a score of years, and in a few isolated cases, a quarter of a century of active service still before them. Of such is the remarkable family of Milo Miner, one of Michigan's earliest pioneers, who died in 1909, at the age of 96 years.

Among the thousands of readers of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, there is none whose friendship the editors prize more than that of P.

P. Miner of St. Charles, Michigan, the second son of Milo Miner, who, after repeated urgings on our part, supplied the data and the photographs for this remarkable story of the four Miner brothers, all veterans of the Civil War, and all over the age of 72 years.

Milo Miner, the father, enlisted in his teens to serve in the Indian Wars of the state. He was given a tract of government land of about 40 acres near Detroit which he secured by a short stay in 1827 or '28. He went south during the Civil War as a member of the engineer corps working for the government in bridge building. Surviving the war, he returned to his home and lived to the ripe old age of 96 years.

The eldest son, I. D. Miller, enlisted in 1861 in company "C" 30th Indiana volunteer infantry; was taken prisoner at the battle of Chicamauga; spent seven months in Libby prison, and like many others who endured that terrible ordeal, has never been robust since. At the close of the war, this brother settled on a farm in Branch county, but in recent years has been a resident of Coldwater. He is 80 years old.

J. J. Miner, the third son, was a member of the 8th Illinois cavalry and served in the army of the East. He lost three fingers in the battle of Antietam and was forthwith discharged from service. Being a printer by trade he located in Bre-

country now as in those early days, Mrs. Miner has registered for any service in which she may be needed in the present war. Among the honors which her record of service has brought her is that of department president of the Army Nurse Ass'n of Michigan and Wisconsin, a position she has held for the past ten years.

Thus ends, for the present at least, the story of these six staunch veterans of the Civil War. The chapter of the father's life has been



Mrs. P. P. Miner, who served in the hospitals during the Civil War, and who has just registered for service in the present war preparations.

brot to its eternal close. His work is ended. Four sons he reared and freely gave to the service of his country in its hour of need. And each of them became a volunteer to help preserve the union, serving honorably and well thruout the period of the war.

It is upon the bulwark of the sterling character and the matchless deeds of the Miner's and the Littlefields that the honor and safety of the nation will ever rest secure. For they are the patriots who stand firm when the storms of adversity threaten the ship of state, and courageously

take up the fight against the despoilers of human liberty. It was such as these who stood by the side of Washington in the War of the Revolution; who offered their all to Lincoln when civil war menaced the life of the union; and who now, in what may prove the most critical period of the nation's entire history are coming to the front, freely extending their services, their money, their lives if need be, to help preserve the traditions of our native land and the democracy of the world. We give thanks that there are many of such today as in the earlier crises of the nation, and our united prayer is that their sacrifices may not be in vain, but may be crowned with the laurels of splendid victory.

TELL US OF THE VETERANS OF YOUR ACQUAINTANCE

We can think of no more inspiring influence to awaken the generations of the present day to a fuller realization of their duty to their country and to move them to a greater service and sacrifice in the conflict that is already thundering at our very doors, than a repetition of the stories of the eventful lives of the veterans and pioneers of the early days. Every community has its "old soldiers," its pioneers, whom they love to honor on patriotic and other public occasions. Each of them has a story to tell of their early struggles to hew a home out of the Michigan wilderness; each of them can recall to mind the thrilling days of the Civil War. Give us these stories, that we may do honor to these men and women to whom we owe so much for the upbuilding of our state and nation.



P. P. Miner, 75 Years J. J. Miner, 78 I. D. Miner, 80 E. D. Miner, 72
The above picture was taken at Coldwater, the home of I. D. Miner, three years ago

vard, N. C., after the war, where he founded the "Sylvan Valley News," retiring but a couple years ago. J. J. Miner is now 78 years of age.

E. W. Miner, the youngest of the four sons, enlisted as a recruit in the same company with his brother, P. P. Miner, in 1864 and served to the close of the war. After hostilities had ceased, he went to Kansas and secured a government claim. A few years later, upon the death of his wife, he returned east with his four children. For the two youngest he secured admission to the State Soldiers' Home at Knightstown, Indiana, where they secured fine discipline and became proficient in the printing trade, a knowledge that later enabled them with the assistance of their father to build up a splendid linotype business at 542 South Dearborn street, Chicago. E. W. Miner was born in 1846 and is consequently 72 years of age at the present time.

P. P. Miner, our subscriber and correspondent, was born in 1843. He enlisted in Company B, 12th Indiana volunteer infantry on August 12th, 1862. He was wounded in the left knee at the battle of Missionary Ridge, Nov. 23rd, 1863, and at the close of the war in 1865 was given an honorable discharge. On Sept. 30th, 1866, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Rena Littlefield of Sturgis, Mich. At the present time they reside on their farm near St. Charles, both in excellent health, still young at heart and planning on many more years of service to their country and humankind.

No less of interest than the story of the four Miner brothers is the history of Mrs. P. P. Miner, who is also a veteran of the Civil War. This patriotic woman served in various hospitals from the spring of 1864 to the closing of the hospitals in the fall of 1865. As faithful and loyal to her



Milo Miner, the father, who died 8 years ago at the age of 96. The boy is Ralph Lobdel, grandson of P. P. Miner, and a student at the U. of M. The young lady is Miss Mildred Lobdel, a granddaughter, now a teacher in Branch county.

FARMERS SERVICE BUREAU

(A clearing department for marketing troubles. Prompt and careful attention given to all complaints addressed to this department. We are here to serve you. Call upon us.)

USURY LAW INTENDED TO PREVENT "BONUSES" ON LOANS

I have read your article about Michigan's Shylocks. It sure hits the nail on the head, so far as my section is concerned. But I would like to know how much the usury law to which you refer, catches the bank that writes a bonus in on the face of the note, with the maker's knowledge and permission. All exorbitant interest charges are made in the form of bonuses, as the notes never show more than 7 per cent interest.—C. B., Alpena county.

From our interpretation of the usury law, we are inclined to believe that the law is intended to cover just such cases as you mention, and coincides with the construction that the courts have placed upon it, according to the history of cases having been tried under that law as set forth in the Compiled Laws of 1915, from which we quote as follows: "Usury: Every written agreement to pay interest in excess of the legal rate, however well and unlawful interest may be disguised, is in violation of law and usurious. * * *

Usury consists in the reservation of a greater rate of interest, directly or indirectly, than is provided by law as well as in the taking or receiving." While the law contemplates that any illegal rate of interest shall not be collected, it does not permit the recovery of money paid as excessive interest after the transaction has already been consummated. State Banking Commissioner Merrick believes that the payment of principal and the legal rate of interest on any loan would relieve the maker from further obligation.

PENALTY FOR SELLING IMPURE SEED IN MICHIGAN

I enclose an ad. clipped from the — which I tried out last year. I'll tell my experiences; possibly some readers may profit by it if not too late. Last year in February, I think, I read A. A. Berry's seed ad. in —. It read about like this: "For sale—Alsike, clover and timothy seed, guaranteed 95 per cent pure." I think they claimed about 25 per cent alsike, at \$4 per bushel. I ordered a bushel and intended to have it tested but it did not get here until about six months or longer after I placed my order. It was so late when it arrived that I did not wait to get it tested, but sowed about half or more the next morning. I noticed it did not look very clean and I sent a sample to Lansing. Anyone having read the test report would not place any orders there. I still have the balance of the seed, expect to sow it on a wild 40 acres, burned over for pasture land. As I did not have the seed to return, I sent A. A. Berry the report. They sent me the freight charges, hoping I would be satisfied. I don't want any more.—C. A. A., Clare.

Farmers are legion who get stung by unscrupulous seed firms who "guarantee" their product. Most of them swallow their medicine without any complaint, and charge it up to experience. If more farmers would resort to the law, which has been provided to protect them, it would discourage such firms from seeking business in the state. Act 202 of the Public Acts of 1913, regulates commerce in agricultural seeds and provides a penalty for violation thereof.

The act defines agricultural seeds as alfalfa, barley, Canadian blue grass, broom grass, buckwheat, alsike clover, crimson clover, red clover, white clover, field corn, kaffir corn, flax, millet, oats, orchard grass, rape, red top, rye, sorghum, timothy, wheat, which are to be used for sowing or seeding purposes. The act requires that all packages containing such seed offered for sale shall bear (1) the name of the seed; (2) name and address of person selling or offering for sale such seed; (3) approximate percentage of weight of purity or freedom of such seed from foreign matter or from other seed indistinguishable by their appearance; (4) approximate percentage by weight of contamination, specifying by name, each kind present in greater proportion than one per cent by weight of the whole. The Agricultural college is instructed, upon application, to test all seeds suspected of being contaminated, at a cost to the applicant of 25 cents for each package. For the violation of any of the provisions of this act a penalty of not to exceed \$100 is provided. Therefore, it is our opinion that our Clare subscriber, if he still has in his possession the analysis report could recover from A. A. Berry the entire amount involved in his purchase. Subscribers of M. B. F. are requested to notify us of instances similar

to this and we shall be glad to help them invoke the law for the protection of their rights.

TYPE OF BEE HIVE NOT SPECIFIED BY LAW

What is the law governing bees. Have I a right to keep them in home-made hives, or can the state compel me to get patent hives? I acknowledge the patent hive is more convenient to handle, but quite expensive for a poor man to buy at this time, and transfer the bees. Also, what is foul brood and its symptoms and remedy or preventive? Honey is a nice thing to have these war times and I want to save my bees.—T. J. C., Caro, Mich.

My attention has been called to no provision requiring patent hives. We have an act for the suppression of contagious diseases among bees, which will be found in sections 7353 to 7365 of the Compiled laws of 1915. This has been amended by Act No. 87 of the Public Acts of 1917.—A. B. Dougherty, Deputy Attorney General. [Editor's Note:—Reference to both the original and amended acts above referred to disclose no reference whatever to the patent hives which you mention in your letter, therefore, it is safe to assume that you can continue to use your home-made hives without interference. Our veterinary editor ex-

A Plea from the Northland

THAT SHYLOCK story in your last issue hit our case here right square on the head. My husband and I came into this territory more than twenty-three years ago, when this whole country was a wilderness, and worked hard and late, against all odds, for we had no money when we came here, and neither have we any yet for that matter. We bought and paid for our place with the wood that was on it, and I contented myself because I thought it was a good place to raise our boy, and we could send him to school until he got through high school, then he could help us; but they drafted him into the army and now he is a soldier and at Camp Merritt, New Jersey. He was our only child.

However, with all of our disappointments we stuck to it. We had drouths and frosts, and bugs to get our crops; and we had cattle and horses and pigs die and barns blown over, and other forms of vicissitude. We borrowed money to tide us over occasionally and always found the lenders Shylocks. A good cow choked on an ear of corn; we bought a team and owed one hundred and fifty dollars on it, and after wintering it the Shylocks swooped down upon us this spring and took the team and thus left us up against it, and we can not run our farm this year now. I suppose it will be another boarding up of windows and get out and hunt a job. It is hard, when we tried so hard to get a start and make a home. We could raise money on our farm if the Shylocks did not have a claim on it, so there we are, plainly up against it—in the clutches of the Shylocks. This is the gospel truth and you can publish it if you want to. They tell us to raise big crops and be patriotic. We borrowed \$15 to buy a bushel of sweet clover seed and they charged us 75 cent for it for three months. They will not make any longer loans to farmers here.—Mrs. G. H., Benzonia, Michigan.

plained the disease known as "foul brood," in last week's issue. There are stringent laws provided against the spread of this disease, and if you suspect that your hives have been invaded we would suggest that you go at once to the prosecuting attorney's office at Caro and ask to see a copy of the law referred to above.]

COST OF "RUNNING" LIVE STOCK FROM SAGINAW TO DETROIT

As I am a subscriber to your most valuable paper I would like a little advice. First, I would like to build a barn. Must build or sell off my stock, and we all know what it means to build these times of high prices. One of my neighbors advised me to set oak posts in the ground, filling around with cement; he thought I could build a half cheaper and just as durable. A barn builder told me it would cost just as much as a frame—of course he wanted the job. Would like to hear from any of the M. B. F. readers and their experience. Second, what per cent should stock buyers have from Saginaw to Detroit. Please advise me what I ought to buy, middlings, for the last I bought was rye, I paid \$3.00 per hundred. Some price. I see the M. B. F. quotes standard \$36; fine, \$43.50.—F. B., Brant, Michigan.

Will some of our readers give our subscriber the barn-building information he requests?

We are advised by a gentleman who has shipped considerable stock from the vicinity of Saginaw and is pretty well acquainted with the situation that it costs in the neighborhood of 70

cents per cwt. for "running" stock from Saginaw to Detroit. This includes the shrinkage, the freight, feed, yardage, and the commission at Detroit. Most buyers are taking about \$1.25 per cwt for handling. And as to the prices paid for cattle, that depends on how heavy and fat they are. Most buyers pay less for good heavy cattle than they should pay. They take advantage of the farmer more on the best grades than on the poor grades.

You ought to buy middlings at about \$40 per ton, which is the approximate maximum price allowed dealers by the Food Administration. The next time you buy middlings or bran ask the dealer if his prices are in accordance with the U. S. Food Administration's ruling, and if they are not inquire the reason why. If these feeds he quotes upon have been milled since the first of the year, a charge of \$3 per cwt. for middlings is excessive and illegal.

EXPRESS EMBARGO ON LIVE STOCK APPLIES ONLY TO HORSES

The Adams Express Company has placed an embargo on shipments of live stock weighing more than 300 pounds. At a time like this when it is so necessary for the transportation of meat animals, this embargo seems wrong. Can't something be done to have it removed?—T. G., Kent County.

This matter was taken up with the Detroit office of the Adams Express Company, who sent us a copy of a circular distributed to all agents under date of April 10th, as follows: "The following exceptions are made in existing embargo: Shipments of hogs, cattle and other live stock, other than horses. On account of existing embargo placing restrictions on shipments weighing in excess of 300 pounds, numerous inquiries are being received requesting to be advised whether shipments of cattle and hogs, weighing in excess of 300 pounds, may be accepted for movement by express. This question has been referred to our traffic department and Vice-Pres. Williams has advised that live stock, other than horses, are classified as food products, and same may be accepted for movement by express, notwithstanding our embargo referred to, provided, we are in position to furnish satisfactory service in connection with the movement of such shipments. Nursery stock in packages, exceeding 300 pounds, and all seeds, should be classed and hauled as "perishable matter" and also excluded from embargoes along with government shipments, food products, etc.—C. M. Orr, Superintendent Michigan Division."

LOWEST WHEAT PRICE IN STATE PAID AT ELK RAPIDS

Some time ago an Elk Rapids subscriber called our attention to the fact that all winter long grain buyers at Elk Rapids had offered only \$1.95 per bushel for No. 2 Red Wheat. This price was so far below the average wheat price for the state that the Grain Corporation was asked to make an investigation. They replied to this request by saying that they felt sure there must be some mistake and that they had taken the matter up immediately with the McBain Grain Co., McBain, Mich., who operated at Elk Rapids, with a view of correcting the price. Less than a fortnight later the Elk Rapids quotation advanced to \$2 per bushel.

MILL FEED PRICES IN MICHIGAN ARE STILL TOO HIGH

Farmers are advised that the government, having established a maximum price for wheat has ruled also as to the price at which bran shall be sold back to the farmers, allowing a fair margin of profit, making the retail price of bran somewhere about \$30.00 per ton. I am paying \$45.00. The local elevator advises that they purchased their bran before the government ruling, so they cannot sell at the government price. They also say they are unable to purchase more at any price. The millers know where to buy wheat at government prices. Are there any farmers who know where to buy bran at government prices? "What is medicine to one man is 'pisen' to another." But the farmer has not succeeded in reaching the medicine end of the government regulation as yet.—H. S., Birch Run, Michigan.

The Food Administration is admittedly having difficulty in enforcing its regulations insofar as the prices of all mill feeds are concerned. State Food Administrator Prescott has frankly stated that he knows of no remedy for the situation where dealers are loaded up with feeds purchased at high prices before the ruling went into effect. Apparently there is none. However, we cannot believe that dealers generally who have purchased bran and middlings since the first of the year are obeying the regulations, as we have yet

to hear of a single instance where a farmer is buying bran at anywhere near \$30 per ton, or middlings at any less than \$40 per ton. If there are such and our readers know of them, we would like to be so advised, as this is a matter to which we shall give our undivided attention during the next few weeks in an effort to secure relief for the farmers from the high prices now prevailing.

MARKET CONDITIONS PREVENT PURCHASE OF FOUNDATION FLOCKS

In the M. B. F. a couple of weeks ago I read of an offer by the Government to supply farmers with sheep, and wishing to know what age and what terms the farmer wished to purchase them. Now we are anxious to have twenty good two-year-old ewes already bred and unsheared, but we could not pay for them until some time this fall. We would like them all two years old, and would you kindly send us the prices of two-year-old sheep or over two?—J. A. Wheeler, Michigan.

So far as I know the Federal Department at Washington has taken no direct steps as yet in the matter. However, in Michigan, at the earnest solicitation of the Michigan Agricultural Development Association, the War Preparedness Board was prevailed upon to appropriate \$10,000.00 as a revolving fund to be used to purchase sheep on the Chicago or other markets, the sheep to be delivered to farmers upon their orders; the farmers to pay for the sheep at actual cost, upon delivery; and this money to be used again to purchase more sheep.

The War Preparedness Board, upon recommendation of the Governor, appointed Mr. H. H. Halliday, State Live Stock Sanitary Commissioner, to make all purchases of sheep. Unfortunately after the machinery was all in motion and the secretary of the West Michigan, the Northeastern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula Development Bureaus had canvassed the farmers and obtained orders it was found that the market price of sheep was considerably out of reason to buy, for feeding and breeding purposes. Further, when everything was ready to make purchases it was a bit too late to take chances on buying Western bred ewes, which was naturally a disappointment to many, and the price, together with the heavy weight of the coming yearly ewe lamb, being received on the Chicago and other markets caused Mr. Halliday and others to conclude that it would be better to abandon the plan for the time being.

No sheep were purchased from state funds for Western Michigan. However, I believe one car was purchased and distributed through the Northeastern Michigan Development Bureau. Under conditions existing assistance was given many farmers to finance them through local sources.

Several individuals plan to buy sheep on the Western and Southwestern markets and bring them in independently. Some of these sheep have been received at Grand Rapids and a couple of weeks ago a farmer in Missaukee county went with a man who has ridden the range for sixteen years, to Roswell, New Mexico, and bought two carloads of sheep, shipping them to Cadillac. A date was set for auction sale of the sheep which was advertised rather prominently in the Cadillac paper, also newspapers of nearby towns. Less than twenty people attended the sale and I am informed by Mr. Stevens that only two men bid. The sheep were re-shipped to Grand Rapids and sold at the fair grounds.

A company is being organized at Detroit, capitalized at \$100,000.00, the object being to buy sheep for distribution in Michigan among farmers and also to purchase and stock a ranch in the northern part of the lower peninsula. If there are any further developments shall be glad to advise you.—W. H. Hartman, Agt. & Land Agt. G. R. & I. R. R. Co.

