

MORE SOILS NEEDED ON MICHIGAN FARMS

Building of Them Would Better Insure Corn Crop, M. A. C. Says.

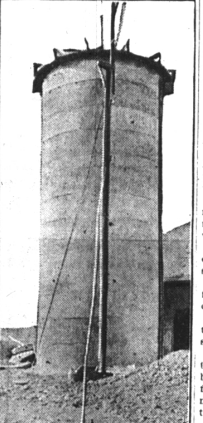
MUCH FOREIGN CORN PLANTED

Blies Will Save Such of This as Falls to Mature—Cost Not Profitable.

From Office of Publications, Michigan Agricultural College.

East Lansing, Mich.—One of the surprising features of Michigan's war time agriculture has been the rapidity and the success with which the Michigan farmer has adjusted himself to the changed conditions which have come in the wake of the war. On many farms tractors have to a certain extent replaced horses. On others machinery has been made to make up for a lack of men, and in still more numerous instances boys, and even women, have been drafted into the working forces to help keep up production. More remarkable than all these has been the effectiveness with which the state has met the seed corn shortage. Owing to the extreme acuteness of the seed corn situation early in the year, the corn acreage is still somewhat below normal, but without the 100,000 bushels brought in by the seed corn committee, and dealers who cooperated with it, it is doubtful if more than 50 per cent of the custom acreage would have been seeded to this essential crop in 1918.

In congratulating themselves on the apparent successful tiding over of this crisis, however, many growers have lost sight of the fact that new problems may have come in with the imported corn. Every effort was put forth by the men who secured seed for Michigan to buy only early maturing varieties, but notwithstanding the care and caution exercised by these agents,



A CONCRETE SILO.

The value of these silos in their permanency and the fact that their cost of construction is low, because much of the material necessary for building can be secured on the farm,

there is a likelihood that much of the crop may not mature fully—unless Michigan (and a good season ought to be about due) should be favored with unusually good corn weather.

Where there is a silo on the farm it will be possible to obtain a maximum benefit from the crop. If a farmer without a silo is caught with a late maturing variety, the loss may be considerable. Under the circumstances the evident moral is "Build a silo." Michigan, as a whole, is probably as liberally sprinkled with silos as any state in the Union. It has been the silo, in fact, that has really made the growing of corn profitable in the central and middle northern counties, for until it was introduced, corn was hardly a safe crop except in the southern portion of the state. But while silos have come to occupy a large place in Michigan husbandry, there is still much room for more—though the warning needs to be added that not every farm needs a silo. The formula "where you have corn and cattle, build a silo," is a fairly safe one.

SOLVE DITCHING PROBLEM

St. Clair County Farmers Form First Co-operative Drainage Organization in State.

East Lansing, Mich.—Co-operation—the remedy which within recent years has lightened so many of the farmers' burdens—has been made use of by a group of farmers in North China township, St. Clair county, to solve the drainage problem. St. Clair is a country where much of the land is in need of tile. Extensive acreages have already been reclaimed in this district, but still more remains to be reclaimed.

With this need confronting them, a group of ten North China township farmers, with the assistance of O. E. Robey, who handles drainage problems for the extension office of the college, organized a co-operative ditching company, incorporating formally in accordance with the requirements of the state statutes.

THAT IF A FARMER KEEPS AT LEAST TEN COWS, THEN IT IS GOOD BUSINESS TO BUILD A SILO.

All rules have their exceptions, of course, and in this instance northern Michigan falls in line. The upper peninsula is developing rapidly in dairying and cattle raising country, and it is perhaps making its biggest strides in sheep husbandry. At the college experiment station, situated at Chatham, it has been found economical to use the silo not only for corn, but for peas, oats and clover as well.

RECORD PRODUCTION OF CORN

Although June Weather Was Somewhat Unfavorable for Most Crops, Bumper Yields Indicated.

Washington.—Government hopes for a 1,000,000,000 bushel wheat crop received a setback when the department of agriculture's July forecast showed a reduction of 40,000,000 bushels in the prospective crop. Unfavorable weather conditions during June cut the estimated harvest to \$91,000,000,000 bushels from the \$95,000,000,000 bushels forecast in June. Production estimates on other crops also were slightly reduced.

