

"—for all the Farmers of Michigan!"



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GOV. SLEEPER HEADS BEAN COMMITTEE

Delegation leaves this week to Place Before Herbert C. Hoover Protests of Michigan Bean Interests Against the Pinto Bean Deal

"The Grain Corporation has bought 41,000,000 lbs. of Pinto beans from growers in Colorado, New Mexico and adjoining states. About 1,000,000 lbs. of extra choice seed has been stored at Denver, Greeley, Trinidad, Clayton and Albuquerque, which will be sold to growers at the \$8.80 price plus local freight, cost of storage, insurance and other incidental expenses, or about \$9.15 per cwt. These are dry land pintos, re-cleaned and well sacked. The Corporation expects to keep moving these beans as fast as they can get equipment to Eastern markets, it being the first time that pintos have been shipped in quantity to Eastern consuming centers, so that the East will now be as familiar with the pinto bean as it is with the navy, a fact that should make it easy in the future to hold a satisfactory market for pintos."

"The Food Administration about ten days ago received three carloads of beans from Colorado, which have been distributed in New York City to the wholesalers and jobbers."—Price Current and Grain Reporter.

At the biggest joint meeting of bean growers, jobbers, elevator men and bankers ever held in the state of Michigan, at Saginaw, Tuesday, April 23rd, Governor Sleeper was named chairman of a delegation representing the above interests to go to Washington and lay before Mr. Hoover Michigan's grievances arising from the discrimination placed against the navy bean by the bean division of the U. S. Food Administration. The committee, consisting of the Governor, Nathan F. Simpson of Detroit, W. J. Biles of Saginaw, with M. J. Hart of Saginaw as alternate, Frank Gerber of Fremont and Jas. B. Crawford of Ithaca, will leave Detroit Saturday noon via the Pennsylvania lines and will arrive in Washington Sunday afternoon. By appointment they will meet with Mr. Hoover on the following day.

The meeting at Saginaw came as a result of a general call issued by representatives of the various bean interests of the state. Its purpose was for an open discussion of the bean situation in general and the flooding of the navy bean markets with pinto beans, by the Food Administration, in particular.

Fully one-half of the big crowd that filled the big auditorium of the Bancroft Hotel were farmers who came from several surrounding bean-growing counties. They not only took a lively interest in the proceedings, but a number of them gave the bean jobbers the farmer's side of the bean situation.

Nathan F. Simpson, manager of the Gleaner Clearing House Association of Detroit, was named chairman of the meeting. Mr. Simpson felt it an occasion for congratulation that it was the first time probably that all interested in the bean industry had gathered so amicably for mutual benefit. He impressed the audience with the thought that if the Michigan bean industry was to thrive, the product must have a clear right of way to the market. "Do we want to see one class of products legislated into popularity at the expense of competing foods?" the speaker asked. "It is not con-

GOV. SLEEPER ACTS IN PINTO BEAN DEAL

Saginaw, Mich., April 23, 1918

Herbert C. Hoover, Washington, D. C.

What day first of week can you meet with me and delegation of bean handlers and growers. We are representing largest meeting of farmers and dealers ever held in Michigan here today. Will arrive in Washington Sunday night. Please answer me at Lansing.

ALBERT E. SLEEPER, Governor.

THE BEAN COMMITTEE

The committee appointed to go to Washington to place the grievances of the Michigan bean interests before Mr. Hoover is as follows:

Governor Sleeper, Chairman.

Nathan F. Simpson, representing the growers.

W. J. Biles of Saginaw, representing jobbers.

Christian Breisch, of Lansing, representing elevator men.

Frank Gerber of Fremont, representing canning interests.

Jas. B. Crawford, Ithaca, representing bankers.

In addition to the above, several have signified their intentions of going, and it has been announced that anyone desirous of attending this conference at Washington will be welcome to accompany the committee.

servation of transportation nor food when a product grown in the extreme west is shipped into the east and its use urged in preference to a native product. We ask that all restrictions on Michigan beans be removed."

Mr. Simpson read from telegrams and press dispatches showing the effect that the substitution of pinto beans was having upon the white bean market. The substance of those read was that large quantities of pinto beans were being received in Indianapolis, and thru the columns of the daily press, the Food Administration was encouraging people as a patriotic measure to eat the pintos in preference to the white beans.

A telegram was also presented disclosing that a large buyer of navy beans had arrived in Washington from Havana, Cuba, but had been unsuccessful in getting a license to export the navy beans.

Mr. G. F. Allmendinger of Ann Arbor, formerly president of the Bean Jobbers' Ass'n, thought that the forcing of the price of beans to \$10 a bushel last season was a great mistake as it encouraged a heavy planting in other sections that formerly had grown no beans commercially. (Con. page 7.)

HUGE MILK SURPLUS PRESENTS PROBLEM

Condensaries are Forced to Drop Prices to Farmers to Unprofitable Levels and Some Have Ceased Operations Altogether

Will you kindly inform me thru the M. B. F. or by personal letter if the government has set the price of milk. If so, is the Lake Odessa Milk Company paying the farmer a just price for his milk? The company will not take Saturday night and Monday morning milk, claiming the government will not allow them to do so. If you can tell me anything about the milk situation I will be very grateful. I enclose milk card they send out the first of each month. You will note that they offer for April milk, \$2.60 per hundred pounds with a reduction of 25 cents per hundred for hauling.—A. K., Lake Odessa, Michigan.

A Sparta subscriber sends us copy of a statement put out by the Sparta Condensed Milk Company, and asks our opinion on it. Portions of the circular are as follows:

"The urgent need of transporting large numbers of men to France and diminution of shipping space as a result of the submarine campaign, has led the Allied Shipping Board to reduce materially the space available for all exports. In the case of milk, the reduction is estimated at from fifty to seventy-five per cent, in spite of the fact that milk is a concentrated food of high nutritive value and is in great demand abroad. This sudden limitation of the export of milk by Government decree has restricted the outlet for evaporated and condensed milk and has resulted in a surplus in the domestic market. Milk which formerly would have gone to foreign markets has been thrown on the domestic market and naturally prices have been driven down.

"Our company was doing considerable export business and has been affected more seriously than some other concerns who were not serving that trade. Temporarily, we have been forced to sell our goods at very low prices in order to market them. We thought it better to do that, however, than to take other measures and if our patrons will meet us half way in this matter, we will be able to tide over the period of readjustment. The industry will adjust itself, production will be curtailed and domestic consumption increased, but it will take time to effect these changes.

"In view of the conditions recited above, we cannot pay more than \$2.25 per hundred for 3.5 per cent milk delivered to our plant for the month of April. At the prices we are selling our product, we will lose money paying this price, but we think we can see our way clear to take the milk at this figure. We want to keep our plant running and thus afford a permanent market for your milk, and with your co-operation, we will be able to do it."

The Government has NOT set the price which condensary or creamery companies must pay farmers for milk. We believe that a suggestion was made by the dairy division of the U. S. Food Administration that milk purchasing companies endeavor to make their prices as nearly uniform as possible in all sections where they are buying, and several companies, notably the Michigan branches of Swift & Company, have misrepresented the suggestion to the farmers as a set price in sections where they had no competition to provide an excuse for a reduction of prices, in order to make up for losses sustained by other branches that were offering abnormally high prices for the apparent purpose of forcing competing firms out of business. We have absolute evidence that this was done, and for several months have been trying to get the proper authorities to take action against any such distortion of government suggestions and such violation of the trust laws. But everyone consulted upon the matter, has "passed the buck" on to someone else, claiming that they had no authority to act. (Continued on page 7.)

In the Name of Liberty and Justice, Buy that Liberty Bond Today!

FARMER FRIENDS: The Third Liberty Loan campaign is nearing its close. The farmers of Michigan have stood nobly and generously by the Loan. At the worst season of the entire year, when money is badly needed to begin farm operations, agricultural communities almost without exception have OVERSUBSCRIBED their quota. Every man who has an interest in the farmers and sympathy with their problems must feel a huge pride in their great, patriotic

accomplishment. We are mightily pleased and thankful that you have so substantially aided in making the Third Liberty loan a success, and given this concrete evidence of your patriotism and loyalty to our country. If any there be who have been prevented from subscribing to this loan, we make this last final appeal that you delay no longer. We can see it in no other light—it is the DUTY of every American farmer to buy a Liberty Bond.

WEEKLY WASHINGTON LETTER



WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Liberty loan lags. On April 20th, the campaign was half over with a little less than half of the minimum total of 3 billion dollars subscribed. While this showing is somewhat better than either of the first two loans, treasury heads are plainly dissatisfied as they are actually aiming at a 5 billion dollars loan with 20 million subscribers. From the enthusiastic manner in which the campaign started out, everyone had high hopes that this would be speedily reached, but the failure of the people of means to subscribe their share is blamed for the slow progress of the loan. Reports from all sections show that by far a greater number of people in moderate circumstances are buying bonds than in either of the two previous campaigns. Despite the discouraging situation prevailing a week ago, it is believed that the 3 billion dollars will be over-subscribed before the campaign closes.

A plan to register every man in the United States between the ages of 18 and 50, designed by the provost marshal general's division of the war department with a view to enlisting the man power of the nation in war work, is meeting with some opposition from members of Congress and from the administration. The immediate object of the proposed bill is to give the war department absolute control over the nation's man power so that it may have the authority in any emergency of calling upon registrants for any branch of either civil or war service. All such registrants would be classified according to their conditions of dependency, physical and mental qualifications, technical training, experience in specialized lines, employment in effective and non-effective industries, etc., with the object of placing them in the positions they are best qualified to fill. Hence, all civilians between these ages would be at the beck and call of the war department in the same manner as men in military service. The plan has its dangers. It would give to the war department an arbitrary control over the labor resources and the industries of the nation, and might prove the final step in completing a militaristic organization no less autocratic in its authority over the government than the Kaiser's military machine.

Washington is full of "slickers," young men who have succeeded in securing commissions in non-combatant branches of the service, thru some influence with the dispensers of such honors. The "slicker" is only one step removed from the "slacker," and that step is a rung nearer the bottom of the ladder of honor and service. The slacker is, in most cases, a conscientious objector to the war; he openly "slacks." The "slicker" is, in most cases, the most ruthless enemy the Kaiser ever had, but his attacks are vocal instead of physical. He devoutly believes that the world should be made safe for democracy, and to prove it he secures a commission, dons a uniform and goes to Washington where he makes a public show of his patriotism. But Congress refuses to be fooled any longer by this brand of patriotism, and has asked the war department to provide a list of all non-combatants of draft age in government service at the capitol, and a history of each case. A "weeding out" of men filling places that could just as well be served by older men and an invitation to enter active army service, are sure to follow the investigation.

Chas. M. Schwab, the boy who started life on a dollar-a-day railroad job and became the world's second greatest steel magnate, has accepted a dollar-a-year position with the government as director-general of the Emergency Fleet corporation. Mr. Schwab's job will be complete and put into service in the shortest possible time the largest possible number of merchant ships for the transportation of troops and supplies to the war zone. Less than a fortnight has elapsed since the appointment of Mr. Schwab and he has already effected a complete reorganization of the ship building program, has removed the offices from Washington to Philadelphia in order to be nearer the shipbuilding yards, and gives every indication that he is alive to his duties and responsibility. If Mr. Schwab gives all his time and his characteristic energy to his new job, there is no question but what the shipbuilding program will be speeded to maximum efficiency and production.

Reassuring news to the effect that the war costs are not as great as original estimates have been made by the Treasury Dept. The first year of the war, ending Apr. 6, cost approximately nine billion dollars, as against a twelve-billion estimate. The costs are continually mounting, however, and for the current fiscal year which ends June 30, will

be twelve billion, although the estimates at the beginning of the year were for twenty billion dollars. As actual expenditures usually exceed the estimates, government officials have every reason to rejoice in the showing.

The nine billion expended during the first year of the war, averages a million an hour for every hour of the day. As a matter of fact, a million an hour for 365 days, or 8760 hours would amount to only \$8,760,000,000.

Nearly one-half of the first nine billion went to our allies as loans. The money did not leave this country, but was in the form of credits for purchasing here. These loans will, of course, be returned to us after the war.

Individual states and municipalities have expended millions more in war relief work in addition to millions for the Red Cross, War "Y," etc. Yet, the war has engendered a spirit of economy which has resulted in the saving of millions. The war has had and will continue to have a sobering effect on certain classes of the American people who were intoxicated with success, and were living far beyond their means. This does not apply to the farmers as a class, as even in prosperous years they cannot be charged with lack of thrift.

The Chamberlain bill, providing military trial and death penalty for spies and seditionists promises to be one of the most bitterly discussed measures that have been taken up. Half apologies for mob violence against persons suspected of having pro-German sympathies, have been made by those who desire to see the bill become law, claiming that the people are taking action because the civil law is ineffectual. Senator Borah pronounces the bill unconstitutional and says: "Under this bill, a business or laboring man, or an editor, or any man in any civil vocation could be arrested with-



out warrant and without a knowledge of the charges preferred against him, taken before a drum head court-martial, tried and punished or executed. I think if we keep our poise and hold on to our faith in our institutions and the loyal people of this country and vigorously exercise the powers which are clearly ours under a republican form of government there would be no necessity for laws of this kind."



The United States produces about one-tenth of the wool of the world.

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

There are now four times as many vessels in naval service as a year ago.

The navy now has in its possession a stock of supplies sufficient for average requirements for one year.

More than 70,000 acres of land in this country have been planted with castor bean plants to produce oil for the aeroplanes.

Official figures just made public indicate that nearly 50,000 women have replaced men employed in the banking institutions in Great Britain since the commencement of the war.

While testing ground for oil near Mundy, Texas, an engineer ran into a vein of metal which assays \$4.50 per ton in gold and \$8.00 per ton in silver. It is believed that there is a large marine deposit of approximately 20 square miles, with an approximate value of \$200,000 per acre.

There is a growing agitation in many sections of Canada in favor of the Government passing legislation whereby the duty may be removed from all farm implements, the farmers arguing that while all farm machinery is now from 100 to 200 per cent higher than before the war, the profits from the farm have not increased correspondingly, and with the dearth of labor, caused by the young men leaving the farms for the front, the farms cannot be worked unless labor saving machinery is employed.

WAR WIRES

Scores of German towns have been bombed recently by British air raiders in reprisal for the many aerial attacks on England in which high explosives were dropped on towns of no military importance. The British are now following a plan of returning the compliment each time Hun raiders attack defenseless English towns. The Germans are loud in their denunciations of the "barbarous attacks," and are calling upon the neutral world to witness this "utter disregard for the rights of helpless humanity." The fact that frequent attacks upon England were made for more than three years, in which thousands of innocent women and children were killed or injured is quite forgotten by the Berlin brigands. The English are conducting their aerial raids against industrial centers, and while attacks of this kind usually cause the death of non-combatants, the Germans have no one to blame but themselves.

Secretary of War Newton W. Baker, who recently returned after several weeks spent in both the western and Italian fronts is confident of the ultimate victory of the Entente allies. Mr. Baker visited the trenches, even going to a listening post in the extreme front close to the Hun lines. The hospitals, field kitchens and everything which had to do with the welfare of the men was inspected. He announced that American soldiers were receiving the best food possible to procure, that the wounded were treated under conditions as nearly perfect as it was possible to provide, and that American parents could rest assured that their sons "over there" were happy. Men will be called to the colors in much larger numbers during the coming summer and fall than was at first planned, the numbers being limited only by training facilities.

Canada, according to a statement by Premier Borden, will endeavor to keep 100,000 men in the field continually, although the drafting of additional levies will necessitate great sacrifices. The Dominion, which has taken an active part in the fighting since the beginning of the war, has sustained severe losses, yet the people are bravely bearing the burdens and are anxious to fight to the finish. The war spirit is acute except in Quebec, where the French-Canadians following the outbreaks of mob violence a few weeks ago, are sullenly acquiescing to the draft law. The labor problem, especially in western Canada, is more acute than in the United States and an effort is being made to rehabilitate disabled soldiers so that they can be employed in some of the industries.

Not only are the Allied armies holding the Hun forces all along the line, but by brilliant counter operations in which the Americans have played a conspicuous part have regained considerable lost territory. While the great German offensive is by no means over, Von Hindenburg appears to be out-generaled. It is known that a large Allied "army of offense" as it is usually designated by war correspondents, is being held in readiness by Gen. Foch for a mighty counter thrust when the proper time comes. It is believed that a large part of the American forces are held in reserve with this army. That the Germans fear this menace, is very probable, as they do not know where or at what moment it will strike.

A breach is threatened between Berlin and Vienna according to advices reaching the Allies through Holland. That Emperor Charles of Austria favors peace, and would be willing to go to almost any limit to secure it, is evident. He has no sympathy with the mad schemes of the Pan-Germans. That he had sounded the French premier, M. Clemenceau, regarding grounds for peace, has been revealed. An empire wide strike is being agitated in Austria for "May Day," and should it occur, there is a possibility of its spreading to Germany, as the Teutonic workmen are said to be very dissatisfied with recent developments.

With American ship yards turning out a vast tonnage, greater probably than the combined shipyards of the world, and many ships being turned over to the United States through agreements with foreign governments the overseas shipping facilities of the American forces are rapidly improving. The latest acquisition is a fleet of 66 Japanese ships, which will be used by this government for the period of the war. An agreement has been concluded with the Japanese government whereby the ships are to be turned over to the United States government in return for specified quantities of steel much needed by Japan.

The Irish conscription bill has passed the British parliament. As a salve to the wounded spirit of the Irish, who object to being forced to fight, immediate home rule has been promised. A home rule bill will be considered by parliament, and it is expected that in spite of the fierce opposition to conscription on the part of certain elements and organizations in the island, that the Irish will accept it as a trade for the long-sought self government. Although news of the passing of the conscription bill caused wild scenes in some parts of the island in other parts notably Dublin, it resulted in an increased recruiting.

American aeroplanes will soon reach France. The numbers, types etc. of course, will not be divulged at this time but while the aircraft production has not come up to expectations, it is known that American planes will soon be in use against the Boches. Heretofore American forces have had to depend on English and French planes and the sectors occupied by our troops have seldom had adequate air craft help. American troops are enthused by the reports that their own planes will soon be in the thick of the fight.

The so-called peace with Ukraine has netted the Central Powers absolutely nothing from the food standpoint, although it has opened up vast deposits of manganese, much needed in the manufacture of steel. There is barely enough food for the inhabitants and German forces sent into the country found it necessary to obtain their supplies from home. The Huns will make every effort to exploit Ukraine, however, and hope to avail themselves of the products of this granary of Europe after the coming harvests.



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL DIGEST



NEW YORK POTATO ACREAGE CUT; FARMERS STILL OPPOSE GRADING

With farmers getting into spring work, there is a falling off in the receipts of potatoes and despite the prophecy that April would see growers feeding potatoes for lack of a market, the prediction has failed to materialize and further, under the light receipts there is a distinctly stronger tone to the market. Dealers will make no estimates of the amounts now in possession of growers, but some of the big buyers here are coming to the conclusion that stocks may have been rather overestimated.

Reports continue to come in to the effect that there will be some reduction of potato acreage this season owing to the unfavorable conditions that obtained last season in handling the crop. It is claimed that the acreage in Steuben county this year will be 19,000 as compared with 27,000 last year. Information from that county is that 1,140 farm hands have been drafted, have enlisted, or left the farms for one reason or another the past year, and to make up this loss only 400 new men have gone to the farms.

There is still some opposition against potato grading, although apparently the great proportion of growers and dealers favor it as a real prop to the potato business. However, there are few dealers willing to admit that they do not grade potatoes, but investigation shows that grading consists in a little hand sorting, rather than bonafide grading over a mechanical device. By special request of the Federal Food Administration, Francis G. Ferrin, secretary of the New York State Potato Shippers' Conservation Association, has been doing some investigating. Dealers are paying growers \$1.10@1.30 per cwt., for U. S. grade 1, track-side delivery. Dealers are shipping U. S. grade 1, bulk, \$1.45@1.50 f. o. b. Rochester.—*The Packer*.

NEW STANDARDS FOR GRADING OF CORN AND WHEAT

New standards for grading corn and wheat, effective July 15 next, have been announced by the department of agriculture.

The corn standards in the main involve the addition of weight per bushel requirements for all numerical grades and the allowance of small quantities of heat damaged kernels in grades Nos. 2 and 3. Separate grades have been established for white, yellow, and mixed corn.

The department announces that the new wheat grades will result in a greater proportion of the crop falling into the higher grades. The more important of the changes are:

Dockage will be expressed in terms of whole per cent, rather than half per cent, disregarding fractions, and the definition of dockage specifically requires recleaning and rescreening, so that as large a proportion as possible of cracked wheat will be removed.

The more definite term, "foreign material other than dockage," has been substituted for "inseparable foreign material."

The allowance for wild peas, corn cockle, and similar impurities, is more liberal.

The minimum test weight per bushel requirements generally are reduced except for grades 2, 3, and 4 in hard red spring wheat and grades 1 to 4 in common white and white club.

The maximum percentages of moisture allowed have been increased for all grades except for grade No. 2 in hard red spring and durum.

The total weight of other classes permissible in increased in every grade. No. 1 now permitting 5 per cent and other grades 10 per cent. Special limitations for certain wheats of other classes now apply to the first two grades.

SAME OLD NEWS FROM KANSAS— WHEAT CROP VERY POOR

A Macomb county farmer confided to the M. B. F. editor the other day that his brother who had been farming in Kansas the past 5 years had sold his farm and would return to Michigan. "What's the matter," we asked, doesn't he like Kansas any more?" "Nope," he replied, "the seasons are too uncertain; crops fail too much. He's sorry he ever went out there."

And when we read a few days later that Kansas wheat was only 77.6 per cent normal, we couldn't

help but respect the judgment of our subscriber's brother.

"Of the nearly 9,500,000 acres sown to wheat in Kansas last fall," says the report of the secretary of the state board of agriculture, "approximately one-third is reported by correspondents of the board as worthless or so unpromising that it will probably be abandoned or devoted to other crops. Ninety per cent of this abandoned acreage is in the northwest portion of the state, this region embracing 60 per cent of the total area sown to winter wheat last fall."

Query No. 1: What do Kansas farmers live on when their wheat crops fail?

Query No. 2: How does the Kansas farmer or any other farmer for that matter, figure his profits out of \$2 wheat when he raises only a half crop?

MONTANA RANCHMEN TO SEED VAST ACRES TO WHEAT

Many Montana cattle ranchers, impressed with the crying need for a greater wheat production in this country, are planning to seed thousands of acres of ranch land to this grain. One of the largest cattle ranches in Montana, that of Child & Anceney, will devote a vast area of between eight and twelve thousand acres to wheat. Practically all of this is irrigated hay land. While still keeping a large number of range cattle, the curtailing of the hay crop which the ranch company uses for winter feeding will make necessary a great depletion in the vast herds of cattle. The proprietors believe that wheat is a greater necessity than meat and are taking this step for the purpose of assisting the government in its requests for greater wheat production.

WASHINGTON POTATO ACREAGE SHOWS DECREASE FROM LAST YEAR

Potato planting in Northwestern Washington is now general, but less acreage is being devoted to that crop than was the case last year. Proportionately more persons are planting them in Bellingham than in the rural districts, the activity in that direction locally being due largely to the efforts of the war garden committee of the Chamber of Commerce. In the country hundreds of acres that last year were utilized for potatoes are this season being planted to peas, the demand for which was very strong in 1917. This year Whatcom county will have a pea mill and the builders expect to handle thousands of tons.

INTERESTING NOTES ON FOOD ADMINISTRATION ACTIVITIES

OVERCHARGED FOR BRAN

Violation of Food Administration rules and regulations, led to the revocation effective April 1, of the license held by the Hays Milling Company of Worthington, Indiana. It was shown that the Hays Milling Company charged \$45 per ton for bran. The agreed maximum price is \$36.06.

If the company gives assurance that it will commit no further violations, it will be allowed to apply for another license after suspension of operation for 30 days.

REFUSED EGGS, LOSES LICENSE

For failure to accept delivery of a consignment of eggs, the firm of Mesh & Company, New York City, has lost its Food Administration license. Shipment was made to the firm from Richmond, Va., on February 22 by express. The express receipt was held until February 27 and then returned; the egg market had declined sharply on February 25.

CORNMEAL OUTPUT DOUBLED

A canvass of the whole country by the Food Administration shows that the actual milling output of cornmeal increased from 3,000,000 barrels in October to nearly 6,000,000 barrels for March. During the past 18 months, the output of corn flour has increased 500 per cent.

FLOUR DONORS GIVE ALLIES DIRECT AID

Persons who offer their flour to the Government are assured by the Food Administration that their sacrifice is a direct and immediate help to the fighters and people in Europe. While it is impossible to ship some of this flour in the packages in which it is returned, arrangements have been made to put it into circulation and immediately ship from the mills an equal amount properly packed for export.

The exact quantities given will be released, over and above the present program of sending overseas one-half of the total American supplies. All flour given up will be paid for on a fair price basis.

MILLING REGULATIONS ADVANCE MILLERS' PROFITS 175 PER CENT

Government regulations have practically eliminated the farmer's profits on wheat but have increased the miller's and middleman's profits on flour from 100 to 175 per cent. This information was disclosed in a recent report made by the federal trade commission to the president.

In 1912-13, without being subject to any government control, the average profit of millers amounted to 11 cents per barrel. This had increased to 52 cents per barrel in 1916-17, which was later reduced to 25 cents per barrel by the government, or over twice as much as the millers received during the pre-war period. In a summary of the report the commission says:

"The present regulations of our millers' profits at a fixed margin above costs has the inherent weakness of not encouraging efficiency in production and of affording unpatriotic millers temptation to dishonesty in cost accounting, difficult to detect or prevent."

"While the actual profit which millers will make during the present crop year cannot be finally determined until the end of the period, it appears from the information in the hands of the federal trade commission that the regulations have reduced the profits of most mills below those made during the year 1916-17. This, with the larger reductions secured by fixing the price of wheat—a part of the regulation plan—has reduced the price of flour to the consumer several dollars a barrel. Wheat and milling regulations have kept flour prices fairly stable in spite of a shortage due to heavy shipments abroad."

The report states that it is the opinion of the federal trade commission that maximum prices of flour might be established, which would cover the cost of wheat and all manufacturing, selling, and general expenses, and in addition would give the miller a reasonable profit. The standardization of flour by the food administration renders the plan of fixing flour prices much easier of accomplishment than heretofore. Maximum prices would make it profitable to the millers to operate more efficiently and keep costs down.

On profits and production costs the report says:

"The average cost of production of a barrel of flour for mills covered by the investigation increased in the crop year 1916-17 over the preceding year, due mainly to the increased cost of wheat, while operating profits per barrel as shown by their records increased nearly 175 per cent and their rate of profit on investment increased more than 100 per cent."

CANADIAN CATTLE ENTER U. S. UNDER TRADE AGREEMENT

While no definite or authoritative pronouncement has been received on question of cattle entering United States under new "restricted imports" regulations, it is stated at Winnipeg that American customs authorities are permitting shipments to go through. They state that they have no orders to do otherwise. This movement is under the blanket license system which has been in force for some time.

TEXAS CATTLE RAISERS HIT BY WORST DROUTH OF YEARS

The number of cattle in Texas is much reduced this year. Several causes have contributed to this reduction, chief among them being the drouth which has destroyed pastures and added to the multifarious troubles of the ranch owners. Many cattle have been shipped to better ranges in other states, and large numbers sold before the time when they are generally turned off.

I. N. McCrary, interested in a ranch of 175,000 acres near Post City, said recently that there had not been a good rain in his section since February 14, 1916. "If we don't get a good rain within 30 or 40 days it is hard to predict just what will become of the cattle and their herds," he said. "For four years our range cleared better than \$100,000 a season. Last year we didn't make a cent and it will be the same this year."

Hundreds of thousands of cattle perished of thirst last summer. Those that were able to stand the trip were sent to better ranges in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado.

CURRENT MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL NEWS

STATE AGRICULTURAL BRIEFS

Tecumseh—The co-operative spirit is spreading in Lenawee county. The Tecumseh Co-operative association has taken an option on the elevator property at Britton, operated under the name of Walper-Dreher, which is located in one of the biggest grain producing centers. The Tecumseh Co-operative association was organized in the early part of 1915, with a capital stock of \$25,000, taking over the property of C. A. Slayton & Son. The capital was later increased to \$50,000 to take care of the rapidly increasing business. Last year the volume of business transacted by the association amounted to nearly one-half million dollars, or to be exact, \$448,000, showing net profits for the year of 14.9% on its capital stock after paying all expenses and charging off depreciation for wear and tear. Of these net earnings a capital dividend of 6% was declared payable in cash and the balance was turned back into the working fund of the company.