HOW CO-OPERATIVE SHIPPERS' UNION WAS ORGANIZED

Several months ago, Mr. S. C. Geib, secretary-treasurer of the Caledonia Shippers' Union, wrote M. B. F. a letter telling what co-operation had done for the farmers of the vicinity of Caledonia. The letter attracted the attention of Mr. Chas. Kerr, an Ashley farmer, who has spent a number of years in Denmark, is intimately acquainted with the co-operative movement in that country, and who is an enthusiastic believer in co-operation of every kind for the American farmer. Mr. Kerr wrote Mr. Geib for additional information concerning his company, and was so impressed with the prompt and efficient manner in which Geib answered his inquiry, that Mr. Kerr requested us to reproduce the letter in these columns, and to comment upon the apparent willingness of present day farmers to exchange ideas for mutual benefit. The letter follows:

Mr. Chas. Kerr, Ashley, Michigan.
Dear Sir:—Received your letter of recent date. I was wondering when I was writing the article

you saw in the M. B. F., whether or not it would have any bearing on anyone. I am sure glad it did. We farmers are too busy a lot of fellows, we take every farm paper that is printed. We laugh when we see a comical cartoon about some city fellow, read the editorials that are sent in, then we'll say "that fellow hit the nail on the head" and that is as far as it goes. We don't stop long enough to let it soak in good. I am only too glad to give you any information that I can to help you get started in livestock shipping. A few of we farmers got together and called a meeting "by order of committee" to all the farmers around here for the purpose of organizing a co-operative Livestock Shipping Association to which a goodly number came. We had Mr. C. J. Miller of Athens, Michigan here who gave us a good talk on livestock co-operation. We had our circulation sheet already for people to sign at this meeting with the purpose for which we wanted to organize printed on top. We organized under act 398 of the Public Acts of 1913 of the laws of Michigan, at \$10 per share with half paid in. Of course it depends on what you are up against as to how much you should incorporate for, some incorporate for \$5.00 a share, with one-half paid in. This seemed too small for us as we wanted to broaden out our business more.

We have seven directors. They are chosen one from every corner you wish to draw custom from. Our manager was chosen from off the board as he is a retired farmer and makes a good kind of a man for the job. He is supposed to list all the stock that is to be sent. Our hogs are sorted at the yard and all over 160 lbs. go as porkers, and all under 160 pounds go as pigs. Our cattle are all marked on right side, the man having the most cattle to go at any one shipment goes with

Popularity

Mrs. Roy E. Dillenback, Harrison, Mich.

Just now we Sammies are the stuff,
Because we never take a bluff.
We all "dig in" and do our "bit";
The evening long we sit and knit.
From daylight 'till the fall of night
We hoe and rake with all our might.
Each one must raise an extra bean
For food will win the war, I ween.
We've built more ships and aeroplanes
Than Johnny Bull has weather vane.
We bottle gas and measure shrapnel;
Make liquid fire and tanks as well.
Why, Caesar in his wildest dreams
Ne'er prophesied such war machines.
Old Kaiser Bill must sure be canned,
And Hindenburg we'll also land;
Von Hurling, too, and Ludendorff
Must both be toted to the wharf,
And set to sail on seas sublime
Where submarines and floating mine
Shall harass every move they make.
Wise Berlin, too we'll have to take.
The cultured Boche must bow and kneel,
And like a Texas porker squeal.
We'll wipe that kultur off the earth,
And liberty shall have new birth.
Ere we shall spare a moment's time
O'er trivial things to bark and whine.
A million Sammies, brave and true,
Has Uncle Sam, and money, too,
To help deport the hyphenate
From New York to the Golden Gate.
For Uncle Sam ne'er gets cold feet,
Each task he finishes complete.
They've crippled Russia as they said;
Roumania is nearly dead;
Much Belgian soil they've taken o'er—
Of ruined France they talk galore.
To humble England was their task;
In Holland, too, they sought to bask,
'Twould be accomplished "while you wait,"
Now, Uncle Sam won't subjugate.

no mark, the next most mark (I), next (II), next (III), next (IV) and so on up. Also use alphabet letters as (H), (E), (F), (N), (M), with a pair of shears. Sheep are marked with paint on the back. The most number no mark. We mark with green, red and black paint. Next one green on shoulder, next with green on back and next with green on hip; next with green on hip and middle, next green on shoulder and middle, next green on shoulder, hip and middle and the same rotation with the rest of the colors. We do the most of our shipping to Buffalo. Once in a while we have to send to Detroit on account of embargoes.

I am sending you one of our by-laws, also one of our sheets we use at the yards, also one of our sheets we return with their check. I think you will be able to understand them. If I could have a personal talk with you I could tell you lots more and explain it better to you but don't be afraid to start, as its just as easy as falling off a log when you once get started have a little grit, and if there is anything that I haven't answered here that you wish to know, don't be afraid to ask. I will be only too glad to help you get started. Hoping to hear that you have started on the right road when I hear from you again, I remain, Yours very truly,—S. C. Geib, Secretary-treasurer Caledonia Shippers Union, Caledonia, Mich.

Marion—The Marion Co-operative Creamery company is doing an excellent business, according to the annual report, recently made public. The company's total receipts for the year were \$49,103.48. Of this \$343.60 represented sales of buttermilk to the local trade, and the remainder butter sales. The total expenditures amounted to \$45,000.00, leaving a net profit of \$3,193.77. The company paid farmers \$40,668.67 for butter fat during the twelve months. The amount of butter made during the year was 121,913 pounds or almost 61 tons. The average price paid for butter fat was 41.9c.

SENATOR SMITH'S GRADING AMENDMENT DEFEATED IN CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 3)

has labored more patiently or persistently to secure recognition of the farmers' rights and pleas.

It has been thru a painstaking and unselfish investigation of the situation not only in Michigan but other states as well that we are able to say with all confidence that the growers will NOT be satisfied with these alleged "concessions" which, we understand, secured the death penalty for Senator Smith's amendment.

In conclusion, we ask E. Percy Miller, in the name of fairness and a square deal, to lay before an unbiased committee his belated proofs on the desirability of the double grading rules so far as the growers are concerned. We ask him to produce his evidence that this measure was designed and operates in the interests of the grower; to produce his facts that they meet with the approval of the majority of representative potato growers. In behalf of the growers of Michigan, we likewise would lay before such a committee the arguments of the growers against the grades and prove to the satisfaction of any fair-minded man that the rules are being enforced against the wishes of the majority. The growers of Michigan will welcome such comparison of proofs.

If Mr. Miller is not disposed to accept this suggestion, the growers who are forced to sell thru the organized shippers, will abide by the rules until the close of the war, not only because the Food Administration so orders, but because they are patriotic and will not harass their representatives with a matter which, detrimental as it may be to their individual interests, is after all trivial to the great national and international affairs which occupy the minds and hearts of the state's senators and representatives at the present time.

In the meantime, however, we commend to the Potato Growers' Ass'n, the consideration of a "producer-to-consumer" plan whereby every commercial grower of potatoes may become his own shipper, and grade and market his potatoes as best suits himself and his customer, without arbitrary interference from the Michigan Potato Shippers' Ass'n, or its godfather, Mr. E. P. Miller. For, remember, that any and every farmer-shipper is exempt from the provisions of the U. S. potato grading rules.

FURTHER PROOF THAT FARMER IS GROSSLY MISREPRESENTED

At the opening of the Third Liberty Loan campaign, we received a copy of a pamphlet, headed, "Play fair, Mr. Farmer". A letter accompanied it, signed by Wilbur D. Nesbit, director of publicity for the seventh federal reserve district, of which Michigan is a part. The letter requested our opinion on the facts set forth in the bulletin, and asked us to publish them if we thought it would assist in the sale of bonds to the farmers. We read the circular, and immediately wired Mr. Nesbitt that if he valued the support of the farmers to recall his publicity matter at once. This was followed up by a lengthy letter of explanation, of which we have had no acknowledgment. It was not our purpose to make any mention of that circular or its unjust contents in these columns, but in view of the fact that the circular was sent to a number of farmers in this state, several of whom have written us very indignant letters about the misinformation contained therein, we have decided to publish the circular complete in a later issue, and make reply to every charge set forth against the farmers. Inasmuch as we do not desire to place a single straw in the way of the Third Liberty Loan, we shall wait until after the campaign is closed. The time has come when for the safety of the nation, the farmers' position and his attitude MUST be understood and accorded intelligent consideration.

M. B. F. AGENT TURNS COMMISSION OVER TO THE RED CROSS SOCIETY

An M. B. F. agent, Martin Kennedy of Alamo is doing his bit by turning over his commissions on subscriptions to the Red Cross. Mr. Kennedy is a public spirited man who wishes to spread the gospel of better conditions for the farmers. But he isn't going to stop at that, and every farmer of Kalamazoo county who subscribes through Mr. Kennedy will have the satisfaction of knowing that he is not only getting the best farm paper published but is helping the Red Cross.

Co-operation is united action among a body of individuals organized for the furtherance of their mutual interests.



MARKET FLASHES



WHEAT

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

The Government report on winter wheat came as somewhat of a surprise giving the condition below what was expected. At the same time, there is a forecast of 560,000,000 as compared with an estimate of 481,000,000 bu. last year. This estimate is based on the average abandonment of acreage and influence on the crop from April 1st to harvest. No doubt recent rains have improved the general condition so that the prospect at present is better than when the report was compiled. Prospects for spring wheat are very favorable, seeding being over 50 per cent completed and with the spring rains generally distributed it would not be surprising to see conditions such as to make the final estimate of acreage as high as in 1915, at which time the crop turned out to be the largest on record.

Movement of wheat from country loading stations is small and a final drive is being made to have the residue marketed. Canadian ports will ship a fair amount with the opening of navigation. The crying need of the Allies at this time is wheat and more wheat and the American people must meet this demand by self denial.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 White	93	92	102
Standard	92 1-2	91 1-2	101 1-2
No. 3 White	91 1-2	91	101

While the oats market may be described as easy, still it is not weak by any means. Oats have been moving in somewhat larger quantities and certain sections have experienced rather free selling of residue stocks in the hands of growers. It must be remembered, however, that the daily needs of the Allied governments and our own are around 400,000 bu. and we are still a considerable distance away from a new crop. Considering this, also the recent strength of corn we are not inclined to anticipate much of a drop in the price of oats.

Crop conditions are very good and seeding has been done much earlier at a substantial increase in the acreage.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	1.80	1.70	1.80
No. 3 Yellow	1.75	1.65	1.75
No. 4 Yellow	1.60	1.45	1.60

Firmer conditions exist in the corn market and prices have shown a slight advance. The crest of the spring movement is past and receipts are much lighter at country points. Arrivals are showing a much better quality and distillers are free buyers of the lower grades, not being permitted to use grain fit for human consumption.

Exports from the seaboard and Gulf ports are heavy and while stocks at primary markets continue to increase the visible decreased, due to heavy exports.

Trading in June and July corn is now on without restriction as to price the only limitation being as to the quantity traded. This has proven a stimulating factor in all markets.

The seed situation is serious and no doubt there will be some reduction in the acreage. The far southern sections of the corn belt, where planting is done early, report new crop conditions as very favorable. Argentine is now shipping new corn and this movement will increase in the near future, as ocean carriers are provided.



LAST MINUTE WIRES

DETROIT SPECIAL—The potato market has shown much strength during the last day or so and the price has advanced considerably. Dealers consider the shortage only temporary as free consignments are reported in transit. Hay market unchanged with a free supply.

CHICAGO WIRE—Oats market is firmer at a slight advance. Potato market still over-supplied and weak. Hay in fair quantity and market condition unchanged.

NEW YORK WIRE—Bean market about at standstill. Stocks on hand are firmly held but buyers waiting developments. New York growers protesting action of government in pushing sale of pintos.



RYE

Rye quotations have worked lower under a lighter demand from millers. They are no longer permitted to use rye as a wheat substitute in flour and as a result it is not so active in the market. Present quotations are merely nominal and no doubt buyers could get the grain at a lower figure. However, it is to be noted that no one seems to be in a hurry to sell and supplies do not increase to any extent. We are of the opinion that the grain is not in the country.

The government report places the condition as slightly below that of April 1, 1917. The forecast of production is placed at 86,000,000 bu. as compared with 60,145,000 bu. in 1917. This is a considerable increase and especially so over the average of the preceding 5 years, 41,399,000 bu.

Barley

Chicago—The tendency of the barley market during the past week was heavy and buying was very limited, the millers being practically out of the market owing mainly to transportation conditions. Local elevator men, owing to the necessity of getting permits and scarcity of cars, are practically out of the shipping business; it is almost impossible to get cars for making shipments. Stocks, therefore, are accumulating liberally while millers are unable to get their purchases. Malting demand has also been of an irregular nature. There was quite a demand for low grade barley removed from the market during the week. Sales were over a range of \$1.70 to \$1.95. There was good inquiry for feed barley at \$1.80.



CLOVER SEED

Toledo—The clover seed season for the time being has disappeared. Nothing is doing. Receipts are very light. Alsikke steady; timothy is rather disappointing for the week.

Prices are firm enough but nothing is doing.

3, \$18.25@18.50; rejected, \$17.75@18; N. E. G., \$3.60@15.

Alsike—No. 2, \$14.50@14.75; No. 3, \$14.10@14.40; rejected, \$13.65@14; N. E. G. (mixed with clover, timothy, etc.) \$3.60@13.50.

Timothy—No. 2, \$3.35@3.45; No. 3, \$3.10@3.25; rejected, \$2.85@3.05; N. E. G., 45c@2.75.

Detroit—Prime red clover, \$19.50; Alsikke, \$15.25; timothy, \$3.80.



BEANS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
C. H. P.	11.50	13.00	14.00
Prime	11.35	12.90	13.85
Red Kidneys	14.00	14.50	14.75

The activity of the Food Administration in pushing the sale of pinto beans has resulted in a very quiet market for pea beans. The sale of pintos is being urged on all of the principal terminal markets and as they are being sold for less money than it is possible to sell the pea beans for, they are in many cases being given the preference for the time at least. The fact that pintos are not so desirable and that consumers easily tire of them, will become evident in the regular course of events, but that does not help the situation at this time. Some stock is being received from the Orient from time to time but not in such quantity as to make any great difference to the market. Lack of transportation facilities is a big factor in that trade.



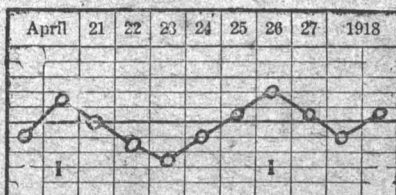
POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Medium Round white-sacked
Detroit	1.15 cwt.	1.00 cwt.
Chicago	1.05	.90
Cincinnati	1.31	1.00
New York	1.50	1.30
Pittsburgh	1.30	1.10
Baltimore, Md.	1.25	1.5

The potato market is a trifle firmer and sales are reported at a shade

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., April 20.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent April 24 to 28, warm wave 23 to 27, cool wave 26 to 30. Temperatures from April 20 to May 1 will make an unusual move upward, causing very warm weather which will be followed by a severe cold wave that will carry frosts unusually far southward. Wherever tender plants or crops can be protected I advise to prepare for a dangerous frost that, moving eastward will reach meridian 90 between May 3 and 6. Very dangerous storms are expected to precede that cold wave. Some very valuable rains, over a large part of the continent, are expected not far from May 1. Watch dates of storms described below.

Next warm wave will reach Vancouver near April 23 and temperatures will rise on all of the Pacific slope. It will cross crest of Rockies

by close of 29, meridian 90, great Lakes and Ohio-Tennessee valleys 30, eastern sections May 1, reaching vicinity of Newfoundland about May 2. Storm wave will follow about one day behind warm wave and cool wave about one day behind storm wave.

Two dangerous storm periods are expected in May during the week centering on May 10 and 27. They are expected to cross meridian 90 on those dates. Tornadoes are expected with the May 10 storms and hail storms are probable, altho it is a little too early for hail. Northern sections should be prepared for frosts near May 10. But May will average well as a cropweather month. I have known good crops of corn where the young corn was badly frost-bitten about the first of June.

June will also have two very dangerous storm periods, near 11 and 24. I expect tornadoes and hail with the June 11 storms. These storms are so important that I will mention them again and will give account of them in detail. Life and property should not be lost by carelessness and I hope to do good by giving these warnings.

W. T. Foster

higher figure than those of last week. Receipts at Detroit have not been so heavy and this has had a beneficial effect on the market. We believe it would be a good idea to give all markets a chance to clean up and are glad to note that shippers have begun to realize this and have withheld shipments for the time being.

The Chicago market is in about the same condition as at the time of our last writing, the supply being too plentiful. Eastern markets are also freely supplied.



HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	24 50 25 00 23 50 24 00 22 50 23 00		
Chicago	25 00 26 00 23 00 24 00 20 00 22 00		
Cincinnati	29 50 30 00 28 50 29 50 25 00 26 00		
Pittsburgh	30 30 50 27 00 28 00 23 00 25 00		
New York	30 31 00 25 00 29 00 20 00 24 00		
Richmond	35 00 36 00 34 00 35 00 30 00 31 00		

Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	23 50 24 00 22 50 23 00 21 50 22 00		
Chicago	23 50 24 50 22 50 23 00 20 00 22 00		
Cincinnati	27 50 28 00 24 00 26 50 18 00 22 00		
Pittsburgh	27 50 28 00 28 00 29 00 28 00 29 00		
New York	24 00 26 00 18 00 23 00 25 00 27 00		
Richmond	34 00 35 00 32 00 33 00 27 00 28 00		

The Detroit hay market has taken on just a little firmer tone under somewhat lighter receipts. There is still a free supply however, and the straw market is slightly over-supplied. Prices at this time remain the same as those of last week. We anticipate a fairly firm condition for the coming week, with perhaps a slightly declining scale of prices.

The timothy market at St. Louis continues to receive heavy receipts and is weak as a result. All other grades are in plentiful supply and working on a very slow market. There are also heavy consignments on the way to that market, and it looks to us as though it might be a good plan to withhold shipments there for a week or so. Ordinarily this is a good market for the lower grades and clover, at times when other markets are not so anxious for it.

Cincinnati has been receiving much heavier receipts but an increase in the demand has steadied the market and no doubt prevented a considerable decline in prices. While the quotations still range about the same, individual sales are in the main lower than last week.

Pittsburgh still continues to receive liberal supplies of hay and straw and the market is slightly weaker. Boston is working under more liberal supplies and a strong selling pressure.

The New York market has continued to receive liberal supplies and the demand is not so heavy. Indications point to a lower range of prices during the coming week.



BUTTER

The Detroit butter market is firmer and under a good demand the price had advanced. Supplies are not heavy at this time and there is every prospect of a further advance in price. Fresh creamery is quoted at 40 1/2c for firsts and 41 1/2c for extras.

Our New York letter, under date of April 13, sums up the eastern situation as follows:

This week has witnessed a greatly improved market condition. That has been due to a greater consumption and to a falling off in receipts. The decidedly stormy weather of the week is probably the cause of the decline in receipts, as freight traffic has been held up to a considerable extent. The strong demand of the week has cut into what accumulations of butter there were. That together with the fact that the supply of fresh creamery butter in stores today is fully 10,000 tubs less than a week ago makes it look that the present situation may be of some duration.

Extras were quoted at 40 1/2c@41c on Monday, there was an advance of half a cent on Tuesday and another half cent on Wednesday. Thursday witnessed another half cent advance and on Friday the strong demand created

a further rise of a full cent. Indications are that unless there is an influx of a large quantity of butter soon there will be further advances. The quotations at the close on Friday were: Extras, 43½c. Higher scoring than extras, 44½c; firsts, 41½c; seconds, 38½c@40c. There is a strong demand at present for unsalted butter with quotations ranging one cent above those for salted butter.