PRUDEN ISSUES COAL ORDERS

Six Tons Anthracite Coal Allowed for Base Burner Users.

Lansing.—New regulations covering the distribution of coal were issued recently by Acting Fuel Administrator W. K. Prudden. As a result of the new regulations, a man having a large house in which he normally uses 75 tons of hard coal will be limited to 50 tons.

1. The silo preserves the palatability and succulence of the green corn plant for winter feeding.
2. It helps to make use of the entire corn plant.
3. The silo increases the live stock capacity of the farm.
4. Silage is a summer feed when pastures are short.
5. Because of the small amount of ground space required by the silo, it is an economical means of storing forage.
6. The silo prevents waste of corn, stalks, leaves and husks, which contain about two-fifths of the feeding value of the corn.
7. The silo located near the feed manger is an assurance of having feed near at hand in stormy as well as fair weather.
8. The silo assists in reducing the cost of gains in fattening cattle and sheep.
9. Silage greatly increases the milk flow during the winter season and decreases the cost of production.
10. There are no stalks or other manure when corn is put into the silo.

Some highly helpful information on the subject of construction of silos may be obtained from the department of farm mechanics of M. A. C. A card mailed to the department will secure this for you.

Establishing Canning Centers.

Community canning centers for the putting up of vegetables and fruits are being established in various Michigan cities and towns by the boys' and girls' club department of the Michigan Agricultural College. On July 1 five of these centers have been arranged for in Battle Creek, Lansing, Grosse Pointe Farms, Bloomfield Hills and East Lansing. Individuals in the communities in which these canning "plants" have been established, bring their products to the center to be canned or canned as the case may be. Grocers have offered to buy all the products of these "preservers." More of them will be set up about now for with the output of the commercial canneries already contracted for by the government, the community centers must make up the difference necessary to meet the normal demands of the public. Cities, towns and villages wishing to undertake this work are advised that they can secure assistance in organization and in the finding of demonstrators if they will communicate with the boys' and girls' club department of M. A. C. in East Lansing.

Observe Garden Sanitation.

One of the first things for the gardener to do is garden sanitation. Frequently garden pests, both insect and disease, are carried over on the waste material of the previous season's crop.

has been purchased. Within six years the machine is expected to pay for itself. Each member of the organization has pledged himself to supply at least 500 rods of ditching work a year for the machine. This work will be done at a cost of 15 cents a rod, over expenses. The total costs will be about 35 cents per rod, or approximately 10 cents a rod less than it would cost to have someone else do the work.

Another interesting detail about the project is the fact that it has been financed by local bankers.

Ditches 500 rods in extent will drain approximately 12 acres of land. The new organization is the first of its kind in Michigan, and so far as is known, the first in the United States.

Through Job in Watering. If it seems necessary to water the garden or lawn plants, do a thorough job. Be sure the soil is moistest close to the root tips.

Adapted to Hog Pasture.

BUMPER CROP FOR SEASON'S CROPS

WHEAT CROP SHOWS DECLINE OF 40,000,000 BUSHELS FROM ESTIMATED 100,000,000.

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A record production of corn, the most abundant of all the country's crops, is promised with an estimate of 1,160,000,000 bushels. Although June weather was somewhat unfavorable for most crops, indications are that the season's harvest will make this a bumper year. In addition to a record crop of corn, barley, rye, sorghum and rice are forecast to exceed all previous yearly production and the harvests of oats, white potatoes, tobacco and hay will be larger than the average of the five years.

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Six Tons Anthracite Coal Allowed for Base Burner Users.

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"Until further notice, the following orders relative to coal for domestic use will be in force," said Mr. Prudden.