Jackson—Plans for the intensive development of farm lands in the southern tier of Michigan counties was discussed by the county agents of those counties, who were guests of the Jackson Chamber of Commerce. The meeting was called for the purpose of securing the opinions of the county agents of a movement to be taken in all of the southern counties to encourage better fertilization and better general development of lands suitable for agricultural purposes. The prospect of holding a Southern Michigan exposition each year was also taken up at the Jackson meeting but no action was taken on the question. The county agents will meet again May 2, to continue their discussion and if possible to take some definite action.

Adrain—Of 97 claims for deferred classification on agricultural grounds made by registrants under the first division board of Lenawee county, all but four were allowed by the district board at Detroit. A very small number of the claims under the second division board were denied. Of 110 registrants under this board who asked for deferred classification, the percentage of denials was about the same as for the first division board.

Detroit—Thirty-five carloads of southern potatoes are enroute to northern and eastern markets, according to advices reaching here. While most of these potatoes will go to eastern cities, it will not be long before large quantities of southern tubers will be on sale here. The southern crop is unusually large this year. A load of Michigan potatoes on the city market a few days ago was offered at 60c with no bidders.

Mason—Farm labor in some places is demanding as high as \$60 a month with board and washing, with stipulations to the effect that no milking is to be required, according to County Agriculturalist Frank Seely. The farm labor situation is becoming acute in Ingham county, and hundreds of boys are being released from the rural schools to assist on the farms.

Grand Haven—Although the proposed hiring of a county agricultural agent was rejected by the people on a test vote at the April election, it will probably be considered at the next session of the board of supervisors. The vote was not binding upon the board, and that body may take action at its next session to create a county farm bureau and secure the services of an agricultural agent.



A safe, sure and non-expensive means of travel. Compared to the automobile it has all of the advantages with the exception of speed. This ox, which weighs 200 pounds more than a ton, is well broken to both single and double harness, and is owned by Ben Thurlow of Midland county.

Addison—The sum of \$341.25 was received by Ira C. Rogers of Somerset recently for a two-year-old steer and a heifer of the same age. The weight of the two head of cattle was 2,730 pounds. Mr. Rogers immediately deposited the check received for the cattle at the bank as a payment on Liberty bonds. He bought \$1,000 worth of bonds of the Second Liberty Loan in October.

Sandusky—The Borden Condensed Milk Company will hold open house here on Monday, April 29, the date of the opening of the new condensary. Governor Sleeper will be among the speakers. The local plant is one of the largest of its kind in this part of the state. It will be supplied by milk stations situated in a wide area surrounding Sandusky.

Benton Harbor—Twenty-eight high school students have already gone to work on farms of the county, and nearly forty others will be similarly engaged within a few weeks. "We are going on farms to help win the war," is the slogan of these boys, who although too young to fight in the trenches of Flanders, are doing their bit for the cause.

Croswell—Machinery is being installed here in one of the largest canning factories in eastern Michigan, which will give a truck products market to the farmers for miles around. The main factory building is three stories high. The power plant contains five large boilers. An immense storeroom will be constructed later.

Mt. Pleasant—H. D. Corbus has been named as county agent of Isabella county, and will begin work immediately. P. P. Pope of this place has been appointed agricultural agent of Clinton county and will leave in a few days for St. Johns. He will leave a manager in charge of his farm interests here.

Laingsburg—The Farmers' Co-operative Shipping association of this place took an active part in the Liberty Loan campaign. The association paid for full page advertisements in the local press, boosting the sale of bonds, and assisted in the sale in every way possible.

Shepherd—A farmers' co-operative association is being organized here to handle farm produce of all kinds. Already the organization has a membership of 150. A. C. Bandeen is president.

UP-STATE FARM OWNERS FACE SERIOUS FIRE LOSSES

Fires which raged during the unusually dry weather of the fore part of April have caused considerable damages to northern farms. Small farmers face serious losses to their buildings and stock in many places. Fires are burning in at least forty counties in northern Michigan and continued dry weather may cause a condition in the woods that will result in serious damage.

Farmers in Ogemaw county in the lower peninsula, were reported to be plowing about their buildings to check the brush fires which had already burned one building.

In Dickinson county many farm buildings were endangered and a lumber camp burned out. Many farmers were in the woods fighting to stop the spread of the flames.

Bad brush fires were reported between Keweenaw Bay and Mass and on the Lake Superior shore on the eastern side of the Keweenaw peninsula. Farmers are fighting the fires between Keweenaw Bay and Mass. There has been but one slight rainfall in this region this spring.

From Delela county in the lower part of the upper peninsula, also fires were reported Monday, just outside the city limits of Escanaba. They destroyed two farm barns and a small farm residence.

Dispatches from Escanaba say the entire upper peninsula faces fire peril unless rain falls soon. Utmost precautions are being taken by farmers and fire wardens to prevent fires.

Farmers of the upper peninsula are co-operating with the North Michigan Forest Protective association, which is proving a boon not only to the timber owners but to the small land holders. Farmers are exercising great care in spring burnings.

MICHIGAN MILK NEWS FROM THE FIELD SECRETARY

Arrangements have been made whereby the Dairy and Food department of the state are to put a tester on the field, hoping to avoid the annoyances that are so frequent between the buyer and seller of milk. Our people must be fair in this proposition and study to know all the conditions that enter in to change the test of your milk. We had hoped to present to you before this time a booklet on "Cause of Variations in Butter-Fat Test," but have been delayed in our compilation.

Another thing that we must stoutly adhere to is the principle of receiving a compensation for the milk that is in accordance with the rulings of the commission and its appointed committees. Under no condition should the milk producer allow the buyer to change this price. As you very well know, the amount designated for the Association does not come out of the price which you were to receive for your milk but is a different proposition. You receive your part of the pay and price for this milk—the Association for its work receives one cent per hundred pounds for its pay.

In many states there are men who are attempting to organize stock companies and buy the milk from cows of certain individuals—if these individuals will pay for a certain amount of stock for each cow from which they expect to sell milk. Whenever a proposition of this kind is made in your community we urge upon every milk producer to investigate thoroughly before he puts his \$10 per cow into a deal of this kind.

In our meeting at Chicago last week it was found that on account of the lack of transportation facilities there is today in the United States more than thirty millions of cases of condensed milk. This would not be a serious question if the way was open for immediate shipment; but inasmuch as the opportunities for shipment are to be less in the near future than they have been in the past, this question assumes serious proportions. A committee of three was appointed at the Chicago meeting to go to Washington to visit the Food and War departments and see if it would not be possible to obtain a change of this ruling at the earliest possible date and also to get two ounces of cheese incorporated in every soldier's ration. From the best available sources we are informed that there are about one million American soldiers in France at the present time. Could these soldiers each have two ounces of cheese it would require one hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds of cheese a day to supply them, and as this is the best animal food nutrient available it can be readily understood how vital this is—not only to the dairy industry but also to the well being of our soldier boys who are fighting our battles.

In most places in Michigan cheese is retailing at the present time from 36c to 44c per pound, while the wholesale market price for cheese today is 21c. Everything should be done that can be done in the near future to change this method of profiteering, and, if possible, to cause the people to consume more of these vital food products.—R. C. Reed.

LANSING ORGANIZATION WILL HELP SUPPLY FARM LABORERS

Lansing Chamber of Commerce will endeavor again this year to co-operate with Ingham county rural districts in supplying farm labor. Charles H. Davis, secretary, suggests that Ingham county farmers in need of help, register their needs by letter or telephone with his organization.

The labor situation right now is not of the best, it is conceded, since each community has lost many of its able-bodied men through army selection. Closer co-operation, is therefore, more necessary than ever. The Lansing Chamber of Commerce will do its utmost to assist the farmers in Ingham county. A number of laborers have filed their addresses with the secretary, but the number is limited.

U. P. POTATO ACREAGE WILL BE MUCH LESS THAN USUAL

More spring wheat and less potato acreage will be the slogan of the Upper Peninsula. At least there is a defined movement for a much larger acreage of spring wheat than normal. While, of course, no attempt has been made to get the farmers to reduce their potato acreage, the unsatisfactory prices last winter and this spring will have that tendency. Upper Peninsula potatoes are of a distinct quality. There are numerous potato growers' associations, and the tubers are considered the "money crop" in many places in the peninsula. The high prices of a year ago was responsible for a much larger acreage than normal in 1917. A large part of the crop was pitted or otherwise stored in the hopes that prices early in 1918 would again be high.

HOW U. S. EXPECTS TO SOLVE FARM LABOR SHORTAGE

The following bulletin is put out under the official stamp of the United States Department of Agriculture. While the suggestions contained therein do not in our judgment provide a remedy for the farm labor shortage or insure a steady and dependable supply of help, they are nevertheless worthy of consideration. Farmers whose sons or farm hands have been drafted and refused deferred classification should take particular note of the section relating to the duty of local boards in placing agricultural registrants in late call. Some of the boards are not living up to the letter of these instructions and farmers who conscientiously feel that they are well within their rights in seeking deferment for farm help, should impress upon the local authorities that they expect them to abide by the rulings of the war department in this respect:

The Draft—As now operated the military draft will make the least possible drain upon farm labor. District boards are encouraged by the War Department to reconsider cases of wrong classification. That is to say, where skilled farm laborers or farm managers have been placed in Class 1 on account of misunderstanding or lack of appreciation of the needs of the farmers, the boards are encouraged to reconsider meritorious applications supported by facts and affidavits made by responsible citizens. The Provost Marshal General's order of March 12 directs local boards, in furnishing their quotas for the new draft, to leave to the last all men in Class 1 who are assiduously and continuously engaged in agriculture. Under this order it is not likely that any man actually engaged in agriculture will be called, even though he be in Class 1, before this year's crops are harvested. The furlough rules just announced give further relief by permitting men to return to farms for emergency work and provide for groups of soldiers who can be spared from military camps to go into surrounding regions to perform farm labor for a short period.

Town Men of Farm Experience.—There is a widespread movement to mobilize town men of farm experience for a few days at a time, or for certain days of the week during the period of labor strain, in planting, cultivating, or harvesting. That was done successfully last year in many of the grain regions, and in some places the stores were closed for two or three days at a time and everybody joined in saving the crops. This is not the best farm labor; the town men are not "hard," but they can at least work a few hours a day and in the aggregate they can furnish the necessary man power for emergencies.

Boys' Working Reserve.—Many thousands of school boys between sixteen and twenty years of age have been enrolled to do farm work. This is not the best labor, but it will serve in an emergency. In many places last year the boys after a few days learned to be quite skillful in certain farm tasks. If the farmers will be patient with them they can become useful.

Idlers and Loafers.—In many places sheriffs and town marshals are rigidly enforcing local laws against vagrancy and loafing. In most towns it is against the law to loaf on the streets. A rigid enforcement of such laws will compel able bodied men to find work of some sort, and whether they go to the farm or find other employment, the effect will be to release labor and increase the man power of the country. In view of the demand for labor it is proper for communities, by law or by public sentiment, to insist that every man; whatever his wages or his wealth or his condition, shall put in full time.

War Time Methods.—It is not possible for us to wage a war of such proportions as that in which we are now engaged and at the same time maintain peace practices and indulgences. We must all sacrifice; we must all do things in other ways than the ways to which we are accustomed. If we cannot get the best we must take the next best we can get. War industries cannot be suspended; ship building must go on; munition plants must be operated; soldiers must go to France. With all these activities drawing upon our man power in increasing volume it will become more and more necessary, from week to week and from month to month as long as the war lasts, for

for each of us not so engaged to readjust and reorganize as the circumstances require. More effective than any law that can be enacted by the National Government is the force of public opinion. The best agency for the solution of these problems is the agency of community action. If the people of a community resolve that a thing shall be done they will find the means of doing it. There is no power in the government to create labor, nor have we yet reached the point of national peril where it is necessary to conscript labor or to require farmers by law to grow certain crops. The true test of a democracy is its ability to meet a local emergency without the compulsion of a national law. At any rate, it is impossible this year to organize a system of Federal administration of agricultural labor, but is easily possible for each state, each community, and each neighborhood to solve its own problems. Notwithstanding labor difficulties last year, production was greatly increased; the situation this year is but little, if any, more difficult, but the more difficult it becomes the more necessary there is for united community action.—*Clarence Ousley, Assistant Secretary.*

SPEED UP THE PLOW, SAYS YOUR UNCLE SAM

By hitching a third horse to a two-horse walking plow a man can cover at least a quarter of an acre more per day, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This makes a difference of about five acres in twenty days, or a saving of from two to three days' work, which is a big consideration during the busy season. During an unfavorable plowing season this saving of time may mean the difference between a big crop and a small one. The time and labor thus saved in one of the heaviest farm operations of the year may mean also that an extra man does not have to be hired. A farmer who has a little more plowing than can be done by one two-horse plow and who ordinarily employs an extra man and another two-horse team might be able to dispense with the second outfit altogether by simply hitching a third horse to one of his plows.

If the size of the plow can be increased along with the addition of the extra horse, the gain will be even greater.

Three horses to a 16-inch plow should do at least half an acre more per day than two horses to a 12-inch plow if the depth of plowing is the same. Averages for the whole country as reported by the Department show that a two-horse, 12-inch plow, plowing 6 inches deep, covers about 1¼ acres a day, and a two-horse, 16 inch plow, 2½ acres, a gain of about ¼ of an acre per day. The value of this gain when but a few days are available for spring work, as is usually the case, is of utmost importance in getting the maximum amount of land prepared for seed and in giving the crop an early start.

LOOK OUT FOR THE BANK PROMOTER, MR. FARMER

Recent examinations and reports to this department indicate that banking conditions in Michigan are very satisfactory, and that the present banks are supplying the needs of the several communities. This condition has been brought about largely on account of the fact that with a few exceptions banks have been organized in Michigan only in such places and at such times as were required for legitimate necessities.

While in a few cases banks have been organized where there was no apparent necessity, such organizations, in most cases, have eventually been absorbed or consolidated with the older institution in the locality. In many instances, however, during the period of their operation they have produced conditions which were unsatisfactory, both to the community, the banking fraternity, and to this department. In some instances the organization of these banks was instigated by so-called promoters, or by persons having a grievance, or so-called grievance, against the older institution.

The situation in Michigan has not been burdened to any great extent on account of the organization of what might be termed "promotion banks," and in this respect Michigan has been fortunate indeed. In many western states the results produced in connection with promotion banks have proven unsatisfactory, and in some cases disastrous. A promoter, as a rule, is not interested in the local banking situation, his first and only object is to secure his promotion fee, and when that has been paid him he departs from the community, leaving the local stockholders, in many cases unexperienced in banking business, to try and fulfill the many glittering promises made as an inducement to secure stock subscriptions, and the results under these conditions cannot be other than unsatisfactory, both to the community in which the bank is established, and to the banking department. The Michigan Banking department has always opposed the organization of institutions of this character, and this rule should be applied partially at the present time, as the general policy of the government is to discourage capital investments in any unnecessary enterprise.

Our investigations in some recent banking organizations developed the fact that bank promoters are again seeking Michigan as a fertile field for their operations, and the Department has therefore taken the position that applications for new organizations, where it has good reason to believe the necessity of a bank has been fostered and nurtured by a promoter, will be denied and disapproved.

Please find enclosed \$1 for subscription to your valuable paper. I know it is the biggest paper of its size in the U. S. It is just what the farmers want and right from the shoulder and a mighty hitter. We are all trying to do our bit this spring and hit the Kaiser below the belt; hang him if caught, and must put in more acres this spring at all costs and do all we can to furnish food for the front, and three cheers for the boys in the trenches.—*A. W. Gladwin, Michigan.*

A HAPPY HOUR FOR AMERICAN SOLDIERS ON THE WESTERN FRONT



THE MAIL ARRIVES AT AN AMERICAN CAMP IN FRANCE.
© COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

If every one knew how letters and newspapers from their homes in America cheer up the soldiers in France the mails probably would be overloaded. This photograph shows only a little of the joy and eagerness with which the American fighting men receive the letters, parcels and newspapers for which they have been waiting anxiously. When a soldier hears from the folk at home he knows they are with him back of him until the end. All generals agree that the right kind of a letter from home improves the fighting ability of a soldier ninety-six and three eighths per cent, or thereabout.

CONGRESS ARGUES POTATO GRADES

Congressional Record Discloses Illuminating
Evidence of What Our Legislators Do
Not Know About the Potato
Situation

Reader, how would you like to take a little trip with us down to Washington and look in upon the inner workings of the men you have elected to represent your interests in that august body, known as Congress? No, we shall not travel by rail; in fact, we shall not go in person at all, but we shall enter the conference chamber through the medium of the *Congressional Record*.

The discussion is upon Senator Smith's amendment to abolish compulsory potato grading rules. Participating are Senators Townsend (Michigan), Swanson (Virginia), Reed (Missouri), Gore (Oklahoma), Page (Vermont), Martin (Virginia). A careful reading of the discussion discloses that Senator Townsend of Michigan and Senator Reed of Missouri voice the only intelligent comments upon the rider. The Virginia senator feels privileged to speak with authority because two of the counties of his state are large potato growing sections, and he argues long upon his statement that "if the farmers want their potatoes graded why shall we prohibit them from grading them?" Like the bureau of markets agents, Senator Swanson would force upon the entire country a provision that seems to find favor with only a few growers in a section that specializes in a fancy potato.

In 1899 Virginia stood fifteenth among the states in the production of potatoes. That year Michigan raised 23,476,000 bushels; and Virginia, 4,409,000. In 1909 Michigan's yield was 38,243,000, as compared with 8,770,000 for Virginia, or over four and a half times as many as the southern state. This proportion has been slightly decreased in later years. Michigan's production having been lowered, while that of Virginia has increased. In only one year has Virginia produced more potatoes than Michigan, in 1916, when this state's crop was practically a failure. In making an average comparison, it is safe to say that Michigan produces over twice as many potatoes as Virginia.

Senator Gore, the blind legislator of Oklahoma, is inclined to be fair, but it is evident that he desires no time wasted in a discussion of the potato grading amendment. For he, also, has an amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill, to increase the price of wheat to \$2.50, and he is anxious to get this to a vote of the House.

We are especially impressed with the justice of Senator Reed's remarks. He hits at the vital point, the Food Administration's usurpation of legislative power to put into effect rules that are arbitrary and obnoxious. "The question is," says this statesman, "whether certain men, being officials or claiming to be officials of the United States government, can themselves set up the right to grade potatoes * * * and whether the Senate will appropriate the money of the people of the United States to pay for those unauthorized and illegal acts."

But let us proceed with the discussion:

Mr. Reed: Mr. President, I wish to inquire about the provision agreed to in the Senate which provided in substance that there should be no regulation or governmental inspection of potatoes.

Mr. Gore: The Senate conferees receded on that.

Mr. Reed: I ask the Senator whether I am correct in my recollection that there was no law providing for inspection?

Mr. Gore: No, sir; I think not.

Mr. Reed: And somebody undertook to set up an inspection. The Senate undertook to stop the use of that arbitrary and useless power, and you have receded from that action of the Senate?

Mr. Gore: The Senate conferees did recede from the amendment referred to.

Mr. Reed: What reason is there to recede from an assertion or a protest, for it may be so regarded, by a legislative provision against unauthorized action?

Mr. Gore: I may say that it is the ancient reason which characterizes every conference between two Houses. The House conferees would not accept that amendment. I may say, in addition to that, however, that telegrams came to the conferees from various parts of the country urging that the Senate should recede from this amendment.

Mr. Reed: From whom did they come?

Mr. Gore: I think as a rule, from dealers in potatoes. I may say, however, in addition to that, the growers were here from the State of Michigan; that this amendment was offered by the senior Senator from Michigan (Mr. Smith); and that the conferees were practically assured that an arrangement had been reached which would give satisfaction alike to the growers and to those who insisted upon the right.

Mr. Reed: By whom was the arrangement made?

Mr. Gore: The House conferee, Mr. McLaughlin of Michigan, had the matter up with those in charge of the grading activities of the department. I do not know whether it was the Department of Agriculture or the Food Administration. Mr. McLaughlin was very insistent that the Senate amendment should be retained, but his conferees would not agree with him. They would not accept the amendment, but we were given assurances that an adjustment was in prospect which would be satisfactory.

Mr. Reed: An adjustment between whom?

Mr. Gore: That those who have in charge the grading and superintend the grading had virtually consented to modify the rules and regulations so as to meet the complaints of the potato growers in Michigan. I think the complaint came from that quarter. I may say this was the point of difference. The rules and regulations which had been adopted classified as No. 1 all potatoes in excess of 1 1/4 inches in diameter. The growers insisted that that should be reduced by an eighth of an inch so that potatoes in excess of 1 1/8 inches in diameter, round potatoes, should be classified as No. 1. We were given assurance that that had practically been effected.

Mr. Reed: But what I am trying to get at is this: Who set up these regulations in the first place?

Mr. Gore: I understand that it was done by the Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the Food Administration. I think the matter has been under consideration for some time.

Mr. Reed: By what authority?

Mr. Gore: I do not believe there is any authority.

Mr. Reed: Now let us start with the assumption that there is no authority. There being no authority, the gentlemen who undertook to usurp the authority proceeds to make an agreement with some potato grower or growers, and having reached an agreement with that individual that fact is brought to the Congress of the United States and the conferees thereupon recede from a provision put in the bill by the Senate which prohibits the expenditure of any money for the doing of any illegal act. So by implication, as it is now left, the money we are about to appropriate may be used by the gentlemen who are seeking to usurp authority for an illegal purpose, because an agreement was reached between the usurper and some individual.

Mr. President, I protest against that sort of thing. The day has pretty nearly come when the Government of the United States ought to insist that no man shall spend any of the money of the people in doing an unauthorized act.

Mr. Swanson: I should like to say a few words in connection with this potato-grading matter. I presume Virginia grows as many potatoes as does any other State in the Union. The grading has been carried on largely at the request of the growers. Their desire to have their potatoes officially graded

LAST MINUTE INFORMATION

THE FOLLOWING telegram was received from President A. M. Smith of the Michigan Potato Growers' Ass'n, just before going to press. While it does not clearly set forth the details of the new rules promulgated by the Administration, it gives us hope that Congressman McLaughlin was mistaken in his understanding of the concessions that have been made. Mr. Smith has just returned from Washington, and in next week's issue he will give a complete account of his trip and the actual facts on the latest developments in this complex situation.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM
Michigan Business Farming,
Mt. Clemens, Michigan.

Senator Smith's amendment made all grading illegal. Executive commissioner asks for 1 1/4 inch single grade. I believe new rules will permit such grading and positively forbid more than five per cent number one potatoes being graded into No. 2. Got all concessions I could. Food Administration ordered change of screen.

A. M. SMITH.

grew out of the circumstances that in many instances when they have shipped their potatoes to the commission merchants in the cities they had no proof as to whether their potatoes were really graded in the first grade, the second grade, or the third grade, and many of them were swindled. If an official grading is provided the growers would have assurance as to whether the potatoes which they send to market are correctly graded.

As I have stated, I have received a number of telegrams from Virginia, and I think my colleague, the senior senator from Virginia (Mr. Martin) has likewise received similar telegrams protesting against the elimination of grading.

Mr. Page: I should like to ask the Senator from Virginia a question. Does the Senator understand that there is any demand from the great potato growing sections of the Northeast, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, that there should be any such classification as has been established?

Mr. Swanson: I have not heard from any section except Virginia. In that state there are two counties, Accomac and Northampton, which are the largest growers of potatoes in the country; and I understand that they are opposed to the entire elimination of grading.

Mr. Martin: Mr. President, I have received a telegram, and laid it before the conference committee; and I think the action taken by the conferees will meet with the approval of the potato growers of Virginia.

Mr. Swanson: I also presented a telegram to the conferees. The trouble in this matter is that farmers send their potatoes to the market when they are graded, but they have been swindled by the returns being made on the basis that their potatoes were third grade when they were really of the second or first grade. Consequently they are desirous of having some means of ascertaining when they ship their potatoes to market that they are to be paid according to the proper grades.

Mr. Page: Mr. President, I ask the chairman of the committee, is this demand purely local? Does it come from Virginia and Virginia only?

Mr. Gore: I think that the telegrams came in from other states. I have several on the subject, quite a number of them.

Mr. Page: I have had no communication from New England on the subject, so far as that is concerned.

Mr. Swanson: The potato growers of Virginia have not asked for a change of the law, as I understand it; all they ask is that the law remain as it is.

Mr. Reed: Is there any law?

Mr. Swanson: Whether there is a law or not I can not say, but there must be some authority for the grading which has been carried on. If there is no authority for it, why should we prohibit the farmers protecting themselves from having their potatoes, which they have raised and which really are first-grade potatoes, being graded improperly? The man who raises first-grade potatoes would like to sell them as first-grade potatoes, of course, but the man who raises first-grade potatoes does not want returns to be made to him under the basis of third-grade potatoes.

Mr. Reed: Mr. President, if the Senator will yield to me, with the permission of the Senator in charge of this matter, the Senator from Virginia, is discussing one question when the question before us is quite a different one.

There is no one who will object to the farmers making arrangements for the grading of their potatoes; they can make that arrangement in any way they see fit, but that is not the question here. The question here is, whether certain men, being officials, or claiming to be officials of the United States Government, can themselves set up the right to grade potatoes and then can prohibit the farmers from selling their potatoes unless the potatoes are sold in conformity with the rules and regulations set up by these unauthorized men, and whether the Senate will appropriate the money of the people of the United States to pay for those unauthorized and illegal acts?

Mr. Gore: Mr. President—

Mr. Reed: Just one moment and I will be through. If it is desired to have a federal grading of potatoes, then let the law be brought in here, and let us discuss it, as we did the proposition to grade wheat. A very bad bill was brought in here of that kind, but it was defeated; and finally a law was worked out that is reasonably satisfactory. So, in this instance, there ought to be a bill brought in.

Mr. Gore: Further, in connection with what the Senator from Missouri (Mr. Reed) has said, I would remind him that the food-control act was "fearfully and wonderfully made," and if the Food Administration should find power in some obscure clause to grade potatoes it would not be at all astounding to me. There is a section in that bill which gives the Food Controller or the President the power to buy wheat, flour, meal, beans, and potatoes. How extensive or plenary this power may be, I am unable to say; but that is probably the source of this power, if it has any foundation in legislation whatever.

Mr. Townsend: Mr. President, I do not think it is of much consequence to discuss the potato provision of the bill now, inasmuch as the conferees have agreed to eliminate it from the bill, and I would not have agreed to eliminate it from the bill, and I would not have mentioned it had it not been brought up by other Senators. I desire to say now, however, that the farmers of Michigan, so far as they have spoken, either individually or as organizations, have protested very strongly against the scheme of potato grading which has been put in force by the Food Administration.

I do not think the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Swanson, states the case quite correctly when he says that the purpose is to protect the farmers against the necessity of selling in the market a first-grade article as third grade. The rule practically provided for two grades, although there is a third grade, which includes potatoes which pass through a screen an inch and a half, I believe, in diameter; but the provision that has been put in force does not guarantee quality in any respect. A large-sized potato may be the most inedible potato on the market, whereas the average sized potato, the small potato, in many instances is the most edible. Everybody knows that; there is not a housewife in the land who does not know it. Large potatoes are frequently hollow and not fit to eat at all.

The farmers of Michigan may be mistaken, but they—and I think their potato industry is quite as great as that of Virginia—are opposed to it. Mr. Miller, of the Food Administration, tells me that they do not know what they are talking about. He has been in to see me two or three times. He has also been up to Michigan where he had a talk with the farmers, and had considerable trouble, I am informed, at a public meeting held at Lansing on this very subject. When I asked Mr. Miller why he put this rule in force now he said because there was an opportunity to do so. I asked him if he thought it was going to increase the food production or improve its edible quality, and he said no; that was not the object, but it was to put in force a rule that would be controlling in the market in the future and in the end would be beneficial to all parties concerned. I tried to impress upon him that it was unwise at this time, in a period of war, to impose a rule or a provision that was not going to increase the amount of food or its quality but which aroused opposition in the farmer.