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

The poultry market is firm and offerings are very light. The demand at Detroit is far ahead of arrivals from day to day and there is very little prospect of any change in conditions until the end of the current month, at which time restrictions on shipments of fowls will be removed. At that time dealers look for a very material increase in receipts, especially of old hens.

Conditions in Chicago are the same as those in Detroit. There is really no fresh poultry market there. We are advised that the entire offerings of live stock for three days were 210 coops and it will be understood just about how far this supply would go in a city like Chicago.



EGGS

The Detroit egg market is firm with lighter receipts and an advancing tendency. Fresh firsts are quoted at 33½c per doz.

Chicago reports a slow, draggy market with a plentiful supply. Very little trading there so far on the storage proposition. The price remains about the same as that of last week, fresh firsts being quoted at 32 to 33c per dozen.



ONIONS

The onion market continues very slow. Demand is light and there is a plentiful supply on all markets. Detroit is quoting \$1.25 per cwt. Dealers have been constantly hoping for better conditions but so far they have failed to materialize.



FLOUR & FEED

Detroit—Flour, per 196 lbs. in ½ paper sacks: Straight winter, \$11; spring patent, \$11.30; rye flour, \$14 in jobbing lots.

Feed—In 100-lb. sacks, jobbing lots: bran, \$35; standard middlings, \$33; fine middlings, \$45; cracked corn, \$70; coarse cornmeal, \$30; chop, \$56 per ton.

Duluth—Bran, per ton, \$33.16; gr'd oats, per ton, \$60.75; ground feed, per ton, \$62.75; shorts per ton, \$35.16; red dog, per ton, \$48.16; flour middlings, per ton, \$42.16; Boston mixed feed, per ton, \$37.16.

Detroit Live Stock Letter

Detroit, April 5—Cattle: Market is active and 25c higher; best heavy steers, \$13@14.50; best handy wt. butcher steers, \$11.50@12.50; mixed steers and heifers, \$10.50@11; handy light butchers, \$9.50@10.50; light butchers, \$8.75@9.25; best cows, \$9@10; butcher cows, \$8@8.75; cutters, \$7@7.75; milkers and springers, \$6@11.5.

Veal calves—Market steady, best, \$15.50@16; others, \$8@13.

Sheep and lambs—Market strong; best lambs, \$16.50; fair lambs, \$15@15.50; light to common lambs, \$11@12; fair to good sheep, \$10@12; cull and common, \$7@9.

Hogs—Market very dull; few sold; big packers stopped at \$17.50; good pigs, \$17.50.

Wool

The Commercial Bulletin, under the date of April 13, discussing the eastern wool situation, says: "With all their holdings, whether on spot or to

arrive, offered to the government, practically nothing was accomplished here in the way of wool trading during the week except for a small trade in noils, which are firmer. There was a very little business in the west, the Boston trade having agreed not to buy until the government decided its course with reference to the latest offer of stocks. Manufacturers are confronted with the necessity of giving their attention almost wholly to government work and civilian deliveries are to be delayed accordingly for several months."

Quotations: Michigan and New York fleeces—fine unwashed, 63@64; delaine, unwashed, 73; half blood, unwashed, 75@76; three-eighths blood, unwashed, 77c.

Horse Market

There was a good business transacted in horses during the week, but the demand while excellent, was not quite as rushing as a week ago and there never were fewer buyers on hand. Supplies also, while large, were not quite as heavy as in the preceding week. Amongst the heavy green drafters there were not many extra weight horses, as in last week's supply, but what were offered were of good quality weighing up to 1750 and 1800 pounds. They were taken quickly, and other horses of smaller weight sold well.

Good quality green drafters, 1650 to 1850 lbs. sold from \$350@400; medium weight good quality green drafters from \$275@350; chunks from \$250@325; heavy wagon and express horses from \$175@250; seconds, from \$40@175.

Dressed Hogs and Calves

The market for this class of offerings is just a little stronger and fancy dressed calves are worth 1 to 1½c more per pound than last week. Detroit is quoting dressed calves at 22c to 23c for the fancy article; 20c to 21c for choice and 19c per lb. for the common. Dressed hogs are selling at 21c to 22c per lb.

Hides and Furs

No. 1 cured, 13c; 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 No. 2 kip and calf 1½c lower than the above; sheepskins, as to amount of wool, 50c@3.50 each.

East Buffalo Prices

—Receipts of cattle Monday, 125 cars. Trade opened 50c to 75c higher on medium weight and weighty steer cattle which were in moderate supply; butcher steers and handy weight steers sold 25 to 50c higher than last week; fat cows and heifers sold 25 to 40c higher; bulls of all classes sold 25 to 50c higher than last week; canners and cutters were in light supply, sold steady; fresh cows and springers were in very light supply, sold steady; stockers and feeders in very light supply, sold 35 to 50c higher than last week; yearlings were in

very light supply, sold 50 to 75c higher than last week; yearlings were in very light supply, sold 50 to 75c higher than last week. The prospects for next week on all classes of cattle look very favorable.

With six cars of cattle on sale on Tuesday the market was steady on all grades.

Receipts of hogs Monday totaled about 12,000 head. The market was about 15c lower. Best light hogs sold up to \$18.65, but the bulk sold at \$18.60; pigs were strong to 10c higher, selling at \$18.60; heavy hogs sold all the way from \$18.25 to \$18.50 as to weight; roughs, \$16.25; stags, \$13 to \$13.75.

With 2400 hogs on sale Tuesday our market opened steady to 10c lower on everything but pigs which were 35c lower. Yorkers and mixed hogs sold all the way from \$18.50 to \$18.60; medium hogs, \$18.30 to \$18.50; heavy hogs \$18.10 to \$18.30; pigs, \$18.25; roughs steady selling at \$16.50; stags, \$13 to \$14.00.

The receipts of sheep and lambs Monday were called 30 cars or six thousand head. The market opened 25c lower on wool stuff, best wool lambs selling from \$21.50 to \$21.75; throwouts, \$19.50 to \$20. Clipped stock, best clipped lambs, \$18.25 to \$18.50; and we understand that there was one load of clipped lambs sold up to \$18.60; throwouts, \$15.50 to \$16.00; yearlings, \$15.00 to \$15.50; wethers, \$14 to \$15; ewes, \$12 to \$14; as to weight and quality; heavy lambs \$15 to \$16.

The receipts of sheep and lambs Tuesday were about 1800 head. Best wool lambs sold from \$21.50 to \$22; throwouts, \$19.75 to \$20.25; best clipped lambs, \$18.50 to \$18.75; throwouts \$15.75 to \$16.25; yearlings, \$15.00 to \$15.50; wethers, \$14 to \$15; ewes, \$12 to \$14; as to weight and quality; heavy lambs, \$15 to \$16.

Following are the quotations:

Choice to prime weighty steers, \$15.25@16; medium to good weighty steers, \$13.75@14.50; Plain and coarse weighty steers, \$13.75@14.50; choice to prime handy weight and medium weight steers, \$14@14.50; fair to good handy weight and medium weight steers, \$13@13.50; fair to good yearlings, \$12.50@13; medium to good butcher steers, \$12@12.50; fair to medium butcher steers, \$11@11.50; good butcher heifers, \$11@11.50; good to choice fat cows, \$10.50@11; fair to good medium fat cows, \$8.50@9; good to choice fat bulls, \$10.50@11; good to best stock and feeding steers, \$10@10.50; medium grades of stock and feeding steers, \$9@9.50; good to choice fresh cows and springers, \$9.00@12.00.

SALE DATES CLAIMED

Howell Consignment Co. Holstein-Friesian Cattle. April 25. Howell, Mich.

West Michigan Holstein Breeders' Annual Guarantee Sale, May 15, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Livingston County Breeders' Sales Co. Holstein-Friesian Cattle. May 16. Howell, Michigan.

SHALL WE EAT

HORSE MEAT ?

The horse is one of the cleanest of domestic animals. It is less subject to disease than most animals. It is a very particular animal in the selection of the food which it will eat.

For many years European countries have used horse flesh, and in recent years markets for selling horse flesh have appeared in a number of the larger American cities. There are three markets in St. Louis, where horse flesh can be purchased.

A good healthy horse sixteen years old was slaughtered a short time ago at the University of Missouri college of Agriculture and the meat given to persons in Columbia who wished to compare the taste and palatability of horse flesh. Where persons partook of the meat without being aware that it was horse meat, no objection was raised, and uniformly it was pronounced to be good meat, although a little tough and dry. Some of these same persons, when informed that it was horse meat could not bring themselves to try another portion.

There has been a strong prejudice against the use of horse flesh because of man's association with the horse. At one time it was thought a sacrilege to rob Old Dobbin of his hide before burial. That prejudice has well nigh passed away.

It is doubtful whether it will pay to produce horse flesh primarily for human consumption. There are many horses in the country too small for efficient service as draft animals which in these times of meat shortage, could well be slaughtered for human food. In every large city there are many cases annually where young fat horses are injured by falling on the slippery pavement. Such animals should be slaughtered at once for food.

It is far more humane to slaughter the old family horse for food than to sell him for five or ten dollars to a huckster who will half starve and mistreat him for a year or two and then turn him out to die.

The horse has not been bred as has the beef animal for the distribution of fat thru the lean muscles and therefore horse meat will be dryer when cooked than beef. In the old horse the meat would be perhaps as tough as the meat of the old cow, but probably not more so.

As a roast or pot roast, the horse flesh is very palatable. The fillet steaks of the sixteen year old horse were as tender and juicy as the epicure could desire.

CORN GERMINATION DECEIVED EXPERT JUDGES

That the value of seed corn cannot be judged by its outward appearance has been demonstrated over and over again this year. A sample of 118 ears of Reid's Yellow dent sent to a western university for testing, illustrates how the looks of corn may deceive even experienced seed corn judges. This sample of corn was excellent in appearance, and it was examined by several farmers who were good judges of seed corn. All pronounced it an excellent sample of Reid's Yellow Dent and offered the opinion that it would grow. When the 118 ears were tested only 23 good ones were found, 11 tested 83 per cent, 22 tested 66 per cent, and the rest, or 62 ears failed to grow.

SILAGE WILL MAINTAIN ANIMALS IN WINTER

Corn silage with cottonseed meal will maintain breeding cattle in winter. Cows at the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, weighing 1180 pounds at the beginning of the winter, gained 51 pounds during the feeding period on a daily ration of 58.8 pounds of silage and 1 pound of cottonseed meal. Beef cattle have also done well on the following ration: Silage 16.7 pounds, oat straw 9.6 pounds, and clover hay, 3.5 pounds; and on shock corn, 8.7 pounds, oat straw, 10.8 pounds and clover hay 3.5 pounds. Ewes and mares may also be successfully wintered on rations similar to the foregoing.

The first real farmer's paper I have ever seen.—Fred J. Schmidt, Calhoun county.

You are on the right track. Keep it up!—W. A. Bishop, Hillsdale county.

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MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH, 1918

GRANT SLOCUM
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W. MILTON KELLY
Dr. G. A. CONN
WM. E. BROWN

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FIELD EDITOR
VETERINARY EDITOR
LEGAL EDITOR

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The Test of Americanism

"I am a new subscriber to the M. B. F., and you are surely a friend of the farmer. Will you please give me a little information about the sale of those Liberty bonds? Just what is expected of a man who is in debt and has no money to buy bonds with? I am paying taxes on 120 acres and quite a lot of personal property. But I am deeply in debt and paying 10 per cent interest. Now must I go and borrow more money to buy bonds with? Is it not better to let the fellow who has the money to lend to buy the bonds and I can do my bit in some other way? I am a loyal American citizen of German parentage. So are the men who own farms adjoining mine. And it seems as if the committee is going after us pretty strong because of our German blood. After trying in every way to persuade and frighten one man into buying a bond, the supervisor came to him and told him that if he would borrow the money that he (the supervisor) would pay the interest for him. This man is in exactly the same position that I am in and he still refuses to borrow any more money. I had made up my mind to borrow enough for at least one bond but when he told me how they tried to bribe him, I began to think there was some graft about it and decided to write to you. My valuation is \$5100 on real estate and \$550 on personal. Kindly let me know just what to do as I do not want to be classed as a traitor and am willing to do my part. I have nothing more to sell until after the coming harvest and must go in debt for seed beans and fertilizer. Please do not publish this letter."

MY FRIEND I am violating your confidence to the extent of publishing your letter, because the obligations of this publication to its country is infinitely greater than its obligations to its subscribers. But none shall ever know the name of the man whose German blood still blinds him to his duty as an American citizen. I am publishing your letter and making a public answer thereto because you have raised a question that exists in the minds of thousands of others who likewise have no conception of what is expected of them in this war—a question that must be answered and settled once for all.

Nearly a century and a half ago, my forefathers who had left the King and Kaiser-ridden countries of Europe in order that they might enjoy religious and political liberty in America, arose in rebellion against the foreign ruler who attempted to enforce the doctrine of "taxation without representation." For five long, weary, bloody years they fought for the principles of right and justice, and all but their last drop of blood was shed and the last cent of their resources expended before they gained the victory.

Thus began the history of these United States of America, and thus was ushered into the political arena of the world a new doctrine, "government of, for and by the people."

My farmer friend, time nor space will not permit me to tell you the story of the trials thru which this nation has passed on its unerring way to the goal of democracy. But the next time you are in town, go to the public library. Get there Redpath's History of the United States; take the volumes home with you one by one, and read for yourself of the struggles of the American people to perpetuate the principles of self-government and preserve this precious democracy, intact and undefiled for the generations to follow.

Thru loving, patriotic devotion to the principles for which their forefathers died, each successive generation has kept the light of truth and liberty burning brightly. Its rays have scattered blessings o'er our land; its powerful beams have penetrated thru the darkness of the old world, conveying a message of hope and welcome to the benighted peoples of both Europe and Asia. Like the wise men who followed the star, your forefathers and thousands of their German kin, gathered up their meager belongings and followed the rays of light to America.

Why did they come? Why did they leave their

native land, the home of their fathers and their fathers' fathers, to cast their lot three thousand miles across the sea among a strange people? You know why they came. Because they were burdened with taxes in the levying of which they had no voice; because they were weary and sick at heart from ceaseless toil that left them nothing but aching backs; because they despised the military caste that made their Fatherland a Kaiser's paradise, and a peasant's hell.

What did they bring to America? Nothing, but the heritage of a strong people, a willingness to work, to develop,—yes, and to exploit—the vast resources of the country. What did they find in America? Democracy,—equality,—liberty,—justice,—and they found happiness and riches, far beyond their rosiest expectations.

All that you are you owe to America; all that you have was her gift to you.

What about your relatives that are left in Germany? Don't you think they would give all that they possess to be free from the iron fist of the Kaiser; is there a one who wouldn't gladly exchange places with you today to revel in the liberty which you enjoy and to buy a bond to help preserve that liberty?

We do not approve of the tactics employed to force people into the purchase of Liberty bonds. They are un-American and unworthy of a great country that is fighting for human justice. The Liberty bonds will be sold; the war work will progress; victory shall come without the financial help of the German-Americans, the pro-Germans and the lukewarm patriots. Methods to coerce people into buying bonds do not receive the sanction of the government; therefore, if an over-zealous salesman oversteps his duties, you should not blame the government. Every man or woman who is out today to sell Liberty bonds are doing so as a patriotic duty and it is a libel against them and a reproach upon your intelligence that you should accuse them of graft. I do not doubt but what the offer of your supervisor to pay the interest for your neighbor was prompted by the most unselfish motives, possibly to protect your neighbor from the finger of scorn or from indignities at the hands of a vigilance committee.

It is shameful that you are obliged to pay exorbitant rates of interest on borrowed money, but this is not the fault of your government. This is something that your government is trying to overcome thru the Federal Farm Loan act, under which several million dollars have already been loaned to the farmers of Michigan at 5 per cent interest. The advantages of this act are open to all. Why not investigate it? You won't have to pay ten percent interest in order to buy a bond. Your bank will underwrite the purchase of as many bonds as you care to buy; you can pay down when you sign the order five per cent of those bonds and the balance in weekly payments, extending over an entire year. It's EASY to buy Liberty bonds, if the spirit is willing.

My friend, I have sympathy with the great mass of American citizens thru whose veins the blood of German ancestors still flows. I know the powerful influences of native ties that draw like a magnet upon the affections; I appreciate the terrible conflict that has been waged in the minds of these, between the old love for the memories of the Fatherland, and duty to the land of their adoption. But I thank God that the majority of the German-Americans have been strong-willed enough to decide that mental issue on the side of America, and are now counted among the most loyal subjects of the United States.

As I write, there comes the news that the British line in Flanders is yielding to the Prussian onslaught. The Kaiser's military machine—the curse of Germany and the terror of little nations,—moves swiftly and with fearful results upon the brave defenders of democracy. A great crisis in the affairs of men and nations is approaching. Another week, perhaps a month at the outside, will bring victory to either might or right.

When a hundred thousand men are giving up their lives upon the fields of France; when the fate of the world's democracy hangs in the balance and the precious liberty of our own country is trembling upon the foundations which we thought secure,—who are we to quibble over the paltry dollars that we are asked to loan our government in this, the greatest hour of its need!

As you love the blessed freedom you now enjoy,—the heritage of a generous America,—decide this hour your allegiance to the Prussian tyrants or to these United States of America. There can be only one choice, one decision. If your heart is still with the country of your fathers, that is the country to which you belong, and to its military masters you should be willing to pay the price in money and blood, which militarism exacts from its subjects. But if you can say from the depths of your heart, "I am an American citizen; to this country I owe my allegiance, my

possessions, my life, and shall gladly give them up in the same measure as my fellow citizens, to protect these institutions of liberty from the hand of the despoilers," clothe your thoughts with words and your words with deeds, and before the setting of another sun, buy willingly and gladly of the Third Liberty Loan.—F. A. L.

Future Market for "Navy Beans"

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING has been carefully following the bean market since the crop was harvested last fall. It has been our endeavor to conscientiously watch the trend of the market as fixed by the law of supply and demand, and secure for the grower a reasonable price for his product, and eliminate speculation so far as possible, to the end that the interests of both producer and consumer might be protected. We appreciate the fact that finally all food products must be sold at a price commensurate with their food values; and it is for this reason that we have steadfastly held to the statement that navy beans were worth eight dollars a bushel to the grower, when compared with the price of all other food products.

However, we have repeatedly called the attention of the bean division of the food administration to the wide difference in the price paid farmer for his product and the retail price charged the consumer, believing that a charge of five dollars per bushel was excessive, and asking for some sort of regulation. We have before stated, and here reiterate the statement, that the bean growers of Michigan would have welcomed an investigation as to the cost of producing beans, and would have cheerfully abided by a decision as to price when determined by the food administration. No action has been taken to relieve the situation; but, on the other hand, it is evident that every effort has been put forth to further complicate the matter of moving this valuable crop.

The fellow who can't intelligently answer the question: "What is the matter with the bean market?" after reading the revelations made in this issue is a bone-head indeed. Firmly believing in the eternal justness of things in general, we still believe that the "Navy Bean" will come into its own. Back of those who have devised, sanctioned or permitted this unjust and unwarranted discrimination against Michigan's leading agricultural industry, stands a man who is giving his best to the Federal government in this hour of need. Honest, conscientious and industrious; face to face with one of the greatest problems that ever confronted a man is Herbert Hoover, United States Food Administrator. When the facts are presented to him; when he fully understands the situation, we believe that he will act and act quickly. With one fell stroke he will sever the bonds which have securely held this great industry; tin will be released for canning the white bean; foreign demands will be supplied without question; unwarranted and uncalled for publicity will be stopped forthwith and the "navy bean" will meet his rival pinto, from the west on an equal footing in the market place, and then the Michigan product will quickly come into its own. So don't get excited; just remember that these wrongs will be righted; hold what beans you have for a reasonable profit, and prepare to plant every available acre to Michigan white beans this spring. We are going to have a good season, and while there is yet time to revise your planting schedule don't refuse to plant beans because of past manipulations; be loyal, be patriotic, the army and navy will be buying and using navy beans before another year rolls 'round, and with average year weather conditions it will be the most profitable crop you can possibly raise. Just sit easy now that the trouble has been located; the market will soon adjust itself when the manipulators are dethroned.