1. "Consumers having strictly hard coal base burners may have delivered their requirements not exceeding six tons. All out and stove sizes to be reserved so far as possible for base burner use.
2. "Consumers having hot air furnaces, including hot air furnaces having hot water coils attached one-half of their requirements. For each ton of hard coal now on hand or hereafter delivered an additional ton of soft coal to be procured.
3. "Consumers having hot water or steam heating equipments must provide fuel other than anthracite coal for heating.
4. "The owner or occupant of a private residence having less than five in family, shall not have delivered to said residence to exceed 50 tons of anthracite coal. Although his pre-war normal requirements has been in excess of that amount."

MAY TAX GASOLINE 10C A GAL.

Treasury Department Recommends Heavy Tax On "Luxuries."

Washington.—The treasury department sent to the war revenue committee a list of "luxuries" upon which it is recommended that heavy taxes be levied in the new revenue bill. Included in the list are automobiles, clothing, household servants, jewelry, hotel bills, gasoline, motion pictures, musical instruments, neck wear, canes and golf clubs.

The taxes on most of the articles named in the list would be collected on retail sales. The tax on gasoline would be paid by the wholesale dealer. It is fixed at 10 cents a gallon, while the auto tax is graduated from \$15 to \$50, according to horsepower rating.

6 MONTHS FIRE BILL \$3,738,913

January's Fire Loss for the State Totaled \$1,412,112.

Lansing.—Appalling as they were for January, Michigan's fire losses for this year have greatly diminished and, according to a table given out recently by the state Commissioner, Frank H. Ellsworth, who also is state fire marshal, they are now down to normal. This condition has been reached, too, in the face of widespread fire of unknown origin, which for a time were blamed on pro-German influence.

January's fire loss for the state was \$1,412,112; February more than cut that figure in half, reaching only \$571,411; March went even higher, to \$509,996, while April totaled \$583,778. The drop came in May, however, when the total was \$353,673, while in June the normal rate of approximately \$2,738,913 was reached. The six months total is \$2,738,913, only \$1,700,000 less than the total for the entire year of 1917, which was \$5,438,947.

Farm or Old Job After War. Pittsburg.—Every American soldier who returns from France would be given a choice of a return to the life he left prior to entering the army, or a farm, planned out of the 15,000,000 acres of land owned and untouched by the United States government. If plans of Secretary of the Interior, Franklin K. Lane, are adopted, The secretary's plan is to be before the Pittsburg chamber of commerce July 5, outlined the plan if nation would appropriate \$2 million to carry out plan.

KIDNEY TROUBLE NOT EASILY RECOGNIZED

Applicants for Insurance Often Rejected

An examining physician for one of the prominent life insurance companies, in an interesting statement that one reason why so many applicants for insurance are rejected is because kidney trouble is so common to the American people, and the large majority of those whose applications are declined do not even suspect that they have the disease.

Bean Cake as Food in Japan.

Bean cake, which is produced in large quantities in South Manchuria, has been regarded locally as good for little else than fertilizer. The Manchuria Daily News now suggests its use as food, stating that Viscount Takagi, the new mayor of Tokyo, holds the cake as excellently suited to the Japanese palate. The News states that bean cake costs only one-third as much as rice, and contains more nutriment than wheat or barley. To prepare it for the table the cake is mixed with an equal quantity of rice.—Commerce Reports.

Honeymoon Warning.

"Dear me! Are you quite sure about that?" "I haven't the slightest doubt of it. She's beginning to remind him that she was making \$25 a week when he married her."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Send a man a quarter today and he may strike you for a quarter tomorrow.

HIS TIME WELL TAKEN UP

If Soldier Had Kept Promise He Might Have Had Some Trouble With His Captain.

He was a strikingly handsome figure in his uniform as he started out upon his round of farewell calls. "And you'll think of me every single minute when you're in those stupid old trenches" questioned the sweet young thing upon whom he first called.

FRECKLES

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as Othello-Sunbath has discovered to remove these pesky little spots.

"I want to know how to succeed in the world," said the young man to the older one.

"Young fellow," said the gray-haired individual, "right now you've got no business worrying about your own success. All you've got to do is get a job in the army or navy and help to win the war. After that I'll be glad to give you a tip on how to become rich or famous."

The last straw that put the camel down and out had a mint julep at the other end of it.



Veal Loaf with such flavor!