This amendment was put in the bill on the floor by my colleague (Mr. Smith of Michigan), who is absent. I felt that as a war measure it was very well, indeed, to eliminate this potato grading provision, and I still think so. I think it would have been better for the production of food in the United States if the department could have left this out, inasmuch as no one will contend that it is an encouragement to the production of potatoes in any part of the United States.

RECEIPTS OF STOCK AT STOCKYARDS DURING MARCH

Receipts of cattle and hogs at stockyards during March of this year were greater than receipts in March 1917, according to the monthly stockyards report issued recently by the Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture. Receipts of cattle and hogs for the first three months of 1918 exceed receipts for the same period in 1917.

March receipts at 56 yards were: Cattle, 1918, 1,688,029; 1917, 1,324,995; hogs, 1918, 4,372,136; 1917, 3,367,588; sheep, 1918, 1,223,120; 1917, 1,232,543.

Shipments of cattle, hogs, and sheep from stockyards all showed increases during March, 1918 over March 1917, and the first three months' total for cattle and hogs was greater in 1918 than in 1917. Total shipments for March, 1918, were cattle, 642,910; hogs, 1,707,170; sheep, 552,397. The March 1917 figures were: Cattle, 469,187; hogs, 1,151,787; sheep, 439,840. Stocker and feeder shipments as a class, included in above figures, also showed increases in March, 1918, over March, 1917.

More cattle and hogs were slaughtered at 45 cities in March, 1918, than in March 1917. The figures, giving 1918 totals first were: Cattle, 997,115, 810,507; hogs, 2,625,400, 2,220,476; sheep, 653,783, 782,552.

Increased receipts and shipments of horses and mules at 43 cities are shown by the report, the March figures, with 1918 given first, were: Receipts, 117,768, 109,108; shipments, 114,076, 107,109.

HUGE MILK SURPLUS IN STATE PRESENTS SERIOUS PROBLEM

(Continued from page 1)

At the present time this evidence is in the hands of Mr. Wendt of the state dairy and food department, who promises that action will be taken if it can be clearly shown that there has been a violation of the statutes.

It must be admitted that the milk situation is in a serious condition and constantly growing worse. For the last several months condensed milk has been accumulating and at the present time there is an enormous surplus of dairy products. This has been due in a large measure, as the condensary companies have truthfully said, to the cutting down of ship space by the government for the transportation of condensed milk abroad; it has also been the result of decreased consumption of dairy products by the people of the cities who have been led to believe by statements of the Food Administration that it was necessary to curtail consumption of all fats, including those of milk.

Moreover for the past several years there has been a vigorous overseas demand for condensed milk, a situation that the big national condensaries have taken advantage of by opening many new plants in sections where milk was never before commercially produced, and inducing the farmers to enter the milk business. This, coupled with the reduced consumption has brought about a huge surplus.

But the guilt for this situation should not rest entirely on the heads of the condensary concerns. The creamery companies of Detroit have been guilty of similar practices. Despite the large surplus of milk that these companies have claimed existed in the Detroit area by reason of which they have reduced the price to the producers in that territory, the Detroit Creamery Co. has recently been advertising for milk in a section two hundred and twenty-five miles from Detroit, in a town that has a co-operative creamery. We have called the attention of R. C. Reed, secretary of the Michigan Milk Producers' Association, to this fact, in hopes that it may be corrected.

As a result of the accumulating surplus, many concerns are dropping their prices to the farmer to unprofitable levels, while others are closing entirely. One of the latter is the Portland factory of the Grand Ledge Milk Company. Of this action the *Portland Observer* has this to say: "The milk production around Portland has increased remarkably since the Grand Ledge company has entered the field and up until last Saturday the seven routes were hauling in a combined output of 11,000 pounds daily. Many farmers have disposed of their calves so they might have all of their milk for the market, and now that their outlet has been cut off some of them will meet a loss. Tons of skimmed milk will go to waste unless the situation can be remedied immediately as there is now no market for anything except the cream, and farmers who have invested heavily in cows have reason to feel greatly discouraged."

Many people who formerly drank beer during the heat of the day will resort to cold milk or ice cream, and the aggregate of the new converts to milk as a beverage will undoubtedly provide a much larger market for the product. Therefore, we advise our readers located in milk producing centers, who have difficulty in getting rid of their milk, to sit tight and wait a few weeks. The shutting of condensaries will enable the export demand to clear up some of the surplus stocks, and we look for all concerns to resume operations within a short period and offering good prices again.

The federal government has no authority to dictate to the milk buyers what they shall pay for milk. The market on milk, as on other farm products, is largely a matter of supply and demand, and particularly so in Michigan where the producers are so strongly organized. The government would find it difficult to exercise any such control over the milk business because of the perishable nature of the product.

There is little that we can do or suggest that will help our farmers secure a better price for their milk at this time. It is our personal opinion that the condition will be bettered with the coming of summer and prohibition.

GOVERNOR SLEEPER HEADS BEAN COMMITTEE TO WASHINGTON

(Continued from page 1)

To this factor Mr. Allmendinger that the huge crop of pinto beans and the importation of Asiatic beans could be laid. He likewise opined that the action of the growers in setting a price of \$8, after the government had offered \$6.90 per bushel, was a

grave mistake. A good suggestion made by this speaker was that all jobbers refrain from sending out quotations for the next thirty days which he believed would do much to disclose the real shortage of Michigan beans and strengthen the demand.

Among other speakers upon the pinto deal and kindred subjects were Governor Sleeper, E. L. Wellman of Grand Rapids, A. B. Cook of Owosso, Fred Lewellyn of Grand Rapids, F. A. Lord of MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING, Mount Clemens, State Market Director McBride, J. N. Rankin of Bad Axe, W. J. Biles of Saginaw, and Farmers King, of Montcalm, Keddy of Genesee, Schlieter of Gladwin, with a happy wind-up by John I. Gibson secretary of the Western Michigan Development Bureau.

A. B. Cook, president of the bean growers' association, vigorously defended the action of the growers in determining the price of \$8 that they should have for their 1917 crop. He stated that the grower was entitled as any other business man to place a price upon his products that would allow him a fair profit, a principle that had been granted by the government. Mr. Cook brought along samples of cooked navy and pinto beans, which were viewed with much interest. He expressed his opinion that it was too late to accomplish any definite results so far as overcoming the discrimination against the navy bean was concerned, for the present year at least. "The jobbers should have gotten busy last fall," he said, "and secured a place on the bean division for a man whose sympathies were with the navy bean industry."

F. E. Lewellyn of Grand Rapids charged that political influences had been at work to build up a great pinto bean industry, and that the bean



Countess Posch Rosewood 2nd No. 346626, who has just completed a record as a Junior 2-year-old of 450.1 lbs. of milk, 19.75 lbs. of butter in 7 days. Her best day's milk was 70.2. She is only one of the females of exceptional class and merit to be offered at D. H. Hoover's Dispersion Sale, at Howell, May 4th.

interests, backed by this influence, had put one over on the navy bean fellows. He declared that if the western bean men found it advantageous to organize politically the Michigan bean men could and should do likewise. He urged that the support of other navy bean states be enlisted in securing a fair deal for the navy bean.

State Market Director McBride presented several new and constructive suggestions, principal of which was that the committee recommend to the Food Administration the stabilizing of prices on the entire crop of both pintos and navys. He did not believe that the Michigan bean men should be alarmed over the inroads made by the pintos. The pinto, he declared, is a very uncertain crop, and while favorable weather resulted in a huge crop this year, the crop next year might prove an absolute failure, as it has a habit of doing in that fickle clime.

"In view of the present situation shall we plant a big crop of beans or not?" asked the Market Director. Beans should bring \$10 or \$11 to make an equal profit with sugar beets and other crops. But I believe that there is a market for all the beans that can be grown in Michigan next year." Mr. McBride stated that 400,000 acres were planted last year and that the average yield as reported by threshers was 6.8 bushels to the acre.

Mr. McBride's suggestion regarding the stabilizing of prices was opposed by Mr. M. J. Hart, speaking for the jobbers. The statement was made by Mr. Hart that pintos were being bought by the government at 8 cents per pound, but that the consumer (in Minneapolis) was obliged to pay 14 cents. On the other hand, Michigan growers received 13 cents and the navy bean was selling to the consumer at 18 cents.

In order to make Mr. Hart's comparison absolutely correct, it might be stated that the majority of beans in Michigan have been purchased at less than 13 cents. As a matter of fact, the 13 cent price prevailed only in a few sections and for only a brief period.

J. N. Rankin, cashier of the Bad Axe State Bank, explained how the clogging of the navy bean market was bound to affect both the farmer's and elevator's credit. He stated that many farmers who had borrowed money at his bank last year to purchase seeds did not secure enough crop to pay for the seeds. "We bankers are willing to take a chance with the elements, but when those fellows out west injure the market for the product, it is a different matter," declared Mr. Rankin.

The farmers expressed a variety of opinions on the duty of the farmer to grow crops without assurances of profit.

"If we had to work a couple of years without a profit to help win this war," patriotically proclaimed Farmer King of Montcalm county, "God knows we're willing to do it."

Mr. Keddy of Genesee county earnestly said that all Genesee county farmers wanted was a square deal with other interests. "The pinto bean may show as good an analysis as the navy, but if it hasn't got palatability and the soldier boys won't eat it, what's the use of canning it for them? We've got to show our government that if the boys go over the top, they've got to eat navy beans, and lots of them."

Mr. Schlieter of Gladwin county, did not altogether agree with Farmer King's sentiment. "The farmers should not be expected to grow beans if there is no money in them, and the majority of farmers will grow the most profitable crop. I believe the farmers should have the same kind of a deal as other business men."

The discussions were remarkably free of bitterness or adverse criticism. Everyone seemed to thoroly understand that the pinto bean was being pushed to the front by certain authorities, much to the detriment of the Michigan variety. It did not seem to matter as to whom these individuals were, nor what their motives. It was enough that the reputation and standing of a Michigan product was being injured, and a great industry threatened. All the opinions and discussions resolved themselves into a determination,—not to show anyone up or to cause anyone trouble,—but merely to remove the fetters from the navy bean and give it an equal chance in the markets if the world.

GOOD SUGGESTIONS FROM WORK HORSE RELIEF ASS'N

1. Do not fail to provide clean, warm quarters in which your cows, ewes and mares can bring forth their young. Navel ill comes from dirt.
2. It is dangerous to expose young stock, especially foals and colts, to spring rainstorms. A day's exposure, if not fatal, may stop a month's growth.
3. It's a bad policy to turn the stock to pasture before the grass has well started,—bad for the pasture and bad for the stock.
4. A gradual change from hay to grass is best; but, if you are bound to make the change at once, turn the stock out at night, instead of in the morning. Then they will feed through the night, and not lie down until the sun has warmed the air and the ground.
5. Get your horses into condition for the hard spring work,—the young horses especially. Many a colt has been ruined by being put to hard work without preparation. It is the same with green horses.
6. Look out for sore shoulders and backs, especially in plowing. Be sure that your collars fit. A collar too big is as bad as one too small. If the collar rides up, use a martingale, or a girth running from trace to trace, back of the forelegs.
7. When the horses are at work on a warm day lift up the collars now and then to cool their shoulders, and wipe off the sweat and dirt with a bunch of grass.
8. Wipe off the harness marks on your horses when you stop work at noon and at night, and clean the inside of the harness, the collars especially. The salt sweat, drying on the skin and on the harness, is what makes the trouble.
9. If the skin is wrinkled under the collar or saddle, bathe it with witchhazel. If the skin is broken, bathe it with clean warm water containing a little salt. Fix the collar, with padding or otherwise, so that it will not touch the sore spot the next day. A little carelessness at the beginning may cause a lot of trouble to you and suffering to the horse.
10. Clean your horses at night, water them, give them a good bed, and water them again after they have eaten their hay. Let them rest an hour or more before they are grained. The observance of these simple rules will not cost you a cent, and will make a big difference in their condition.

The difference between the patriotic American housewife and the one who is indifferent or disloyal is measured by the amount of wheat flour in her kitchen.

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.)

AVERAGE WAGES PAID TO BOYS OF THE WORKING RESERVE

I see by your paper that you know of so many boys willing to go on a farm. Now, as I am not in the circumstances to pay a man's wage, I would like to know how much a boy of 15 or 16 would demand, as I could use one of about that age. We have a 62-acre farm most of which is fruit, the rest in corn, potatoes and so forth.—H. P., Niles, Michigan.

The average wage which the boys of the Reserve are getting who have been sent out so far is around \$30.00 a month, but this is because so many of them sent out so far have had previous farm experience, and some of them are getting \$45 and \$50 a month. \$25 to \$30 a month for a boy who knows a little something about the farm and is a good weight seems to be about what the farmers are willing and glad to pay to start with. Some of the smaller boys, without experience, are starting in at \$20 a month. There have been a few cases of boys starting at \$15, but the general feeling is, expressed by the farmers themselves, that boys of 16 and over ought to be worth \$20 a month if they are worth anything at all, and the country wage committees all seem to consider this a fair minimum wage. We are taking care of the men who have applied and have a good number of boys available from the Upper Peninsula and from the larger cities so that there should be no section of the state but what we can help out if the farmers will only get their applications in right away.—Charles A. Parcels, Federal State Director for Michigan, U. S. Boys' Working Reserve.

The following wages for members of Boys' Working Reserve have been suggested by wage committee of Eaton county:

1. Inexperienced boys up to 17 years of age to receive a minimum wage of at least \$1.00 a day for the first two weeks.
2. Experienced boys up to 17 years of age to receive a minimum wage of at least \$1.50 per day for the first two weeks.
3. Inexperienced boys from 17 years and up, to receive a minimum wage of at least \$1.50 per day for the first two weeks.
4. Experienced boys from 17 years old and up, to receive a minimum wage of at least \$2.00 per day for the first two weeks.

In addition to the above scale of wages, the boy is to receive board, lodging and washing. After the first two weeks the question of wages must be agreed upon by the farmer, the boy, and the Local Committee of the township.

SORGHUM AND MILLET GOOD CROPS FOR MUCK LANDS

Would like some advice as to cropping 10 acres of muck land which is too wet and frost catches corn crop. Have been raising millet on this ground. Is there any other crop I could grow on it? Would sorghum hay grow on this kind of ground?—A. W. H., Montgomery.

In view of the high cost of sorghum seed, and difficulty in getting same, do not think the millet should be substituted for sorghum for hay purposes on this land. A heavier yield of forage would result from the sorghum though coarser in nature. On much soils it is frequently difficult to secure a stand of sorghum owing to the poor germination of seed. If well drained and well warmed up, however, this difficulty will not be met with. The Early Amber variety of sorghum is best adapted and can be secured from the S. M. Isbell Company of Jackson, Michigan.—J. F. Cox, Acting Head, Dep't of Farm Crops.

SORGHUM AS A CROP FOR SIRUP AND FORAGE

Will you please tell me what is the best sorghum seed corn to be planted in Michigan, both for forage and for sirup making, and can you give me any special pointers on cultivation that sorghum requires?—L. D. W., Monroe county.

Early Amber is the earliest maturing and best adapted variety to Michigan conditions. Sorghums are planted ten days to two weeks after corn. The seed are small and if the ground is cold they do not germinate well, resulting in a poor stand. The land is prepared in much the same way as for corn. Sorghum makes a slow growth at first and it is essential to get rid of as many weeds as possible before planting. For sirup, drill in rows 36 to 42 inches apart with corn planter, using 6 to 8 pounds of seed per acre. Cultivation is the same as for corn. First cultivation can be given with spike tooth harrow, this is quite effective in killing young weeds. Next cultivation

should be with shovels or sweeps, deeply first time with two or three shallow cultivations.

Harvest—for sirup. Sorghum increases in percentage of sugar as well as total dry matter until mature. From early dough stage until hard dough stage is right for sirup making. If the seed become hard there is danger of frost before all of the canes are made up while if the seed are in the milk stage an acid sirup with an unripe taste is produced. For best results leaves are stripped while canes are standing. The seed head with six or eight inches of the upper cane should be cut off as this part contains many impurities. Suckers should be discarded for the same reason. Canes may be cut by hand or with corn binder. In warm weather canes should not be cut more than two days before using as there is danger of fermentation. When a heavy frost occurs the sorghum should be cut and placed in large shocks at once. A heavy freeze will do but little damage provided the canes can be worked up at once upon thawing, but after thawing they will spoil in a very short time. A ton of canes will yield 500 to 1000 pounds of juice which will make 8 to 25 gallons of sirup. Four to eight tons of canes per acre is a good yield.

Sorghum for forage. Since the foliage of sorghums remains green until the heads are mature, a fair quality of coarse forage is secured. Time of planting is the same as for sirup, that is, ten days to two weeks after corn planting time. Sorghum for forage is either sown thick in drill rows about 3 feet 6 inches apart at rate of 15 pounds of seed per acre and cultivated or sown with grain drill or broadcast at rate of one bushel per acre. When cultivated in rows the best method of harvest is with corn binder and the bundles set up in small shocks to cure. After curing for

FARMERS FORCED TO FEED WHEAT

"Have read your editorial in regard to farmers hoarding wheat. There are always two sides to a story. When a farmer has hogs and hens and he has no corn and oats what is he going to do? If he has wheat he is going to feed it.

"Go to the elevator and see the corn, blue with mold, which they will try to sell you at high prices. Ask the price which you will have to pay for oats, and hogs can't live on oats anyway. And altho the government has fixed the price of feed see if the millers don't charge you more, or else if they think you're going to complain about the price, they're 'all out, haven't a bit and can't get any."

"We can't sell our hens; we can't let them starve, so if we have wheat we feed it. But few hogs are left around here on account of the scarcity of feed; only a few brood sows, and we must feed them something."

"I don't think there is any wheat being hoarded around here, but it is being fed to keep dumb brutes alive."—J. C.

DOESN'T BELIEVE FARMERS ARE HOARDING WHEAT

"About hoarding wheat: I think Mr. Prescott's statement in regard to farmers holding wheat is wrong. I myself threshed 800 bushels. I planted 90 bushels, saved 30 for bread, cleaned out 30 bushels of screenings. 20 of the 90 was thrown away trying to please the government; it had to be dragged up. The thresher gave in 800 bushels; I sold 630 bushels. I suppose they think I have the 170 bushels hid somewhere. Now then, if Mr. Prescott will go after the manufacturer of food stuff and let the farmer alone; he has troubles enough. I purchased some rye flour; called for buckwheat flour as substitute and got what Mr. Henkel of Detroit had marked on the sack, 'pure buckwheat flour.' We could not use it, and I took it back to the dealer. He said he knew it wasn't what it was represented to be. I exchanged it for Ovid flour and that was a little better, but far from being pure. I would like to see all obey the law and come across as well as the farmer."—A. C., Merle Beach.

four to six weeks several smaller shocks may be set together in a large shock and tied near the top. When sown broadcast the crop is cut with a mower or grain binder and handled as coarse hay. When cut with mower a stubble of six inches should be left as this facilitates drying and gathering the heavy fodder with a hay rake. Heavy sorghum hay dries very slowly and should be left for one or two weeks in swath before raking and cocking and should be thoroughly cured in cocks before stacking. Average yield varies from 4 to 8 tons per acre.—C. R. Megee, Farm Crops Department, Michigan Agricultural College.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Additional information relative to the making of sorghum sirup will be furnished any reader upon request.]

SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT HAS 30,000 FARMS

Can you give the approximate number of farms in the Seventh Congressional district?—R. S. S., Attica.

The number of farms for the various counties is according to the last census, as follows: Huron, 4,728; Sanilac, 5,659; Tuscola, 5,244; Lapeer, 3,808; Macomb, 3,764 and St. Clair, 4,527, with a total of 27,730.

MANY CROPS ARE SUITABLE FOR HEAVY MUCK LANDS

I have a small tract of muck land. Please advise me if general crops can be grown on this. I have heard that such lands need fertilizer. Is that true? I am not now farming, but plan to work the muck land this year.—S. H., Capac.

A great deal depends upon the kind of muck land you have. The most important essential is drainage. If it is properly drained you can probably produce good crops under proper conditions. There are many special crops like celery which will do well on muck. Sugar beets frequently give enormous yields on this land. Hay is usually a good crop. Muck lands are seldom suitable for general farming. Some muck soils are deficient in phosphorus. It would be necessary for you to have the soil analyzed in order to ascertain if it needed fertilizer. (See letter of A. W. H., on this page for further information.)

CAN GET SEED CORN OF GOV'T AGENT IN MONTCALM COUNTY

Will you kindly give me the name and address of agent for government seed corn in Montcalm county, nearest one to Edmore. Thanking you in advance.—F. C., Edmore, Michigan.

Mr. John J. Bale of Lakeview has been named chairman of the Montcalm War Preparedness committee and as such is authorized to accept orders for seed corn in behalf of the state. For the information of other readers we would state that the chairman of each county war committee and the county agent is similarly authorized to accept these orders.

PEPPERMINT AND SPEARMINT PRODUCTION YIELDS GOOD RETURNS

An article on peppermint raising, selling, prices, and consumption will be appreciated.—L. J. O., Cassopolis, Michigan.

The culture of peppermint and spearmint, mainly for their essential oils, is a well established industry in this country, tending to become centralized in a few states where soil conditions especially favor the development of the plants, but appears capable of considerable development in other localities, should greater commercial need arise.

Peppermint and spearmint thrive best in the deep soils which are rich in humus and retentive of moisture but fairly open in texture and well drained, either naturally or artificially. These conditions are more frequently combined in effectively drained swamp lands, such as are used for the special culture of cranberries, celery, lettuce, onions, and other crops for which a strong, rapid growth is desired. Peppermint and spearmint may, however, be commercially grown in well-prepared upland soils, such as will produce good corn or potatoes. For this purpose fertile loams, sandy or gravelly in character and of good texture and depth, should be selected. Light, loose, dry soils and sticky clays are alike unsuitable.

On the muck lands planting begins in the spring as soon as the properly shod horses or oxen can be driven over the fields. The soil, cleaned by well cultivated crops the year before, is plowed, leveled, and marked off in furrows 3 feet apart and 4 inches deep. The runners are dropped by hand, as in upland culture, but the soft footing renders the work more laborious, and it requires an expert laborer to plant an acre a day. The furrows are filled in with a drag wide enough to cover two or more rows of runners, and the weed-er or light spike-tooth harrow is run over them to loosen the trampled surface. Harrowing is repeated at frequent intervals in various directions until the sprouts are too high to be further disturbed; after which corn cultivators are used between the rows until July, when the runners become so numerous as to render further tillage difficult.

Yields of 2 to 3 tons of mint herb per acre may be expected. When a market for the dried herb can be had, packers appear to prefer it chopped into 1-inch pieces and dried under cover, in order that the natural green color may be preserved as far as possible. The price received by growers for the properly cured mint herb of either species ranges from 3 to 5½ cents a pound, but the output of even a few acres would stock the market so that it would be difficult to dispose of any further quantities at paying prices.

Mint culture on suitable soils appears to give fair average returns when intelligently conducted from year to year. It is, however, an industry limited in scope, especially subject to fluctuations in prices of the crop products, and likely to suffer from overproduction if the acreage is too rapidly extended. A substantial outlay is required for

preparation, equipment, and cultural maintenance. The cost of properly establishing an acre of mint is placed at \$30, and the annual expense for cultivation at \$15 more. Stills for extracting the oils vary greatly in cost, as they are largely constructed for local needs. It is not likely that a practical still of sufficient capacity to economically handle the product of a dozen acres of well-grown mint could be built for less than \$250, but in mint-growing localities this expense is often greatly reduced by practical co-operation among producers. The customary charge for distilling mint oils for many years past has been 25 cents a pound.

According to the best obtainable estimates, the total area of mint in 1914 in Michigan, Indiana, and New York appeared to be just under 25,000 acres, of which nearly 5,000 acres were spearmint. Almost one-half of this acreage was new plantings, the remainder being in fields two or more years old.

MILKING MACHINES ARE PROFITABLE BUT NEED ATTENTION

We have been thinking seriously of installing a milking machine, as it is almost impossible to get reliable help. We plan to milk 20 cows this summer. Would you recommend this machine or any other?—A. J., Charlotte.

It has been satisfactorily demonstrated that the average farmer milking 20 cows can profitably operate a milking machine. The make you mention has given good results on thousands of farms. There are other machines that are equally as good however, and we are asking manufacturers to send you their catalogs. In a later issue we will publish an article on the milking machine subject which may be of value to farmers owning or contemplating the purchase of these machines.

LOAN ASSOCIATIONS WILL NOT BE DISCONTINUED DURING WAR

Please advise me if the government plans to discontinue the federal loan associations on account of the war?—J. H. S., Allegan.

By no means. It is during this period that the farmers are in need of ready money, and we are quite sure that no such action as you mention has ever been suggested or even contemplated. While it is true that the farm loan banks have encountered a little difficulty in selling their bonds owing to the higher rate of interest offered on other investments, and the abnormal demand from money on all sides, thru the assistance of the U. S. treasury department, the banks have been able to secure enough money to date to care for their applications. Should the demands from farmers exceed at any time the amount of funds on hand derived from the sale of farm loan bonds, there is no question but what the secretary of the treasury will be authorized to make additional purchases of these bonds. It is just as essential to the success of the war that the farmers be financed for the greater production of food supplies, as that the munitions be made, and we are sure that the government regards the federal farm loan plan in precisely that light. If you are contemplating organizing such an association, do not hesitate because of any rumor you may have heard that the plan was to be discontinued. Go right ahead, and if we can be of any assistance to you, let us know.

FARMERS EXEMPT FROM HOARDING PROVISIONS FOOD CONTROL LAW

While I do not approve of farmers holding their wheat when it is needed so badly and when there is no hope of their getting any higher price for it, but I would like to know if the state Food Administrator or the civil authorities have any right to invade a man's premises and forcibly take his wheat from him. I don't approve of these tactics at all. I think less harsh methods could be used with as good results. I've sold my wheat, but I'd like your opinion on this just the same.—W. B., Barry county.

The Food Control law positively does not give the food administrator the right to enter upon a farmer's property and take his wheat from him. In fact, it expressly exempts the farmer. Sec. 6 of the Food Control law reads: "That any person who wilfully hoards any necessities shall upon conviction thereof be fined not exceeding \$5,000 or be imprisoned for not more than two years. Necessaries shall be deemed to be hoarded within the meaning of this act when * * * (c) withheld whether by possession or under any contract or arrangement, from the market by any person for the purpose of unreasonably increasing or diminishing the price. Providing, however, that any accumulating or withholding by any farmer or gardner, co-operative association of farmers or gardners, including live stock farmers, or any

other person, of the products of any farm, garden or other land, owned leased or cultivated by him shall not be deemed to be hoarding within the meaning of this act.

Sec. 10, however, provides, that the President is authorized, from time to time, to requisition foods, feeds, fuel and other supplies necessary to the support of the Army or maintenance of the Navy, or any other public use connected with the common defense, * * and he shall ascertain and pay a just compensation therefor. If the compensation so determined be not satisfactory to the person entitled to receive the same, such person shall be paid seventy-five per centum of the amount so determined by the President, and shall be entitled to sue the United States to recover such further sum as, added to said seventy-five per centum will make up such amount as will be just compensation for such necessities."

We do not believe there is any authority granted under this act to permit the forcible taking of supplies from the farmer; excepting by an order signed by the President. We do not believe this act was created for any such purpose. Our interpretation of this act was that it was not to apply to individual cases where there was evidence of a withholding from the market, but to assist in the movement of supplies needed for the national defense, under the organized control and facilities of the government.

It is regrettable that the Food Administrator has permitted such wide publicity to his avowed intentions of seizing wheat supplies in the hands of isolated farmers, as it merely furthers the general impression held by the consumer that the farmer is a profiteer and is not lending his enthusiastic support to the war. All this talk of hoarding will blow over in a couple of weeks, and we think it will be found that there has been very little malicious intent to "hoard." What farmers who are holding wheat are prompted by motives other than disloyalty, and they should be given an opportunity to be heard before receiving the harsh criticism of both the consuming public and the officials.

HERE'S TWO FINE BOYS LOOKING FOR A HOME

Dear Editor: I am a boy of the age of 17 and would like to get a home where I will be treated like a son. I am willing to do plowing and cultivating. I have a brother of the age of 14 but is very small for his age. We desire separate homes and are willing to go to school and church.