We heartily commend Governor Sleeper for his proclamation warning the citizens of Michigan against the spirit of mob rule which has manifested itself in some sections, much to the disgrace of the state. The indignities that have been heaped upon law-abiding people suspected of pro-German proclivities are not only an open violation of the law, but hinder the progress of patriotic movements, and disgust the thinking people of the state. Mob rule has cost the lives of many an innocent man; let us hope it may never visit injury upon a citizen of Michigan.

In next week's issue we will cover the state's wheat situation in detail and we have some very interesting data and opinions to present upon the subject. Farmers disclaim hoarding; some are feeding wheat to hogs and chickens because it's the cheapest feed procurable. There are many arguments as to why the maximum wheat price should be increased or else all cereals placed under a similar control.

MICHIGAN NAVY BEAN IS THREATENED BY PINTO RIVAL

(Continued from page 1)

Pause as you read the clipping and letter which follows, and consider the position in which the growers of navy beans were placed. After planting an increased acreage at the behest of the Food Administration; using seed that cost more than ten dollars per bushel, and going through all of the discouragements of one of the most disastrous years in the history of the industry, the growers are further penalized in order that an excessive yield in another section of the country might find a profitable market.

CLIPPING FROM NEW YORK PACKER, SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1918

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—According to reports coming to the United States Food Administration, the pinto and other colored beans are becoming quite popular as a substitute for the common white beans. In most of the larger cities in these sections colored beans are used almost entirely. In the New England and Atlantic coast states there is little demand for this variety, while the demand for the white almost exceeds the supply.

"Reports from the two largest white bean producing states, Michigan and New York, indicate that this year's crop is far below normal. In Colorado, the estimated production of colored beans exceeds last year's crop by 400 per cent and in New Mexico by from 50 to 100 per cent. This is a surplus of over 3000 cars above the needs of the region west of the Alleghenies.

"Colored beans are at least equal to white in food value, and many claim that they surpass them in flavor. The housewife in the east may save considerable money by purchasing colored beans, for they are from 35 to 40 per cent cheaper than the white. K. P. Kimball, bean expert with the Food Administration states that the supply of colored beans is ample to meet our needs.

"Reports from the quartermasters of the Army and Navy show that colored beans are being used extensively by them and are meeting with great favor. —U. S. Food Administration."

In this connection it is well to note that some time prior to the consummation of the pinto bean deal, a letter was sent by the Food Administration to Colorado pinto growers and dealers reminding them, possibly as a means to keep the prices down, that pintos were not worth nearly as much money as the navy beans because the soldiers did not like them nearly so well.

COPY OF LETTER SENT OUT BY
A BOSTON BROKERAGE FIRM
TO WHOLESALE GROCERS

"Colorado Pinto Beans"

Boston, Mass., April 1, 1918

"Gentlemen:

"No doubt you are fully acquainted with the Food Administration's action in taking over the entire Colorado Pinto Bean crop, approximating eight hundred cars, and their allotment to New England of fifty cars, all of which are now enroute to various points mentioned below:

"New Haven, Conn.; Hartford, Conn.; Springfield, Mass.; Worcester, Mass.; Boston, Mass.; New Bedford, Mass.; Providence, R. I.; Manchester, R. I.; Keene, N. H.; Burlington, Vt.; Portland, Me.; Bangor, Me.

"The purpose of this letter is to call your attention to the fact that we with other brokers have these beans to sell for the account of the U. S. Food Administration at a price of \$9.90 per hundred pounds, ex warehouse any of the above points mentioned, and we are now soliciting your business on same.

"It is the purpose of the Food Administration, immediately upon the arrival of the first cars to release thru the newspapers and by distribution of literature, a publicity campaign of education, calling attention of the public to the most excellent food values of these beans and duly describing their merits compared with Michigan, New York and California pea beans, on which the shortage is becoming greater every day owing either to the Government taking the crop, as in the instance of California, or to the fact that crops are poor and unfit to carry thru the hot summer weather, as in the cases of Michigan and New York states, and we are quite sure that you will without a doubt soon have considerable demand for them.

"Furthermore, the Food Administration have signified their willingness, upon request, to send samples and literature to all jobbers, salesmen and representatives immediately upon receipt of their names and addresses. We will be pleased to receive from you your order for shipment for any quantity and from any of the above mentioned points as well as a list of names of your representatives to be forwarded to the proper department at Washington for samples and literature.

"The beans are packed in 100 pound bags, are sold ex warehouses above points, reweighed with allowance of 1/2 pound for tare, sight draft, bill of lading attached payable on arrival and examination.

"Trusting that we may be favored with a portion of your business on these beans, we are yours very truly, Abbott Hall Co."

Read again that part of the above letter which we have placed in Italics. You will note, first, that the Food Administration has placed a supply of these beans at convenient points through the east. Second, that upon arrival of these beans in any retail market the Food Administration will start its campaign of publicity, and not only tell of the excellent food value of the Pinto bean, but describe their merits compared with the Michigan and New York pea beans, and, third, to send samples and literature upon request. We ask in all candor, was it necessary for the Food Administration to adopt such methods as a matter of food conservation. Why this unwillingness to permit these two food commodities to meet upon the market and be sold upon their merits? If the navy bean was too high in price to be used in the army, then the government should be commended for purchasing Pinto beans, but was it right and just to buy up the Pinto bean crop at a price above what they were selling in the open market five weeks before the price was set by the Food Administration, and then open a campaign of publicity to not only dispose of these beans, but to drive the navy, or pea bean from the market, through methods which were not even as frank and open as the professional substituters' dope, which has been condemned by honest business men everywhere?

GOVERNMENT RELEASES TIN FOR CANNING PINTOS

As if it were not enough to thus create an artificial demand for pinto beans, the Food Administration has followed its publicity campaign up

THE SUBSTITUTER!



"Sorry, Ma'am we do not have any white beans, but here are some Pinto beans, just as good and only 9c per pound."

by securing from the Steel Industries Board the release of sufficient tin for canning the entire pinto bean crop not immediately consumed. It was only after numerous requests from Michigan bean interests that the Food Administration finally (in December) secured the release of 25 per cent of the amount of tin used the previous year for the canning of WET navy beans. Later, permission was given for a release of an additional 25 per cent for the canning of DRY navy beans. Hence, a canning concern that put up 250,000 cans of beans last year is enabled to put up only 125,000 cans this year.

But don't imagine that canning companies in Michigan are lying idle for want of tin to can navy beans. No, sir-ee; they're canning Pinto beans that have been shipped into the state from Colorado, by the thousands of bushels, whilst less than ten miles away from some of the factories, an equal number of navy beans await for the market that the Pintos, thru the medium of the Food Administration have partially displaced.

MICHIGAN MUST ACT TO SAVE BEAN INDUSTRY

No one interested in the culture and trading of Michigan pea beans can be blind to the fact that the tactics employed by the Food Administration in the above respects have caused an irreparable harm to the state's leading agricultural industry. This is the unanimous opinion of growers, jobbers, bankers, country merchants, in fact, everyone having commercial interests in the bean growing sections of the state. Millions of dollars are invested in facilities for growing beans, in elevators for handling them, and in allied enterprises dependent upon the bean industry for their sus-

tenance. All these vast interests now stand jeopardized, and for the sake of mutual self-protection they are joining hands in all sections of the state preparing to send a mighty protest to the Food Administration against this arbitrary disregard of their commercial rights.

The growing of beans is one of the greatest industries in one of the greatest farming states of the union. Six hundred thousand acres are normally planted to the crop, having a total gross value of nearly \$40,000,000. It is a stable industry, built up thru years of patient endeavor and hard work; it has assumed a fixed place in the state's agriculture; if it suffers retardment the entire state suffers.

The fears for the preservation of the Michigan bean industry are not imagined, for already the effects of the Food Administration's efforts to supplant the pea bean with the pinto variety on the eastern markets is being felt. Despite the shortage of the navy bean crop, the market has been sluggish all thru the early spring months; eastern dealers are loaded up with Pinto beans; the public is patriotically buying pinto beans, and with plenty of tin available for canning Pintos, the canning companies are patriotically putting up the western bean instead of the Navy as heretofore.

Michigan bean jobbers, who are closer in touch with the situation than the growers, view the developments of the past few months with alarm. Some of the big companies, acting as jobbers for smaller concerns, have been obliged to send out

warnings to country elevators all over the state cautioning them to go carefully in their purchase of white beans. Under date of April 11, the Lewis E. Sands Co., of Detroit, advised Michigan elevators as follows: "The expected advance in prices the last week in March and the first of April did not materialize. Instead the past three weeks witnessed the most remarkable decline in bean quotations. It is difficult to explain just what the cause of this decline was, unless it was due to a big drop in the demand from the canners and the general trade. Judging from reports which we get, the farmers are not selling readily, but there seems to be a quantity of beans in the hands of the elevators. If we could get a first-class demand there would be a good chance for a rise in prices, but up to date the farmers' unwillingness to sell has been more than over-balanced by the unwillingness of the trade to buy. * * * We cannot make any concerted effort to buy beans on account of poor demand but would certainly be glad to be of assistance to you if you have stock which you wish to move."

It is the conviction of this company that popularizing the Pinto is to blame for the curtailed demand for the Navy, and the company ventures the opinion that 25 cars of pinto beans, at the prices quoted, put into a market like Cincinnati at this time of the year will undoubtedly kill the sale of white beans entirely.

There is no need to go over again the events of the past year. It is common knowledge now that a sufficient acreage was planted to insure, with a normal season, a production of at least 6,000,000 bushels of beans. It is only as we contemplate the final crop figures showing a total yield of only 3,514,000 bushels that we comprehend something of the calamity that the unfavorable season visited upon the 1917 crop, and realize how essential it is that the growers receive every last cent that an unhampered market can yield.

The action of the bean division of the United States Food Administration, as above outlined, is a fitting climax to the bean fiasco, and constitutes, in the judgment of every fair-minded man, one of the greatest wrongs ever perpetrated upon an industry. As we have repeatedly pointed out in these columns, the Food Administration has every right, as a patriotic measure, to acquaint the public with the merits and the prices of Pinto beans; it may even be excused for placing a huge sum of the public funds as a risk to underwrite the purchase of the pinto crop, but when it comes to a deliberate attempt to injure the traditional value and standing of the Navy bean and jeopardize the great financial interests dependent upon that industry, common justice will pardon our efforts at this time to save the Michigan pea bean industry from total destruction.

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.)

Why Don't Farmer Market His Own Crops?

I have been on the farm five years and never sold a bushel of potatoes to the warehouse. What I have done others can do, and therefore I will give you some of my experiences in the five years. Perhaps it will help some one out who has good potatoes and beans to sell. I say good potatoes, that means nice round, well-sorted stock. Let your elevator man have the culls. He will take them and mix them up with the rest. The warehouse man has spoiled the market for Michigan potatoes, and it looks to me that after spoiling the market they have tried to find something at the expense of the farmer, of course, to build the market up, by grading them. This making of two grades of potatoes is a humbug and is not going to help any. As long as the dealer takes in everything that comes along, unripe, long, round, white and red, all dumped in the same cellar 8 or 10 feet high, and the farmer who has a nice load of ripe potatoes gets no more than the man who had the unripe, badly mixed. Nothing fair about it. The warehouse man simply don't understand his business, and just as long as they keep doing business this way the Michigan potato will not get its just due. Time and again the people in Indiana and Ohio asked me why it was that one sack of potatoes out of the same car was good and another was not. I have seen a good many cars of potatoes sold that came from Michigan and not one of them No. 1 potatoes. I saw some good potatoes sold that came from Minnesota. It is almost impossible to sell a car of potatoes that have been put up in sacks as people have been fooled too often with these bad potatoes from Michigan. Therefore, I ship in bulk in the car, and the buyer can see what he is buying. I had some hard sledding, but always came out on top as I had No. 1 goods. I could fill this whole paper if I told you all of my experience in five years. One time I loaded a car in an Ohio town and found six more on the track to be sold. Five of them were of the badly-sorted kind, and unripe. One belonged to a farmer from Burr Oak, Michigan, in the south part of the state. They were ripe but were not sorted good enough. My car was placed next to his. I felt sorry for the man, as he told me he had been there eight days and did not have half of them sold. He advised me to re-ship. I told him my car would be sold in three days and he laughed at me. This man had not advertised his goods. Well, I made out my own ad. and put it in the daily paper. It cost me \$5.30 for one issue, and besides this I spent \$3 for a thousand handbills. I made the heading read, "Genuine Michigan potatoes." I said they were ripe and not the fake kind heretofore palmed off on the public, and that I would give up \$50 in cash if anyone could bring a better potato than I offered, and be sure and look for the number and name of the car, as there were six carloads on the track. I sold some before dinner that day. About 11 o'clock a lady came along looking for the car advertised.

I asked the lady if she was looking for potatoes, and she told me she was looking for the car that was advertised in the paper. I told her perhaps it would be better to try them first, and to take a few home and I said I did not think the man next to me would have any objections to her taking a few of his home either. The lady decided to do this and after dinner she came back and told me before a large crowd that she had my potatoes all eaten up before the others were done cooking. I thanked her and she bought 15 bushels and she told me that she would tell everybody she knew over the phone that she bought genuine Michigan potatoes of a Michigan man. Well, I think she did, as the next day I was about sold out and the man from Burr Oak sold what he had left at 23c per bushel less to a storekeeper, and he told me that was his first and last car that he would sell himself. He did not know how to do business.

I tell you this to let you know that you have got to tell people what you have to sell by advertising. First, have the right goods and then let the people know it. I will tell you of another experience I had in another town to prove to you that you must have good potatoes if you want to sell them to advantage.

I had started to sell and set my price and the commission man was going to run me out, as they will try to do to you if they can. He ordered two cars of potatoes from Cincinnati, Ohio, and they were on the track the next morning. He put the price 10 cents below me, but got left badly. I think they were two cars refused by someone, as they were not ripe and badly mixed. I had my potatoes

in bulk so they could see them, and his were in sacks. I don't think he sold a single bushel of them. He put them in his warehouse and they rotted here. I shipped three more carloads there.

I tell you, people in Ohio and Indiana are no fools; they know a good thing when they see it. They have been fooled too often on bad potatoes shipped from the dealers in Michigan. I am sure that at present there are many people in these states who are without them now and every bushel of Michigan potatoes that can be spared could be sold there at good prices. You can go in most any town and they sell out of the stores at not less than \$1.60 per bushel and most of the stores do not have more than ten bushels on hand. They get them shipped in sacks either from Cincinnati or Columbus from the wholesale houses.

I would like to see a law passed whereby the farmer could sell his potatoes wherever he pleased. They have struck me for a license in some towns. I advise you before you start selling your good produce to get you a pocket map. Write to the mayor and station agent regarding the license and the agent can tell you whether or not you can sell a car in his town. Be sure and put a stamp on for reply. Take also your beans, apples, cabbage, etc. along, if you have any. I do it, and have had success at it. Take the best goods along and let the dealer at your town have the culls.

The market calls for round, white potatoes, so if you have long potatoes don't plant them. I was going to plant 8 acres next spring, but will plant only two acres on account of my hired man having gone to war. Now if any of you readers want some



No. 1 seed I have about 70 bushels to sell. I guarantee them pure Million Dollar potatoes. They are very near like the Irish Cobbler. The potatoes are hill-selected. I had 3-4 of an acre, got 133 bus. in all and 96 bus. of them are hill-selected. Will not sell less than two and one-half bushels. I never put my potatoes over a screen when I ship them. I sort them in the field and every farmer should do this. Don't try to sell anything that you would not buy yourself. Did not sell my potatoes last fall, and this don't worry me, as I shall take them with my beans to Ohio a little later and am sure I will realize over \$1.00 for my potatoes and \$8.00 for my beans after paying all expenses.

Don't worry about your potatoes and beans. It is a long time before they will have new ones and I think they will be glad to get your No. 2 sorted potatoes at a dollar a bushel before the new crop is on the market.—J. F. McBain.

We Are Not Autocrats

I am a reader of your paper and think it is the best farm paper I have ever read, but was surprised that you ask to hear from your readers concerning a bill presented in New York state to prevent any foreign-born person from holding office. How can anyone think of such a law unless he be an autocrat and an imperialist. Such a person is not a loyal U. S. citizen. We are fighting for democracy, not autocracy and think such a law not good for Michigan, and think that M. B. F. should not have waited to hear from its readers but attacked such propaganda at once.—J. Y. Owendale.

My Tractor Experience

I have been interested in your articles on tractor experiences and glad to find so many optimists, for I'm a pessimist in regard to the tractor I now have. About a year ago, growing enthusiastic, and feeling patriotic, we bought a common popular make 10-20 tractor costing \$1,000 without plows, discs, etc., hoping to work more land, raise more grain and get our own work done up in good season, but we did not dispose of any horses. Naturally having put so much money into the tractor, we bragged a little of how much we were going to do, for ours was the first tractor in the county. But evidently we had not taken everything into consideration.

Our farm is what is known as a "wet" farm, although it has a great deal of tile laid thru the wet spots. We started plowing on some tough clover and timothy sod and it went along splendidly for awhile when we hit a soft spot and before it could be stopped the tractor sank almost to the hubs. After several hours work we got the tractor out and by means of a long chain pulled the plow out. Undaunted, we shifted over a few rods and went at it again, but the first slightly soft spot the tractor struck it again sunk in the ground and would churn itself down to the hub unless unhooked from the plow and posts or planks put under the drive wheels. After three days of this we put it in the shed and went ahead with the work with teams.

Time and again we would try it at disking, dragging, etc., but unless we put on light tools it would mire in these soft spots. We finally abandoned it entirely and finished our work with teams. However, we found the tractor very efficient during the summer when the ground was dry and hard in clearing land as it would pull out second-growth timber 4 inches to 6 inches in diameter, roots and all, and by means of a block and cable did the work of two teams and several men.

In the fall it did fair work at plowing until rains came, when we had to put it up and put the horses in the field. At belt work it is very handy, as it is so easy to place in position.

There was one time in the fall when the tractor stood in the field for two weeks when the weather was good, while we waited for a small part of the steering apparatus.

Possibly we should have bought a caterpillar for our kind of ground. I would advise a farmer to be thoroughly confident of a tractor's ability before buying.—A. J. B. Charlevoix.

Who is the Patriot?

I thoroughly agree with the writer who says: "Why not cut out the brewing of beer, and let us have the grain for ourselves and animals to eat." I will go farther and say, why not compel all millers to mix the substitutes with the wheat at the mills and then the rich man would get the same kind of bread as the poor man, who has to work. What does a rich man care if he don't know how to handle a cow. Patriotism might keep them from doing this, but I don't believe they have to. For instance, in our town some of the townspeople have their names on two or three grocerymen's lists as customers, and as soon as the grocery gets sugar they buy all they can get. The farmer, as a rule, has his name on one of the lists as a customer, and when he goes to town he is lucky if he gets any sugar. That is not what I call patriotism. We paid 10c a pound for sugar in Gladwin all winter, which seems to me is more than it should be. I was in Midland in January and they sold it there for 9 cents. I believe the government should buy all wheat and wheat substitutes and supervise their manufactures also to guarantee a fair price for all farm products if they wish the farmer to do his share. Success to M. B. F. Would not be without it.—J. S. Gladwin.

