

# Uncle Sam's Champion Corn

## Champion Corn Growers

### BY WALDON FAWCETT

The United States government is now at work upon one of the most ambitious and, by the by, one of the most interesting projects it has ever undertaken. It is nothing short of a scheme for moving the corn belt westward.

Or perhaps it would be more accurate to call it a crusade for extending the corn belt, for there is no desire to interfere with the growing of our greatest agricultural staple in that broad section of the country where corn has long been the principal staple of the farmer. The new plan of the department of agriculture is to move the corn belt westward by the aid of government machinery that has charge of this new activity—is simply to get to make two blades of grass grow where only one grew before.

Although all the world has been gasping in astonishment these many years past at the bumper crops of this country that turn out each year, the experts of the government some time since came to the conclusion that great as was the national corn yield it was not as big as it ought to be. Furthermore, they thought they foresaw a time when, with our rapidly growing population, the corn crop would not be big enough to supply the American appetite and, of course, if that came to pass, we would lose more or less of our foreign trade for a vast quantity of Yankee corn had to be found their way to dinner tables overseas.

On the theory of a hitch in time the agricultural department proceeded to get busy over this impending problem. First they set about increasing the yield of corn per acre and latterly they have entered upon the more significant mission of extending the corn growing area. As our readers are aware many of the best corn crops have been grown last year in the middle



THE NATIONAL PRIZE WINNERS



AMERICA'S MOST ECONOMICAL GROWER OF THE HISTORY OF LOUISIANA

west—in states such as Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Nebraska. That the government experts are so anxious to extend the corn belt is no secret, and it is a fact that has been known to the people for some time. The government is not the only one who is interested in this project. The people who are interested in this project are the farmers who are growing corn. They are interested in it because it means more money for them. They are interested in it because it means more food for their families. They are interested in it because it means more security for their future.

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are known as corn clubs. There is a great number of these clubs in every township club on the land—the township being the standard unit of organization and there are county clubs in about 600 different counties. Circulars of instruction, prepared by Dr. S. A. Knapp, the government expert, who is the Solomon of this movement, are prepared and sent several times during the year to each individual who is enrolled in this work.

Seed selection and the preparation of the soil are taken up first in these courses of instruction by mail (supplemented by the advice of the field workers of the department who are very much interested in the progress of the work) and are given the most practical and up-to-date instructions. In the first year, the boys who won the biggest prizes paid very careful attention to the instructions on this score and plowed their acres from eight to sixteen inches deep and thoroughly pulverized their seed beds. Even more careful advice is given the boys on the very vital subject of fertilization and one reason why so many of these lads have at the first go often better corn crops than their fathers have ever been able to produce with all their experience back of them is that the youngsters have made use of the department's new-fangled ideas and have been not only willing but eager to master a general knowledge of nitrogen, potash, phosphorus, etc., as agricultural aids and the effect of leech, wood mold, barnyard manure, etc.

The whole plan of computing and comparing yields in this country-wide corn-growing competition is done in the most systematic and business-like manner. With awards of pecuniary interest boys watching each other's crops like hawks there is not much opportunity for deception of any kind, but in addition to this insurance of public methods and yields in the field all the while and they rigidly investigate any suspicious reports just as the field workers of the United States census have been probing into the guerdon in any town or city that seemed to show an undue increase in population since the last census. It is said to the credit of the boys' corn growers that almost none of them have fallen under suspicion on any score.

In making up the records of the young corn growers and awarding the prizes that are offered by the government officials take into consideration other things than the mere crop yield, regardless of cost of cultivation and every other factor. Judged by making awards there are considered in addition to yield, the cost per bushel, the best ten crops of corn raised and the written history of the crop prepared by the boy who raised it. Not all the boys who won the big prizes were personally congratulated by President Taft in the White House at Washington made the largest yields in their states. The economical side was always taken into consideration in giving out the prizes and in apportioning the diplomas of merit which Secretary Wilson personally presented to the boys who ranked on him at Washington.

The boys who have won as Uncle Sam's champion corn growers in every instance "made good" in making awards there are considered in addition to yield, the cost per bushel, the best ten crops of corn raised and the written history of the crop prepared by the boy who raised it. Not all the boys who won the big prizes were personally congratulated by President Taft in the White House at Washington made the largest yields in their states. The economical side was always taken into consideration in giving out the prizes and in apportioning the diplomas of merit which Secretary Wilson personally presented to the boys who ranked on him at Washington.

It is probable the Canadian prime minister will address parliament on the reciprocity agreement with the United States before the fall session. His supporters assert, it being before in Canada by artificial alarms raised over the reciprocity agreement, by comments from the British press, foreshadowing the enthrallment of the British manufacturer that the next step in reciprocity will extend to factory construction.