We just know that these "fellers need a friend," and we are turning their names over to the several farmers who have requested boys looking for permanent homes. But if there are any other of our farmer friends who have got a spare corner in their hearts and a spare bedroom for one of these boys, we'd be glad to hear from them.

MILLERS SHOULD NOT OVERCHARGE ON SEED WHEAT

Why is it that the millers can charge \$3.40 per bushel for spring wheat seed, when the government price is \$2.00? It don't seem fair, as the government wants all the grain it can get the coming year. Find enclosed a price list from the Traverse City Milling Co. It is very discouraging to farmers to plant much when seed is so high. We would like 6 or 7 cars for shipping potatoes. Can you help us get some?—C. T. C., Traverse City, Michigan.

You have asked a question that we cannot answer. We know of no reason whatever why you should be obliged to sell wheat at \$2.00 per bushel and to pay \$3.40 per bushel when you want to buy it. We are writing the Grain Corporation this day asking for their opinion on the matter.

MACOMB WANTS PRACTICAL FARMER AS COUNTY AGENT

Nearly six weeks ago the board of supervisors of Macomb county voted to engage a county agent and recommended the man for the job, a local farmer. The board was advised by the Extension Department at Lansing that their recommendation would have to be passed upon by the East Lansing authorities. To date Macomb county has not received its county agent nor has any action been taken on their board's appointment. Macomb farmers are beginning to worry lest the agricultural college turn down their selection and foist upon them a graduate of the college who can qualify for the job technically if not practically. There is a sentiment that if the farmers cannot have their own way in the matter that they'll worry along for another year without a county agent.

The return ticket for our boys in France will be secured largely through American savings of wheat, sugar and fats.

STATE WILL CLOSE TRACTOR SALES ON APRIL 27, 1918

The war preparedness board has decided to close up its tractor sale and have announced that no orders will be accepted after Saturday noon of the current week.

The state failed to dispose of the thousand tractors which it agreed to buy from the Fordson company, altho under the contract they were permitted to take a lesser amount. No reason is advanced by the preparedness board for the lack of demand for the tractors. It has been suggested that many farmers who wanted tractors did not buy because of the cash investment required, and no effort was made to encourage or assist them in securing the money for the purchase.

Below is a list of the counties that purchased tractors, together with the number each took:

Alcona, 1; Allegan, 14; Alpena, 2; Arenac, 3; Bay, 9; Berrien, 6; Branch, 13; Calhoun, 10; Charlevoix, 1; Clinton, 17; Crawford, 1; Delta, 3; Eaton, 10; Emmet, 1; Genesee, 11; Grand Traverse, 2; Gratiot, 10; Hillsdale, 12; Houghton, 1; Huron, 16; Ingham, 22; Ionia, 7; Iosco, 1; Isabella, 10; Jackson, 21; Kalamazoo, 8; Kalkaska, 1; Kent, 15; Lake, 1; Lapeer, 18; Leelanau, 1; Lenawee, 37; Livingston, 10; Luce, 1; Macomb, 7; Marquette, 6; Mason, 1; Mecosta, 2; Midland, 1; Monroe, 3; Montcalm, 14; Montmorency, 1; Muskegon, 9; Newaygo, 2; Oakland, 20; Oceana, 3; Ogemaw, 1; Ontonagon, 1; Presque Isle, 1; Roscommon, 1; Saginaw, 18; St. Clair, 6; St. Joseph, 6; Sanilac, 18; Shiawassee, 9; Tuscola, 7; VanBuren, 12; Washtenaw, 32; Wayne, 52; Wexford, 1.

The counties which refused tractors were: Alger, Antrim, Baraga, Barry, Benzie, Cass, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Clare, Dickinson, Gladwin, Gogebic, Iron, Keweenaw, Mackinaw, Manistee, Menominee, Missaukee, Oscoda, Otsego and Schoolcraft.

Thousands of reservation Indians may be put to work as farm hands in the southwest. The commissioner of Indian affairs has notified all reservation superintendents that there must be no idlers among the Indians on reservations, and that those not employed on the reservations may be placed on farms.

Silent pro-German appetites are as hostile to the Allied cause as disloyal utterances.

There are many substitutes for wheat flour but no substitutes for peace.

"Catch 'em for Uncle Sam," is the fisherman's slogan.

It is better to eat a corn dodger than to be one.

UNITED STATES BOYS' WORKING RESERVE IS READY TO HELP

Chas. A. Parcells, manager of the Michigan division of the U. S. Boys' Working Reserve advises M. B. F., that he can supply additional demands for boy labor on the farms. Thousands of boys have already been placed on farms, and thousands of others will be placed as soon as the schools close and the need on the farms becomes greater.

We suggest that if any farmer is right up against it for help, that he use the coupon below and apply to the U. S. Boys' Working Reserve for assistance:

Are you in need of farm help? If so, fill out the coupon below and mail to MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING.

Name

Size of farm Acres

Postoffice

R. F. D. Telephone

County

Number of farm hands required.....

When will you need them?.....

For how long a period?.....

What wages do you offer?.....
Would you accept members of Boys' U. S. Working Reserve if experienced adult help cannot be

had?

Remarks

.....

.....



MARKET FLASHES



WHEAT

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

The movement of wheat at this time is at a very low ebb. Not over 2,000,000 bushels of wheat are being received at primary points. Clearances from the seaboard are reported as very small. The visible supply is so low that further decrease seems impossible. Not in many years have stocks at this season been so limited as at this time. The consumption of wheat products is being curtailed in every possible way and it looks as though we would have to do without wheat products entirely in the near future, if we are to continue to export to our Allies.

Present indications point to a record breaking crop of wheat this season and Australia is trying at this time to arrange to move a portion of the wheat now standing on her docks. It appears to be but a question of a few months until we will again have a free supply. In the meantime it is up to the American people to make every sacrifice.

Winter and spring wheat conditions continue to improve. Wheat prospects in Michigan are far from promising at this time, although the recent rains have greatly improved conditions. Much of the wheat was winter killed and the balance has been affected by weather conditions so far during the spring.

The efforts to advance the Government guaranteed wheat price to \$2.50 have met with failure, as was to be expected, the House of Representatives rejecting the proposal. We believe, however, that growers will be well satisfied with the guarantee of \$2.20, this price, especially in Michigan, being considered fair, all things considered.



CORN

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 Yellow	1.68	1.68	1.70
No. 3 Yellow	1.65	1.63	1.68
No. 4 Yellow	1.50	1.45	1.55

Corn continues to move in liberal quantities although farmers are now busy and unless they have a considerable stock on hand which must be moved, they are not hauling. No doubt the movement will show an increase just before corn planting starts in the northern sections. No planting has been reported north of the Ohio river although it will perhaps start within the next week or so. Farther south the planting is well along and in many sections the crop is up to a good stand.

The market is not strong by any means, although the price has managed to hold up well. The poorer grades are being taken in large quantities by the distillers and they are paying a price which makes the spread less than was expected. Exporters are not so active in the market this week as they have been heretofore, but some grain is being exported all the time and the quantity runs high in the aggregate. Transportation difficulties and embargoes continue to embarrass the eastward movement.

The acreage will perhaps be smaller this year as was only to be expected after the experience of the past season, but it is not being cut as much as was predicted some time ago. Growers in the main are convinced that conditions this season will be better. There has been and still is a great deal of difficulty in securing good seed.

Some corn which was highly recommended has been found entirely unsatisfactory. The utmost care must be exercised this season, so much of the corn having been damp when placed in storage.



DETROIT SPECIAL—Potato market continues in very satisfactory condition. Hay continues in plentiful supply and market inclined to weaken. Poultry in somewhat larger supply. Onion market firmer.

CHICAGO WIRE—Oats market firmer on renewed buying by agents of the Allies. The general tone of the grain market is bearish on excellent crop reports. Beans are somewhat neglected but holdings are firmly held.

PITTSBURGH WIRE—Potato receipts much lighter and demand good. Consumption greatly increased. Only a few new potatoes arriving from the south and they are cleaned up daily.



OATS

GRADE	Detroit	Chicago	New York
No. 2 White	91	89 1-4	98
Standard	90 1-2	88	97 1-2
No. 3 White	89 1-2	87	96 1-2

Conditions for the new oat crop have been very satisfactory although in some sections rain is needed very badly. This condition has been remedied to a certain extent during the past week and, all things considered, we have the prospect of an early and most excellent crop of oats.

This cereal has been moving in somewhat more liberal quantity of late although stocks are limited and for that reason no material increase is to be looked for, even with the opening of navigation. Exporters, active in the market for many weeks, have to a certain extent withdrawn during the past week. This has helped the accumulation of a limited surplus on certain terminals. Embargoes still hamper eastern shipments and no doubt shippers will take advantage of the lake carriers at the earliest opportunity and thus relieve railway congestion to a certain extent.

The market has been inclined to weaken at times and the price has worked a little under that of last week. We do not anticipate any material decline in the near future, being too far away from the new crop to experience much effect from that source and that will be about the only factor to be expected.



RYE

Rye at the present time is the weak sister so far as the grains are concerned. The price has further declined and Detroit is now quoting No. 2 at \$2.45 per bu. It is still above a parity with wheat, but we may expect

further declines. This condition has come about entirely through the fact that it is no longer permitted as a substitute for wheat in flour. This action could have but one result. Millers are no longer anxious for it and lack of demand quickly had the effect anticipated when the ruling was put into effect. There is very little rye back in the country and offerings are only moderate.

Barley

Milwaukee—Barley prices slumped 15@20c during the past week under a lack of demand and considerable accumulation. The market ruled dull throughout the period. Receipts, however, were rather dull. Milling and malting buyers did practically nothing their immediate requirements being amply filled. Current quotations are:

Choice big-berried Wisconsin and eastern Iowa, testing 48 to 50 lbs. per bu., \$1.73@1.76; 45 to 47 lbs., \$1.65@1.72; Minnesota, western Iowa and Dakota, 48 to 50 lbs., \$1.73@1.76; 45 to 47 lbs., \$1.65@1.72; all states, 41 to 44 lbs., \$1.60@1.65; feed, \$1.50@1.60.

Buffalo—The break in barley was entirely unexpected here and some of the dealers do not believe it has come to stay. In fact, they are anxious to sell at present prices. A few carloads of Ohio barley on track sold at \$1.80@1.82, the outside price being for good stuff, but there were no buyers for more at the close at those figures. Opening shipment was quoted at \$1.80@1.95 c. i. f. Buffalo.



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

No material change in the bean situation and the price remains stationary. We are surprised to see the market remain at the present price with the government placing pintos in all the principal markets and pushing

ing their sale in every possible way. But after all is said and done there is no bean like the pea bean and the market under any kind of a fair chance will maintain the price for the Michigan product against any substitute in the way of pintos, etc.

Beans now left in the growers' hands are in the main in good condition and will keep. Some localities report wet beans still in the hands of growers but it is the exception. We believe the bean market will work higher as soon as the flood of other varieties ceases.

We have talked to many growers over the state of Michigan during the past two weeks and it is our opinion at this time that the bean acreage this year will be lighter in this state, however we advise the regular planting and feel sure the prices paid next fall will prove satisfactory. It would also seem as though we should have a better growing season than last year. Many of our friends advise us that they are having difficulty in securing satisfactory seed and as this is a most important matter this year it is being given the most careful attention.



HAY

Markets	No. 1 Timothy	Standard Timothy	No. 2 Timothy
Detroit	23 50 24 00	22 50 23 00	21 50 23 00
Chicago	26 00 27 00	22 00 24 00	18 00 20 00
Cincinnati	27 00 28 00	24 00 26 00	21 00 23 00
Pittsburgh	27 50 28 00	23 00 24 00	18 00 20 00
New York	29 31 30 00	26 00 28 00	20 00 23 00
Richmond	3 00 33 00	28 00 30 00	24 00 25 00

Markets	No. 1 Light Mixed	No. 1 Clover Mixed	No. 1 Clover
Detroit	22 50 23 00	21 50 22 00	20 50 21 00
Chicago	23 00 24 00	21 00 22 50	20 00 22 00
Cincinnati	21 00 23 50	18 00 21 00	12 00 15 00
Pittsburgh	23 00 24 00	23 00 24 00	22 00 23 00
New York	23 00 24 00	17 00 22 00	23 00 24 00
Richmond	28 00 30 00	28 00 29 00	23 00 25 00

The Detroit market is somewhat lower, under liberal receipts. The demand continues good, especially on the better grades. Arrivals have been somewhat lighter again during the past two or three days but are still plentiful. Receivers expect lighter receipts during the seeding time but state their information leads to the belief that there are still considerable quantities of hay to move from country points.

Our Chicago correspondent advises us that hay is arriving there in constantly increasing quantities, especially timothy, and that the market is inactive. The poorer grades of damaged and unsound hay are finding very little sale, the supply being greatly in excess of the demand. Bad weather conditions have further delayed and interfered with the unloading and handling and in general the market is not in a very satisfactory condition just at this time.

The St. Louis market is good for the better grades but there is a surplus of off-grades and that class of stock is finding a very slow and unsatisfactory market. Receipts are liberal but the amount of stuff in transit is reported less than that of a week ago.

The Cincinnati market is lower and arrivals of poor, off-grade stock are entirely too liberal. The better grades meet with a fairly good demand. The same condition prevails at Richmond, the market being over-supplied with poor hay.

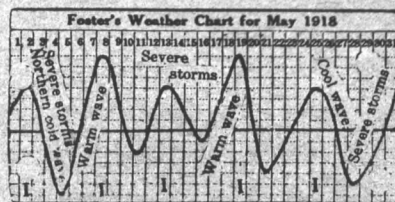
Both New York and Boston report somewhat lighter receipts during the past few days but previous to that arrivals were very plentiful and the market has not recovered. Prices are somewhat lower. Much damaged hay is arriving on the eastern markets.

Clover Seed

The clover seed season for the old crop has ended. New prices started with the October at \$14. Cold weather has retarded any demand for the cash although a few owners of spot prime have made some concessions in order to dispose of their holdings. There is very little demand for the low grades. Alsike and timothy are steady with very little trading, especially on the timothy. Detroit is quoting prime red clover at \$19; alsike, \$15.25; timothy, \$3.70.

THE WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

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



WASHINGTON, D. C., April 27.—Last bulletin gave forecasts of disturbance to cross continent April 29 to May 3, warm wave April 28 to May 2, cold wave May 1 to 5. This disturbance will contain more energy and develop more force than the average storm. Its causes have the earmarks that usually accompany tornadoes and violent wind storms. Tornadoes are electric storms. The air which, when in motion, constitutes wind, is excluded from the funnel of the tornado. But official science, in ignorance of the most simple laws of physics, persist in saying that tornadoes are wind storms.

Put your affairs in shape for violent wind storms where tornadoes do not often occur and for tornadoes where these electric storms are comparatively frequent. They are expected on meridian 90 near May 2; earlier west of that line and later east of it. Next warm wave will reach Van-

couver near May 5 and temperatures will rise on all the Pacific slope. It will cross crest of Rockies by close of May 6 plains sections 7, meridian 90, great lakes and Ohio-Tennessee valleys 8, eastern sections 9, reaching vicinities of Newfoundland about May 10. Storm wave will follow about one day behind warm wave and cool wave about one day behind storm wave.

A severe cold wave will precede this storm, carrying frosts farther south than usual. The storm will be closely linked with the preceding and following storms, constituting a severe and dangerous storm period covering about 18 days. While these storms will damage crops over small sections, cropweather will generally be good and promise much success for the grain farmers and cotton planters.

But we cannot promise continuously good cropweather for all parts of this continent thruout the season. In weatherology coming events cast their shadows before, and there are dark shadows pointing toward some important crop sections of this continent. Closely following June 15 disappointing cropweather conditions will depress tillers of the soil in some sections while in other sections the fine prospects will be very encouraging.

W. T. Foster

POTATOES

Markets	Choice round white-sacked	Medium Round white-sacked
Detroit	1.50 cwt.	1.35 cwt.
Chicago	1.25	1.10
Cincinnati	1.20	1.05
New York	1.65	1.45
Pittsburgh	1.25	1.10
Baltimore, Md.	1.25	1.10

The potato market generally is in a much better condition than for some time past. Prices have advanced in the majority of markets and unless unforeseen heavy supplies should arrive conditions should continue to improve. Arrivals have been much lighter, the growers being busy on the farms preparing for another year of production. This has brought about the desired result, as we pointed out from time to time. The markets were being overloaded and the demand could not take care of the supply.

Consumption of potatoes has increased greatly and every effort is being made to continue this, not only to dispose of the potatoes but to decrease the use of cereals needed elsewhere. They are also being used extensively in starch making and it is said the Government has placed a large order for dehydrated potatoes for the army.

New potatoes are moving from the south. The Florida potato movement this way opened early this week. Carlots of Rose packed in double head barrels arrived at Cincinnati and some passed on to other markets further to the north. The new stock in all Ohio Valley centers was well received and found an active consumptive demand. The houses receiving the initial shipments distributed the arrivals promptly, which indicates the trade as a whole will take on the early goods freely. The fore part of the week No. 1 Rose was selling at \$8.50@9.00 per barrel; No. 2 at \$7.50@8 and No. 3 at \$5.50@6. A few Florida Triumphs put up in bushel packages, were received at Cincinnati, bringing \$2.50@3. Old potatoes are doing a little better. All along the line of higher quotation prevailed compared with the previous week. No. 1 stock out of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, brought in a general way on valley markets \$1.40@1.50 per cwt., sacked. Staple varieties of seed, such as Early Ohio, Rose and Cobblers continue to move at prices in line with table stock.

FLOUR & FEED

Detroit—Feed, in 100-lb. sacks, jobbing lots, bran, \$35; standard middlings, \$33; fine middlings, \$45; cracked corn, \$70; coarse cornmeal, \$63; chop, \$56 per ton.

Flour, per 196 lbs. in eighth paper sacks, straight winter, \$11; spring patent, \$11.30; rye flour, \$14 in jobbing lots.

Toledo—There has been a sudden slackening of demand for mill feed in this section. Millers say they welcome this respite as they are operating only on a 50 per cent basis and are able to care for only their regular trade. Prices on mill feed are holding steady at \$27.50 a ton, bulk, for bran, and \$36.50 for middlings on the same basis with bags \$6 higher in each instance. Feed millers say they are hampered somewhat by embargoes but are operating their plants at capacity.

Duluth, Minn.—Business in the feed market at this point continues slow. Owing to their reduced productions millers are not accumulating stocks to any extent, and with stuff to go forward at the opening of navigation supplies will be cleaned. To bring them in line with quotations in coarse grains advances of \$1.61 per ton have been made in bran, shorts, red dog and flour middlings and Boston mixed feeds.

ONIONS

Detroit—The onion market has shown some improvement and it is to be hoped that the good work may continue. Quotations at this time are \$1.75@1.85 per cwt.

Chicago—There is hardly any mar-

ket, especially on red onions which are impossible to move at any price. There is little jobbing trade on yellows at \$1 and occasionally a cold storage lot brings a premium. There is still plenty of local home-grown, 50@60c in 70-lb. sacks. There were several cars of Texas onions offered this week at \$1.75 crate in a jobbing way which netted the receiver a little profit. These onions were bought at around \$1.10 loading station.

Pittsburgh—First arrivals of Texas onions show good quality. Trade believes that with careful grading and packing there will be much better retail demand. No. 1's sold \$2.75; No. 2's, \$2.40@2.50. There has been a decided change for the better in old onions. California stock meets with good demand. There is a better call for Ohio and New Yorks than at any time this season.

Vegetables

Beets, \$2.50 per cwt.; carrots, \$1.50 per cwt.; turnips, \$2.50 per cwt.; rutabagas, \$2 per cwt.; parsnips, \$4 per cwt.; hothouse cucumbers, \$2@3 per doz.; radishes, \$25@30c per doz.; green peppers, 50c per basket; parsley, 40@60c per doz.

EGGS

The Detroit market has shown considerable strength of late and the price has advanced. Fresh firsts are quoted at 34½@35c; storage packed firsts, 35½@36c per dozen.

Our Chicago reporter, under date of Apr. 20, writes: The market was quite active early this week, but became top-heavy by Thursday. Where there was quite an active trade from local sources this dropped out and shipping demand was at a standstill. This was true of both current receipts and storage packed. There was no buying for carlots on the Board Tuesday or Wednesday. By Thursday some holders were pretty well tired out and storage packed extras sold on the Board 35½c; storage packed firsts 35@35½c; current receipts, 33@33½c; dirties, 28c. These are lower than eggs can be laid down here for.

The market closed firm but unchanged. Receipts for the first five days this week were 149,553 cases; last week 181,189 cases; the same week a year ago, 160,184 cases.

POULTRY

LIVE WT.	Detroit	Chicago	New York
Turkey	34-35	18-25	34-35
Ducks	34-35	29-31	34-35
Geese	28-30	20-24	34-35
Springers	34-35	31-33	34-35
Hens	34-35	30-31	33-35

No. 2 Grade 2 to 3 Cents Less

The restrictions on the shipment of fowls was removed ten days earlier than was expected, the new ruling taking effect at midnight, Apr. 19. Dealers generally are expecting heavy receipts of hens as a result of this action, and shippers have been warned not to rush fowls to market and cause a surplus and loss.

There is a good firm demand for all kinds of fowls and up to this time receipts have been comparatively

light, consisting chiefly of old roosters. Very few ducks, geese or turkeys coming at any point.

BUTTER

New York, Apr. 20, 1918—The week of April 8 witnessed a very strong demand for butter with the result that stocks of fresh creamery butter were greatly reduced. With the advent of this week that condition still prevailed with the result that quotations for all grades advanced a full cent on Monday. On Tuesday the market remained firm but with a certain amount of nervousness as there was a prevailing feeling that stocks that had been in transit for some time would arrive and weaken the market. On Wednesday the nervousness was more apparent and because of a very slight excess of arrivals over demand the market declined a full cent. On Thursday the market remained firm on Wednesday's quotations, but on Friday there was another advance of a half cent because of light receipts. Quotations at the close on Friday were: Extras, 44½c; higher scoring than extras, 45@45½c; firsts, 42@44c; great scarcity of unsalted butter available with the result that the quotation differential between it and salted butter is somewhat widened. Extras are quoted at 45½@46½c with quotations in like ratio to similar grades of salted butter.

Detroit—Butter; fresh creamery firsts, 41½c; first creamery extras, 42@42½c per lb.

Cheese

The market is rmer on high grades of old State colored flats. These are meeting a fairly active demand at 25@25½c and are held with increasing confidence. Old white flats also appear steadier and there is a fair call for fancy qualities at 24@24½c, rare sales a fraction higher. Medium and low grades of old flats quiet with quite free supplies of white. Old twins are still dragging. A little local demand within ranges quoted. The Allied Commission's price on these is still 23c, though this figure may not hold after this week. Old Daisies about steady, but freer offerings of these from the west; most local sales 25c. Old Young Americas offered rather more freely; the few sales noted range from 27@27½c. The stocks of old cheese, according to Bureau of Markets report of April 1 are still much heavier than last year—32,049,542 lbs. in 423 houses against 9,842,325 lbs. last year. But a good many of these cheeses are owned by the Allies and await shipping room. Present offerings of fancy old cheese here indicate no dangerous surplus though low grade old stock to be marketed.

Our receipts of fresh cheese are gradually increasing. The Allied Commission is offering 22c for these and we understand they have secured some large sizes at that, both on this market and up state. State flats however are as a rule held for more money and fancy lots are meeting a fair local demand up to 23c, rarely a fraction more, for colored, and up to 22½ for whites. This week's receipts however are not closely cleared. Fresh Wisconsin Daisies are offered here more freely at 23½@24c and Fresh

Wisconsin Young Americas at 25@25½c.

The skim cheese market is very quiet. Commission is taking no further lots of skims and the only outlet at present is the restricted home home trade. Fresh makes not in large supply but quiet.

Dressed Hogs and Calves

There is a good demand for dressed hogs at 21 to 22c; dressed calves are also in good demand, fancy being quoted at 22 to 23c; choice, 20 to 21c; common, 19c per lb.

Hides and Furs

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

Hides—No. 1 cured, 14c; No. 1 green 13c; No. 1 cured bulls, 12c; No. 1 green bulls, 10c; No. 1 cured veal kip, 22c; No. 1 green veal kip, 20c; No. 1 cured murrain, 14c; No. 1 green murrain, 13c; No. 1 cured calf, 35c; No. 1 green calf, 35c; 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, \$1@3.50 each.

Wool

Assorted grades from east of Missouri river—Tubs, washed, \$.60@.65; medium, unwashed, \$.55@.60; coarse unwashed, \$.55@.60; light, fine, bright, \$.33@.35; heavy, fine, unwashed, \$.30; dark, dingy, medium, unwashed, \$.40@.55. Taggy fleeces, burry and black wool, 5c per lb. discount.

Horse Market

Continued light receipts of horses have been a great help to the horse market. With offerings comparatively small and a fair number of buyers trading is fairly active. Receipts of horses for the first two days of this week at Chicago were 617 head compared with 1,471 for the same period last year. Drafters, 5 to 8 years old, 1550 to 1750 lbs. sold for \$185 to \$265.

Eastern markets report the following scale of prices: Good quality, heavy green drafters, 1650@1900 lbs., sold from \$350@400; medium weight green drafters, from \$275@350; chks. from \$250@325; heavy wagon and express horses from \$175@250; woods horses were sold at a wide range from \$100@275, with some extra good teams selling higher; seconds sold for \$40@175.

East Buffalo Prices

East Buffalo, N. Y., April 23, 1918.—Receipts of cattle Monday, 180 cars. Trade opened 50 to 75c higher on medium weight and weighty steer cattle which were in good supply; butcher steers and handy weight steers sold 25 to 50c higher than last week; bulls of all classes sold steady; fresh cows and springers were in moderate supply, sold steady; stockers and feeders were in light supply, sold 35 to 50c higher than last week; yearlings were in very light supply, sold 50 to 75c higher. At the close of our market all the cattle were sold. The prospects for next week on all classes of cattle look favorable.

Receipts of cattle Tuesday, 10 cars. Good cattle steady; common grades 10 to 15c lower.

With 12,000 hogs on sale Monday, our market opened 10 to 25c lower. Yorkers sold at \$18.65, and a few sold up to \$18.75; mixed hogs, \$18.65; medium hogs, \$18.50; heavy hogs, \$18.25 to \$18.50 as to weight; pigs and lights, \$18.65 to \$18.75; roughs, \$16.50; stags, \$13.00 to \$15.00 as to quality.

Receipts of hogs Tuesday totaled 6400 and the market opened 50c lower on pigs and lights, and 25c lower on all other grades, with the medium and heavy hogs selling from \$18.25 to \$18.30; mixed and yorkers, \$18.40 with a few decks up to \$18.50; pigs and lights, \$18.15 to \$18.25; roughs, \$16.00 to \$16.25; stags, \$13.00 to \$13.75.

The receipts of sheep and lambs Monday were called 7400 head. The market opened 10 to 25c higher than Saturday's close. Best clipped lambs sold from 18.90 to 19.00, and we understand that there were a few decks of fancy lambs sold up to \$19.15 but the general market was \$19.00. Throwouts, \$16.00 to \$17.00; yearlings \$15.50 to \$17.00; wethers, \$15.00 to \$15.50; ewes, \$13.00 to \$14.50. There was very little wool stock here. Best wool lambs, \$22.25 to \$22.50, there being only one load here.

The receipts of sheep and lambs (Continued on page 17)

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

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

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—for all the farmers of Michigan.

MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH, 1918

GRANT SLOCUM
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WM. E. BROWN

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FIELD EDITOR
VETERINARY EDITOR
LEGAL EDITOR

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Michigan, Dry Michigan

NEXT TUESDAY, April 30th, over 3,500 saloons will close their door in this state and the curtain will fall on the great tragedy that legalized liquor traffic has staged in an almost continuous performance since Michigan discarded its territorial pinafore and put on the full dress of statehood.

Prohibition will have no more than a passing effect upon the majority of people. There will be those who will follow the even tenor of their ways totally oblivious of the social change taking place about them. True, they may miss the Saturday night parade of village bums and the noise and the lights of the corner saloon, and they may even notice a new air of respectability and sobriety about the community that has passed from the "wet" into the "dry" stage. For these are invariable signs that the saloon has passed.

But to many the closing of the saloons means much more than this. To a few who have gone so far down the pathway of drunkenness that the backward climb seems too great for them to attempt prohibition looms as a tragedy which cannot be averted or endured. These perverted outcasts will continue to drink, despite all the laws that are placed against it, and in a few short years they will fill the drunkard's grave in the potter's field.