Lack of Distribution Farmer's Problem

Talking about establishing markets in our manufacturing centers. Now we are touching a most important subject. One that needs careful consideration and if properly sorted, carefully planned and carried out in a business like way, will be a success, and will solve one of the greatest problems before the American people today. If the market end of the products reach the markets and if the city people, the consumers will co-operate with the producers, with the proper patronage, the problem is an easy one to solve.

Then there will be a lot of obstacles to overcome. The speculators with their agents and friends who have been making millions by speculating on the necessities of life, are not going to give up without a struggle. Imagine, they will spend money like drunken sailors to thwart such plans. They will have spies out with bombs who will try to blast the hopes and progress of the common people. We shall have trouble the same as the people in Europe are having at the present time to free themselves from the yoke of autocracy, and as they have done

and are doing, so we will have to take heroic measures to rid ourselves from the slavery of the gamblers and speculators who have manipulated our markets thru legislation and thru actual falsification of facts. There is no need of going into details as to the various ways and means they have adopted to gain the control. Think of it. The people of the U. S. actually being in need and suffering for the want of the necessities of life. Surely there is something radically wrong. It certainly is high time that men and women, who have a little live brains, were beginning to use those brains and not let the other fellow get all of the profits to such an extent as to put us in the condition above mentioned. I sometimes think there is something in what the old Jew once said, "The American farmer should have a piece of crepe hung on his nose, his brains are dead." They must surely be in some kind of a stupor or dulled, for some reason beyond understanding, for if they would unite and co-operate, no such a condition could have been carried out or thought about. The farmers and the laborers are in the majority in this country and there is no good reason why they should let a few speculators bully them out of a just compensation for their productions.

What does all this mean?

We read about the potato dealers, bean dealers, grain dealers, hay dealers, etc., having conventions. Do you suppose that is just to have a good time, with banquets, etc? Not much. If you think so, you have another think coming. No. They get together to fix the price on your stuff, at the same time to fix the price the consumers must pay. Now, that is nothing new. Everybody knows that and they don't care who knows it. They have such a firm hold on the business and the people that they don't give a d— who knows it. They tell you what they will give you and you can take that, or keep your stuff. Supply and demand have but little to do with their business. If the farmers should attempt to ship their own goods to the markets, you run right up against the commission men or dealers, and they know that you are not a regular shipper or dealer and they at once proceed to trim you right. If he doesn't the regular organized dealers soon fix him. So it is plain to be seen that single-handed or in cases of just a few, it becomes impossible to receive justice. It is therefore apparent the first step to be taken, is to secure a market so as to know that we are not at the mercy of the organized dealers. We must co-operate with the consumer. In union there is strength. The farmers are not claiming that the consumer does not pay enough for one product, but we do claim there is too wide a difference between the price we receive and the price the consumers pay. The high price which the consumers are forced to pay by these speculators, thru their manipulation's forces for their labor in order to live. That again waits back to the farmer, who must have labor in order to produce the necessities of life. The middleman or the dealers, instead of being satisfied with a reasonable profit at once begin to double up again on their profits, and so the game goes on. The farmer simply has nothing to say about it. He is the silent partner without vote or representation, regarding prices. He is the honest old ox upon whose shoulders the burdens and responsibilities must rest. It is a known fact to the common people and to all, that we have a lot of people in this country who do not work with their hands, but live in beautiful homes on the fat of the land, and who do not have to wear crepe on their noses. It is to be wondered at as well educated and as well read as the American people are, that such a condition could exist here. Nothing but heroic and well-organized measures can overcome the existing conditions, for everywhere you may turn, go to the stock yards, hay or grain markets, you will find yourself up against the organized and well-trained forces of the enemies of the common people. Your products must pass thru the regular toll gates which are properly guarded, so that nothing will es-

cape them without their getting their regular share of it. Now, brother farmers, Gleaners, Grangers, or laborers, let us hear from you and let us discuss ways and means whereby we may be able to throw off the yoke that the gamblers and schemers have so firmly fitted to us.

We don't want to let up on production. We are too patriotic for that. I see a number of articles and remarks made by different farmers and writers in our farm papers, advocating to reduce production. That in my judgment is wrong. Not patriotic. We are not over producing. No. Let us strike at the root of the evil instead and remove the cause. I can imagine the sarcastic grins and the sneering remarks which will be made by our lords and speculators when they read such junk as this, but they may find out the same as Kaiser Bill is finding out, that they have taken in too much territory. They have not been satisfied with reasonable profits, so let us proceed in one bungling way to vote them out. We have got the majority on our side, but we must work in unity. The people of Denmark labored for 30 years before they succeeded with their organizations. Right here I want to say a few words about some of the organizations which I had a chance and pleasure to study while in Denmark a few years ago. The live stock meat animals such as cattle, hogs, sheep, etc., when ready for market are taken to the slaughter houses, which are located in different parts of the country, so that the stock was taken there directly by the farmers, thereby eliminating the shrinkage, expenses and loss by railroad transportation, feed bills at stock yards, buyers' profits and commission men's commissions. The farmers were paid the quoted market prices of the London markets, less freight. The animals were then killed. The off-falls were taken care of and credited to the farmer's account who brought the stock. The meat was then prepared for market, shipped either to Germany or England, and whatever they brought over and above the expenses was turned over to the farmers, at their regular quarterly settlements. I saw some statements that were surprising, considering the way our business of that kind is carried on here. These farmers own the slaughter houses, packing houses, numerous warehouses, etc. They call it in their language "andel" meaning co-operative. The farmers when I was there were buying corn, grain feed and fertilizer by the shiploads from this country, making it into meat, butter and cheese, most all of which was shipped half way back again to the markets in England. That was just one branch of their business most all of their other business is carried on in the same co-operative way, and they certainly were prospering and making the soil more productive each year. That shows what a people can do, when they set out to do it, when they work in unison. When anyone looks at the criminal miscarriage of business and waste here on every hand, it looks a hundred times worse after one has seen and observed the way that business is carried on in a little back country like Denmark. There is no good excuse for the reckless way we are carrying on our business in this rich country, with almost unlimited resources, and yet some of our people

are actually in want of the necessities of life and others amassing mammoth fortunes bring in extravagance at the expense of the poorer working classes. I am not opposed to anyone making money, if it is made in an honest way, but I am opposed to organized robbery, just as much as I am to highway robbery, and surely a country can not be called a progressive and prosperous country unless the majority of the people therein are in comfortable circumstances. But now, while the weather is fine, and the game is on and some one with influence and ability is working to establish a market in Detroit, let us all do what we can to keep the ball rolling. Say something. Do something. Raise money if need be. I think the time is just about right to play the game, so come on brother farmers don't be afraid to put a little confidence in yourself and in your business.

We farmers are charged with the responsibility of feeding the people and we have performed that duty in spite of all the many obstacles we have had to contend with, besides making thousands of fellows rich and those very same fellows are even now charging us with being slackers and profiteering unjustly. Now, wouldn't that go and get you? That surely is adding insult to injury. Now let us stand together like a solid unit and roll away the clouds which obscure the sun of freedom and equity, so that it may have a chance to send its loving rays of justice to all parts of our beloved country.—C. K. Ashley.

Who Owns the Cull Beans?

Cull beans; who do they belong to? I say they belong to the farmer. If all the cull beans were picked out by hand that they pick out of your sample, why then, I should say that the buyer should have the culls. But they have machines that pick out nearly all of the rough ones and it doesn't cost nearly five cents a pound to get them picked out by the machine. I have often heard the bean pickers say when they looked at some beans that had just been screened, "my, we could make a lot picking beans if we could pick them just as they were screened." Remember, the beans look a lot different when the girls get them.

I notice a piece in M. B. F. asking for information on planting beans but I cannot give the initials of the person as I gave the paper away. I would say six or seven beans were plenty to put in a hill 28x28 inches apart. As for yield, as for the work it takes, you will get as many in the hill as the drill, for it takes less work to keep them clean. I have checked in over 100 acres of beans with a check row planter, some for the neighbors, and they wouldn't drill now if they could get them planted in hills, and neither would I. Twelve to fourteen quarts is all it requires and that means quite a saving.

Then if you notice when he picked your sample he takes all the green ones and the ones with spots on out, but I have yet to see hand-picked beans that would pick less than one-half to one pound if the farmer had them to sell. Cull beans they say are worth only 2c a pound, but my uncle got three dollars a bushel for his cull beans last year, and they were picked out after the beans were screened at the elevator at Free-land.—F. B., Birch Run.

AN AMERICAN SHARPSHOOTER AT WORK IN THE FIRST LINE TRENCHES



This soldier of the — Infantry, — Division, is aiming at a German foe from his place of concealment on the French battlefield.

Suggests Less Potato Acreage

I read your valuable paper with interest. I see a great many are going to cut their potato acreage fifty per cent this year. Now wouldn't it be a blessing if all of us would do that very thing? Last year nearly all had only half a crop and thousands of bushels were frozen, and yet there is more than enough to go around with profit to none but the buyer. Therefore, we have wasted valuable ground in growing potatoes. Now, if we plant only fifty per cent of our last year's acreage and get an ordinary crop there would be a plenty at probably a profit to the producer. It must also be remembered that we planted our very best sod land to potatoes, and this other fifty per cent of ground used for potatoes would have grown immense crops of hay, beans and corn.—C. E. Rockford.

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THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



A Plea for the Little Belgians

MRS. CANTON'S spirits were certainly in attune with the wonderful springtime morning, for she hummed a merry air as she went about her week's bread-making. Out of doors Mother Nature was bedecked in her sprightliest garments of the season; the sun smiled warmly overhead; and the entire world seemed to beam with happiness and good cheer. If troubles and worries, misery or suffering were abroad that smiling morning, they were far afield and did not disturb the happy mood of the bread-maker.

"Good morning, Sara," greeted a voice from the kitchen door. "Say, isn't it glorious; don't wonder you are singing away. Felt like it myself till I got Henry's letter."

"Well, land sakes, Em, what are you doing out this early in the morning. Don't you have any work to do? One would think you were a lady of leisure. There's a chair; sit down and tell me the news. Not any trouble, I hope." And Mrs. Canton wiped her hands on her apron and drew forth a chair for her neighbor.

"No, Sara,—no trouble, but I just had to get out and talk to someone. I just received a letter from Henry,—the first he has written since he reached France. He had such a grand trip and we are so relieved that he arrived safely. Put your bread in the oven, Sara, and then I'll read you Henry's letter, that is, if you want to hear it."

"Of course I do," replied Mrs. Canton as she hastily buttered the loaves of bread and placed them in the oven. "It was only last night that Tom and I were talking about Henry and wondering if he got across all right. We're just as much interested as if he was our own boy. What does he say anyway?"

"Well, you know, he don't say when he got there or just exactly where he is now because the army rules are against it, but it don't matter. He's in France or Belgium, or somewhere near there, not a great ways from the fighting line. Here's what he says:"

"Well, dad and mother, I'm here in France at last, and am rushing this off as I promised. I would, so you'd know that I escaped Fritz's submarine. It was a great trip across, but I got horribly sea sick and for two days I didn't care whether I got hit with a submarine or just drowned myself by jumping overboard. But now I'm glad to be alive."

"You'd never guess who I'm bunking with. Remember Don Greene, the young fellow who ran his machine over our dog a couple of years ago, and I went to town to give him a licking, and his dad made him fork over \$25 for the dog? Well, he was the first fellow I ran into on shipboard, and he grabbed my hand as if I was a long-lost brother. We have been pals ever since. Gosh, back home he wouldn't have looked at any of us country boys. We were too green for Don Greene. It's funny what a change this camp life makes in a fellow. Money and position don't seem to count for anything here. We're all on an equal footing and we must either chum together or die of lonesomeness."

"Well, what do you think of that," broke in Mrs. Canton. "Of all the fellows to chum up with Henry. I'd put Don Greene down as the last. What else did he say?"

"The rest of his letter is about them poor little Belgium children we used to read so much about in the paper, and I declare, Sara, it's just about upset me for the day."

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

I'd never believe these things true, if Henry didn't write them himself. Just listen to this:"

"Say, Mother, it must certainly be tough to live in Belgium. You know the Germans have taken away nearly everything the Belgians had, and left them to freeze and starve. Gosh, ma, it almost makes me cry whenever I see one of those little chaps peeking around the corner of an old barn or pig pen where his brothers and mother make their home since their daddy was killed and their farmhouse burned. Last night one of the officers told the men about a case that just came to his attention. He was out scouting one day when he came across an old stable about half way between here and the German lines. A little boy and girl sat in a pile of dirt out in front of the stable, and when they caught sight of the party they scurried into the barn. The officer noticed that the little boy dragged himself along on one foot and set up a cry when his little sister disappeared into the barn ahead of him. The officer followed them, and he told the boys he'd never forget the sight that met his eyes."

"The children, terror-stricken at the sight of the strangers, were cuddling about something that lie on a pile of old straw in one corner of the barn. It was the mother,—dead. The officer thought she had died of starvation, she was so thin and pale. He brought the little boy and girl back to camp, and the army surgeon discovered that the little boy's feet had been frozen. He may have to cut 'em off, the officer said."

By now Mrs. Canton was openly weeping into her blue gingham apron, and a cloud had darkened the doorway and the windows. In the twinkling of an eye, the sorrows and sufferings of a little boy and girl, and the vision of a dead mother on a pile of dirty straw in wretched Belgium, had cast a shadow upon the brightness of the morning, and taken poor Mrs. Canton's thoughts far, far away across the sea.

"Did you ever hear of anything like that before?" continued the letter, "and from what I hear, there are hundreds of other cases just as bad. Why, mother, scores have died of starvation; the people go about in rags; fathers have been killed at war; mothers don't get enough to eat to feed their babies; thousands of little chaps are without parents or homes. What is to become of them, I don't know, and the officer I was telling you about said it had become a problem too big for the army authorities to handle. He said France couldn't take care of the homeless Belgians, because so many French children exiled from the land taken by the Germans were in just as bad a fix. I tell you, ma, it's fierce. Can't some of you do something for these little kids? You and pa could just as well take care of these children as not. They aren't very clean, that's a

fact, but how could they be living as they have the last three years. But you could scrub 'em up, couldn't you, and some of them are small enough yet so they'd learn English easily and be taught American ways. You'd be surprised to see how intelligent and bright the most of them look. Talk this over won't you. And there's the Canton's, and the Smith's and the Burgesses, with big houses and plenty of room for children. Say, ma, won't you promise to go and see these people and ask them to adopt one of these little starving Belgians? I know you will, and while you're there, ask them to dig up all the old clothes they can find, and then I want you to write to the Belgian Relief Committee and tell them you want to help. I don't know what they're sending over here now, and they may not want any of the clothes right now, but anyway, 'twont do any harm to let them know you are willing to help when called upon."

"I'll go right up stairs this minute," broke in Mrs. Canton, "Cynthia's got a raft of clothes that she'll never wear again, and they might just as well be covering the backs of those poor little Belgian girls. And we'll both go down and see Mrs. Burgess, as soon as my bread is out of the oven. Jim Burgess is stingier than a miser but when he reads that letter he'll loosen up."

"Now, just calm yourself, Sara. Let's find out first from the Belgian Relief Commission whether they want any clothes or whether they are placing any Belgium children in American homes. I've been thinking this thing over, and have decided that the least we can do is to adopt one of the children provided there's a way to do it. And if there is, I want you to do the same thing and we'll call on every neighbor within twenty miles. First thing you know, we'll have a Belgian colony founded here."

A scorchy smell from the oven and an exclamation of dismay from Mrs. Canton told of burning bread, and Mrs. Lee prudently arose to go, after she had promised in response to Mrs. Canton's emphatic and choking demand from the fumes that poured from the bread oven, "that she'd let her know just the minute she heard from the Relief Commission."

Wanted—Recipe for Canning Chicken

PENELOPE, FARM HOME DEPT., M. B. F.—Have tried the oat meal bread and like it very much. Would like a recipe for canning chicken in jars. Thanks to the M. B. F. for the good it is doing farmers.—Mrs. F. J. S., Three Oaks, Mich.

We would be very grateful if any farm reader possessing this information would kindly offer it for publication. Canned chicken would be an excellent addition to our emergency cupboards.

RECIPES SUGGESTED BY THE U. S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION

Unusual Pies Unusually Good

War long ago uncovered the sacred American pie, now the bottom crust as known to our mothers has disappeared, and the latest offering of " Yankee ingenuity" is rice pie crust. Rice has a natural affinity for the things that usually constitute pie fillings and this new camouflage — woman — is good for the duration of the war.

Rice Pie Crust

Line a greased pie pan with cold boiled rice, bringing the rice well over the edge of the pan and shaping it with a spoon dipped in milk. Bake the crust in a moderate oven until it is slightly brown. Use the crust like any pastry for a one-crust pie.

Sour Pie Crust

One cup buttermilk or thick clabbered milk, 2 tablespoons of cornstarch mixed with 4 tablespoons of cold water, ¾ cup of maple syrup, 2 egg yolks beaten, 1 lemon juice and grated rind 1 tablespoon of melted butter. Heat the milk in a double boiler. When it is warm add cornstarch mixed with cold water. Cook the mixture until it is thick and add the other ingredients. Cook the mixture until it is clear. Turn it into a baked crust made with rice, cover it with meringue and bake it in a

YOUNG NURSES IN ARMY UNIFORMS ENJOY SENDOFF TO FRANCE



Young women nurses, wearing their army uniforms of blue serge, enjoyed their final social fling in America before going to the front in France, at a tea given to two hundred and fifty of their number from every State in the Union by Mrs. James Speyer, at her home in New York city. Mrs. Speyer is chairman of the Committee on Nurses of the Committee of Women of National Defence.

slow oven for twenty-five minutes.

Meringue

Whites of two eggs, quarter teaspoon vanilla 4 tablespoons maple syrup. Beat the whites until stiff, add syrup gradually and then the vanilla.

Cottage Cheese Pie

One cup cottage cheese, half cup maple syrup two-thirds cup milk, yoke of two eggs beaten, 2 tablespoons melted butter, salt, half teaspoon vanilla. Mix the ingredients in the order given. Bake the pie in one crust made of rice. Cool it slightly, cover it with meringue and brown in slow oven.

Lemon Cheese Pie

One cup cottage cheese, two-thirds cup honey or three-quarters cup syrup, yolk of one egg two-thirds cup milk, 2 tablespoons butter two tablespoons cornstarch juice and grated rind of one lemon. Heat the milk, add the sweetening and the cornstarch and cook the mixture until it is thick stirring it constantly. Add the egg and cook the mixture until the egg thickens. Add the cheese, the butter, the juice and the rind of the lemon. Pour the mixture into a well-baked crust made with rice. Cover it with meringue and brown it in a slow oven.

Weekly Fashions

THE outdoor play season is here at last. The wee little tots are eager to be out on their sand piles again; the older girls must take their dolls out for an airing and there is rope-skipping and hopscotch to keep the youngsters busy.

Every mother of today realizes the value of out door life for children. It is so difficult in this northern climate to get the real little ones out in the winter time, we must take advantage of every warm spring day. Dress them comfortably and in the

clothes that are most easily laundered and let them out for the season.