THIS delicately flavored Veal Loaf is made with such perfection by Libby's expert chefs in the immaculate Libby's kitchens—that you will always want these chefs to make it for you. You find it so appetizing, so nutritious a meat at such little cost and trouble.

Order Libby's Veal Loaf for lunch-today. Serve either hot or cold, your family will delight in it.

Libby, McNeill & Libby, Chicago

Mer idea of Hancock. Mary G. is nearly seven years of age, and has completed one year at the Eggleston school at Madison.

"Grandmother, what do you think of Hancock college?" "I don't know, but you do, Mary."

"I mean what do you think of Hancock college as a place for me to go to school?" "Well, Mary, I think it will be some time before you need to go to Hancock."

Mary replied: "I don't think I'd like it. Daddy went to a picnic at Hancock and got nearly eaten up with chiggers."—Indianapolis News.

Not Quite. "Does the new soprano's voice fill the church?" "No; I noticed some vacant seats up in the gallery."

The Womanless Dance. The manless dance has originated in the West. The womanless dance, the popular thing in the naval reserve—The Naval Reserve.

Are the Packers Profiteers? Plain Facts About the Meat Business

The Federal Trade Commission in its recent report on war profits, stated that the five large meat packers have been profiting and that they have a monopoly of the market.

These conclusions, if fair and just, are matters of serious concern not only to those engaged in the meat packing business but to every other citizen of our country.

The figures given on profits are misleading and the statement that the packers have a monopoly is unsupported by the facts.

The packers mentioned in the report stand ready to prove their profits reasonable and necessary.

The meat business is one of the largest American industries. Any citizen who would familiarize himself with its details must be prepared for large totals.

The report states that the aggregate profits of four large packers were \$140,000,000 for the three war years.

This sum is compared with \$19,000,000 as the average annual profit for the three years before the war, making it appear that the war profit was \$121,000,000 greater than the pre-war profit.

This compares a three-year profit with a one-year profit—a manifestly unfair method of comparison. It is not only misleading, but the Federal Trade Commission apparently has made a mistake in the figures themselves.

The aggregate three-year profits of \$140,000,000 was earned on sales of over four and a half billion dollars. It means about three cents on each dollar of sales—or a mere fraction of a cent per pound of product.

Packers' profits are a negligible factor in prices of live stock and meats. No other large business is conducted upon such small margins of profit.

Furthermore—and this is very important—only a small portion of this profit has been paid in dividends. The balance has been put back into the businesses. It had to be, as you realize when you consider the problems the packers have had to solve—and solve quickly—during these war years.

To conduct this business in war times, with higher costs and the necessity of paying two or three times the former prices for live stock, has required the use of two or three times the ordinary amount of working capital. The addi-

tional profit makes only a fair return on this, and as has been stated, the larger portion of the profits earned has been used to finance huge stocks of goods and to provide additions and improvements made necessary by the enormous demands of our army and navy and the allies.

If you are a business man you will appreciate the significance of these facts. If you are unacquainted with business, talk this matter over with some business acquaintance—with your banker, say—and ask him to compare profits of the packing industry with those of any other large industry at the present time.

No evidence is offered by the Federal Trade Commission in support of the statement that the large packers have a monopoly. The Commission's own report shows the large number and importance of other packers.

The packers mentioned in the statement stand ready to prove to any fair-minded person that they are in keen competition with each other, and that they have no power to manipulate prices.

If this were not true they would not dare to make this positive statement.

Furthermore, government figures show that the five large packers mentioned in the report account for only about one-third of the meat business of the country.

They wish it were possible to interest you in the details of their business. Of how, for instance, they can sell dressed beef for less than the cost of the live animal, owing to utilization of by-products, and of the wonderful story of the methods of distribution throughout this broad land, as well as in other countries.

The five packers mentioned feel justified in co-operating with each other to the extent of together presenting this public statement.

They have been able to do a big job for your government in its time of need; they have met all war time demands promptly and completely and they are willing to trust their case to the fairness of the American people with the facts before them.

Armour & Company
Cudahy Packing Co.
Morris & Company
Swift & Company
Wilson & Company