For others, whose careless habits of youth have made the saloon their social gathering place, prohibition ushers in a period of reconstruction. New tastes, new habits, new friendships must be formed. It may be a little difficult for these men to accustom themselves to the new order of things, but who shall say but that after the passing of a few months, they shall find an infinitely greater satisfaction in their new social environment and be glad a thousand times that the saloon has been closed to them forever.

Prohibition comes to others as a wonderful blessing. Many are the homes that have been wrecked, the families that have been ostracized from decent society, the mothers who have spent their lives in hopeless drudgery and unhappiness, the children who have paid for the sins of their drunken fathers,—all innocent victims of the saloon. In recent years the moral aspect of the liquor evil has been subordinated to the economic aspect, but after all it's a phase that we cannot escape. What is the loss of a few dollars compared to the wrecking of a human life? And so as the saloon closes its doors, it is not of the saloonkeeper, nor of his patrons that I am thinking, but of the wives and the children of men who have been spending their manhood in the evil atmosphere of the saloon. Ten thousand prayers of thankfulness will go up to God from the lips of these.

It's going to take some time for this readjustment of habits, and everyone who rejoices at the arrival of prohibition should be willing to lend their every effort to help make prohibition a success. Prohibition will not be a success if blind tigers or boot-leggers are permitted to operate. Neither will prohibition be a success if those whom it has outcasted are unable to find a welcome in the homes and social circle of those who have helped to vote the saloon out of existence. We people all have a duty to perform from the day the saloons close and that duty is to help provide places of entertainment and amusement for those who have spent their entire leisure hours in the saloon. We must be forgiving and tolerant

with such as these. We must lower the social barriers and invite them in and teach them the virtues of sobriety.

We must not lose our faith in the efficacy of prohibition law as a correction for the drink evil because we see it occasionally disobeyed. We must always bear in mind that every law is sometimes transgressed, and the prohibition law will be no exception. But the machinery of enforcement, under the control of the State Dairy and Food Commissioner Fred L. Woodworth, is being perfected to such a degree that it will prevent any flagrant violations. The first year of prohibition will have its wet spots, but from then on, if the people stand firm in their convictions, and watch carefully the kind of men they place in office to carry out their wishes, prohibition in Michigan should be a complete success.

Keep Your Eye on the Main Issue

THE POLITICIANS are job-hunting. On Sundays and rainy days they leave the chase long enough to perform some patriotic service. But on bright, clear days they're out lambasting the Administration and everyone connected with it, particularly the chap whose political goat they are seeking to kidnap.

As we review the legislation of the past year and the attitude of Michigan legislators on all matters and particularly those affecting the farmers' interests, we are impressed with the fact that great things have been accomplished. We can't think of a single reason why the people of Michigan should swap horses right in the middle of the stream, especially when the present incumbents have just learned the best places to cross.

Never before was there so little demand for a change in the personnel of the state's delegation as this year. Everyone's too busy farming, or selling bonds, or taking Red Cross subscriptions, to bother their heads about the claims of aspiring candidates. And the only wind that sways the political straws comes from the immediate vicinity of the respective candidate's circle of close, and likewise aspiring, friends.

This war is mighty serious business. There's a place for every man and a man for every place. It's hard to pick out the square pegs for the square holes at first choice. Every man who occupies an official position today must know his business. There can be no guesswork, no theorizing, no monkey business. And no matter whom we send to Washington as a senator or representative, it will require the larger part of their first term to get onto the ropes so that they can be of real practical service.

The members of our present delegation are just nicely broken in, and there's good teamwork among them. Why take out an experienced horse and put in a colt just out of the pasture. Let's stick to business, forget politics this year, and vote for the men who are qualified by their experience to represent this state another two years intelligently and effectively. What do you think about it?

Get on the Job and Stick!

THE FARMER registrant who gets on the job and sticks there 365 days out of the year, producing food for the nations, needn't fear that he'll be called into the trenches. Food is too scarce, good farm help is too scarce, and city boys who follow unessential occupations are too numerous to permit of any other conclusion.

A lot of farmers made a mistake when they filled out their questionnaire and they're paying for it now. One of the purposes of the questionnaire was to find out how much every registrant contributed to the essential industry of the nation. Farmers were asked to state the value of the products grown the previous year in excess of their own family needs. That stuck 'em. Some thought the purpose of the question was to find out how much the registrants were worth financially, and whether they had sold enough stuff the previous year to support their families so they could be taken into military service. Consequently, and because it was something that most of them had to guess at anyway, some of them put down very small amounts which immediately convinced the authorities that they weren't contributing very much to anybody's breadbasket but their own. Result: Class 1, division E.

But many farmers who unquestionably raise year in and year out a considerable percentage of the state's commercial crops also filled in small amounts and adhered strictly to the truth. As everyone knows the season was very poor, and nobody got rich over the surplus they raised in excess of their own needs. Of course, this is a situation the district boards either did not know or the significance of which they did not appreciate, and as a result placed a number of men in Class 1, who should by all means have been given deferred classification as skilled farmers.

Some of these have succeeded in presenting sufficient additional evidence to cause the district

boards to reopen their cases and reclassify them, but for the most part the initial decisions remain.

But despite your classification, take our advice, farmer friends, and stick to the plow handles. If you can show by your deeds that you are trying to raise food not only for your own needs but the needs of the nation at large, we think you'll have ample opportunity to do it.

Are You "Puttinitoff" till Tomorrow?

OLD JACK FROST still lingers in the morning air and the sun must needs climb high up in the heavens before he completely vanquishes the frigid guest who made such a protracted visit in this section last winter. But despite the frosty mornings and the occasional cold north wind, there are abundant signs that spring is near and planting time is on its way.

Every farmer realizes that there must be no wasted effort this year if he is to produce his normal crops. With the shortage of farm help, it's going to be necessary for the farmer to plan his seeding, cultivating, and harvesting to a nicety. "Make hay while the sun shines" should be the motto of every soldier of the soil this summer.

Procrastination—the putting off until tomorrow of the things you can do today—makes more failures in life than anything else. The "plugger," the man who does the right thing at the right time, invariably surmounts all difficulties and succeeds. But the farmer or any other man who kills time today because tomorrow's coming, must ever wait till "tomorrow" for his crown of success.

If you decide tonight or when you get up in the morning that you are going to do a certain job at certain time, DO IT. Form the habit of carrying out your resolve. Don't put it off until the next day, because it may rain, or you may be busy with something else. If the job is disagreeable, it is all the more reason why you should get it off your hands as early as possible. The longer you leave it, the worse you will dread it.

The farmer who performs his work in a systematic manner, doing the job today that his judgment tells him SHOULD be done today, is the farmer who is the least often caught with his plowing half done, or his fields half sown, or his harvesting half finished, when the storms come and drive him indoors.

Plan your work ahead. Know today what you are going to do next week, providing the weather permits. And if you've formed the habit of "puttinit-off," break it quickly or it will break you. Build your air castles tomorrow, but plough today.

President Wilson has the power to prohibit the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic beverages during the period of the war. But he refuses to act because he still has the old-fashioned idea that certain classes of individuals must have their beer, and if deprived of it, they would immediately turn to whiskey as a harmful substitute. We could name 23 states whose sovereign people do not agree with the President for they have already banished every kind of alcoholic drink from their midst.

Several farmers are insisting that Albert Louis Lamb's article, "Play Fair, Mr. Farmer," which has been circulated by the publicity department of the Third Liberty Loan is German propaganda. Kinda looks that way, all right. With a little imagination one can see the Kaiser's ugly mug between every paragraph of the lying, infamous, insulting document. We consider it our duty to the farmers of this nation and the cause of justice that we answer every argument presented in Mr. Lamb's article, which will be done in the coming issue.

"It is true," says the *County Agent*, "that the lack of transportation and proper distribution has disheartened many farmers in some sections because they have not been able to sell their products at the price expected. This must not, however, affect the growing of an immense crop of potatoes for 1918." In other words, Mr. Farmer, just because you were lead blindly into a hornet's nest and got stung last year, is no reason why you shouldn't walk right into another and get stung again this year.

It is going to be extremely difficult for thirsty ones to place their orders for wet goods with out-of-state dispensers, after the state goes dry, providing the determinations of Wm. J. Nagel, Detroit postmaster, and E. E. Fraser, postoffice inspector, to censor postcards, letters, circulars, publications and other printed matter or writings containing liquor advertising, are carried out.

Keep a hen, is the advice of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to Mr. City Dweller. With dogs, cats, and babies tabooed, what'll the landlord say when he discovers the towel rack in the bathroom being used as a hen roost?

How Shall We Solve the Wheat Conundrum?

THE ACTION of the House of representatives in killing the Gore amendment for \$2.50 wheat presages a period of curtailed production in this cereal and a greatly augmented planting of the other cereals.

This is not theory. It is a prediction based on the same natural laws which prompt all industry to discard unprofitable branches of its business for the profitable. Wheat at \$2 per bushel, which is about the average price received by the farmer, has ceased to be as profitable a crop as rye, barley or even corn. Hence, with no material disturbance of the present proportions in the market values of these cereals, millions of acres hitherto devoted to wheat will be planted this spring and the coming fall to cereals containing competitive food values.

If the country and the cause can safely stand the anticipated reduction of wheat acreage there is nothing more to be said upon the subject. The food control law was not devised in the interests of the farmer; it was a measure to protect the government as a purchaser, and the ultimate consumer. So long as it serves this purpose, and the farmer can be induced to produce sufficient for the nation's needs despite the hampering provisions of the law, we cannot expect that its objectives would be changed at this time in order to pay the farmer a living profit. But if the wheat situation is as bad as indicated by the enforced halving of the civilian consumption of wheat products, and by the harsh, summary measures being employed to force farmers to dispose of remaining stocks, congress shows a woeful lack of "horse-sense" in disposing of the senate's amendment so lightly.

In discussing the amendment, Rep. Madden of Chicago is quoted as saying: "Wheat at \$2.50 a bushel will mean flour at \$18 a barrel. It is an outrage to impose such a burden on industrial America. The farmer today is better off than any other citizen. He is better off than most of us in Congress. We have been catering to the farmer for votes. I say here and now that the farmer needs no catering to."

It would be well to remind this legislator that the farmer did not ask for a fixed price on his wheat. He has raised food products and disposed of them under the laws of supply and demand since the beginning of organized commerce and he will continue to do so unless driven into other channels of industry by the ruthless interference of misguided politicians. But so long as the government has seen fit to establish a maximum price on his products, even Rep. Madden must admit the justice of adjusting this price to meet the constantly changing weather and economic conditions which raise or lower the farmers' yield and costs.

Public opinion cannot justly determine the proper prices which the necessities of life should command. The value of any article to its owner or producer depends upon the cost of producing it; its monetary value to the user or consumer depends upon the degree of service that it renders. If wheat in indispensable in maintaining life, there is no price short of life itself too great to pay for it, and \$18 flour is the cheapest food that can be bought today. How can the proposal to increase the price 30 cents per bushel be classed as an outrage, when it is universally admitted that had the government kept its hands off the wheat market, natural influences would have sent the price up many times higher? If it is an outrage upon the consumer to so throttle the law of supply and demand as to keep the price of flour down to \$18 a barrel as against a possible \$30 per barrel without federal control, what can the farmer style the failure of the self-same agency to establish a maximum price upon shoes, clothing, farm implements and other manufactured articles he is compelled to buy? The only man in the entire universe who has any logical kick to make upon the price-fixing policy of the government is the farmer. The consumer has been amply protected so far as the prices of food stuffs are concerned.

A careful reading of the objections voiced in the house of representatives against the senate amendment discloses some amusing things and a not exceptionally intelligent grasp of the complicated phases of the situation. Rep. Lever, chairman of the agricultural committee, led the opposition to the amendment, declaring that the farmers were trying to

State Food Administrator Prescott Says that Farmers are Hoarding Wheat. Read What the Farmers Say:

ONLY ENOUGH FOR HOME USE

No, there are no farmers holding any wheat around here to speak of, only a little for their own use. I will pledge myself to grow all I can and do all I can to win the war.—R. S.

LITTLE WHEAT IN SAGINAW COUNTY

"You can tell Mr. Prescott that a man couldn't get ten bushels of wheat in Brant, St. Charles and Marion townships of the 1917 crop. One-half of the 1918 crop will be put into spring wheat. Last fall in my Ford I drove all thru the townships of Maple Grove, Chesaning and Brady looking for seed wheat. Each farmer would send me to the next because they were all sold out. I found one man who had seven bushels to spare. I don't think there is much wheat in the southern part of Saginaw county in the farmers' hands. I think when wheat is of poor quality it will fall short of threshers' reports from ten to twenty percent when screened for milling. I am secretary-treasurer of the Farmers' Threshing Company of Brant. Our machine threshed only 977 bushels last fall."—W. J. N., Brant.

NO HOARDING IN CLINTON COUNTY

"Enclosed find sample of wheat which will perhaps explain to Food Administrator Prescott why he is so short. This is just as it came from machine. Some of the farmers had ten acres and got nine bags of good wheat out of 100 bushels. The reason why farmers did not sow spring wheat is because they receive \$2.08 for their wheat and elevators wanted \$3.50 to \$4 a bushel for spring wheat. Result—little sown. It will be the same with winter wheat next fall. The farmer will be compelled to sell at \$2.08 and then let the other fellow charge what he has a mind to. No hoarding in Clinton county."—Subscriber.

"IF THE GOVERNMENT WANTS MY WHEAT THEY CAN HAVE IT"

"In reply to your inquiry about wheat held by farmers, I don't know of any wheat in this section. I have between 15 and 20 bushels that I am holding for flour and seed. We only got in three acres last fall on account of dry weather and that looks as tho it would be better ploughed up. We will put in between 30 and 40 acres this spring if weather permits, so you will see I will need all that will grow on the three acres, for if we get 25 or 30 bushels from the three acres we will be lucky. This report is for Clayton township and I think you will get the same report from all townships in Arenac county. However, if the government wants my wheat they are welcome to it, knowing you will keep me informed through your paper."—J. C. Sterling.

make congress the wheat pit of the country. The present price of wheat, he said, was abnormal, brought about by abnormally low production and unusually high demand during the war. Apparently this congressman is neither a farmer nor a close observer of natural laws. Otherwise

he would know that abnormally low production means also abnormally high production costs in farming as well as other lines of business.

Rep. Overmeyer of Ohio was quite sure that the farmers of his state were satisfied with the President's price of \$2.20. He maintained that it was too late now to influence this year's wheat acreage. As to whether or not he thought it a matter of justice to refuse the farmers who had already patriotically planted wheat, a profit, the Ohio representative did not render an opinion.

COSTS OF PRODUCTION IGNORED

During the entire discussion in the House not one word was spoken as to the cost of producing wheat in 1918, which, if the selling price must be fixed by law, should be the only determining factor. The folly and injustice of an inflexible stipulated maximum price lies in the fact that it takes no cognizance of the score or more of influences which over-night may cut the anticipated yield in half and double the cost of production.

Thousands of farmers lost money on their wheat last year; yet they are compelled by federal edict to sell their crop at the price fixed by law. It will cost more to produce wheat this year than in 1917. The yield cannot be above average because much of the fall planted crop has been winter killed. With ideal growing and harvesting weather the farmer may be able to secure as large a yield per acre as last year. Hence, his profits, if any, will be smaller, and in many cases, his losses larger.

"The farmers who in these times would feed wheat to hogs," authoritatively writes a contemporary, "is an altogether new specimen of animal that we have not yet classified. Of all the utterly incomprehensible beings that this war has brought to public notice, he is easily the limit. If not an avowed friend of the Kaiser, he must be simply an animal in the form of a man, with a gizzard where there should be a heart."

These are the sentiments, born of a distorted understanding, that find their way into the columns of the press and poison the minds of the people against the hand that feeds them. It is little wonder that the farmer's rights are being constantly violated or that he is the victim of a class prejudice that grows stronger and more dangerous in its potentiality with the passing of each day.

Millions of bushels of wheat have been fed to live stock and millions more will be fed. And the man who accuses the farmer of disloyalty either does not know the facts in the case or else has not the slightest conception of human justice. The farmer is paying the penalty both in purse and reputation for the one-sided price-fixing fiasco. Inasmuch as he had no voice in the matter, is the farmer to be blamed that the price of wheat has been fixed so low as to make it the cheapest stock food obtainable? Should he be criticized for the failure of the price-fixing proponents to lock the back door of the stable and leave the front door wide open?

If it is necessary to regulate the price of wheat, why not have both a minimum and a maximum price. The object of the minimum price would be to stimulate production; that of the maximum price to allow for variations in the cost of production resulting from sub-normal yields and sharp advances in the cost of materials such as fertilizer and machinery. The scale of prices between the two extremes could be easily regulated at the option of the food administration.

Hence, this vitally important matter would be placed upon a strict business basis and the farmer could then have some assurance that he might realize a profit on his wheat despite the fluctuating costs of production.

The present arrangement disregards all the laws of economics. If the prices of all materials and implements and the cost of labor entering into the production of wheat, and the fantastic whims of the seasons be as arbitrarily controlled as the price of the harvested product the theory of inflexible price-fixing might be substantiated. But so long as the earth and the moon and the stars move on in their orbits in bold defiance of earthly edict, and the manufacturers of farm implements and materials successfully block any move to place a maximum price on their products, the wheat situation will continue to be a farce and a conundrum—a perpetual nightmare to congress and the nation.



PATRIOTS

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.)

Farmer Makes a Good Suggestion to Food Administration

[EDITOR'S NOTE. Below is a copy of a letter sent by Mr. C. G. Freeman of Pontiac to the U. S. Food Administration. We publish it here because it presents a situation that is considerably more general than the Food Administration has any idea of. It shows the need of a more sympathetic understanding of the problems of bean and potato growers in this state, and the suggestions it contains should be followed out:]

You return my March report with advice indicating that certain answers are not satisfactory. See attached carbon copy relating to the cheese matter.

My answer of "zero" on cheese in column 8: As our selling price was 26c and our purchase price 25 1/4c and freight, and as the cheese purchased was some three weeks in transit, when it should properly have come through in less than a week, and though shipped to have refrigerator service likely a good part of the time in a common box car. As the cheese was damaged to some extent from freezing, to what extent we could not tell, it was evident that our profit would be zero, how much less an impossibility to say for a long time as am unable to say what discounts we will get from cheese moulding. A crack in the paraffin means a chance of mould working into the cheese and a loss, again it may not result in any serious discount; what the actual loss is cannot be told until the cheese goes into consumption.

My answer of a blank in column 7 on potatoes: As the cost of stock was some \$1.65 per cwt. and selling value in March ran down to about \$1.18 I was unable to figure any "higher per cent gross profit," and therefore entered it "zero."

My answer of "zero" in column 8 on beans: As we have a quantity of damp beans which we are trying to keep from spoiling, and as the market has dropped in value so as to insure a loss, I was unable to figure any "highest per cent gross profit," and therefore entered it "zero."

Will the Food Administration kindly inform me what my answers to these questions should be, and oblige?

Suggestion: If the Administration wishes to handle the potato business in the interest of the producer, consumer, small shipper and the general public, the government, the grading of potatoes for size should be left alone, the department head should be other than any person who is himself interested in handling on his own account. The minimum of car load should be reduced to 30,000 pounds. Reconsignments and storage in transit should be cut out and reciprocal demurrage be made effective. If the Administration wishes the business handled in the sole interest of the few large operators, conditions should remain as at present. Of course, as it is, the producer is simply disgusted and acreage will be reduced about fifty per cent from normal.—C. G. Freeman.

Little Wheat in Osceola County

Regarding the wheat situation in our locality, wish to say there is very little wheat in the farmers' bins here. Owing to the scarcity of corn wheat has been fed to the stock, could not get corn at any price up to the middle of February, from \$4 to \$5 per hundred when we could get it. At the present time it is \$3.25 to \$3.50. There was no hard corn and very little of any kind in this county last fall, owing to the early frosts. As far as we can find out it was the same practically all over the state. And now they are talking of confiscating our flour, with a great many of our potatoes in the cellars, price too low to clear us. Some of them at Washington are still bucking our interests with E. P. Miller their head leader.

Our city and village merchants are profiteering at our expense, and giving the town people the preference on the sugar deal. Give us from one to two pounds of sugar whether there were 2 or 20 in the family, and whether they lived 1 or 10 miles from town. We had a merchant who was doing the fair thing by us, the other merchants tried to freeze him out, even sending word to a flour jobber in Saginaw to "stop sending said merchant any more flour." Another unwise deal was the chicken affair—must not sell or kill a chicken, rather let them starve to death; with no corn, farmers who had it had to feed them wheat. They want us to raise meat, but they must have the grain to make rum.

Let us stay by each other and see if we can't help ourselves a bit, while helping the boys in the trenches.—W. A. G., Hersey, Michigan.

Kicks on 12% Interest; Who Wouldn't?

I am sending my order through your paper for a Fordson tractor and two-bottom plow. I work 160 acres of land, all tillable. I have 120 acres of spring crops to put in and 80 acres of this has got to be plowed, with help so scarce it would be impossible to get all of my crops in. Do you

think the government is using the farmer right by not letting him buy on a contract? I first thought I could get a tractor from the government by paying \$300 down on delivery and \$200 the 15th of July and the balance on the 15th of November. I see in your paper that the tractors will be sold for cash only. The members of the war board don't seem to realize what it means to the farmers to go to the local banks, paying 12 per cent interest. Farmers would be willing to pay seven per cent, but when it comes to 12 percent it seems a little outrageous. We certainly appreciate your paper very much and think it is a great help to the farmers.—C. F. S., Pigeon, Michigan.

Too Many Potato Buyers

It would be interesting to hear the different opinions and ideas from all parts of Michigan. Here in Leroy we have a plentiful supply of merchants and nearly as many potato buyers, which seems rather extravagant, considering the

The Farmer's Job

THERE are jobs and jobs but none can say which is the bigger one,
That must be classed as sacrifice 'ere this sad war is won;
They all so interblend that none from him who sows and reaps,
To him who by the "no man's land" his watchful vigil keeps,
Or from him who the throttle holds at sea or on the rail,
To him who fights upon the air and rides upon the gale,
Can there be found one that might be dispensed with in the fight
Without more suffering and loss in winning Freedom's right.

BUT no such job, so fine, so grand, so like life's even way—
By which the Farmer, right at home, may help win liberty,
Was e'er before vouchsafed to man, nor has it been conceived
How much depends upon the soil, the nature gifts received,
The food and clothing must be won by those who till the soil,
And the old farm the battle ground in nature's smile and morn,
And all at home, safe from alarm, no strikes or hold-ups there,
And with all that makes home a home still left within their care.

AND there's no worry for them save the final victory
That will mean Freedom for them still in loved America;
O, better that all margins go to Freedom's holy cause,
That you go right on in your task and do not in it pause,
Than that in failing, all was lost, or others suffered more
Because you did not do your best till all was safely o'er!
O, is there not, somehow to you, between God's earth and right,
A special sacred, holy trust in this, dear Freedom's fight?

AND while it may mean sacrifice, you know that it is true
That all our Allies o'er the sea have been bled white for you,
They've been between you and the Huns who planned that we should pay
The price of Freedom's funeral pyre when it in ashes lay;
And though there may be slackers and the Shylocks as of old,
Let those who with God's forces plan be wise and brave and bold;
Let Freedom's soil so sacred seem in its appeal to you
That you'll be glad at heart that you had just your part to do!

—L. B. MITCHELL,

Hart, Michigan.

fact it only increases the cost of the potatoes to the consumer, and what is more, lowers the price for the farmer. Seems rather odd to see those gentlemen with their faultless attire and high-priced cars and yet they never bend their backs behind the hoe or under the paris green sprayer, but the spud is undoubtedly their booster.

Seems as though we farmers ought to be able to handle our affairs with better results than we have so far. As I understand it organization is the only way for farmers to come to a proper business basis. The M. B. F. is the right spirit to raise the farmers out of the slow, ingrowing ideas and join our hands in one strong chain, and to help the farmers and city people come to a right understanding and get us a fair deal. Like any other undertaking, it will meet with suspicion and argument, but no matter, it is for the good of the honest, hardworking people, and such an enterprise cannot help but meet with success. I and many others are for your paper first, last and all the time.—A Leroyan.

Kind Words From Montcalm Official

I am more than pleased with the MICHIGAN BUSINESS FARMING; keep it on my desk to hand out to the farmer who does not take it, but they are very few in number now who do not take it. It is a paper that should be taken by every farmer, besides it should have the support of every home that stands for better things, as it stands out squarely on the right side of every moral question, and a hard hitter for that which is right. I feel confident that in the very near future it will assist the farmer to get his just share of the consumer's dollar and at the same time work no injustice to the consumer, as there should be a more hearty co-operation between producer and consumer. Notice in your article on first page of April 6th you quote Act 156 Public Acts of 1891; this was amended by Act 207 Public Acts of 1899, which makes the legal rate at this time 5 per cent and the contract rate 7 per cent. Wishing you success and the liberal patronage you are justly entitled to, I beg to remain.—M. Miel, Probate Judge, County of Montcalm.

Don't Raise Another Crop of Potatoes for Stock Feed

You seem to be trying to help the farmers, so why not warn them every week until planting time to go slow on planting potatoes. It has been decided by the powers that be that potato grading is to continue practically just the same as it is now. The average yield for Michigan is near 100 bushels per acre and of those only 30 to 50 bushels will grade No. 1, and every farmer knows he just simply cannot afford to grow them for stock feed. For stock feeding he can raise crops worth far more for the purpose and costing far less to raise. The food committee is made up of men who are profiteering in farm produce, if I am correctly informed.—A. A. L., Cedar Springs.

Greed Has Not Yet Invaded the Country

Just received a sample copy of the M. B. F. Am well impressed with the paper especially seeing that it advocates the interest of the common people. With the country practically gone mad over organization and big trusts' methods, it is indeed refreshing to see some encouragement to the men and women who have enough faith in God and humanity to continue earning a living by honest methods.

The enclosed editorial gives a glimpse of the common man's life in the city. It is a little better in the country simply because greed has not quite gotten a strangle hold there. The writer spent a year in the gigantic Willys-Overland plant in Toledo, O., and knows the driving methods used there to force production. What toll in injured human lives, and what quantity of tears of blood will be required before the American people will awaken and rescue their imperiled liberties from internal vipers.

Keep up the good work of letting the people know real conditions, be optimistic and constructive and our labors will be crowned with success.—R.F.L., Litchfield.

Satisfied With M. B. F.

As a pioneer farmer in this township since 1868 save the last few years spent in the village, I feel that I have a clear titled right to speak for them in these strenuous, abnormal and momentous times.

I go to the old farm every spring to run the evaporator at the sugar camp, and in the neighborhood saw copies of your paper. Should I endeavor to formulate an ideal for such a publication, I am sure that yours would far surpass it as your vision seems to be concentrated on the lode star from every possible angle in the equation.

I have always been forced to be a bit ablush at the general attitude toward the farmer's real interest of many farmer's papers, and especially of late when there's but just one target left at which to shoot. So it follows that my unqualified congratulations are sincerely yours.—L. B. M., Hart.

Double Grading Blamed for High Cost of Potatoes

In a letter of recent date on the potato deal which you were kind enough to give space to, were a few things that I wish now to explain which my lengthy article seemed to forbid. I have been criticised by government officials of putting the cost of raising 1,000 bushels of potatoes too high, and told that 10 acres of good land properly manured ought to grow a larger crop, thus cutting down expenses. Now the facts are that this ten acres did grow from 150 to 175 bus. to the acre, and under usual grading rules would have averaged 150 bus. of marketable stock, while under the cut-throat system that was put in operation last fall it was reduced to 100 bus. per acre. And of course, it cost just as much to dig and handle the unmarketable potatoes as it did those that passed over the grader. Taking this into consideration would add materially to the total cost of production, but as they were worth something for feeding stock I left them out. Will say that the physical condition of the soil was ideal, being a clover soil well plowed and fitted, planted at the proper time, thoroughly cultivated, sprayed and 9-10 of them dug before freezing weather.—J. A. B., Pife Lake, Michigan.



THE FARM HOME

A Department for the Woman and Children of the Farm



Farm Home Conveniences

MOST OF US have our ideas of a perfectly appointed home, but I have never yet seen a home, either in the town or country, so perfect in its appointments and so complete in its conveniences that it couldn't be bettered. Have you?