No. 8144—The romper has been the most popular suit for both boys and girls. Many mothers, however, prefer little skirts for their girls and insist on petticoats and ruffles, but all that is so foolish. The child hasn't half the freedom or comfort she would have in the bloomers, and you, mother, have twice the labor. No. 8144 is the romper style, suitable for either boys or girls, having such full bloomers one can scarcely tell them from a skirt. The bloomers are banded and button through the crotch, there is no opening down the back, but the suit buttons on the left shoulder. I often use this same idea in my little girls' dresses. They wear the rompers or overalls at times for play, but for street I prefer skirts, so I simply make a straight-plaited skirt of same material to button onto the high waist line, and they are dressed. No skirts or panties to bother with, the bloomers take the place of both and too, the gingham dresses look much better. No. 8144 comes in sizes 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 years.

No. 8162—Another suitable school dress is here presented for the girls of 10, 12, 14 years. Would use a soft wool serge for this dress with the skirted skirt which is always so fluffy. The shaped yoke, outlined with bands of satin, and the satin sailor collar and cuffs would make a most attractive little costume and very dressy. If used with wash material one should be careful to choose something firm, such as a linen or piqua. This pattern comes in sizes 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years.

No. 8139—Isn't this a simple, girlish, style. For a dotted mull or a soft wool chalais. The voile or dimity edged around the collar and back turned cuffs with fine ruffle makes a waist that is suitable for all occasions. This pattern is so simple I am sure even very inexperienced sewers might use it and achieve good results. The pattern comes in sizes 32, 34, 36 and 38 bust measure.

No. 8183—Another conservative pattern, the reversible house dress. The dress fastens either on left or right side, with a large button at the belt. The collar may be snapped or hooked together if desired; the skirt falls loose from the waist down, simply hemmed with an inch hem down both edges. Either long or short sleeves may be used. The striped percales, tho a little more expensive, I consider to be the best material for house wear. Percale keeps its color and launders much better than most gingham. This pattern comes in sizes 32, 34, 36 and 38 bust measure.

No. 8157—This presents one of the most desirable tailored models of the season. The yoke and front gores are fitted smoothly onto a slightly raised waist line with buttons forming the only required trimming. The back has the yoke effect in the belt and the inset plaits add fullness where it is so often needed. This style is particularly adapted to the broad hipped form. The skirt fastens in the front under the plait. No. 8157 comes in sizes 24, 26, 28 and 30 waist measure.

No. 8141—Many an expectant mother used to feel all she could wear was a house dress or kimona, for she could not find any clothes that were becoming to her then. But today, those clothes are provided—a great many patterns are made expressly for that

purpose, and she now dresses as well as ever in equally becoming and comfortable clothing. No. 8141 comes in sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 bust measure, but has the straight line from shoulder to hem; very full around the bottom, and the soft crush sash which may later be omitted or tied in the back as some wear them. The braiding on neck and cuffs is very effective and not at all hard to put in—and the open kimona style of sleeve is strictly up to date.

WHAT THE WOMEN OF THE WORLD ARE DOING

It has been estimated that nearly 40 per cent of the women workers in Washington receive \$8 per week.

The Camp Fire Girls of Chicago are doing a most commendable work. They have recently adopted three families of Belgium refugees for a period of five years.

The women of Kentucky are making some worthy inventions. They can make bread out of ground beans. One Kentucky housewife fed her husband this bread made of beans and he never suspected there was anything in it but the choicest flour.

Thirty-five American nurses were awarded military medals by the English King "for bravery, coolness and conspicuous devotion," displayed in the performance of their duties on occasions when the casualty clearing station had been under hostile shell fire.

The Oregon City Enterprise, one of the oldest daily newspapers in Oregon, was published for the first time in its 54 years of existence entirely by women. It was a special edition gotten out by a staff composed of the Home Guard girls. The receipts from advertising and sales were to be used to buy smokes, chocolates and gum for Oregon City soldiers in France.

What the Neighbors Say!

I like your paper fine. Howard W. White, Livingston county.

I think the paper is just fine for the farmer.—George McKay, Osceola county.

Think you are doing good work for the farmer. Keep it up!—Ral L. Mills, Eaton county.

I think Michigan Business Farming is the best farm paper edited.—Joseph O'Brien, Tuscola county.

I have just been reading the M. B. F. and think it is just what I need. Inclosed find a check for a trial subscription of one year.—J. D. Wood, Isabella county.

Enclosed find one dollar for the Michigan Business Farming. It is certainly the best paper for the farmers that I have ever read.—Fred Teske, Mecosta county.

We like your paper very much, it is just what the farmer wanted. I am so glad there is a few men willing to stand up for the farmers.—Peter McVannel, Otsego county.

Enclosed is my renewal to M. B. F. one of the best papers printed for farmers. I am doing my best to get your paper in the hands of every farmer in our township. As soon as I have finished reading each issue I give my copy to some one who has not read your paper.—John Eyer, Emmett county.

Inclosed find check for \$1.00 for your valuable paper, which seems to be about the only paper that is putting up any kind of a fight for the farmers' rights. I like your attitude on the bean, potato and mill propositions and hope you will soon be able to tell us why the bean buyers charge us 16 or 17 cents pickage and then keep all the pickings.—Ray E. Allen, Oakland.



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



ATTEND

The School

That Fits You for Earning a Worthwhile Salary

Thirty-four years have made the Ferris Institute the poor boy's salvation. The scarcity of teachers, chemists, clerical workers, bookkeepers, bankers, stenographers, typists, telegraphers, civil service candidates is appalling. The World War has brought about this condition. Who will answer the call? Putting off until tomorrow will not save the country. American women must respond. Woman's position in the world has been revolutionized.

You can get ready at the Ferris Institute. The Spring Term Begins March 25. The First Summer term Begins May 20. The Second Summer Term Begins July 1. No entrance examinations. Everybody is welcome. Self-boarding cuts down expenses one-half.

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WOODBRIDGE N. FERRIS
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SEND FOR CATALOG
A Kalamazoo Direct to You

—to the agent who sends in the most subscribers to M. B. F. before May 25th, we give this 1918 Model Ford Touring Car—do YOU want it?



We pay regular cash commissions whether you win the car or not.

We Pay You for Every Hour You Work

IF YOU DO—don't hesitate, don't wait—get this coupon into the next mail, let us send everything necessary to help win this Ford automobile without a penny's cost to you—and yet we pay you the regular cash commission whether you win the car or not!

Many farmers in your neighborhood have heard of M. B. F. and are only waiting for someone to call for their subscription—why not make your spare time count? Any man, woman, boy or girl can enter and win this car!

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Mt. Clemens, Michigan:
I want to win the Ford touring car. Send me everything necessary to win it free and I'll do my best!

Name

P. O. R.F.D. No.

County Michigan

Plant Buell's Russet Rurals!

The Late Petoskey, Russet Rural, Round Russet, Dusty Rural, Rural Russet, Dible's Russet and Buell's Russet Rural are one and the same variety. There is about the same difference between them that there is in different branches of a family that have been raised under different conditions. Some are ambitious and prosperous and others are lazy and shiftless. I have raised the variety for years, have hill selected, treated for and eliminated disease and by other good methods have improved on the original stock so that I choose to call the ones that I raise and offer for seed **BUELL'S RUSSET RURALS**.

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.

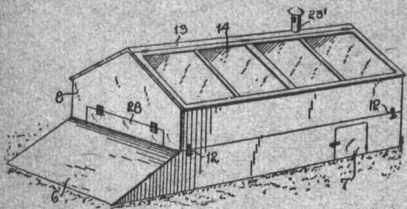
It is an old and true saying that when potatoes are low at planting time it is a good sign that they will be high the following year. There are never two seasons alike. I am going to plant my usual acreage and am advising my friends to stick to their knitting and raise potatoes not only for business 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

DORR D. BUELL, Seed Potato Man of the North
ELMIRA, MICHIGAN



SAVE THE CHICKS, LABOR AND FEED!

I want one farmer or poultry-raiser in each locality to build and use a Perry Improved Brooder this season. It is easy to build and operate, light on fuel. Plenty of heat out of doors, equally as good with hen hatched as incubator chicks.

There is a heater room and feed room, hens do not bother feeding. The heater is under oven and central heat, no crowding of chicks. No over heat, no going out in the wet to eat, cares for 150 chicks as quick and as easy as one hen. Once used you never will be without one or more. Save the manufacturer's profit by sending one dollar for right and complete plans to build and operate. I will send copy of patent instructions and license for building and operating. It can be made any size you wish and at one-half the expense of any you can buy. Just send a dollar bill today and have your brooder ready for early chicks. This paper guarantees I will do as I agree. Buy now and we will give you a chance to build and sell under our license and give you license tags to attach on each brooder you make. Address, **E. O. PERRY, 37 Henry Street, Detroit, Mich.**

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The Largest Institution in the World for the Treatment of Piles, Fistula and all Other Diseases of the Rectum (Except Cancer)

WE CURE PILES, FISTULA and all other DISEASES of the RECTUM (except cancer) by an original PAINLESS DISSOLVENT METHOD of our own WITHOUT CHLOROFORM OR KNIFE and with NO DANGER WHATSOEVER TO THE PATIENT. Our treatment has been so successful that we have built up the LARGEST PRACTICE IN THE WORLD in this line. Our treatment is NO EXPERIMENT but is the MOST SUCCESSFUL METHOD EVER DISCOVERED FOR THE TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF THE RECTUM. We have cured many cases where the knife failed and many desperate cases that had been given up to die. WE GUARANTEE A CURE IN EVERY CASE WE ACCEPT OR MAKE NO CHARGE FOR OUR SERVICES. We have cured thousands and thousands from all parts of the United States and Canada. We are receiving letters every day from the grateful people whom we have cured telling us how thankful they are for the wonderful relief. We have printed a book explaining our treatment and containing several hundred of these letters to show what those who have been cured by us think of our treatment. We would like to have you write us for this book as we know it will interest you and may be the means of RELIEVING YOUR AFFLICTION also. You may find the names of many of your friends in this book.

We are not extensive advertisers as we depend almost wholly upon the gratitude of the thousands whom we have cured for our advertising. You may never see our ad again so you better write for our book today before you lose our address.

Dr. Willard Burleson, Manager

The Burleson Sanitarium

Grand Rapids, Michigan

County Crop Reports

ANTRIM (Northwest)—Snow about gone except in a few places. Some farmers just got their beans threshed, others are cutting wood, hauling manure and plowing. Maple syrup making about at an end. Not much being sold. A few barns will be built here this summer. Quite a few potatoes still in the farmers' hands.—G. A. D., Charlevoix, Apr. 11.

TUSCOLA (Central)—Oat seeding is in full blast here now. Weather is dry but cold. Soil is in good shape. Farmers are selling some oats, quite a lot of potatoes and some beans. We are getting \$8 a bushel for good seed beans, but not much for potatoes, only 27c a bu., and for good seed at home 50c and we are glad to get them off our hands for that price. Farmers are not holding anything they can sell. Farmers are buying Liberty bonds. The following prices were quoted at Caro this week: Wheat, \$2; corn, \$1.75; oats, 88; rye, \$2.25; timothy hay \$24; clover seed, \$21; straw, \$8; beans, \$10.50; potatoes, 60c cwt.; butter, 35; eggs, 30; sheep, \$8 to \$10; lambs, \$12.50; hogs, \$13 to \$15.50; beef steers, \$10; veal calves, \$12.50; wool, 86.—R. B. C., Caro, April 13.

BRANCH (North)—Farmers sowing oats, drawing manure, etc. Soil is in good condition to work. Farmers are selling some hay; not holding anything but young cattle. Farmers buying some coal for winter use. The following prices were quoted in Union City this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 85; hay, \$18 to \$20; beans, \$7.50; potatoes, 30 to 60; hens, 18; butterfat, 42; eggs, 32; lambs, \$15; hogs, \$16; beef steers, \$8 to \$9; veal calves, \$14.50; wool, 65.—F. S., Union City, April 12.

BAY (East Central)—Farmers are busy sowing oats; land is working fine. Wheat is about all winter killed through this part of the country and it will be plowed up and put into oats. Not much selling at present. Farmers are holding their dry beans for \$8 per bu. Cows are selling high at sales. The farmer boys are still being drafted. The following prices were quoted at Linwood this week: Wheat, \$2.12; corn, \$2; oats, 90; rye, \$2.60; hay, \$18 to \$20; straw, \$8; beans, \$11 per cwt.; potatoes, 80c cwt.; butter, 40; butterfat, 45; eggs, 32; beef, dressed, \$13; beef cows, \$12; veal calves, \$18.—G. G., Linwood, April 11.

BAY (Southeast)—Wheat is looking worse than it did two weeks ago. Spring grain being sowed; ground in fine condition. Some are buying spring wheat to sow; it is seldom a success here. I would like to see every farmer get M. B. F. It is up to date for the farmers. I would like to know if the new fuel order is a blow aimed at the co-operator. The paper states that all must buy through the dealers. The fuel administrator evidently is looking after the interests of the dealers quite well.—J. C. A., Munger, April 12.

MISSAUKEE (West Central)—Farmers are drawing manure and a few have commenced plowing for oats and barley. A few sheep are being purchased by the farmers, the price is around \$20 per head and it is a good price for the quality. The following prices were quoted at Lake City this week: Wheat, \$1.95; oats, 90; rye, \$1.85; hay, \$20 to \$22; beans, cwt., \$10.50; potatoes, 60c per cwt.; butter, 40; eggs, 30.—H. E. N., Cutcheon, April 11.

TUSCOLA (Northeast)—Weather cold and dry. Wheat badly damaged. Farmers are selling stock, beans and potatoes; market looks hopeless for the latter, and many acres less will be planted this season. The following prices were paid at Cass City this week: Wheat, \$2; oats, 76; hay, \$24; beans, \$11; steers, \$7 to \$7.50; cows, \$5 to \$8.—S. S., Cass City, April 12.

SHIAWASSEE (Central)—Weather is cold and dry. Wheat condition is very bad as it has gone back for three weeks; some being plowed up. It looks now as though there would be a very large acreage of oats, barley and sugar beets here this year. The following prices were quoted at Owosso this week: Corn, \$2; oats, 90c; rye, \$2.50; milk, \$2.25; butter, 38; butterfat, 40; eggs, 34.—J. E. W., Owosso, April 11.

CLINTON (Southwest)—At least 40 per cent of all winter wheat in our township will be abandoned. There is plenty of hay and other rough feed on hand. Farmers are sowing oats and barley and plowing for beans and corn. Farmers are not getting a square deal at the mill; they receive 25 pounds of flour for 60 pounds of wheat, and the mill's profit from each bushel is from 85c to 95c. Why can't this matter be regulated. The following prices were quoted at Fowler this week: Wheat, \$2.07; corn, \$1.75; oats, 86; timothy hay, No. 1, \$19; No. 1 light mixed, \$18; beans, \$6.40; butterfat, 40; eggs, 31; sheep, \$7; lambs, \$14; hogs, \$16.50; beef steers, 9½; beef cows, 7; veal calves, 13; wool, 69.—T. B., Fowler, April 9.

MANISTEE (Northwest)—The farmers are busy making maple syrup and getting ready for spring work. Snow is about all gone here. The auto is about the only thing the farmer has which does not show the effects of a hard winter. There is nothing being sold here, in fact nothing to sell but potatoes, and we can not even get an offer on them. There have been a good many auction sales here this spring; things sell high except horses and some of them go for all the farmer can afford to pay. Some farms have changed hands here this spring. Fall grain looks dead. We need warmer weather to start things up so that our half-starved stock can get something to eat. The following prices were quoted here this week: Wheat, \$2; corn, \$1.75; oats, \$1.15; rye, \$2.35; timothy hay, \$30; light mixed, \$28; potatoes, 25c; hens, 15;

springers, 16; hogs, 13; steers, 8½; beef cows, 8.—C. H. S., Bear Lake, Apr. 9.

LAKE (Northeast)—Farmers plowing and hauling manure. Ground freezes hard every night and does not thaw out until noon. No rain to speak of for a month. Some farmers are holding their potatoes yet.—E. G. D., Luther, Apr. 12.

ARENAC (East)—The weather during the past week was very cold and windy. Beans have dropped to \$10 per cwt. and oats are on the decline. Auction sales are going good, prices of cattle, sheep and hogs also farm tools are way up. Many Liberty Bond meetings are being held around here and I am very glad to say that Arenac county is doing her part and it looks as tho our allotment will be over-subscribed by many hundreds of dollars. Farmers are getting in shape for a big drive on oats, wheat and beets, which at the present time seem to be the principal objectives. The following prices were quoted here this week: Potatoes, \$1.35 cwt.; beans, \$10 cwt.; butter, 40; butterfat, 42; eggs, 30.—M. B. W., Twining, April 13.

GENESEE (South)—Farmers are sowing oats, plowing, trimming trees, fixing fences and testing seed corn. The weather has been below the freezing point during the last few days and it is snowing a little today. The soil has been in good shape for working. Farmers are selling only small amounts of beans, potatoes, hay and apples. Most of the large dealers are getting potatoes shipped in from other counties for there are not many left in this county, and most farmers who have any to sell are holding for better prices. There will not be much spring wheat sown in this county. Several pieces of wheat are not coming very well, but the farmers will wait until later before working it up. Several farmers are shearing sheep already, which is a good deal earlier than usual. Following prices were quoted at Flint this week: Wheat, \$2.10; corn, \$1.85; oats, 94; rye, \$2.60; timothy hay, \$19 to \$25; beans, \$11 per cwt.; red kidney beans, \$12.50 per cwt.; potatoes, \$1.25 per cwt.; onions, 75c bu.; cabbage, 2c lb.; hens, 17c; broilers, 20c; creamery butter, 41; eggs, 35; sheep, \$9 to \$10; lambs, \$14 to \$15; hogs, \$15.50; beef, \$8 to \$10; beef cows, \$4.50 to \$8; veal calves, \$9 to \$11; wool, 65.—C. S., Fenton, April 11.

MONROE (East)—Since Sunday the weather has been cold, freezing nights. Lots of wheat fields sown to oats and barley. Only two pieces of spring wheat sown in this part of the county. The following prices were quoted at Monroe this week: Wheat, \$2.15; corn on ear, \$1 to \$1.40; oats, 90; rye, \$2.50; hens, 21 to 23; springers, 26 to 28; butter, 35 to 40; eggs, 30 to 32; sheep, \$9 to \$10; lambs, \$13 to \$15; hogs, dressed, \$20 to \$21; live, \$16 to \$17.25; beef, live, \$6 to \$10.50; veal calves, live, \$13 to \$15; dressed, \$18.00 to \$20.50.—E. H. M., Monroe, Apr. 11.