The whips of speakers are lengthening, and it is doubtful if the vote will be reached in parliament for a fortnight.

Recent News of the Great Famine in China  
Word from China locates the widespread distress of folk victims in the Grand Canal. American relief efforts thus reach the areas of distress, and prompt response with funds and supplies check and bring up the famine. Wheat, flour, rice, canned meat, dried fish, cotton cloth and cotton wadding should be forwarded to the relief committee, the Seattle Commercial Club, Seattle, Wash., or to the American Red Cross, Washington, D. C. More than 100,000 lives were saved in the same area chiefly through American relief in 1915, and more lives would be saved if similar aid were given. The gratitude of the Chinese nation in this time of distress, our own nation should be as prompt to aid as at that time.

Col. James A. Cox of Hamilton, for the past six years assistant adjutant general of the M. N. G., is likely to be chosen by Gov. Harding. Col. Cox is 66 years old, and a provision of the new military bill provides that all members of the staff over 65 shall be retired, but it has been made known that the governor will refuse to sign the bill unless the age clause is stricken out.

The yields made during the past season by these young corn growers have been truly astonishing and some of them are almost past belief of farmers who have been getting an average of 33 to 40 bushels of corn per acre in choice corn country in the middle west. In another county in the middle west, 29 bushels to the acre. Some twenty or 20 boys produced 1,700 bushels of corn on 32 acres. In another county in that same state 142 boys averaged 137 bushels per acre. One boy made \$1,000 from a single acre of corn. Joe Stone, a boy from Wisconsin, S. C., the champion corn grower of the world, got the amazing yield of 29 bushels to the acre. Some twenty or 20 boys produced 1,700 bushels of corn on 32 acres. In another county in that same state 142 boys averaged 137 bushels per acre. One boy made \$1,000 from a single acre of corn. Joe Stone, a boy from Wisconsin, S. C., the champion corn grower of the world, got the amazing yield of 29 bushels to the acre. Some twenty or 20 boys produced 1,700 bushels of corn on 32 acres.

**Those Church Suppers!**  
Church suppers, dinners, teas and the like are not only means for promoting social enjoyment and incidentally of replenishing the treasury of the organizations which provide them. These functions serve a real and valuable economic purpose as indicated by the lady whom Edna K. Wooley quotes in the Toledo Blade. A lady, weary of the work of providing three meals a day for her family, consisting of herself, her husband and her mother, who she says, joy in living at this time of year, and explains why "Last night we went to a roast beef dinner. Tonight we are going and the next is a church supper. My husband and I, to a Methodist progressive society. We are going to a church supper, because we start with soup at the church, you know, then go to some home for the aged, and then to the church. And so it goes for the desert. He says when he sits down to the meal he likes to finish the job on the spot. Instead of getting up every little while, putting on his hat and going to the room, getting out and cruel work to resume his wife at some other stand. But I think it's fine. It's a blessed change. Tomorrow night we go to a Presbyterian church supper. That's only 25 cents, too, and next one after that is an Episcopal turkey supper, and the next is also a turkey supper at the Unitarian church. Then come the Disciples and Congregational church suppers, and by that time you get tired sticking out with rich living. What a relief it is to have a church supper! It gives you the eternal routine of planning and cooking the daily meals. Nobody ever said that it's three-meal a day business knows what a grind it gets me. I don't believe there's a man on earth who stands for it."

### A Chinese Aviator

Fung Gai, a Chinese, will leave San Francisco for his native land taking with him a Chinese airplane in which he intends to make exhibition flights. It is believed that he will be the first aviator to rise from the ground in China.

Fung Gai has been experimenting with airplanes for about two years. He has constructed several machines and after many mishaps has recently gained success. He has made a study of his craft and has invented several contrivances to facilitate flying. His airplane is being constructed in China as is of his own construction.

The aviator is financed by six of his countrymen residents of Oakland, and will accompany him on the trip. The first flights will be essayed at Hong Kong and Canton.

### Laurier to Talk on Reciprocity

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### Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery

Being made without alcohol, this "Medical Discovery" helps the stomach to assimilate the food, thereby curing dyspepsia. It is especially adapted to diseases of the stomach, such as indigestion, flatulency, biliousness, and all other disorders of the stomach, and is also a valuable remedy for those who are always "catching colds."

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No harmful drugs in Gardell Tea. No laxative or composed wholly of clean, sweet, health-giving ingredients.

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"A clockmaker must be the most anxious of manufacturers."  
"Why not?"  
"Because there is always the prospect of a strike in his works."

### THE MARKETS.

**WHEAT.**—Chicago, 1915. Hard winter wheat, 1.15. Soft winter wheat, 1.05. Hard spring wheat, 1.10. Soft spring wheat, 1.00.