Most women are slaves of habit. They become accustomed to performing their work at a certain time or in a certain way, and it is hard for them to change. As a result, the average woman, and more particularly the average woman of the country, continues to perform her work in the same arduous, unsystematic manner that her grandmother and her mother's aunts and cousins and nieces all employed in days of yore.

Many a time have I in a former line of work gone into a farm kitchen and engaged in conversation the woman of the house whom I soon discovered to be so fagged from work that it required the utmost will power to keep her going. And yet after a slight examination of the arrangement of her kitchen and the way in which she performed her work, I knew that she was partly to blame for her bodily fatigue.

I know very well that the average city woman would marvel at the amount of hard work that seems to be a part of the existence of the average farm woman. With household duties far less difficult and numerous, the city woman, even of moderate means, employs every convenience she can secure to help make her work lighter. Fireless cookers, kitchen cabinets, serving trays, dumb waiters, etc., form a part of the properly appointed urban kitchen.

Because the farm woman's work is so much harder and more exacting is all the more reason why she should have these modern conveniences. I want to help my readers to lighten their work if I can; there's no joy in living when one slaves from morning until night; and I've decided to begin the publication of suggestions for household conveniences the most of which hubby can easily and cheaply install during his "spare" hours. Some of these will be found practical for all homes; others may be of a questionable value, but I'm going to print all that I have in mind right now as I know there will be some of my readers who can find relief from hard work in each and every suggestion. This will be a fine opportunity, too, for everyone who has put into effect some original ideas on kitchen arrangement and farm home conveniences, to tell the rest of us about them.

For the best letter describing the conveniences that have helped to lighten your work, or make farm life more attractive, which I receive on or before May 10th, I will send prepaid to the writer her choice of aluminum coffee percolator, stone casserole in nicked frame, or silver carving set.

For every letter upon similar subjects that I think worthy enough to publish, I will send a dish drying rack, one of the handiest things imaginable for the kitchen.

This isn't a contest at all. No matter how trivial the improvement may seem to you, if it has helped at all to lighten your work or to make it more efficient, or has added in any measure to the pleasure and comfort of farm life, send it to me. Address your letter, PENELOPE, Farm Home Dep't, M. B. F., Mount Clemens, Michigan.

With weekly greetings of friendship to all my readers, I remain, cordially yours, PENELOPE.

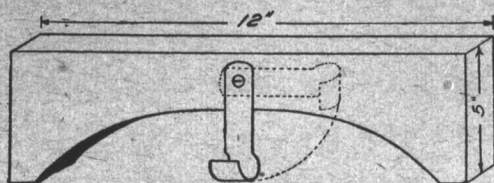
Folding Ironing Board

(Courtesy U. S. Dep't of Agriculture)

THE IRONING board shown in Fig. 1, can be fastened up against the wall and is out of the way when not in use. It should be made of well-seasoned 1 or 1½-inch material. A board of convenient size can be made by the following dimensions: 4 feet, 8 inches long, 15 inches wide at the attached end, and 8 inches at the free end. About 2 ft. from the attached end the

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

board begins to taper gradually. The free end is rounded. A strip 1½ by 4 by 15 inches is securely fastened by screws to the wall at a convenient height. The height at which the board is placed varies with the height of the user. For a woman of average height it should be 31 or 32 inches. The board is hinged to the wall strip with two No. 3 butt hinges. The leg or brace made of material 1 inch thick and 4 inches wide, is fastened with a No. 3 butt hinge to a board strip 1 by 4 by 8 inches. The board strip is screwed to the underside of the board 11 inches from the free end. The length of the brace depends upon the height of the board, and when the board is in position the brace rests against the base-board of the wall. Skirts may be



RACK FOR HOLDING IRONING BOARD

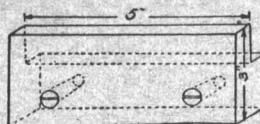


Figure 2. Contrivance

for Folding Portable Ironing Board

easily ironed without changing the position of the brace. A piece of galvanized iron may be tacked to the board, on which the hot iron may rest when not being used. The board is rolled up against the wall and may be held in place by using the upper part of the rack for holding the portable ironing board.

RACK FOR PORTABLE IRONING BOARD

The ironing board rack or holder may be attached to the wall or to the inside of a closet

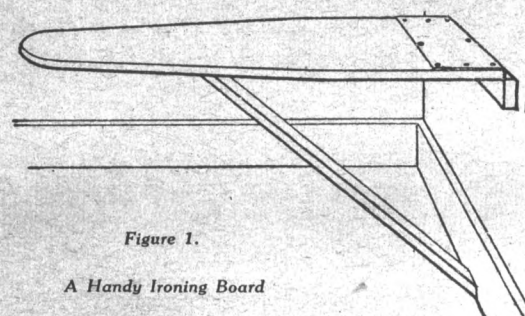


Figure 1.

A Handy Ironing Board

door to hold a portable ironing board when not in use. The upper part of the holder is made of 2½ inch material and is 5 inches in depth. It is 12 inches across the top and is shaped to fit the contour of the smaller end of the ironing board in place. The button is made of metal and so shaped as to give it spring and to provide a finger-hold for easy movement. The upper part of the rack or holder is screwed to the wall or door.

The bottom or lower part of the rack is 5 inches wide and 3 inches in depth, and is made of 2½ inch material cut in to form a rest for the ironing board. This part of the rack is fastened with two screws to the wall or door.

Register for Service

THE WEEK of April 27th has been appointed as registration week for the women of Michigan. This is to be a government census taken by the woman's committee, Council of National Defense. The registration is taken under the authority of the Federal Government and by the proclamation of Governor Sleeper.

Every loyal woman over sixteen years of age is called to register. We have been given the opportunity to offer to our country whatever service we are best fitted to render.

The registration is purely voluntary. If at the time you are called into service conditions have changed making it impossible for you to fulfill your pledge, no punishment or criticism will be placed upon you. The Government simply asks for this registration in order that the offer of your services may be available when needed.

Mothers, caring for their families, managing their homes and providing for their children are doing their share of war work. They are rendering their country their most valuable service—and they may register as housekeepers, etc., for their immediate families only. There are those who are unable to go out of their homes for work, but who have the

time and are capable of doing sewing for the Refuge children; some who can do knitting and altho their services may be very limited, they should register as doing or willing to do this work.

The woman who is untrained in any line, may register for training and choose any line desired. Or the woman who has no volunteer service to offer may register as a loyal busy woman.

No loyal, patriotic woman is excused. Let us respond and gladly and willingly do our share.

Remember the date, week of April 27th. Each community has appointed a place for registration. Don't fail to do your duty.

A Swing to Amuse the Children

WE ARE ALL apt to throw away the empty spools after we have used the last piece of thread from it, thinking that it would be of no use to us. They are especially valuable to one who has in their home, or the home of a relative or friend, a baby, which would enjoy having a swing he could use.

By saving these spools and perhaps asking our friends to save theirs enough can soon be collected to make a swing, which would be a good piece of work for the young lad or father of the family. Enough rope which is strong, must be procured to allow to extend from the top of the door to the right height for the little one to swing. Four lengths will be required.

A wooden seat is cut out, or one can buy a leather seat already made at one of the hardware stores, or where they sell household furnishings, for as small an amount as ten to twenty-five cents, depending upon size and grade. To this is fastened securely the rope, then the spools are run on until it is high enough. This is done to each of the four corners, with side pieces made of the spools laced on the rope.

A straight piece is made which will slip up and down and go across the front, so the child will not fall from it. This is held in place by the spools.

If the person making the swing prefers, it would add greatly to the appearance if it were enameled white or any other color desired.

The seat may be upholstered in cretonne which will perhaps make it a little more comfortable for the little one, as everyone that I know

(Continued on following page)



We are very glad to secure this photo of Mrs. W. Curtis and her two sturdy sons, of Coleman, Mich. There is no better way for us all to get acquainted than by these personal exchanges. Let us meet more of our readers in this way.



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.

Send for Copy of
"WHAT SCHOOL"

THE FERRIS INSTITUTE
Big Rapids, Mich.
WOODBRIDGE N. FERRIS
President

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A Swing to Amuse the Children

(Continued from page 15)

that owned one has spent most of the day on it. It allowed them to move if they felt so inclined and will also keep them amused with the various spools. Of course, toys could be fastened to the swing and the mother is spared the trouble of watching every minute.—*Esther A. Cosse.*

News Items of Interest to Women

In Great Britain the women have replaced 1,413,000 men in industrial, professional, and civil service positions. Miss Mary K. Conynnton has made a study of the effect of the war on the employment of women in England, and has some valuable calculations. She claims that 89,000 women are employed in agriculture, 65,500 holding positions, classified under finance and banking and 94,500 filling places of men in tramways, and in general transportation.

The sugar question is a most vital one at present. Tho we are able to procure enough for daily use by buying one or two pounds at a time, still it is impossible to get any stock ahead for the approaching canning season. This has no doubt caused much consternation among the housewives who desire to do their usual amount of canning, or perhaps increase their product. However, all may cease to worry, for Mr. Walter C. Hughes of the sugar division of the U. S. Food Department has assured us that we will be able to secure all we need. "There is one requirement, that of filling out blanks, which will be issued from the state food administrator stating among other things the purpose of the purchase," Mr. Hughes claims, and then we may secure it in 25 pound lots.

In the state of Connecticut the Council of National Defense is awarding honor certificates to girls who last season canned or dried more than 100 pounds of food. This example might well be followed in our own state.

Are You Helping Mr. Hoover?

IN THE MIDST of plenty it is not easy for the farm woman to understand why she should be careful in the use of the foods which Mr. Hoover is trying to conserve. It's so much easier and safer to use the materials called for in the old recipes

than to bother with the substitutes suggested by the government.

With the cost of foodstuffs in the city market so high, our city cousins have an incentive to use cheaper, even if less satisfactory, materials in baking and in preparing the meals. But in this day when every morsel of food is needed, I am quite sure that the farm woman, too, can see the advantage of saving and substituting.

Let us remember that every flag that flies opposite the enemies' is by proxy the American flag, and that the armies fighting in our defense under these flags cannot be maintained thru this winter unless there is food enough for them and for their women and children at home. There can be food enough only if America provides it. And America can provide it only by the personal service and patriotic co-operation of all of us.

An Economical Soup Meat

I WONDER how many have ever used any other meat for bean soup except the fat pork? The other day, housecleaning week, it was, and I always plan meals requiring as little work as possible, I decided to have bean soup. I ordered my beans, paying 18c per pound, but was unable to get the pork. The butcher asked me if I wouldn't try the end of a ham. I had never heard of using it, but always willing to experiment, I bought a piece and used it. We were more than pleased with the tastiness of the soup. The ham gives a richer flavor, besides making a most economical meat.

The ham end that I bought was 25 cents and I had one pound of navy beans. This served four people and two children the first day, then the second day I had a few creamed carrots and peas which I added, boiled all up well again and served the same number again. Then I drained the bone, cut off the meat, and you would be surprised how much ham meat I got—a large soup bowl full. This I chopped and added to three well-beaten eggs, seasoned with salt, pepper and a little parsley and fried in an omelet pan, making a most delicious supper dish.

I use ham bones for stock for my tomato soup also. It is fine.

Try using one-half rye flour and one-half wheat in your dark cakes and pie crusts. Sift the flours together.

Remember, altho you must buy a substitute for graham flour as well as

wheat, you need only buy 60 per cent instead of pound for pound. The Graham breads are very nutritious and if well made are as desirable as wheat breads, at least you can use one-third or more graham in your white bread.

QUICK GRAHAM BREAD OR MUFFINS

Two cups of sour milk, 1 egg, ½ cup brown sugar, 2 teaspoons soda, 3 table-spoons shortening, pinch of salt, graham flour to make a stiff batter. Raisins, currants, or dates add greatly to the flavor, as well as to the nutrition. A slice of this graham bread spread with jam or peanut butter makes a tasty and nourishing addition to the school children's lunch box.

The Weekly Fashions

No. 8796.—This little one-piece dress for young girls is truly a conservation dress, of both labor and material. The pattern comes in sizes 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 years. For the wee little tots one might omit the belt and it would be an excellent play suit, making bloomers to match. There are only the two side seams to sew, the neck button and cuffs to finish and the dress is done. As simple a pattern as one could find, which will surely appeal to the busy mothers just at present. The round neck may be finished with a bias band or just the embroidered scalloped edging which comes in colors and is so handy to finish children's clothes with. There is a slash at the left side, which is all the opening necessary. This fastens with four buttons and loops. Long or short sleeves may be used, but short ones are so much more comfortable for summer. One twenty-five cent patent leather belt will do for all dresses and adds a great deal to the appearance of any little costume.

No. 8807.—Here is a pattern suitable for the whole year 'round—for winter and spring. Make the skirt of a wool serge (a small shepherd plaid serge is always good and washes about the best of any wool goods.) With this one could make little linen or percale waists for the cold days and the gingham or finer cottons for warmer weather. Then in the summer make the little skirt of linen or gingham. A blue or rose color with plain white or striped voile waist makes a most attractive outfit for the girls of 8 or 10, as well as those of 2 to 4. The little blouse is so small for the little girls, one can often make it out of a discarded blouse, and I often make the little skirts out of the lower part of one of mine. The



HUNGER

For three years America has fought starvation in Belgium

Will you Eat less—wheat
meat—fats and sugar
that we may still send
food in ship loads?



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

The Weekly Fashions

skirt is two-gored, gathered onto a straight belt and buttons onto the waist with large pearl buttons. This pattern comes in sizes 2, 4, 6 and 8 years.

No. 100.—An official American Red Cross Layette. The American Red Cross has designated this layette as being the most practical and easy to make for the refugee babies in France and Belgium. So many of us have pieces of outing flannel and cottons left from spring sewing, not large enough for much of anything, but any one of these little garments takes so little material I believe if we just had the pattern we might make a great many of them. The pattern consists of a cape with hood, dress, jacket, skirt and booties. They are so simple even a child can make them. The few moments it takes to make these will never be missed; we will never know how much comfort they may give.

No. 8806.—Presents a most desirable afternoon frock. The waist is in the popular surplice effect, with ends cut in square tops, which button onto the waist. The front fits smoothly over the shirred skirt. A soft roll collar finishes the neck. Embroidered organdy collar and cuffs give the plainest of materials a dressy appearance. A coarse linen Palm Beach or soft silk made in this style with either dainty embroidered collar and cuffs, or the more tailored pique would make a dress suitable for street or home wear. The skirt is two-gored, having large square pockets, button trimmed. The pattern comes in sizes 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure.

No. 8778.—Another very pretty model in the separate skirt. This one is unusually simple and easy to make in that the lower section is all in one piece, with a straight lower edge. The fitted yoke is stitched to a slightly raised waist line and over the shirred lower section. The skirt comes in sizes 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inch waist measure.

No. 8772.—Bungalow apron. These aprons sell from \$1.50 to \$1.75 in the stores and can be made at home from 3½ or 4 yards at the most of percale or gingham. They are the most practical and comfortable work dresses one can have. The slash in front which extends either below the belt and buttons or if desired one may open it about seven or nine inches and lace. The plain material used on the figured, for trimming, gives the apron a more dress-like appearance. These aprons need no dress underneath unless so desired. The pattern is cut in sizes 36, 40, and 44 bust measure.

Live Stock Letters

(Continued from page 11)

Tuesday were ten cars. The market was slow and best clipped lambs sold from \$18.90 to \$19.00, which was 15c to 25c lower than Monday; throwouts \$16.00 to \$16.50; yearlings were quoted from \$15.50 to \$17.00; wethers, \$15.00 to \$15.50; ewes \$13.00 to \$14.50. No wool stock on sale.

East Buffalo, Apr. 22.—We quote: Choice to prime weighty steers, \$16.50 @17.25; medium to good weighty steers, \$15.50 @16.00; plain to coarse weighty steers, \$14.00 @14.50; choice to prime handy weight and medium weight steers, \$14.50 @15.00; fair to good handy weight and medium weight steers, \$14.00 @14.50; choice to prime yearlings, \$15.00 @15.50; fair to good yearlings, \$14.00 @14.50; medium to good butcher steers, \$13.00 @13.50; fair to medium butcher steers, \$12.00 @12.50; good butcher heifers, \$11.50 @12.00; fair to medium butcher heifers, \$10.50 @11.00; good to choice fat cows, \$11.00 @11.50; medium to good fat cows, \$10.00 @10.50; fair to good medium fat cows, \$8.50 @9.50; cutters and common butcher cows, \$7.50 @8.00; canners, \$6.00 @7.00; good to choice fat bulls, \$11.00 @11.50; medium to good fat bulls, \$10.00 @10.50; good weight sausage bulls, \$9.50 @10.00; light and thin bulls, \$7.50 @8.00; good to best stock and feeding steers, \$10.50 @11.00; medium grades of stock and feeding steers, \$9.50 @10.00; common to fair stock and feeding steers, \$8.50 @9.00; good to choice fresh cows and springers, \$90.00 @120.00; medium to good fresh cows and springers, \$75.00 @85.00.

Detroit, Apr. 23.—Cattle: Market dull at Monday's decline. Best heavy

steers \$14. @14.50; best handy weight butcher steers, \$12.50 @13; mixed steers and heifers, \$11.25 @11.75; handy light butchers, \$10.00 @11.00; light butchers, \$9.00 @9.75; best cows, \$9.50 @11.00; butcher cows, \$8.25 @8.75; common cows, \$7.75 @8.25; canners, \$7.00 @7.50; best heavy bulls, \$10.00 @11.00; bologna bulls, \$8.50 @9.50; stock bulls, \$8.00 @8.25; milkers and springers, \$12.50 @17.50.

Veal calves.—Market generally a dollar lower; few early sales at \$15; bulk of good at \$14; others, \$8.00 @12.

Sheep and lambs.—Market steady, best lambs, \$17.75; fair lambs, \$15 @15.50; light to common lambs, \$12 @14; fair to good sheep, \$10 @12; culls and common, \$8 @9.

Hogs.—Market prospects 10c lower. Mixed \$17.50 @17.75; pigs, \$17.50 @17.75.

Chicago, Apr. 23.—Receipts, 18,000 slow. Bulk, \$17.05 @17.60; light heavy, \$16.00 @17.30; rough, \$16.00 @16.50; pigs, \$13.25 @17.15.

Cattle.—Receipts, 13,000; market weak; native steers, \$10.50 @17.50; stockers and feeders, \$8.30 @12.60; cows and heifers, \$7.40 @13.90; calves, \$9.00 @14.50.

Sheep.—Receipts, 12,000; market weak; sheep, \$13.00 @17.80; lambs \$16.50 @22.00.

MEAT PRICES FIXED BY ARMY AND NAVY

The army, navy and marine corps announce that maximum prices are to be allowed for meat purchased during the month of May. While the government will control meat prices only so far as they are affected by purchases under government direction, these purchases are so great at the present time as to practically control the market.

All meat purchases for the American and Allied governments will be consolidated under one bureau at Chicago. The meat purchases will be allotted among the packers at prices based on livestock markets. The following will be the maximum prices paid at any time during the month, quotations being per hundred pounds:

Good steers, 500 to 600 pounds f. o. b. New York, frozen and wrapped commercial for export, \$24.05; same, 600 to 700 pounds, \$24.80; same, 700 pounds up, \$25.55. Navy requirements, \$24.65; cows, 500 to 600 pounds, \$21.65.

CONTAINERS MUST CONFORM TO U. S. STANDARD

All interstate shipments of fruits and vegetables in containers must be in packages that conform to the provisions of the U. S. standard Container Act, according to an announcement from the Bureau of Markets, department of Agriculture, which is charged with the enforcement of the Standard Container Act.

The baskets, crates hampers and boxes must be in sizes containing half pints, pints, quarts or multiples of quarts; slight variations either under or over may be allowed provided the average for any shipment conforms to the standards. Climax baskets for grapes can be made only in two, four, and 12 quart sizes and of the dimensions specified in the act.

The variations from standard sizes are made, it is stated, because of the nature of the containers, they being usually rough finished. No allowance for products heaped over the edge of the container is made, and the capacity of a container is determined by stricken measure tests.

Although the law applies only to interstate shipments, it is probable according to the bureau that interstate shipments will be generally made in U. S. standard containers, because many manufacturers have arranged to make no containers except those that comply with the Federal size requirements. Even shippers whose products are usually consumed in their own state are said to favor packages complying with the U. S. Standard Container Act, because they have no assurance that their products will not be sent across state boundaries before it is consumed.

Enforcement of the act will tend to eliminate deceptive practices in marketing fruits and vegetables, specialists say, and will give a "square deal" to both the public and the trade. More than 40 food products, inspectors already stationed in the large receiving markets are available for enforcing the act.

\$22.85 Standard Sisal Binder Twine Price \$22.85 Below the Government Schedule

BINDER TWINE WILL NOT BE CHEAPER AND WE ARE BRINGING AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY RIGHT TO YOUR OWN DOORS

The World's supply of Binder Twine because of the continuous warfare going on in Mexico, where Sisal, the raw material is grown, is difficult to obtain. The Grain Growers of the Northwest and across the Seas must have twine. The export demand will be sure to increase so long as the war lasts.

ORDER TO-DAY!—IF YOU DELAY YOU WILL REGRET IT.

Direct from the Farm to Consuming Markets

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

WE SELL FARMERS AT WHOLESALE PRICES

Fertilizer, Binder Twine, Paris Green, Spraying Materials, Grass Seed, Fence Posts, Auto Tires, Gleaner Brand Paints, Purina Dairy, Horse, Chicken, Calf and Hog Feed, Bran, Middlings, Corn, Oats, Nursery Stock, Brooms, Canned Goods, Soap and other staple lines used on the farm.

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N. F. SIMPSON, Gen. Mgr.,

Telephone Cherry 2021.

323-327 Russell St., Detroit

PLANT POTATOES AS USUAL BUT USE BUELL'S RUSSET RURALS

It is an old saying that when potatoes are low at planting time it is a good sign they will be high the following year. I am planting my usual acreage this year and urge my friends to do likewise.

Plant potatoes, not only for business but patriotic reasons. But don't take a chance on your seed. Get a seed that you can depend upon. Buell's Russet Rurals are an improvement over other Rural types. Years of hill selection, careful "breeding" and disease control, in the new, clean ground of the northern potato section, insures seed of great vitality and quality.

The price is \$1.00 per bushel, sacks free f. o. b. Elmira. No order accepted for less than two 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. The supply is limited, order early.

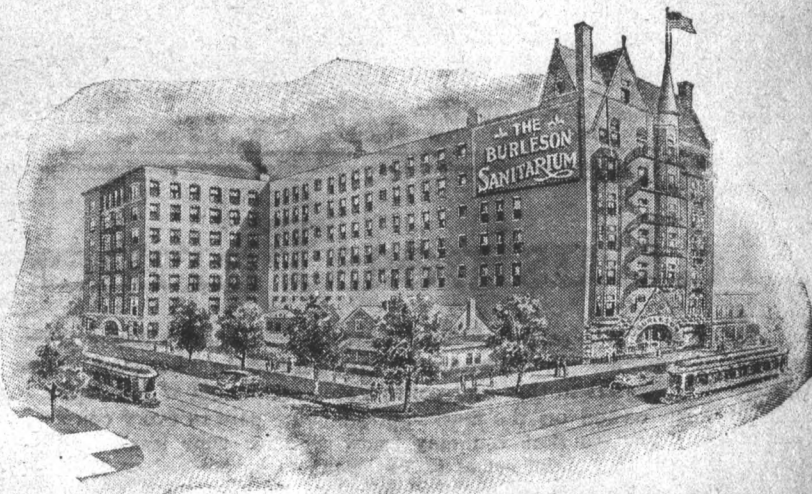
I also have a limited supply of Bliss Triumph which I consider the best early potato. The price is \$1.50 per bushel, conditions same as above.

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,

The Seed Potato Man of the North, Elmira, Michigan.

Piles Cured WITHOUT the Knife



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

The only real farm paper.—A. A., Wexford county.

Had sample copies. Think it a dandy for farmers.—Chas. North, Gratiot county.

Your paper is O. K. and will send the money as soon as possible.—Raleigh La Vere, Mecosta county.

Find enclosed one dollar for my subscription to M. B. F., which I think is worth the money.—J. S., Saginaw county.

I am taking five farm journals and if I had to practice economy in my reading matter would discard all farm papers except Michigan Business Farming. It fights the battles for the farmer.—Fred C. Smith.

County Crop Reports

GENESEE (South)—Farmers cannot do any field work during the last two days on account of the rain. Before this they were busy plowing and working soil for oats and barley. The weather has been fair, although a little too cold for crops to grow much, and in most localities the soil was getting too dry to work up good, but the rain we are now having will make it fine for fitting ground for spring crops and also for wheat, rye and clover. Farmers are selling some beans, hay, hogs and cattle. A small amount of wheat is also moving. Last week I reported that no wheat worth mentioning was being held but upon investigating more fully I find that there is more in the farmers' hands than I had expected. Auction sales are nearly over for this season. Good seed corn is scarce and in good demand. The Grand Ledge condensary at Fenton is only paying \$2.25 per cwt for 3.5 milk, instead of \$2.50 reported a couple of weeks ago. The farmers of Genesee county have proven that they are not to be classed as slackers and in spite of the fact that the farmers need a lot of money for seeds and fertilizer and other things, at this time of year, they have gone "over the top" for the Third Liberty loan in most every township in the county. Genesee county has nearly doubled its quota and has passed its quota by thousands in the number of subscribers, and has set a mark that few counties in the United States will equal. The following prices were paid at Flint this week: Wheat, \$2.10; corn, \$1.75-\$1.85; oats, 92; rye, \$2.50; hay, \$19-\$24; beans, \$11; potatoes, \$1.15; onions, \$1.25 crate; creamery butter, 41; dairy butter, 35; eggs, 34; sheep, \$9-\$10; lambs, \$14-\$15; hogs, \$16-\$17; beef steers, \$8-\$10; beef cows, \$4.50-\$8; veal calves, \$11; wool, 65. —C. S. Fenton, April 18.

GLADWIN (Southwest)—Farmers are plowing, sowing oats, putting in tile and hauling hay to market. Some seed corn is being shipped in and it finds a ready market. We are all looking for a good year; it's up to us to feed the world, and if Uncle Sam would sit down on the middleman a little harder the folks in the city could lie and so could we, for when it comes to producing the goods we are on the job, but we do hate to see Mr. Middleman walk off with all of the money we have worked 14 to 18 hours a day to produce and then have the people in the cities give us hell for the high prices of food. The following prices were quoted at Beaverton this week: Wheat, \$2.07; oats, 88; rye, \$2.35; hay, \$18-\$21; beans, \$10.50; potatoes, 75; butter, 38; butterfat, 39; eggs, 25. —V. V. K., Beaverton, April 15.

INGHAM (Central)—Very fine weather for farm work, and it is being improved in all lines of work. A good many oats are being put in here. Wheat and rye looking poor. Some stock being sold. Hogs are in good condition. But few

beans will be planted. Following were the quotations at Mason this week: Wheat, \$2.05-\$2.08; corn, \$1.80; oats, 90; rye, \$2.60; hay, \$22; beans, \$10.50; potatoes, 65; butter, 40; eggs, 30; lambs, \$15-\$16; hogs, \$16.50; beef steers, \$7-\$9; veal calves, \$13-\$17. —C. L. M., Mason, April 18.

ST. JOSEPH (East)—Farmers plowing for oats and potatoes; some oats are in and some potatoes being planted. The farmers are commencing to spray fruit trees. Wheat has been disposed of and some wheat is in poor condition and some good for the coming harvest. The farmers around here are plowing every acre they can, and all are buying Liberty bonds. Following prices were quoted at Colon this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 75; hay, \$15-\$20; potatoes, \$1; butter, 38; butterfat, 40; eggs, 30. —W. W., Colon, April 15.

ANTRIM (South)—The drouth was broken today with a nice warm rain. The potato market is dull, paying only 50c per cwt.; the big screen does not cut any figure now. Apples are bringing \$1 per box; eggs are 28c; butter, 38c. Good demand for cows, selling at from \$75 to \$90. Good horses are as high as ever, worth from \$375 to \$450 per pair. Veal calves and dressed hogs bringing 14c per lb.; cream, 48c; not much cream shipped from here as yet. Hay is selling at \$28 a ton; oats, \$1.10 per bu. I am afraid farmers will have to take the old reaper to cut their wheat as twine is \$22.75 here, and this year we have to pay \$26 for a common walking plow. —C. F. W., Alden, April 16.