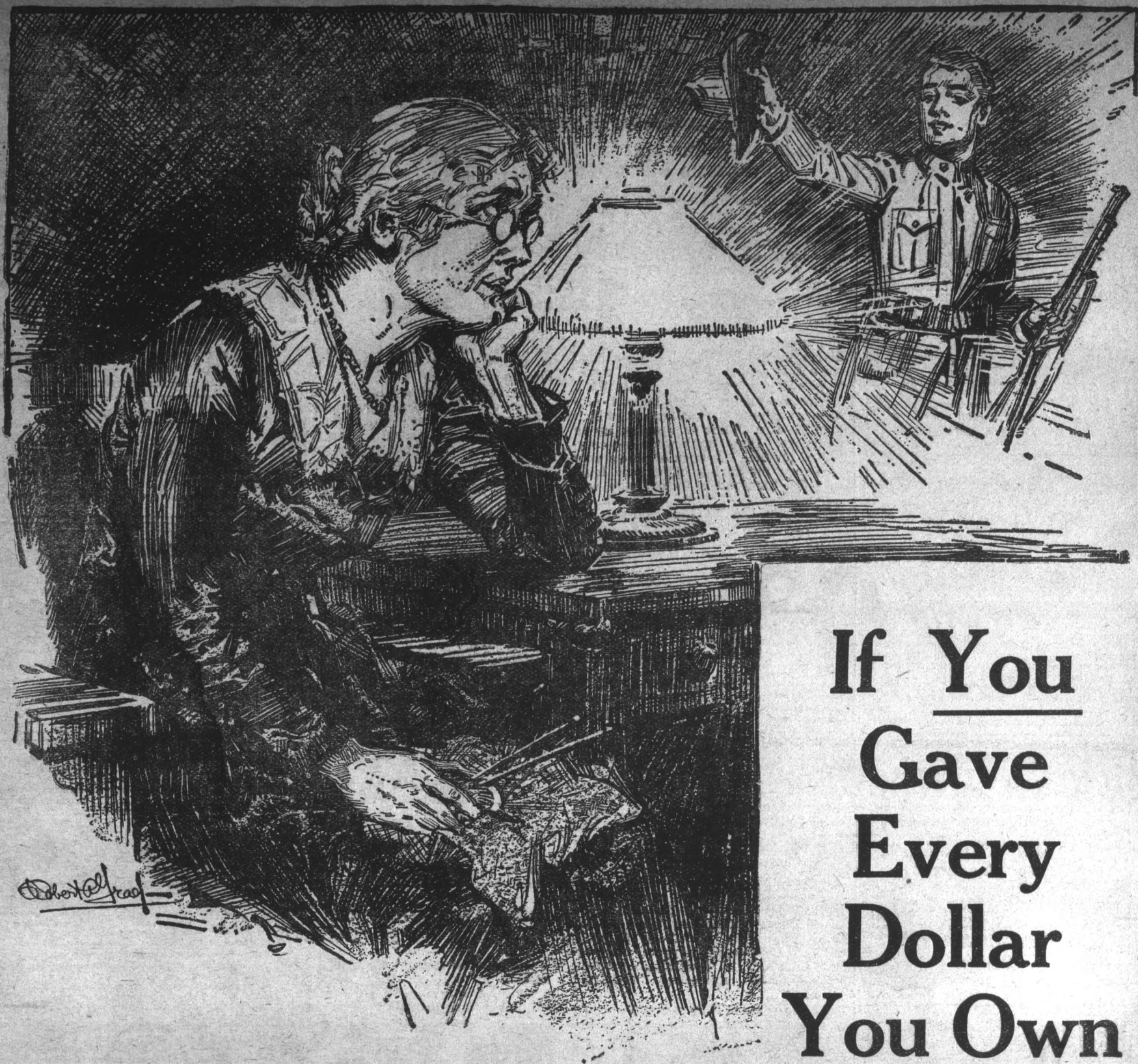
MONROE (West Central)—Fine weather at present. A warm rain would do a lot of good. The ground is dry and works up in fine shape. Farmers have about two-thirds of the oat crop in. There will be a good acreage of corn planted here this year. The potato business looks bad. Many farmers say they will plant just enough for their own use. The following prices were paid at Petersburg this week: Wheat, \$2.10; corn, \$1.75; oats, 91c; rye, \$2.50; hay, \$22; potatoes, 80c cwt.; spring chickens, 25c; ducks, 25c; geese, 22c; turkeys, 25c; butter, 35; butterfat, 50; eggs, 32; hogs, \$17; veal calves, \$11.—W. H. L., Dundee, Apr. 15.

LAPEER (Southeast)—Farmers are very busy this week putting in oats and everything seems to be going nicely in spite of the shortage of help. Farmers of the county are responding bravely to the Third Liberty Loan, and we hope to go "over the top" ahead of our quota. The weather is warm and it will be the first of May before we turn our stock out. Agents have been around trying to contract beans at \$10 per cwt. The following quotations were made at Imlay City this week: Wheat, \$2.05-\$2.10; corn, \$1.65-\$1.70; oats, 85-90; rye, \$2.25-\$2.35; hay, \$18-\$20; straw, \$6-\$6.50; beans, \$10; potatoes, 50-60; onions, \$1.35; butter, 45; butterfat 47; eggs, 32; sheep, \$8-\$10; lambs, \$13-\$15; hogs, \$15-\$16; beef steers, \$9-\$10; beef cows, \$7-\$7.50; veal calves, \$13.—C. A. B., Imlay City, April 14.

ALLEGAN (South)—Farmers sowing oats and drawing manure. Very cold and backward weather the past week. Soil in good condition for working. Potatoes are commencing to move. Following are the prices quoted at Otsego this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 90; rye, 2.25; hay, \$22; straw, \$6; beans, \$10.50; potatoes, 30-35; butter, 40; eggs, 30; sheep, \$10; lambs, \$13-\$15; hogs, \$14-\$16; beef steers, \$14-\$16; beef cows, \$10-\$13; veal calves, \$10-\$12.—W. F., Otsego, Apr. 13.

SANILAC (Central)—Farmers still pressing hay; some are plowing and getting ground ready to sow. Ground works up good. Following prices were quoted at Sandusky this week: Wheat, \$2.05; oats, 87; light mixed hay, \$12; butter, 40; butterfat, 41; eggs, 30.—A. B., Sandusky, April 13.

CHEBOYGAN (South)—Nice spring weather but very dry. Lots of brush fires burning, no damage as yet. Farmers plowing and seeding. Considerable spring wheat and rye will be sown. Also the usual amount of oats will be sown, but less beans and potatoes. No wheat being held by farmers here—not enough for their own use. Seed corn scarce but enough will be furnished for the usual acreage. One farmer here just lost six head of cattle by their eating paris green. We are going "over the top" this week with the third Liberty Loan.—Wolverine, April 15.



If You
Gave
Every
Dollar
You Own

how little would the sacrifice be compared to theirs?

You are not asked to give. You are asked only to *lend*. To lend at good interest secured by the best collateral on earth

Buy U. S. Liberty Bonds

This advertisement contributed by a manufacturing company which is more interested in winning the war than advertising itself.

The Silo Beautiful that Lasts for Ages



Get the beauty and durability of tile in the Lansing "ship-lap" block. Ends overlap—extended shoulders top and bottom—less mortar exposed, better settling of silage—less chance for frost, better looking silo, blocks uniform in shade. Stronger walls. Notched ends on blocks prevent mortar from slipping. Twisted steel reinforcing. Steel hip roof—steel chute—fire proof—adds beauty to the silo. Write for Catalog.

J. M. Preston Company
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Also get offer on Climax Silage
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What Will You Build?

You doubtless need some new farm building this season. Perhaps, it will be a dairy barn, dwelling, garage, silo, hog house, or other outbuilding. Whatever it may be, you will get some mighty helpful ideas from our new book,

"Natco on the Farm"

It tells you how to have buildings that are dry, clean, and sanitary—warm in winter yet cool in summer. It shows you how to save on repairs, insurance and coal bills. It illustrates scores of fire-safe farm buildings that will "stand for generations." It's true economy to build with Natco Hollow Tile—makes every building a permanent investment. Write for your copy now. Ask also for plans—free if you intend to build.

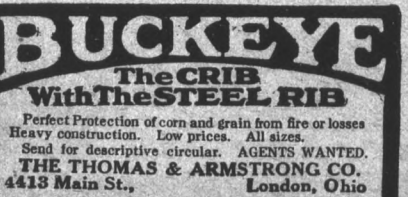
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FOOD CONSERVATION

Be prepared. Save a 100% corn crop. A TRIPLE WALL SILO solves the soft corn problem. The silo that keeps ensilage perfectly. THREE WALL CONSTRUCTION. No hoops to tighten. Cannot collapse or blow down. The biggest silo value on the market. Write for free booklet.

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Perfect Protection of corn and grain from fire or losses. Heavy construction. Low prices. All sizes. Send for descriptive circular. AGENTS WANTED.

THE THOMAS & ARMSTRONG CO.
4413 Main St., London, Ohio

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



PINE STUMPS ARE UN- SURPASSED FOR FUEL

In our towns and cities people are suffering from cold; industries necessary to the national defense have been closed down; thousands of people have been thrown out of employment—all for lack of fuel in sufficient quantity.

Yet on our farm lands in every direction is an unlimited supply of waste wood in the forests, woodlots and stumps without number. Particularly in the case of the latter have we a fuel supply that is cheap, ready at hand and practically inexhaustible.

The average pine stump will produce an astonishing amount of 16 inch lengths of a diameter ranging up to 12 inches. Pine stump wood is unsurpassed for fuel. A stack of pine stump cordwood measuring eight feet long, four feet high and 16 inches wide, will weigh about 840 pounds, cut green. On this basis dealers have offered for pine stump wood \$2.10 to \$2.25 per short cord—about \$9 per standard cord. This most certainly makes the breaking up of stumps which are, at best, a source of endless trouble and expense, well worth the farmer's while. The removal of stumps, which is usually done at some expense under present conditions, will yield to the landowner quite a substantial profit.

The most economical way of breaking up stumps is to use explosives to reduce the stumps to sizes small enough for convenient handling. A well-placed charge will shatter the stumps quickly and at comparatively little cost.

Aside from the need for stump wood as a supplement to our fuel supply, economical and efficient cultivation both demand the removal of these obstacles. Stumps not only take up valuable space that might otherwise be put under cultivation, but they also increase the time required to work the field and the cost of keeping farm implements in repair. The use of the most improved modern labor saving farm machinery, which is indispensable in the present unprecedented labor shortage, is prohibited by field dotted with numerous half-dried stumps.

At the present time when every last pound of foodstuffs must be obtained from the soil if we are to maintain our armies and those of our allies at their maximum efficiency, the farmer who increases his production is doing as much to win the war as any soldier at the front. Now is the time to rid the land forever of stumps—parasites which not only are eating up your profits, but which are now actually a menace to the nation. Convert the stumps into the needed fuel, and the soil they occupy into food producing fields.—Du Pont Magazine.

PREPARATION OF SPRAY FOR SCALE INSECTS

Strong lime-sulphur to be used on dormant trees or bushes for scale insects, can be prepared in three ways:

By the old formula.

By reducing with water "the home-made" concentrated wash.

The "Old formula" has been used for many years with good results and is very satisfactory. The formula is as follows:

Lump lime 20 pounds
Sulphur (flour) 15 pounds
Water (hot) to make 50 gallons

The lime is slacked with a small amount of water (hot if lime is sluggish) and the sulphur is added, 15 or 20 gallons of water are then added, and the mixture boiled. (It should take three-quarters of an hour, or an hour of good boiling with frequent stirring.) When done the liquid should be amber colored and fairly clear. Strain, dilute with water (hot is preferable) to make (up to) 50 gallons, and apply warm, through a coarse nozzle.

If small quantities are required, use an iron kettle to boil it in. If larger quantities are to be used, live steam is preferable for boiling purposes, either in a tank or in barrels.

Applied just before the buds swell, it coats the branches in such a way as partially to hinder from settling down, such pests as the San Jose, oyster-shell, scurfy scale, some aphids and other insects.

Growers who have cooking plants, can make the lime-sulphur wash in a "concentrated" solution. This may be an economy of time, as large quantities can be made early in the season and stored until needed.

It is difficult to make this wash of uniform strength. For this reason, every batch that is made must be tested with a hydrometer and diluted accordingly.

The difficulty of getting a solution of uniform strength, apparently depends on the lime, which varies in composition and strength. Lime that contains more than five per cent of magnesium oxide and less than 90 per cent of calcium oxide does not combine in the cooking with the sulphur in a way to make a good mixture. Special "spraying lime" is now on the market.

There are several ways of combining the lime and sulphur, but always there are two parts, by weight, of sulphur to one of stone lime. The following three formulas are common use:

Stone lime 75 lbs.; sulphur 150 lbs.; Water 50 gallons; or stone lime 60 lbs.; sulphur 120 lbs.; water 50 gallons; or stone lime 40 lbs.; sulphur 80 lbs.; water 50 gallons.

The lime is slaked to a thin paste and the sulphur is added. Boil for an hour and stir frequently. Water enough should be added so that there will be fifty gallons at the end of boiling.

After it is cooked if not to be used at once, it should be strained into a barrel which should be air tight, as exposure to the air causes the sulphur compounds to lose their value for spraying purposes. Each lot that is cooked should be tested with a hydrometer when cooled and diluted.

GENERAL TREATMENT FOR GRAPE INSECTS

Grape vines are not often subject to attacks by scale so there is seldom need for a spraying with strong lime-sulphur before growth starts.

Do not use the dilute lime-sulphur at any time for grape spraying. It stunts or checks the growth of the berries. Use the bordeaux mixture.

Downy mildew, commonly called "Red Grape" was very destructive last season and caused large financial losses to growers who did not spray.

Black rot has been a serious disease in recent seasons. Growers cannot afford to risk the loss it may cause by neglecting to spray.

These diseases and others will be prevented very largely by spraying as follows:

When the shoots are about 8 to 10 inches long, spray with bordeaux mixture for black rot and downy mildew.

Just before blooming spray again with bordeaux mixture for black rot and downy mildew and to every 50 gallons of bordeaux, add 2 or 3 pounds of arsenate of lead to poison the grape berry moth and the rose chafer. If this latter is serious use stronger poison, even up to 5 pounds to 50 gallons. A pint of the cheapest molasses added may help.

Just as the blossoms are falling, better make another spraying like the above.

About 10 days or two weeks later, it may be necessary to make another spraying like the two previous, but this will depend upon the weather conditions and the amount of rot and mildew prevalent. If later sprayings are thought to be necessary, some material should be used that will not stain the fruit, such as weak copper sulphate solution.

There are several grape insects that are found only in occasional vineyards, and then not every year. The grower should keep a sharp watch of his vines for them and if found, take prompt measures to destroy them. (If not familiar with their appearance send specimens to The Entomologist, East Lansing, Michigan.)

Those most likely to be found are the following:

Fly-beetles may appear at any time, but are most likely to come as the buds open in early spring. Spray with bordeaux moisture and a strong poison, 3 or 4 pounds of arsenate of lead to every 50 gallons of the bordeaux, if early in spring. Later use less poison.

In vineyards where the grapeberry moth is serious, spray with bordeaux and an arsenical poison during the middle of July, before the twentieth.

For leaf-hoppers, sometimes incorrectly called "Thrip," spray with nicotine or with kerosene-emulsion while the insects are young, and before they can fly. Later in the fall, clean up all rubbish and burn after cold weather sets in.

For climbing cut-worms, use cotton bands or bands of sticky mixture. On tender growth these can be put on strips of paper. Sprinkle poisoned bran near the bases of the trees.

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.

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.

50 Bushels of Shelled Seed Corn, yellow, 1916 crop, raised in Indiana, tested by M. A. C. College tested 80 per cent. Might be O. K. for corn to husk, but would recommend for ensilage or silo. Price \$5.30 56 lbs. F.O.B. W. E. Rasmussen, Stanton, Michigan.

CHOICE PEA SEED BEANS

Elegant sample. Write for sample and price.

Thos. L. Shimmmons, Sterling, Mich.



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SEEDS AND PLANTS

LITTLE NAVY SEED BEANS. They are hand picked and free from any disease and yielded 20 bu. per acre; were ripened before the frost and dried before the rains. \$9 per bu. f.o.b. Lakeview. Geo. W. Fountaine, Lakeview, Michigan, R. F. D. No. 2.

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.

Seed Beans I have 40 bushels of the genuine One Thousand to One hand-picked variety, which I am offering at \$9.00 per bushel. Cash f. o. b. Morley. John Buchanan, Morley, Mich.

SEED BEANS—Choice medium pea beans harvested before wet weather of fall of 1917. Good quality. \$8.00 per bu. Offer good to April 22nd, bags extra. Roy Lute, Crystal, Michigan.

Early SEED POTATOES—Irish Cobbler, great yielder of round white potatoes, will stand close planting. Fine stock \$1.25 per bu. Jas. H. Billings, Hart, Michigan.

SEED BEANS 15 bu. hand-picked Red Kidney 95% germination in soil. Price \$9.00 per bushel. Bags, 25c. Ivan Olson, Holton, Michigan.

Seed Beans 1916 crop. Send 10 cents for sample and price. Robert J. Bowman, R. 1, Pigeon, Mich.

FARMS AND FARM LANDS

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

FORDS CAN BURN HALF COAL OIL, or Cheapest Gasoline, using our 1918 Carburetor; 34 miles per gallon guaranteed. Easy starting. Great power increase. Attach it yourself. Big profit selling for us. 30 days trial. Money back Guarantee. Styles to fit any automobile. Air-Friction Carburetor Company, 559

PRODUCE MILK WITH LOW COUNT IN ORDINARY BARN

Milk with a low bacterial count can be produced in practically any cow barn. Any dairy farmer with a healthy herd can produce such milk with an investment of only \$10 or \$20 and a little extra care.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture in an experiment produced low bacterial count milk in a poor dairy barn.

The only changes made were simply steam sterilizer for utensils, clean cows, especially clean udders, small top milking pails, proper manure removal and good bedding. The bacterial count fell from as high as 1,200,000 to an average of 2,154.

Low bacterial count is the beginning of good milk, but milk must also be safeguarded from other contamination likely in a dirty barn. There is no legitimate excuse for the production of milk from dirty cattle or in a filthy stable. In addition milk must be properly cooled to prevent the multiplication of bacteria.

Reduction of bacteria in milk does not depend on the kind of barn or expensive equipment so much as on the simple inexpensive precautions. Milk with low bacteria count can be produced in barns of ordinary type with less than \$20 worth of extra equipment. The dairy specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture have proved this in a practical experiment.

For the purpose of this experiment, four cows were put in an ordinary frame barn. An untrained worker was employed to milk and care for the animals. No extra attention was devoted to cleaning the barn. At the end of six months the barn was no cleaner than many commercial barns.

Without any changes in barn management the specialists had two cows milked into small-top pails and the two others were milked into ordinary open-top pails. The milk from the open-top pails averaged 497,653 bacteria. The milk from the small-top pails averaged 368,214.

The use of the small-top pail without any extra precaution made a difference in the average count of 129,439 bacteria per cubic centimeter.

The pails and cans were sterilized with live steam, which can easily and cheaply be done with a simple steam sterilizer, which can be made at home or can be purchased complete for about \$10. Other conditions remained as before. The milk from the sterilized small-top pails averaged only 17,027 bacteria—a reduction of 351,187 in favor of this simple sterilization. With the open pails, sterilization reduced the bacteria to 22,677—a decrease of 474,976 compared with milk from the unsterilized open pails.

In the third step of the experiment the manure was removed from the barn twice instead of only once a week. The udders and teats of the cows were washed before each milking. These reasonable measures of cleanliness reduced the count in milk drawn into the sterilized small-top pail to 2,886 bacteria, and in the sterilized open-top pail to 6,166 per cubic centimeter. Ordinary cleanliness, it can be seen, caused a reduction of over 10,000 bacteria per cubic centimeter.

To make it easier to keep the cows clean, in the final stage of the experiment the manure was removed daily, clean bedding was supplied, and the cows were cleaned with a currycomb and brush. With these final precau-

tions the bacterial count in the small-top pail averaged the very low one of 2,154 per cubic centimeter, or 1,197,847 bacteria less than were found in a sample when the barn and cows were dirty and the utensils were not steam-sterilized.