**CORN.**—Chicago, 1915. No. 2 yellow, 1.10. No. 2 white, 1.05. No. 3 yellow, 1.00. No. 3 white, 0.95.

**BAKING POWDER.**—Chicago, 1915. Standard, 3.50. Pure, 3.00.

### ALL GAY

First Tramp—The doctor "as ordered me a bath.  
Second Tramp—You do look pleased about it.  
First Tramp—'Es ordered me a mud bath.

Difficulties are often the barnacles that grow on delayed duties.

Take Gardell Tea to arouse a sluggish liver—all druggists sell it.

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In New York City. The best of education. The best of teachers. The best of surroundings. The best of results.

### The Human Heart

The heart is a wonderful double pump, through the action of which the blood stream is kept sweeping round and round through the body at the rate of seven miles an hour. "Remember this, that our bodies will not stand the strain of over-work without good, pure blood any more than the engine can run smoothly without oil." After many years of study in the active practice of medicine, Dr. R. V. Pierce found that when the stomach was out of order, the blood impure and there were symptoms of general breakdown, a cure made of the glyceric extract of certain roots was the best cure. This is the basis of

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### THE SITUATION

Representative Livingston of Georgia, who, disengaged at the bath-tub debate in the house recently, proposed that a little money be made by putting the bath tubs who out, said recently, apropos of this subject.

"We are now a good deal like Bill Spriggins on a zero morning. I know I have not entered his bedroom one January morning and said with a shiver:  
"Will you take your bath hot or cold?"  
"Thank you," said Bill; "I'll take it for granted."

**A Fairly Wet World.**  
The Pacific ocean covers 65,000,000 miles, the Atlantic 30,000,000 and the Indian, Arctic and Antarctic 42,000,000. To store away the contents of the Pacific it would be necessary to fill a tank one mile long, one mile wide and one mile high every day for 440 years.

But in Niagara, the Pacific holds in its arms 100,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons of water. The Atlantic averages a depth of 9,000 feet, the Pacific holds in its arms 225,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons, and the tank to contain it would have each of its sides 47 miles long. The figures of the other oceans are in the same starting proportions. It would take all the sea water in the world 2,000,000 years to flow over Niagara.

### Women Appreciate

Step-savers and Time-savers.  
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A trial package usually establishes it as a favorite breakfast cereal.

### The Memory Lingers

POSTUM CEREAL CO. L.A. BOSTON, MASS.

### Italians in New York City

Italian Students Have Returned to Their Settlements as Refugees Within a City.

Four-fifths of the Italians of New York come from centers of less than 10,000 population, and are therefore mostly new to the active life of a great city. American students of social conditions have referred to the Italian settlements of New York as

cities within a city. As a matter of fact, they are a collection of small villages, with all the characteristics of village life. In one street will be found peasants from one Italian village, in the next street from another, in different and distinct manners, customs and sympathies. Entire villages have been transplanted from

Italy to one New York street, and with the size have come the doctor, the grocer, the priest and the annual celebration of the local patron saint. The acute rivalry between village people, who have not developed and can scarcely be expected to develop in a short period what may be called "city consciousness," is perhaps the most important cause of the lack of cohesion in the Italian mass, which makes impossible united and persistent effort on its part in any direction, economic, social or political.

In the Italian quarters the life is that of the tenement. The families are crowded large, and in most of them the boarders are taken with a view to eking out the payment of the rent. There are tenements occupied by Italian in New York in which eight and nine families live in a room, with more than 1,000 cubic feet of air to breathe for eight or nine hours. Very often a whole family occupies a single sleeping room, children over fourteen years of age sleeping with their parents or with smaller brothers and sisters.

Geo. F. Murphy, a teacher in the New York public schools, who recovers a salary of about \$25 a week in the New York City school system, filed a petition in bankruptcy, giving his liabilities as \$150,000. His assets were valued at about \$30,000, consisting of improved real estate in New York squares.

### MIGHT HAVE COME EARLIER

A sixty-seventh birthday exclusively for the composer of the opera "The Barber of Seville" in New York this summer at the age of 127.000. It will accumulate 127 years of experience. Over \$80,000 was raised in Pittsburgh during the jubilee of the Women's Foreign Missionary society which closed on Wednesday. The jubilee embraced all the Protestant denominations and the funds raised will be used to carry on missionary work during the ensuing year. The goal of the society is \$1,000,000 and large sums have been raised in various other cities. Inquiry into the workings of the so-called "trusts" has resulted in legislation to have governed Seattle for 13 months was begun by a special grand jury. A member of the syndicate is alleged to have made a full confession.

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