ISABELLA (South)—Farmers busy getting in their oats and clover seed. New seeding is in very bad condition, nearly all frozen last winter. Rye was also badly frozen. Farmers are badly discouraged, some are trying a little spring wheat. The potato acreage will be smaller than last year; they are still grading and the farmers are getting tired of such work. The following prices were paid at Remus this week: Wheat, \$2.06; oats, 85; rye, \$2.00; hay, \$20; beans, \$10.50; potatoes, 95; butter, 42; butterfat, 40; eggs, 32. —B. B., Remus, Apr. 18.

HURON (Central)—We had two days of snow and rain this week, and plowing is better since the rain; grass is picking up; wheat does not promise much yet. Farmers are sowing oats and plowing for corn and beans. Farmers are buying Liberty bonds. Farmers here have sold all their wheat that was fit for milling. —G. W., Elkton, Apr. 22.

LAKE (Northeast)—Farmers getting ready to sow oats. Some farmers are planning on planting the usual acreage of beans and potatoes, while others intend to raise only enough for their own use. One farmer is loading a carload of potatoes today at 70c per cwt. —E. G. D., Luther, April 18.

OTSEGO (Central)—Had fine weather up to Apr. 18. Pretty dry and some forest fires started. The following prices were paid at Gaylord this week: Potatoes, 40c a bu.; butter 44c; eggs, 38c. —C. A., Gaylord, April 19.

CALHOUN (Southwest)—Most of the oats are sown; some yet to be put in on ground that was sown to wheat last fall where the wheat was winter killed, about half of the wheat ground here will be sown to oats on this account. Rye is looking better. The farmers are sowing every acre of their ground. Some are buying tractors. Wheat is mostly out of the farmers' hands. The following prices were paid this week at Athens: Wheat, \$2.05; corn, \$1.70; oats, 86; rye, \$2; hay, \$20; butter, 35-38; butterfat, 41; eggs, 32. —C. B. H., Athens, Apr. 20.

EMMET (Northwest)—Spring is here with the usual activities. Many farmers are plowing and dragging, preparing to put in oats and spring wheat. Most of the farmers who had maple trees on their places made maple sugar, and some made a large quantity; syrup sells at from \$2 to \$3 per gallon. We are glad to note that the county agent has done much to organize the farmers to co-operate. Forest fires have started and are doing some damage. The following prices were paid at Harbor Springs this week: Oats, \$1; hay, \$17; potatoes, 50c per cwt.; butter, 45; eggs, 32. —C. G., Cross Village, April 17.

ST. CLAIR (East Central)—Oats are nearly all in. There will be a large acreage this year owing to the failure of the fall wheat crop, over half of the latter has been lost in St. Clair county. Rye looks fair; the soil is in fine condition. Quite a number of sales of late and everything going high. Cows going from \$60 to \$100. Farmers are not selling much and holding nothing, there being nothing to hold. The following prices were paid here this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 85-90; rye, \$2.20; hay, \$18 to \$20; straw, \$9; beans, \$8; potatoes, \$1; butter, 40; eggs, 30; lambs, \$16 to \$18; hogs, \$17; beef steers, \$10-\$11; beef cows, \$7-\$8; veal calves, \$20. —I. J., Smith's Creek, Apr. 22.

OSCEOLA (Northeast)—Farmers have been busy plowing and getting ready for spring crops. The writer was at Marion today and the farmers are hauling wheat and rye in large quantities. The following prices were quoted at Marion this week: Wheat, \$2.02; oats, 90; rye, \$1.70; hay, \$20; beans, \$7.50 bu.; potatoes, 60c cwt.; butter, 34; butterfat, 36; eggs, 28; hogs, \$12; beef steers, \$7; beef cows, \$5.50; veal calves, \$18.00. —W. A. S., Marion, April 20.

BRANCH (South)—Farmers are sowing oats and plowing for corn. Soil in good condition. Farmers selling some stock and hay. Holding some beans. The following prices were paid at Union City this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, 85; potatoes, 50; butter, 30; butterfat, 42; eggs, 32; hogs, \$16; beef steers, \$8-\$12.50; beef cows, \$7; veal calves, \$15. —F. S., Union City, April 19.

LIVINGSTON (Fowlerville)—Farmers are busy fitting the ground and sowing oats. B. B. Morgan is doing his spring work with a Fordson tractor. Mr. Smoker of Fayette was here this week and bought fifty head of grade cows and helpers, another party from Texas has bought \$17,000.00 worth of registered stock here and will ship it Monday. The following prices were paid at Howell this week: Wheat, \$2.10; corn, \$1.85; oats, 85; rye, \$2.55; straw, \$12; beans, \$10; potatoes, 75; butter, 35; butterfat, 40 to 42; eggs, 30; beef steers, \$13.50; beef cows, \$8.50; veal calves, \$15. —G. A. W., Fowlerville, April 20.

LAPEER (North)—Farmers are busy sowing oats and spring wheat; the most will be in this week if the weather stays good. The recent rains have started a good deal of the wheat which looked killed, to growing. I believe the roots of much of it was alive and it only needed a rain to bring it out. There is nothing being sold around here just now except a few horses which bring good prices. Following prices quoted at North Branch this week: Wheat, \$2.25; corn, \$1.80; oats, 90; rye, \$1.90; hay, \$20; potatoes, 30; onions, \$1.25; eggs, 31. —I. G. S., North Branch, Apr. 18.

GRAND TRAVERSE (Southwest)—The farmers are starting their spring work. There is not much to sell here except a little hay and a few potatoes, some of the latter are frozen. The weather has been cold and dry. Wheat is very poor; rye a little better. The talk here is not so many potatoes on account of the Miller grading, and not many beans. Much of the land will be in pasture as it is impossible for the farmers to get money to hire help with. The following prices were quoted at Karlin this week: Wheat, \$2; oats, \$1; rye, \$1.65; potatoes, 65; butter, 35; eggs, 28. —W. W. C., Buckley, Apr. 18.

OSCEOLA (Central)—Farming in this part of the county has started in earnest. Farmers have more plowing done at this time than is usual. Many of the farmers have their peas in; some are sowing seven and eight acres of peas. Following prices were paid at Crystal Valley this week: beans, \$5.50; potatoes, 75; butter, 40; butterfat, 47; eggs, 28. —W. W. A., Crystal Valley, Apr. 20.

LAPEER (Central)—The weather has been real cold for the past few days. The better part of the oats in this section are in. It has been very hard to secure corn

fertilizer in this section this spring and very little has been used. Quite a few hogs are going on the market with the price a little weaker. Several farmers in this section are getting Fordson tractors. —O. E. P., Lapeer, Apr. 20.

CALHOUN (South)—Farmers have their oats about sown in this section. Some hay and oats moving. Potatoes are slow sale. Some are plowing for corn. Following prices were paid at Battle Creek this week: Wheat, \$2.09; oats, 90; rye, \$2.70; hay, \$24; potatoes, 75; butter 40; eggs, 30; lambs, \$24; hogs, \$16; beef cows, \$5.50; veal calves, \$11. —C. E. B., Battle Creek, Apr. 19.

LAPEER (Southeast)—Oat seeding is about completed; farmers are plowing for corn and beans; some barley to be sown. Wheat is looking some better, but the stand is very poor. The following prices were paid at Imlay City this week: Wheat, \$1.95-\$2.00; corn, \$1.85; oats, 80-85; rye, \$2.50; hay, \$15; straw, \$6.50; beans, \$10; butter, 40; butterfat, 39; eggs, 32; sheep, \$7-\$8; lambs, \$13-\$14; hogs, \$13-\$16; beef steers, \$9-\$10; beef cows, \$7.50; veal calves, \$10-\$13. —C. A. B., Imlay City, Apr. 20.

ARENAC (East)—Farmers are busy. Fore part of the week was cold with a snow storm on the 18th. Following prices were paid at Omer this week: potatoes, 90; beans, \$10; butter, 35; butterfat, 42; eggs, 28. —M. B. K., Twining, April 19.

MIDLAND (South)—We have had a good shower the past week, and it was badly needed. It has been much to cold for anything to grow. Farmers are busy plowing and putting in their oats and barley. With fair weather the seeding will be completed in another week. The following prices were paid at Coleman this week: Wheat, \$2.05; oats, 85; rye, \$1.10; hay, \$21; beans, \$11; beef steers, \$8.50-\$10; hogs, \$16.50. —F. A. L., Coleman, April 19.

SANILAC (Central)—Wheat did not look very good up to this time but the recent rains have made a great improvement. The following prices were paid at Sandusky this week: Wheat, \$2.05; oats, 89; rye, \$2.70; barley, \$3.75; hay, \$15 to \$20; clover seed, \$20; alsike, \$13; potatoes, 85; peas, \$3.25; butter, 40; butterfat, 41; eggs, 30; beef steers, \$8; veal calves, 12. —A. B., Sandusky, Apr. 20.

EMMET (North Central)—The snow is gone but weather is cold. Very little seeding being done. Lots of potatoes in growers' hands yet; no sale for them. The following prices were paid at Petoskey this week: Wheat, \$2.10; oats, \$1; rye, \$2. —W. H. C., Alanson, Apr. 21.

BAY (Southeast)—Oats and barley mostly sown; fall wheat looking poor. A great many farmers are sowing spring wheat at about \$3.25 per bu., trying to get wheat when they know spring wheat is nearly always a failure in this part of the state. Not much change in prices in the last week, only oats down to 88c. —J. C. A., Munger, Apr. 19.

KALKASKA (South)—The farmers are plowing. The ground has been covered with snow for the last three days; it has gone off and is now raining. The farmers are marketing their potatoes at 70c per cwt., and they are buying feed and seed. Orange township succeeded in getting their quota for the Third Liberty loan. The South Boardman potato house was burned, it entailed a large loss. The following prices were quoted at Kalkaska this week: Wheat, \$1.75-\$2.10; oats, 95; rye, \$2.00; hay, \$25; beans, \$9.50 per cwt.; butter, 40; butterfat, 40; eggs, 30; hogs, 18c; beef cows, \$11 to \$12; calves, \$10; wool, 50¢ to 55¢. —R. B., South Boardman, Apr. 21.

ST. JOSEPH (North Central)—Oat seeding about finished and some have started on corn ground. Quite a lot of barley sown. Corn is poor stuff, as a rule it germinates anywhere from 10 to 75 per cent in the test. I look for a poor stand of corn in Michigan, and especially if the weather continues cold and wet. So many farmers have sent their orders to seed houses for their seed, and these farmers are bound to be disappointed. I am not casting slurs on seed men, but on the farmers' judgment in so doing. All kinds of feed scarce and high although hay has taken a drop of about \$2 a ton. Some have potatoes to sell, but buyers are not shipping for some reason. Farmers have gradually lost hope on the potato deal, and the acreage will be reduced from 40 to 75 per cent in this county. The Third Liberty loan is meeting with a rousing support from the "slacker" farmers, as we have so often been called, but no matter if we bought this whole issue of bonds some city fanatic would call us slackers just the same. —H. A. H., Mendon, April 21.

CHEBOYGAN (West)—Farmers are plowing for corn. Some spring wheat has been sown and oat sowing will be general as soon as the ground is dry enough. Six inches of snow fell Thursday and the soil is very wet. The weather is still cool and rainy. Positively no wheat is being hoarded in this section. Many beans are yet in the farmers' hands, some still unthreshed. The market is very unfavorable. Not nearly so large an acreage of beans will be planted this year. Practically the entire potato crop is still in the farmers' hands and the market is dead. —L. E. B., Conway, April 22.

MISSAUKEE (Central)—Farmers are preparing their oat ground, and a little has been sown. There will be more barley sown this spring than is usual. We had about three inches of snow the morning of the 17th, about all gone now. Buyers are offering 60c per cwt for potatoes now and the farmers are disgusted with them; will not be many planted this spring, about half a crop. There will be a large acreage of buckwheat sown this year. —H. E. N., Cutocheon, Apr. 19.

I have had sample copies of your paper and like it very much; will send you the money in a few days. —J. W. H., Osceola county.

Mr. Business Farmer

IF YOU really are anxious to make farming a better paying business; if you want to keep informed on what your brother farmers in this and other states are doing; if you want to keep posted on the market prices being paid in every county in Michigan so that you may know whether your local dealer is paying the right price; if you want to be advised of the score of developments that will take place between the planting and the harvesting of the 1918 crops which are going to have a decided effect upon your profits; if you want to have a finger upon the price-fixing and regulating of your products; if you want to encourage the movement to remove the discriminations against the farmers and to secure a voice for him with other business men in the great national and international problems of the day,

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It gives the FACTS and it gives opinions which are invaluable to the man who farms. You're going to be mighty busy this summer, but you must take the time to read your farm papers. M. B. F. is the ideal paper for the BUSY, BUSINESS FARMER, because it gives him the news of the state, nation, and world, in brief, easy-to-read manner. There isn't a single investment of one dollar that you can make which will bring you bigger dividends than M. B. F. And you don't have to have the dollar NOW in order to make the investment. The coupon below—your promise to pay when the crops are harvested—will do the trick. Get it in tomorrow morning's mail.

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NEW FRIENDS: This may be your last opportunity for some time to subscribe for the weekly that all Michigan is talking about! We have only a few agents, don't wait for one—USE THIS COUPON TO-DAY!

OLD FRIENDS: When you show this copy to a farmer friend, tear out this coupon and give it to him so he can add his name to our list—or better still offer to send it in for him, we will not forget these favors!

GROWING PUMPKINS FOR STOCK FEED

Comparatively few farmers appreciate the value of pumpkins as a feed for cattle, hogs and sheep. Modern methods of corn cultivation which make it inadvisable to grow pumpkins in the cornfield have prompted farmers to neglect this valuable feeding crop. Experience and feeding experiments indicate that farmers can well afford to give a special place to the growing of pumpkins. Let the land be properly fertilized; let the pumpkins be planted with care and cultivated with care and they will yield many tons of valuable feed per acre. Now I know that the chemical analysis does not give pumpkins a high place among our feeding materials, but with pumpkins, the same as with grasses, that something called water is peculiarly valuable when found inclosed in plant cells. Water in grasses gives them the power of making wonderful returns in milk yield and growth of young stock. Take the water out of the grasses by means of the sun and wind, as we do in curing hay, and everybody knows that cows fed hay do not yield much milk or maintain as good flesh condition as when being fed good grass. So the water of pumpkins produces wonderfully good results in milk production and the growthy condition of cattle, hogs and sheep.

A few years ago we fed a large crop of pumpkins to our cows and obtained such satisfactory results that we have found it profitable to grow them to feed during the late fall and early winter. In our efforts to find new crops of high protein content we are overlooking one of the best crops for milk production by neglecting to grow this valuable crop.

Many successful breeders of purebred hogs and feeders of market hogs have found pumpkins superior to root crops for feeding during the fall and early winter months. In various feeding experiments pumpkins have been found of great benefit in assisting in the more complete digestion and assimilation of grain feeds. Hogs are very fond of pumpkins and the crop is ready for feeding at a time when the other succulent feeds are scarce.

Pumpkins are a valuable feed for sheep and many flockowners have found them of great value in ridding the flock of intestinal worms. One of the leading breeders of Shropshire sheep in the country stated to me that by growing pumpkins and feeding them to his flock when ripe and during the early winter his sheep rid themselves of internal parasites and that it helps him materially in keeping a clean flock. This is something that I have never had experience with but I do know that pumpkin seeds were our grandmother's favorite remedy for worms and that many doctors prescribed them for the expulsion of tape worms.—W. Milton Kelly.

FACTS ABOUT THE SUMMER SILO

The first step in the economy of feeding dairy cows in the summer is that of providing an ample supply of cheap and nutritious succulent food. At present prices for grain and commercial by-products the supply of roughage must be subjected to a closer invoice than has before been necessary. If the pastures are small, or there is danger of dry weather cutting down the yield of grass, we must have some kind of additional feed to fill the gap. For this purpose there is nothing better than corn silage.

One never knows at the beginning of the grazing period just how much dependence can be placed upon the yield of pasture grasses, but with a silo full of corn one knows just how much feed he can take from it and how many weeks it will last. The custom of feeding silage as a supplement to pastures has come to stay. Practical dairy farmers, experienced with crops and cattle, have tried it and find it preferable to growing and harvesting green crops to feed during the summer. New silos of small diameter are going up on the best managed dairy farms. It surely pays W. Milton Kelly.

to keep dairy cows throughout the summer in the sleek, vigorous condition that accompanies the use of this succulent feed. To the milk flow it appears to have as good an effect as grain, and to the constitutions of the cows it contributes much more vitality and health. And most important of all, it reduces the cost of producing summer milk to the lowest possible notch.

With a silo full of corn one is more independent of weather conditions than is the case when depending on green soiling crops, for as a rule when pastures are beginning to decline in productive capacity the soiling crops are not making sufficient growth to make their use economical. Then, too, there is always considerable loss in attempting to preserve these crops for winter feeding after one has fed out what is needed to supplement the pastures. It takes a lot of time to cut and haul a load of green feed to the barns every day and there are sure to be many days when field work or weather conditions are such that the cows are neglected. With silage at hand there is no waste of feed and the net result is a more steady milk yield and general thrift that makes dairy cows profitable. Even young stock make better growth when pastures are supplemented with good silage. So valuable is silage for growing young dairy animals that many progressive dairy farmers keep their young stock in the barn days and feed silage, allowing them to run in the pasture nights when the flies are not so troublesome. They claim that it saves feed and results in larger, better developed young stock.—W. Milton Kelly.

HOW TO PROPERLY PLANT FRUIT TREES

After selecting sound, fresh and healthy trees from the nursery, the next thing is to prune them. This can best be done with a pair of hand pruning shears. Trim off all broken branches; trim all side branches—cut off entirely on young peach trees—and to within four inches of the main stem on apples, plums and pears. Cut down the main stem of the tree to two feet for peaches; to three feet for apples, plums and pears. This cutting back of the main stem not only relieves the roots of too much strain, but it makes it possible to head the tree at the desired height. Do not leave more than three or four side branches. Each stub or side branch left to form the head should have two or more sound buds. The side branches should grow in different directions and should start at different levels to avoid the danger of splitting down under the pressure of wind, snow and heavy crops of fruit.

Prune out with a sharp knife all broken or mangled roots, making the cut on the underside of the root, sloping outward, so that as the tree rests on the bottom of the hole the cut surface of the root may come in contact directly with the soil. Shorten the straggling roots in the same way as the broken roots. Skillful pruning to give a proper balance between the top of the tree and the root system is the real secret of success in beginning the growth of young fruit trees.

The next operation is digging the hole. The proper way is to dig with a spade a hole wide enough to receive all the roots of the tree without bending or crushing. Make it deep enough so that some loose surface soil can be put in the bottom and so that the young tree placed on this soil will be just a little deeper than it stood in the nursery row. See that the alignment of the trees in the rows is correct, move the tree until it is in its proper place.

The tree is now ready to be covered in provided some good soil is at hand for putting on top of the roots and tamping it. As the loose top soil is shoveled into the hole work in evenly and keep it well tamped. When the hole is about half full of earth full pains should be taken to keep the soil packed firmly in the hole. If the soil is deficient in organic matter or plant food fertilizer or some kind of mulching material should be put on top of the soil around the tree.—

OFFERS NEW METHOD OF FEEDING CATTLE

A marked departure in methods of feeding beef cattle has been worked out at the University of Missouri College of Agriculture by Prof. H. O. Allison. The new plan involves feeding relatively large amounts of corn silage. No corn other than that contained in the silage is given the steers. After three years of experimental work with this method, the College of Agriculture is recommending it, because it offers the possibility of fattening from three to five steers on an acre of corn instead of a single steer which could be fattened under the old system. In other words, at least 160 steers can now be fattened where only 40 were fattened under the old plan.

This is the greatest departure in cattle feeding that has come within the last 20 or 30 years. It has a number of advantages for the feeder since it offers him opportunity for greater profits. Even when the steers are fed at a loss, this method has the advantage over the old plan since the losses are not so great. When the price of steers shows a margin above the cost of feeding, this method gives the feeder greater profits than the old system. Therefore it is the safest method of feeding under either condition, because it offers maximum profits and minimum losses.

The College of Agriculture has found that the steers fed no corn other than that contained in the corn silage, have made more money than those fed under the old plan during every trial that has been conducted. The steers which made the most money in the experiments conducted last winter received an average daily ration per steer of 2.77 pounds of linseed oil cake, 2.54 pounds of clover hay and 45.48 pounds of corn silage. This lot returned an average profit per steer of \$15.04. The lot which made the next highest profit, \$14.02 per head, received 4.40 pounds of linseed oil cake per steer, 2.61 pounds of clover hay and 44.98 pounds of corn silage. According to this trial, the increased amount of linseed oil cake fed to the second most profitable lot was not justified. The least profitable lot which returned only \$5.27 per head, received an average daily ration per steer of 16.60 pounds shelled corn, 2.77 pounds linseed oil cake, 2 pounds of clover hay, 27.21 pounds corn silage.

Those feeders who are interested in this method of feeding will find further information in Bulletin 150 of the College of Agriculture, Columbia, Missouri.

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LIVE STOCK ON THE FARM

POULTRY, SHEEP AND SWINE

BEEF PRODUCTION BREEDING PROBLEMS



HOW TO MAKE THE DAIRY FARM PAY

On some farms dairying pays. On other farms it is difficult to determine whether it pays or not, and on many farms it is a losing game. How to make dairying pay is a pretty big question; however, a careful analysis of the situation will frequently indicate a plan by which the owner can work out the problem. In studying the business on many farms one is impressed with the fact that many dairy farmers are seriously handicapped because of the size of their farms and the fertility of their land. If one has a large enough farm and decently fertile land, dairying ought to pay. The cost of building up a badly run-down soil is too great to admit of profit. One ought to have a farm that will produce good crops of corn, clover, grasses and small grain crops and then add to its fertility.

The next consideration is the size of the farm. A farm ought to be large enough to keep one man busy during the year and two men at times when field work is pressing. Some dairy farmers keep only six or eight cows, a few hogs and a flock of fowls. The owners spend the winter months caring for their stock. Even tho they do their work well and the cows do their best, it is easy to mark the total possible income from the cows. A comfortable living may be secured, but if one charges for his time, it is very doubtful if he finds profitable the farm that merely supports six or eight cows. The cows might return an income of \$100 each, but it is more likely that they will return much less. So that the dairy would have a possible gross income of six or eight hundred dollars a year and a probable one of much less.

The point is that the man was not sufficiently busy. He could as well have cared for twelve or sixteen cows during the winter. A man may make a living from a few cows on a small farm; to make a profit it must be big enough to keep him pretty vigorously busy. Land and cows do not yield profit—that comes from labor expended on them. This is a different proposition in pasture work, but during the season when cows are in pasture the owner is usually busy growing food for winter so the proposition of milking and field work during the summer more than equals the labor necessary to provide for the cows during the winter. In either case one cannot hope for large profits unless he employs considerable labor on his farm. I am not saying that the small farm that supports a few cows, hogs, poultry and cash crops may not pay well. I am speaking of dairy farming as generally conducted in the leading dairying sections.

Many farms that support only enough cows to keep one man busy could, through the use of a silo and more cows furnish profitable work for two men. By putting the cows on high pressure and practicing more intense methods of crop growing the owner could double the gross income from the dairy herd by keeping a hired hand. The farm ought to be large enough to keep two men profitably busy. Under an intensive system of crop growing, soiling and depending upon purchased grains a farm of 80 acres would keep two men busy during the year. On the other hand a farm of from 100 to 160 acres, depending upon how many acres are tillable, and how many head of young stock are kept, will usually return a greater net profit. With high-pressure farming 28 cows, a few heifers and heifer calves, the necessary work horses and other stock could be kept and a portion of the grain feed raised on the farm.

The dairy farm is a factory and should be kept in profitable operation during the year. The problem is one of producing cheap raw materials, selecting efficient machines and employing competent labor. Efficiency should be the slogan of the farm factory—to keep down operating charges and produce superior products. The successful dairy farmer must be a master

of feedstuffs, dairy cows and labor. To make the farm pay he must know the cost of making up suitable rations which cows are the most economical producers, and keep a strict account of labor costs and not let them get too high.

After adapting the labor to the number of cows kept, the next problem in making the dairy farm pay is to plan the distribution of labor so that the men and work teams may work at maximum efficiency in producing suitable food crops for the stock. By adopting a system of crop rotation that requires labor at different seasons one can produce more food for the cows at less cost than when crops that do not afford such a seasonal distribution of labor are grown. Corn, small grains, clover, alfalfa and mixed hay fit together in such a way as to keep the men and teams profitably busy during the growing season. The haying may conflict with cultivating the cornfield, but the work can be sandwiched together so as to avoid serious damages to either crop. The growing of a cash crop in the rotation will in many cases prove very profitable and result in better distribution of the labor.

In making a study of the different crops, the dairy cattle and the general repairs on the farm, the work to be performed may be divided into two classes; labor which must be done at a definite time if it is to be effective; and labor which can be done equally well at any time prior to some fixed date. Labor of the first class includes plowing, planting, cultivating and harvesting; the second class comprises manure hauling, repairing fences and buildings, the putting of machinery into repair before the time for use, fall plowing. The prudent dairy farmer never allows labor of the second class to interfere with labor of the first class.

Then there are the buildings and equipment; are they efficient? Are the feedstuffs wasted in the weather, or properly preserved in the barns and silos? How much can the efficiency of the plant be increased without adding too much to the operating expenses? As a general proposition, this is the end at which to work in making the dairy farm pay. Make the soil more productive and the plant better.

When one makes the statement that the dairy business is conducted with the least efficiency of any business in the country, I suppose it would be discretion on his part to retire to a secluded spot. I firmly believe that this describes our dairy farming, but the truth is, the dairy farmers are not altogether responsible for some of the factors that bring about this condition. They are not all in a position to undertake comprehensive efficiency schemes, but the fact still remains that the average dairy farmer pays little attention to high producing cows, to testing the cows in his herd, to the use of improved sires, to the adoption of systems of management adapted to meet his particular farm and conditions to the thousand and one items of knowledge, which if applied advisably, would double the net income from his farm. He is satisfied to grow food crops, feed and milk

cows and market his products in a routine manner and to trust Providence for the result, though it has been sort of a generalized experience that Providence keeps the door to the House of Success locked and distributes the keys only as a reward of thoughtful industry. If anyone feels that these statements are a personal injustice to himself he has but to compare the milk records of his herd with the 3,560 pound average of the entire country to see how much above or below the average efficiency he attained.

How is his very low average to be raised? To the dairy farmer whose cows produce less than 6,000 pounds of milk per year I should answer: learn how to feed your cows better. To the dairy farmer who succeeds in continuously getting considerable better than the above figure I should say: find out how to get better cows. Read this paragraph over twice and you will discover that no play on words is intended to confuse the reader.

Given a herd of efficient cows and equality of conditions, and one man will produce twice as much milk as another. The first man feeds his cows better than the second man. He has mastered the art of getting the most milk from the hereditary possibilities within his herd. Given identical barns, feeds and conditions, and some men will obtain double the milk yield of others. This time the masters of the situation feed better cows. It was a question of giving the cows the best feed in the first case, and of obtaining cows of the best hereditary endowment in the second case.

The reason for making these two separate recommendations, when attention to both feeding and breeding is essential to greater profit is simple. Every dairy farmer should keep the best cows he can afford to keep, but feeding the cows one has in the best possible manner is much easier than getting the best possible cows to feed, and one cannot always start at the top of the ladder.

Past dairy progress may have been due more to improvement in methods of feeding and housing than to the use of superior bred cows, but in the future our hopes must center upon the breeder of dairy cattle. There are sound reasons for this statement. Feeding is the application of principles of chemistry and physics, and these two sciences are established on firm foundations. Breeding is applied biology, and biology is yet in its infancy because its progress is also dependent upon the older sciences. Nevertheless, the breeding of dairy cattle has made great progress in the past few years. Definite rules that give results and give them quickly can be given for the improvement of the milking qualities of dairy cows, and it is interesting that dairy breeding has proved to be a master key in unlocking these mysterious hereditary forces. First, let us make our farms pay better through feeding our cows better; then as we become qualified to handle them efficiently let us make our farms pay still greater profits through feeding better cows.—W. Milton Kelly.