Farmers interested in improving the quality of milk can get further information from the Dairy Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

SHEEP-KILLING DOGS A MENACE TO FLOCKS

To meet the menace of the sheep-killing dog, which is recognized as one of the greatest hindrances to mutton and wool production in the United States, several methods are suggested in Farmers' Bulletin 935, "The Sheep-Killing Dog," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. Uniform State dog laws are advocated as probably the best method, and a digest of existing state laws and the complete text of two satisfactory laws (those of Pennsylvania and West Virginia) are given in the bulletin. The use of dog-proof fences is suggested, and the co-operation of owners of dogs is said to be important.

"The war needs of the United States and the Allies make it imperative that the number of live stock be substantially increased," says the bulletin. "The whole of Europe is contending with a shortage of all classes of live stock and is facing a problem in the supply of farm animals that will not be solved for years after the war is over. The entire world is in need of

ODE TO THE PORKER

The swine, the swine, the grunting swine
A noble beast is he;
He eats his corn and drinks his swill
With simple hog-like glee.

He jumps upon his neighbor's back
And rolls into the trough;
He plunges in with head and ham
To keep the others off.

He tramps upon the other pigs,
He runs and grunts and squeals;
He knocks down all the pig-pen doors,
And now and then he steals.

He tries to get the "whole blamed smear"
To fill his hungry pit,
To get it all, he uses all
His power and his wit.

I bow before this noble beast
That leads the brutish van;
Because he is, my honored sir,
So very much like man.

—Rochester Irwin.

wool and it will take some time after peace is declared to restock the world trade. The need of an increased meat supply and the necessity of a greater wool supply should make the sheep one of the most profitable of farm animals.

"Men who have entered into the sheep business and have failed to find the keeping of sheep profitable, agree that one of the greatest causes for their discouragement has been the sheep-killing dog. Thousands of sheep are ruthlessly killed each year by dogs, causing a monetary loss to sheep owners of over \$1,000,000 annually. The greatest setback of all that the dog causes to the farm industry as a whole, consists in keeping out of the business men who are otherwise inclined to go into it.



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Thrift Stamp Dept., Mt. Clemens

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We have read the paper sent us and like it very much and think it well worth the dollar.—Lee S. Smith, Grand Traverse county.

I saw a copy of your paper and allow me to state, it hit me just right.—Jacob Hennes, Missaukee county.

I received the sample copy and in looking over its pages, it did not take me long to come to the conclusion that it was the best farm paper in circulation, and feel that I am in a position to know as I have taken every farm paper that is of any consequence, but I find yours is the only paper that is fighting the farmers' battles at all, and you are surely doing this right, and I think you are rightly deserving of a dollar from every farmer

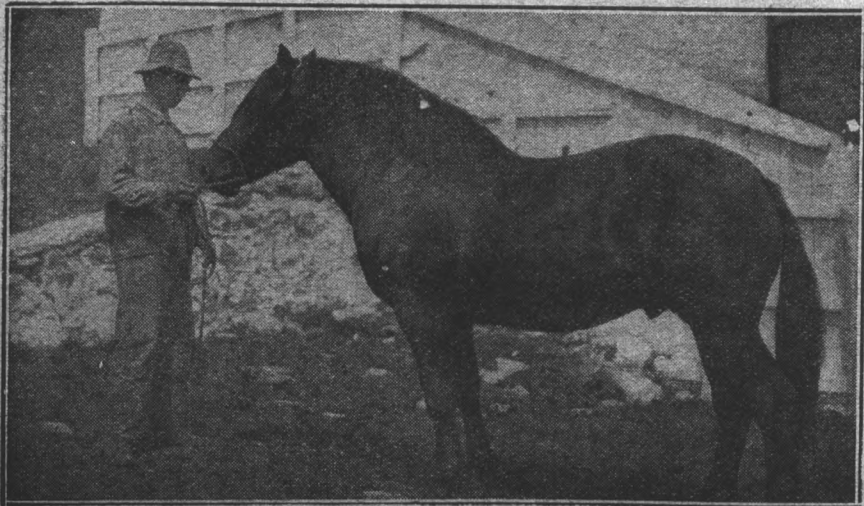
in Michigan. I wish to thank you for the sample copy, and I also wish you the best of success.—James McManus, Mecosta County.

A great paper; keep it going.—H. V. F., Ionia county.

I think the M. B. F. the very best farmers' friend.—Milton A. Beckwith, Grand Traverse county.

Thank you for the sample copies. We read them from A to Z and enjoyed every one. The thing we farmers need.—Lyle Flewelling, Cass county.

Your paper is all right. Just what every farmer needs.—Wm. H. Riggs, Gratiot county.



Two-year-old black Percheron Stallion, weighing 1800 pounds at 30 months of age. Owned by the M. A. Bray Estate, Chas. Bray, Mgr., Okemos, Michigan.

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ELEVATE YOUR GRAIN



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CHAMPION Black and Buff Orpingtons. Stock and hatching eggs for sale. James A. Daley, Mohawk, Mich.



FEEDING THE HEIFER FOR THE FUTURE

The dairy heifer that is well-born, well-fed and intelligently treated during her calfhood has an advantage over the heifer that has had less favorable opportunity. One can breed into any herd of dairy cattle the tendency to convert feed into milk. This being the case it is easy to understand that the man who does not support good breeding by generous feeding is making a very serious mistake. Very few breeders will invest in breeding stock from a herd of cattle that have been starved for several generations; they prefer animals from a herd that has been fed liberal rations of suitable feedstuffs.

Do not understand me to say that because a cow is thin or her calves fed light rations they will not respond readily to better feed and intelligent care; but understand me to say, and I want to make it plain, that if you select animals from any breed of dairy cattle and half-feed them for several generations, they and their offspring do not respond as readily to generous feeding as if they had been treated in a more liberal and intelligent manner. In other words, the man who has fed his cattle scant rations from year to year and from generation to generation has deteriorated, not only the flow of milk that they themselves will produce, but he has deteriorated the possibility of their producing calves that will respond liberally to good care and generous rations. Every successful breeder of dairy cattle will admit that this is a sound position, and if it is a sound position it is a mistaken notion that one should keep his cattle in a half-starved condition.

One frequently hears dairy farmers say that cows are injured by overfeeding, and in some instances, perhaps, that is true; but where one heifer calf or cow is injured by overfeeding, a properly balanced ration ten have been ruined by lack of nutritious food. I know from experience and observation that sometimes cows have been ruined by feeding an excess of rich protein feeds—ruined as breeders. But these circumstances are rare, and if the men who had fed those cattle had fed them a proper amount of roughage and succulent feed in connection with the rich concentrates and given them proper treatment, the losses would have been very small. Dairy farmers who are decrying generous feeding ought themselves to be encouraged to give more feed to their cattle. I recognize the fact that there are two extremes to this question, but it is, nevertheless, a fact that there is greater danger in miserly feeding than in generous feeding.

One of the mistakes dairy farmers sometimes make in the care of the herd is overstocking the pastures. This is the cause of the thin condition of many dairy herds, and the cause of the unthrift of the young stock. A good many dairy farmers will feed pretty well in the winter, and then in the spring turn out twice as many cattle on a pasture as it ought to maintain, with the result that when the summer is half gone and when the dry season comes, grass is very short, and before fall the cattle are thin in flesh and run down in vitality.

During the summer and autumn months is the time when provision should be made to build up the cattle and send them into the stables in a strong, vigorous condition, and one cannot do this if they have been left on scant pastures, without supplemental forage and grain feeds. Many dairy farmers fail to secure profitable milk yields in the winter because they half feed their cows during the summer when they should have an abundant supply of luxuriant grass.

One may take a spring calf and give it a good start and then turn it out on a barren pasture and it will become stunted. A liberal system of feeding may start growth again and the calf may eventually develop into a creditable dairy cow. But you take the calf and feed it under more favorable conditions and it will make a better cow. If this is true, it ought

to encourage dairy farmers to give their cows good, generous rations, and keep the heifer calves in a vigorous, growthy condition from calfhood to maturity. It is mistaken economy to try to save feed at the expense of the development of the cows we expect to use in our herds or sell for breeding purposes. Good feeding has made success possible for many breeders, and poor feeding has wrecked many herds. One should emulate the success of those who are going to the top and feed generously and intelligently.

In no branch of stock breeding and feeding has the idea that feed could be made to produce function reached so great popularity as in dairy farming. The farmer is now learning for himself that the instinct of his dairy bred cow has created a function which enables—yes, requires—her to make milk of the food that the beef bred animal puts into beef or growth. Under the old teaching his fields became short of suitable feeds because he bought so much of the feed for his cattle; under the new teaching, his fields are beginning to show the effects of better tillage methods and shorter crop rotations. He is beginning to depend upon them as the source of his feed supply and as he begins to feed these home grown feeds and makes a closer study of his animals' instincts and functions he finds that they are safer and cheaper than the rich protein feeds.

Let no man think that the art of feeding has no place in the improvement of dairy cattle. The improved cattle impose greater tasks upon the feeder than he has ever dreamed of in the past. The food is the raw material; the animal the machine. The secret of success lies in so feeding that the raw material will produce a maximum of milk or growth and maintain the animal in perfect health and vigor. The skill is more than mechanical; it includes a knowledge of physiology; and it reaches its best estate only when supplemented with sympathy and a quick conception of conditions favorable to production and growth. To be successful good breeding must be supported by liberal feeding, but the former is the fundamental upon which the profits of good feeding depend.—W.

LIVE STOCK—GROWING ASSET

When a man looks about for some means of developing the latest resources of his farm he ought to find live stock one of the most promising assets. Good stock is full of possibilities, both from the financial and from the human side. It furnishes ready money, and helps to build fertility. It provides steady employment during the whole year, and helps to create a spirit of unity for every member of the family, from grandfather down to the little tots who follow him to the barns to see the newly born calves, pigs and lambs.

Of course even the small farmer needs live stock, and is ambitious to have better stock and more of it, but very often this ambition runs in the direction of pure-bred stock and expensive stables and equipment. The frugal little farmer visits some grand farm with big barns and costly equipment, and wishes that he might have equally fancy stock to attract the people.

Such a farmer, who has not got into the real merits of the live stock question, might conclude that the best solution is to raise money to invest in high-priced breeding stock, but all the good counsel and practical experience in farming is on the side of the grade animal until a man has gained the necessary experience to handle pure-bred stock successfully.

No matter how meager the material on the farm may seem to be, there is always enough for a beginning, particularly if a good sire can be had, and there is good judgment and management in handling the females. Behind the present animals that are worth keeping at all, there is more coming up through the young stock, and a few average females, properly used, will bring better stock to the farm.

Then the experience gained in developing really choice animals from grades is itself altogether beyond anything that can come from beginning with the finest pure-bred stock before one is in a position to derive the most benefit therefrom.

BREEDERS' DIRECTORY

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

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

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Superior Farm

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

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

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

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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.

WE HAVE THEM

If you want Leghorns that will pay for their feed a dozen times over, write us. We have eggs for Hatching and Breeding Stock, hens and pullets only. **HILL CREST POULTRY FARM**, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

CHICKS Young's Heavy Laying Strain. S. C. White Leghorns, 25 chicks \$3.50; 50, \$6.75; 100, \$13.00. Safe delivery guaranteed. Order from this ad. Full count. Wolverine Chickery, 711 Delaware St., S. E. Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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Buy this young bull and give your milk and butter production a "push."

King Colantha DeOakdale, No. 162837, Born Nov. 4, 1915.

His Sire's 3 nearest	Butter	7 days	30.87
Dams average	Milk	7 days	579.86
	Butter	7 days	39.59
His Dam's 3 nearest	Milk	7 days	585.90
Record	Butter	30 days	124.18
	Milk	30 days	2136.00

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

His dam's record at 3 years

Butter	7 days	23.33
Milk	7 days	429.46

His five nearest dams average

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(Including 2-3 and 1-4-2 yr. old.)

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REGISTERED HOLSTEIN BULL 11 months old. Grandson of Hengerveld De Kol. Sired 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.

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100 REGISTERED HOLSTEINS 100 A herd of high producing females from the breed's best families. Herd headed by Dutchland Colantha Winana Lad 114067 Senior and Grand Champion Bull at Michigan State Fair 1917. Junior sire Maplecrest Application Pontiac 132652 a 3516 son of Friend Hengerveld De Kol Butter Boy and whose dam and 3/4 sister hold 6th and 7th highest yearly butter records. Sons of these great sires up to 15 months old for sale. Prices and pedigrees on application. R. BRUCE McPHERSON, HOWELL, MICH.

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Rain or Shine in the large sale Pavilion. These cattle are young and in good condition, tuberculin tested and are bred in the lines of great producers backed by the best sires of the breed. Many are bred to 30 lb. bulls, heifers from A. R. O. dams and a few bulls from record dams. Catalogs Apr. 15th. If interested write

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27 head of Registered Ayrshires, including White Marmaduke 18882, Grand Champion at Michigan State Fair, 1916

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Write for catalogue.

Michigan School for the Deaf

W. L. HOFFMAN, Steward, Flint, Mich.

HOMESTEAD FARMS

HOLSTEINS—A herd of 50 Holsteins, headed by the Bull, King Zerma Alcartra Pontiac, son of King Segis Pontiac Alcartra, the \$50,000 bull.

Family of four, Tatty Topsy Dawn, four year old Dam and three Daughters from this herd, is for sale. Also other Cows and Heifers.

Several young Bulls sired by King Zerma Alcartra Pontiac, are for sale. These Holsteins are one of the very best herds in Michigan. Dams have high milk and butter records.

We ask the readers of Business Farming to write us, stating just what is wanted, and we will send descriptions and photographs.

Homestead Farms is a co-operative work, founded on a federation of interests.

HOMESTEAD FARMS,
Bloomington, Michigan

FOR SALE—8 Reg. Shorthorn Bulls from 9 to 17 Mo. By Maxwalton 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

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN CATTLE

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

WOLVERINE STOCK FARM

Breeders of Holstein-Friesian Cattle, Battle Creek, Michigan. Senior Herd Sire, Judge Walker Pieterje whose first five dams are 30 lb. cows. Young bulls for sale, from daughters of King Korndyke Hengerveld Oronsby.

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.

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.

FOR SALE—Registered Holsteins—Two heifer calves and one bull calf out of A. R. O. dams that have A. R. O. daughters. Sired by a 20-lb. 2-year-old bull. Price \$225 for the three. Riverside Farm, O. F. Turner, Vulcan, Michigan.

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

HORSES

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.

FOR SALE, Percheron Stallion 131705. Black, Heavy bone fellow—foaled June 23rd, 1915. J. F. Glad, Vassar, Michigan, Route No. 7.

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

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.

HOGS

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

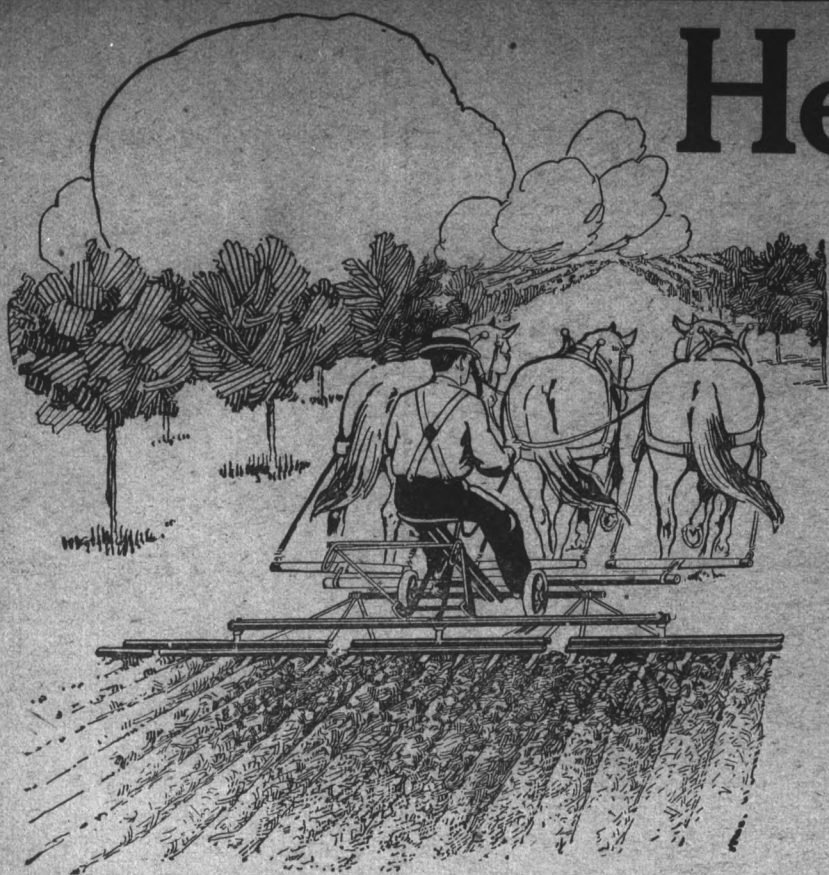
Half Ton—O.I.C.s—Half Ton

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.

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.

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

DUROC SOWS and **GILTS**, bred for June farrowing, to Orion Fancy King 83857, the biggest pig for his age ever shown at International Live Stock Show. Also Fall boars registered crated and delivered anywhere in state. Newton Barnhart, St. Johns, Michigan.



Here's Help on the Labor Question

The President has called upon you as patriotic American citizens to increase to the utmost your production for the coming year. He says "that the culminating crisis of the struggle has come and that the achievements of this year on the one side or the other will determine the issue." We know that you will strain every nerve and fibre to respond to the call. We know, too, that you are working under severe handicaps—shortage of seeds, shortage of labor and shortage of farm implements.

We must call out the reserve forces to win. We must mobilize the man power and the boy power of the State. Give the elderly man and the growing boy a chance to do their "bit" for the sacred cause of liberty. To do this, you need tools that will do good work in the hands of a youngster; tools that have comfortable seats on which the elderly man can ride; tools that will make horse power and man power go farther. Use the

"ACME" PULVERIZING HARROW

It is so simple that any lad old enough to guide a team can manage it and do as much work as a man. The driver rides on a comfortable seat and comes home fresh at night. The draft is light; you can cover a large acreage without lugging the team. Use one, two, three or four horses. We have styles and sizes to meet your horse power. With the "Acme" Four-horse Harrows, you can readily cover from 30 to 40 acres a day.

You'll be delighted at the way the soil flows in little furrows from the curved coulters of the fast-working "Acme." These coulters level the ground; fill open spaces; compact the soil below

and leave a protective mulch at the top. They cut through weeds and trash and mix them thoroughly with the soil. On clay soil, sandy soil or heavy loam—everywhere—the "Acme" makes a deep firm seed bed—lays the right foundation for a bumper crop. You'll find the "Acme" a dependable all-around tool. Use it in the orchard to keep down weeds and conserve moisture.

Get your "Acme" now. It will help you to put in your spring crops at less expense. You can invest the money thus saved in the Third Liberty Loan and back up the boys "over there." Fortunately, we have a stock of "Acme" Harrows in your vicinity ready for immediate shipment.

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"The Acme Way to Crops that Pay."*

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No. 23 Standard Two-Horse "Acme" Harrow
Flexible, cuts 6-12 feet wide

The "Acme" makes a perfect seed bed—insures maximum yields.

We make "Acme" Harrows in one, two, three and four horse sizes. Widths 3 ft. to 17 1-2 ft. Extension models for the orchard.