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CATTLE

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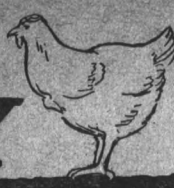
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Purebred Holstein bulls, 7 months old and younger. Korndyke and Canary breeding. From A. R. O. dams with good records. Choice individuals. Also a few females for sale. Right prices. Arwin Killinger, Fowlerville, Michigan, Phone, 58F15.

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.

'Top-Notch' HOLSTEINS

The young bulls we have for sale are backed up by many generations of large producers. Buy one of these bulls, and give your herd a "push." Full descriptions, prices, etc. on request.

McPherson Farms Co.
Howell, Mich.

JERSEY

DUROC JERSEYS of the Heavy boned type. Service boars and Spring Pigs for sale, also Reg. Shorthorn Bull Calves of Milking Strain 4 mos. old, the price is \$100 each.

M. A. Bray Estate, Chas. Bray, Mgr., Okemos, Michigan

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

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.



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 % 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.

"THE BULL IS MORE THAN HALF THE HERD"

King Korndyke Oriskany Pontiac

His dam and his sire's dam average: butter, 7 days, 37.76, milk, 7 days, 537.75, per cent fat, 5.52; butter, 30 days, 145.93, milk, 2,213.80. He is sired by the \$10,000 bull, King Korndyke Pontiac Lass, a son of K. P. Pontiac Lass, the first 44-lb. cow and the most famous daughter of King of the Pontiacs. His dam, a 31-lb. cow, has three young daughters well over 20 lbs.

Herd is annually tested for tuberculosis.

We offer a few bull calves from well bred A. R. dams.

BOARDMAN FARMS, CLINTON AVE., JACKSON, MICHIGAN

ROBT. R. POINTER & SON

Breeders of

Registered Holstein-Friesian Cattle

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

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

SHETLAND PONIES

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

HOGS

O. I. C.

O
I
C

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.

Crاندell's Prize Hogs, Cass City, Mich.

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

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

DUROC

Grey Tower Farm

Now offers for sale a few choice Holstein bull calves, from high-testing dams with good A. R. O. records, at farmers' prices write us about them and our

Durocs & Berkshires

M. D. KITCHEN, Mgr.
Grass Lake, Mich.

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.

POLAND CHINA

BIG TYPE POLAND CHINAS. Brood sows all sold. Have a few fall pigs. Prices right. L. W. Barnes & Son, Byron, Michigan.

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

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

HAMPSHIRE

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

SHEEP

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.

POULTRY

PLYMOUTH ROCK

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.

BARRED ROCKS The farmer's kind. Eight years of careful breeding, large, heavy-laying fowls. Eggs \$5 for 50; \$10 for 126. Chas. I. Cook, Fowlerville, Michigan.

Pure Bred BARRED ROCK Cockerels for sale \$3 each. Hatching eggs \$3 per 15. R. R. Bowman, Pigeon, Michigan.

WYANDOTTE

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.

SILVER, GOLDEN and WHITE Wyandottes of quality, fine large cockerels, \$3.00 each. Eggs, \$2.50 per 15. Clarence Browning, R. No. 2, Portland, Michigan.

LEGHORN

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.

First Annual Sale of Michigan Ayrshires

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

at Flint, Michigan, Wednesday, May 8, 1918
at 12:30 o'clock p. m.

All animals tuberculin tested and guaranteed.
Write for catalogue.

Michigan School for the Deaf
W. L. HOFFMAN, Steward, Flint, Mich.

EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY

The Livingston County Holstein Breeders' Sale Co.
will hold its

Fourth Annual Public Sale on Thursday, May 16, 1918, at 10:30 a. m.
at Howell, Mich., at the Sale Pavilion on the Fair Grounds.

We will offer 100 head of Registered Holsteins consisting of 91 females and 9 bulls.

This sale will be the Dispersion of the entire herd of S. B. Rubert, Howell, Mich., who contributes 40 head.

Among the bulls will be a herd bull by the **Mighty Rag Apple Korndyke** 8th and out of a daughter of **Pontiac Korndyke**. Several of the bull calves are of choice breeding and are fit to head herds. Their dams have records from 22 lbs. as Junior 2 year olds, to 29 lbs.

Among the females will be found: A 28 lb. daughter of **King of the Pontiacs** and two of her daughters by an extra good sire. Two daughters of **Pontiac Korndyke** and some stock from each. A 26 lb. Junior 3 year old. A 26 lb. Senior 3 year old. A 26 lb. Junior 4 year old. A 25 lb. cow and her daughter by a 30 lb. sire. Two 22 lb. Junior 2 year olds. Two granddaughters of **Colantha Johanna Lad**, both with records. 20 daughters of **Smithdale Alcartra Pontiac** who has six 2 year old daughters that average 19.7 lbs. butter each in 7 days and two 3 year olds with 25 and 26 lbs. He is a son of that famous cow **Alcartra Polkadot**, who has three daughters with records above 31 lbs., and is a brother to the sire of **Tilly Alcartra the World's Champion Long Distance Cow**.

A large percentage either have records themselves or are from record dams. Many of the females are bred to bulls whose dams have records from 30 to 35 lbs. and 9 are bred to **King Segis Champion** whose dam has a 40 lb. record at 4 years old and who is a full brother to **King Model** who sold in the Steven's Sale in 1917 for \$10,000.00.

We believe they are the best bred lot of cattle ever offered at Public Sale in Michigan with the single exception of the National Sale at Detroit in 1916.

Remember the Date and the Place and plan to be present.

Auctioneers: **Perry & Mack.**

(Catalogues May 1st)

F. J. FISHBECK, Howell, Mich., Secretary.

We Hate to Sell this Kind of Stock

But we have listed them for sale at the Livingston County Breeders' Sale Company's sale at Howell, Mich., May 16, 1918.

	Milk	Butter
Queen Pieterje Mink De Kol	25.48	578
Koostia Artis De Kol	22.17	574
Lillie Burke Canary, A Jr. 3-year-old record of	26.21	498
Brookfield AAggie Wayne Pontiac, Jr. 2-yr.-old record	18.17	408
Annette Segis Brook De Kol, Jr. 2-yr.-old record	17.30	352

King Korndyke Segis Pieter 232927, born Jan. 9, 1918. This is a wonderful individual, more than half white. He has five of seven nearest dams in his pedigree that average above 30½ pounds of butter in seven days. His dam is a 29.11 pound cow that made this record after losing one-quarter. His sire is **King Pieter Segis Lyons** 170506.

Included in our consignment are 5 heifers of similar lines of breeding. Meet us at Howell, Mich., May 16th, 1918.

MUSOLFF BROS., South Lyons, Mich.

If you need a Herd Sire get this one—born Nov. 14, '17

His Sire, **Maplecrest De Kol Burton** 94152, a son of **Friend Hengerveld DeKol Butter Boy**, who has 5 daughters with year records averaging 1,118.06 lbs. butter and 23,730 lbs. milk. **Maplecrest De Kol Burton's** dam is **Maplecrest Pontiac Jennie**, her dam **Burton Highlawm 2nd.**, one of the only two cows in the world to produce two 30 lb. daughters and have a daughter to do likewise. **Maplecrest Pontiac Jennie** is by **Pontiac Aggie Korndyke** who has 10 daughters with year's records 1,161.87 lbs. butter and above 20,000 lbs. milk each.

His dam, **Inez Pieterje 2nd Jr.** four-year-old record, milk 527 lbs., butter 20.53. 1 A. R. O. daughter. Her dam is **Inez Pieterje**, milk, 589 lbs., butter, 23.25, with 4 A. R. O. daughters. This last statement means a good deal. Did you ever stop to think that every animal in the herd is her progeny five generations of females. If this appeals to you, come and see him. Price, \$175.00. Evenly marked and a fine individual.

W. W. WYCKOFF, Napoleon, Mich.

CONSIGN YOUR LIVE STOCK TO

CLAY, ROBINSON & CO.

LIVE STOCK COMMISSION

Chicago South St. Paul South Omaha Denver Kansas City
East Buffalo Fort Worth East St. Louis Sioux City
El Paso South St. Joseph

When you write any advertiser in our weekly will you mention the fact that you are a reader of **Michigan Business Farming**?—They are friends of our paper, too!

Veterinary Department

Contagious Abortion

We read your paper with much interest each week. Have some veterinary troubles which I do not understand and would like to have explained if you will be so kind. We keep quite a lot of young cattle together in a large barn. Last spring I had a two-year-old heifer lose her calf at 8 months. She was running with the bunch of cattle. This spring in February, another heifer lost her calf at four and a half months. Yesterday an oldish cow lost her calf at six and one-half months; she has not been with the bunch nights. Now I used a Holstein on the second heifer; is it safe to use him on others? I have a cow due on May 1st; is there any danger of them; and is there any danger of my cows due in the fall and of my yearling heifers? Is this contagious abortion? An early reply would be appreciated.—L. T., Charlotte Michigan.

You have infectious abortion in your herd and if you follow out the suggestions I have given below I firmly believe the disease can not only be controlled but entirely eliminated:

1. Beginning three weeks before service to bull wash root of tail, vulva, buttocks and escutcheon of cow daily with sponge and solution made by adding three ounces of compound of cresol to one gallon of clean water and continue this treatment daily until three weeks after animal has been bred and conceived.

2. Douch vagina daily with three teaspoons of borax to one pint of water or three ounces of borax to one gallon of water for the same length of time as suggested in preceding paragraph. Use about one quart of the borax solution for each douch.

3. Keep the hairs around prepuee and lower surface of belly clipped and irrigate sheath of bull with same solution suggested for vaginal douch, also wash lower surface of belly of bull with solution suggested in paragraph one for cleaning external parts of cow.

4. Two or three days before cow is due to calve, or if animal shows signs of abortion, remove to a large box stall, which has been well disinfected and supplied with clean bedding, away from other cattle and give treatment advised in 1 and 2. Change the bedding as frequently as is necessary to keep clean.

5. Whether delivery is normal or an abortion remove the soiled bedding as frequently as is necessary to keep clean and spray floor and walls with four ounces of compound solution of cresol to one gallon of water before adding clean bedding and wash the tail, vulva, buttocks, escutcheon and udder with three ounces of compound solution of cresol to one gallon of water once or twice a day as long as there is any discharge from uterus. The after-birth and aborted calf, if the case is one of abortion, should be immediately destroyed by burning or burying deeply.

6. If there is a retention of the after-birth or a persistent discharge from the uterus further treatment should be carried out only under the direction of a competent veterinarian who is capable of making an examination of the uterus, through the rectum and determining the exact condition.

7. If sterility is giving trouble in your herd and the value of the animals justify it, it is advisable to have all cows that calve, whether abortion or otherwise, examined by a competent veterinarian about four days after delivery. This examination should be made through the rectum in order that any abnormality may be properly treated before extensive changes have occurred.

8. Vaginal explorations with the hand or vaginal injections subsequent to calving or abortion should not be made except in cases of retained after-birth and when rectal examination indicates that such are necessary and then these should only be made after thoroughly cleansing with a disinfectant, the tail, buttocks and vulva of the cow and the hands of the operator.

9. At no time should any instrument be inserted into the vagina without previous disinfection of the root of the tail, buttocks and vulva, and disinfection of the instruments.

In herds where it is necessary to give several cows vaginal douches the same day, the instrument used should be inserted into six ounces of compound solution of cresol to one gal-

lon of water for two or three minutes and then wiped with a clean cloth to remove the excess of cresol, after use on one animal before treating another.

10. Cows that have aborted or others that develop a marked discharge from the uterus subsequent to calving should not be put back with the herd until the discharge has ceased. Under certain conditions where this suggestion cannot be carried out then segregate such animals in one end of the barn so that their stalls can be daily cleaned and disinfected without necessitating daily disinfection of the entire barn.

11. Remove the manure from the gutter daily and freely use some good disinfectant in the gutter and on the floor of the stalls.

12. The udder, teats and hands of the milker should be washed with one to a one-thousand solution of bichloride of mercury, before and after milking.

NOTE:—If the odor of compound solution of cresol is objectionable substitute one to one-thousand solution of bichloride of mercury.

To prepare the solution of bichloride of mercury take two pounds of mercuric chloride and dissolve in five pounds of commercial hydrochloric acid. Store in a stone jug or glass container.

To make a one to one-thousand solution take one ounce of the stock solution and add to three gallons of clean water.

AMONG THE BREEDERS

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

It is indeed gratifying to men who are interested in building up the great Holstein-Friesian cattle breeding industry of Michigan on a permanently profitable foundation to note the efforts being made by the West Michigan Holstein Breeders Association to raise the standard of the animals listed at their sales. The methods of conducting public sales in Michigan have done more to give the business of breeding Holstein cattle a black eye than any other thing connected with the industry. Inferior, uncouth offerings and insufficient publicity may result in finding good markets for cull stock, but it is a mighty poor policy for the great breeding interests of the state of Michigan to allow a few cheap sale companies to fix the prices of their purebred dairy cattle. Just as long as these sale companies allow inferior, untested stock to be listed at their sales, just so long will Michigan Holstein cattle sell for less money than the Holsteins bred in any other state in the Union. It is high time for the real progressive Holstein breeders of Michigan to awaken to a realization of the fact that the price set by buyers of this inferior stock that is offered at these public sales automatically fixes the price on every animal they have on their farms. The man who consigns inferior bred, no record animals to the public sales, like the man who produces filthy milk to be mixed with clean milk from careful dairy farmers, is a menace to the dairy industry and should be eliminated. These statements may bring criticism from men who are conducting public sales, but Michigan Business Farming is interested first of all in doing everything possible to raise the standard of the cattle offered at public sales in Michigan and to that end is in sympathy with any movement which will raise the standard of the offerings at these sales.

Musolff Brothers, Albert and August, have been breeding and developing their present herd of Holstein-Friesian cattle for more than five years. They have a well equipped plant at South Lyons, Michigan, and have been making some excellent A. R. O. records. Their herd is tested annually for tuberculosis and they have never found a suspicious animal. The senior herd sire in **Musolff Bros'** herd is **King Pieter Segis Lyons**, a three-year-old bull possessing a wonderful good combination of blood lines. His sire is that well-known transmitting sire, **King Pieter**, whose daughters and granddaughters are producers of extraordinary ability. He is by a splendid son of the first "century" sire, **Hengerveld De Kol** and the 31 pound cow, **Abby Hartog Clothilde**, from the famous 33 pound cow **Blanch Lyons De Kol**, she by the noted milk sire, **Pieterje Hengerveld's** Count De Kol, from **Blanch Lyons**, one of the only 5 cows each having three 30-pound daughters. His dam is a cow of great capacity and breeding. She produced over 30 pounds of butter in 7 days as a four-year-old, having had a record of over 20 pounds as a two-year-old. She is by that great young sire, **King Lyons** from a 31-pound three-year-old daughter of the renowned **King Segis**, and **Eliza Pieterje**, a fine daughter of the great old foundation cow **Prilly**. This bull is one of the very best bulls in Michigan, both by breeding and individuality. Among the foundation cows in this herd we find **Mercedes Pieterje AAggie Texal 3rd**, an excellent individual with an A. R. O. record of 29.68 pounds of butter, 604 lbs. of milk in 7 days. She is a granddaughter of **Pontiac Korndyke** thru one of his good sons. Few ever saw a better prospect for the foundation of a great family. Then we find **Korndyke Belle Bernardo**, with a record of 29.11 pounds of butter and 595 pounds of milk in seven days. She is splendidly bred on both sides of her pedigree. Her sire derives 75 per cent of his blood from the great

DISPERSION SALE!

Rosewood Stock Farm, Howell, Mich.

Saturday, May 4th, 1918--40 Head

This herd is the product of 10 years of painstaking care and breeding, giving special attention to sire, type and large milk production. You will have the opportunity to buy many family groups. This sale includes:

15 daughters of our Sr. Herd Sire (Fair. Col. Rag Apple 141297) who is the best bred son of Rag Apple Korn, 8th in service today, being a 3-4 brother to the only 30 lb. 24 mo. old heifer in the world and also to the only 42.45 Sr. 3 year old. His two nearest dams average 34.42. His first daughter to be tested at 22 mo. is making over 17 lbs. Many of the cows are bred to him.

Six daughters of King Prilly Walker Gelsche whose 10 nearest dams average over 30 lbs. One of them a 20 lb. Jr. 2 year old.

3 daughters of King Piet. Pet Canary who is a son of Mich. 1st. 30 lb. cow.

6 heifers that are bred to our Jr. Herd Sire (Utility Heng. Segis Lad No. 227884) who is from a 30.47 lb. Junior 3 year old dam and a 32 lb. Sire of great breeding.

3 daughters of Cleopatra Gelsche 2nd. Butter 28.32, (who is a grand-daughter of Prilly) including a daughter of King Lyons and her yearling daughter bred to a son of K. K. S. V.

1 daughter of a 30.79 cow due soon after the sale.

1 25½ lb. 3 year old and 2 of her daughters from King Pontiac Segis Korn. and Fair. Col. Rag Apple.

1 20-lb. Jr. 2 year old and her bull calf by Fair. Col. Rag Apple.

1 20-lb. cow and her heifer calf from a 35 lb. bull.

Numerous others with records from 20 to 28 lbs. Only 2 over 6 years old.

Write for catalog to

D. H. HOOVER, Prop.,

- Howell, Michigan

Pontiac Korndyke, who with his two sons, King of the Pontiacs and Pontiac AAggie Korndyke, are the only three sires each having at least twelve 30-lb. daughters. Her dam is A. R. O. daughter of Bernardo Advance Clothilde and Metta De Kol Prince, who is by a son of Pieterje Hengerveld's Paul De Kol, who is a brother to the former world's champion 7 day and 30 day butter producer AAggie Cornucopia Pauline. Another great foundation animal found in this herd is Mollie of At. Anna Pontiac 2nd, with a record of 28.14 pounds of butter and 538 pounds of milk in seven days. Her sire is by a brother to the dam of Fern. Count De Kol with a ten year old record of 30.79 pounds of butter, 642 lbs. of milk in seven days. Her dam is by a brother to the sires of Elm Mink Korndyke 31.76 pounds butter, 618 pounds of milk and Tietje Queen De Kol 31.07 lbs. butter, 494 pounds of milk in seven days. Musolf Bros. consignment to the Livingston County Breeders' Sale Company's sale at Howell, Michigan, May 16, is an outstanding lot of individuals. Koostra Artis De Kol, is a nice individual and a persistent producer with a record of 22.17 pounds of butter and 574 pounds of milk. Her sire is Pieterje Hengerveld Hartog De Kol and her dam Koostra Artis. Another great offering is Queen Pieterje Mink Lady De Kol. She is a large cow, a fine individual that made a record of 25.48 pounds of butter and 578 pounds of milk. This record was made 40 days after freshening. She is one of the best cows in this sale. Her yearling daughter is also listed in this sale. Then we have Lillie Burke Canary. Sire King Pet Canary. Dam Lillie Burke 2nd. She has a three-year-old record of 26.21 pounds of butter, 498 pounds of milk in seven days. She is a grand individual, of good size, and a persistent milker. I will predict that she will come near to topping the sale. Other females offered by Musolf Bros. in the sale are Brookfield AAggie Wayne Pontiac, a wonderfully large two-year-old heifer with a record as a Jr. 2-year-old of butter 18.77 and milk 403 pounds in seven days and Annette Segis, Brook De Kol with a 17.30 pounds of butter and 352 pounds of milk, Jr. two-year-old record. She is a grand individual with a prospect for a larger record. In addition to these cows there are several daughters of King Pieterje Segis Lyons listed in this sale, by Musolf Bros. You will not go wrong in bidding on this firm's offering at Howell, Michigan, May 16th.

Mr. Arwin Killinger, one of our new advertisers, has been feeding Holstein cattle seven years. In the spring of 1911 he purchased 80 acres of land and received a gift of one pure-bred yearling heifer and purchased two more. He soon disposed of his grade cows and invested in two more pure-breds. These happenings cover a period of two years. Selling this farm in 1913 he purchased Sunny Jains Stock Farm which consists of 150 acres. At once he erected a silo and began the development of his present business. During the seven years he has sold

enough pure-bred cattle to more than twice pay for those he has purchased and at the present time he has 31 head of pure-breds on his farm, twenty-five of this number are females. During the past two years he has nicely started test work so that nearly one-half of his cows have credited A. R. O. records. One 3-year-old heifer making 22.84 pounds of butter, 538 pounds of milk in 7 days. Mr. Killinger uses a milking machine and says that the cows take to it nicely. He has never had any bad results from its use and with the scarcity of labor believes it is a profitable machine for any dairy farmer who is keeping enough cows to warrant its use. His cattle are in good condition and he is one of Livingston county's most progressive young breeders. M. B. F. readers who are looking for well-bred Holstein cattle from a herd that has been developed thru honesty and square dealing will find a good bunch from which to make their selections at Sunny Plains Farm.

It is with deep regret that we announce the sale of the well-known Rosewood Stock Farm herd of pure-bred Holstein cattle which takes place at Howell, Michigan, May 4th, 1918. Mr. Hoover is one of the cleanest and most likable fellows connected with the Holstein industry in Michigan, and his dispersion sale is a real loss to the Holstein interests. Always alive to improve both his own herd and those of his neighbors he will be missed by many breeders. After many years of painstaking breeding Mr. Hoover has decided to close out his entire herd. He has been breeding registered Holsteins for more than twelve years, always using the best animals of the breed to carry out his ideas of building up his herd. Those who buy the animals he has for sale will find them as represented in every way. Every animal will be A. R. O. tested or from A. R. O. dams with records from 14 to 20 lbs. of butter as two-year-olds up to 30.79 lbs. as mature cows. The sale will start promptly at one o'clock. All trains will be met at Howell in the morning of the day of the sale. Howell is located on the Pere Marquette, 50 miles west of Detroit and 33 miles east of Lansing; on the Ann Arbor, 22 miles south of Durand, which is on the main line of the Grand Trunk; and 27 miles south of Ann Arbor, which is on the main line of the Michigan Central. Breeders who are looking for animals to improve their herds, or men desiring to purchase foundation individuals for new herds cannot afford to overlook this opportunity to buy the kind of animals offered at this sale. Everything goes without reserve. Write for catalogs and do not fail to mention M. B. F. when you write.

SALE DATES CLAIMED

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

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

West Michigan Holstein Breeders' Annual
Spring Guarantee Quality Sale of

Registered Holstein Cattle Wednesday, May 15, 1918

at the West Michigan State Fair Grounds,
Grand Rapids, Michigan

A real Guarantee Quality Sale of 75 head of high-class registered Holstein cattle, from the breeding herds of the leading Holstein Breeders of West Michigan.

Nearly all these Herds are under Michigan State and Government supervision and are being regularly tuberculin tested by State or Government Veterinarians.

We hold two Guarantee Quality Sales each year and our "Guarantee" means just what it says, and is not worded to fool the prospective purchaser.

Remember we guarantee all females to be breeders if of breeding age, if they are placed in herds which are free from contagious abortion. We also guarantee all cattle to stand the Tuberculin tests, if retested within 60 days from the date of the sale, if placed in known healthy herds, or kept where they can in no way come in contact with any other cattle.

We have two 30 pound bull calves in the Sale. One is from a cow that milked over 100 pounds of milk per day, and made over 30 pounds of butter in 7 days, and is sired by a high record son of King Segis Pontiac that is out of a cow with a 40 pound daughter.

The other is from a 30 pound Dam and is sired by a 31 pound son of the famous Colantha Johanna Lad. These two bulls are handsomely marked and are splendid individuals, and should interest any owner of a high class herd who is looking for a 30 pound Sire that possesses both "breeding and individuality."

We also have a bull calf from a 20 pound junior two-year-old Dam and out of a high record Sire.

We will sell 40 choice cows, several with A. R. O. records of from 20 to 26 pounds of butter in 7 days. A large number of these cows are safe in calf to bulls out of the best Sires of a Breed and from Dams with A. R. O. records from 30 to 37 pounds.

There are 30 choice yearling heifers and helper calves out of high class Sires and many of them from good A. R. O. Dams.

These cattle have all been carefully inspected by the Sale Committee and all undesirable animals have been rejected.

Remember this is a Sale where the buyer can get "Good Healthy Cattle" and a square deal. If interested, write for a Sale Catalog.

W. R. Harper, Sales Manager
Middleville, Michigan

30,124 Members
May 1, 1918



\$70,000
Cash in Bank



NO FARMER CAN AFFORD TO DRIVE AN AUTOMOBILE WITHOUT LIABILITY INSURANCE!

EVERY day one reads in the papers of automobile accidents. Some day it will happen to you. A child runs out from behind a wagon—too quick for you to dodge or put on your brakes—you push back to pick up the little body, perhaps only a leg is broken—perhaps worse, of course you must pay for the doctor and hospital bills and your liability is still more, \$5000 has been awarded the widow of a man killed by an automobile, right here in Michigan!



Can you afford a risk like that? A risk that might take every dollar of your savings and mortgage your farm.

Every day one reads of automobile fires, on the road, in transit or in a public or private garage or barn. Is your machine protected or if it were burned to-day would you have to give up the profit and pleasure you will get from it the coming summer and fall?

Every day one reads of automobile thieves and "joy-riders." Not only are the cities infested with these parasites, but the small towns and even the farmers are being molested. Some cars never return, others are found days, weeks or months after damaged, sometimes completely wrecked.

WHY RUN THESE RISKS WHEN OUR MUTUAL INSURANCE PROTECTS?

At a small cost, we have provided for Michigan automobile owners living outside the cities of Detroit and Grand Rapids a complete policy which protects against Fire, Theft and Liability.

30124 owners, like yourself, have banded together for their mutual protection—our assets have increased to \$70,000 and to-day over 400 agents in Michigan alone are ready to answer your call.



YOU KNOW THE MEN BEHIND THIS COMPANY

All are substantial business men and business farmers, who are responsible for the successful conduct of this company during the three years of operation. All claims are met promptly, we have already paid over two hundred and ninety.

You can figure How Low the Cost would be on Your Car

Think of this protection, fire, theft and liability for 25 cents per horse power plus One Dollar for the policy. No farmer in Michigan is rich enough to drive an automobile and assume the risks which we are willing to take for him at this small cost.

The Important Thing Is—DON'T PUT IT OFF!

Everyday our agents write of men who have "put off getting insurance" just a day too long, we can't help you after the accident happens, unless you are protected by our policy. Somewhere near you is a man who represents our company, he is anxious to get your car protected—if you know who our agent is, get in touch with him right away! Don't put it off and be sorry for years to come.

TELL US THE NAME AND NUMBER OF YOUR CAR ON A POSTAL CARD TODAY—LET US TELL YOU HOW LITTLE CITIZEN'S MUTUAL AUTO INSURANCE COSTS!

ASSESSMENTS

The success of a mutual company depends upon the promptness with which its members pay their assessments. Each member who joins signs an application that he will be governed by the by-laws and Charter and pay all just assessments.

The first assessment levied by this Company was in January, 1917, within sixty days of time notices were sent out about \$60,000 was collected thru the mail. This response indicated the willingness of each member to perform his obligations, and an appreciation of the low cost of insurance.

This assessment has also provided a reasonable reserve of \$65,000 and with new business coming in of five hundred new members per week, the Company is enabled to pay many claims each month and has sufficient funds in sight to anticipate the needs of the year.

CANCELLATION

Members may withdraw at any time by sending in their policy to the Secretary, properly signed on the back and paying the amount due at the time.

If the policy is sent before the assessment is levied, no charge is made; after the assessment is levied, it is the duty of each member to pay his assessment before cancellation.

The Company also reserves the right to cancel a member, but after a loss has been presented, it is their duty to first adjust the loss before cancellation. The above rule protects the member as well as the Company, and is fair to all.

POLICY COVERS

Fire, Theft, and Liability in excess of \$25 up to \$1,000, and liability insurance in excess of \$25 up to \$5,000. By liability is meant damage claims presented against the owner of the car either for personal injury or property damage; it does not mean damage to your own car or to the people riding in the car.

CITIZENS' MUTUAL AUTO INSURANCE COMPANY

OFFICERS

EDWIN FARMER	President
F. E. FRENCH	Vice-President
R. B. WALKER	Vice-President
S. R. KETCHUM	Vice-President
WM. E. ROBB	Sec'y and Treas.

WM. E. ROBB, Secretary
HOWELL, MICHIGAN

30,124 MEMBERS