

CLYDE T. ECKER, Editor.

The casualty list in the passing influenza epidemic exceeds in number the American casualty list in the great world war. Those who have been in both engagements say they will take the war every time.

The war's end will greatly reduce the number of tourists Westward. Next Summer everybody will go to Europe who has the price to get there. The only tourists who will come West are those who are afraid to ride in a boat.

THE PROPER SPIRIT

(From the New York Herald.)

"And, mo'over, Lawd," solemnly said good old Parson Bagster, in the course of a recent Sabbath morning's supplication, "bless us, not abundantly—uh—kaze we knows how times is dese days—but wid what yo' kin spare. We isn't choicy nor pertickler, no mo', but thankful for anything we gits. Des send us, please, sah, not what we've been used to in de good old similar days of plenty, but des whatever yo' has handy and we'll make out wid it fine."

NO FRENCH WINE FOR THIS YANK

(By Lieut. A. C. Heston, Portland.)

"The French are harvesting their grape crops and if I had known how they make wine I would never drunk so much of it in St. Nazaire. The picking is O. K. but when they get into a tub of grapes and tramp the juice out with their feet! A bath in France is a semi-annual occurrence, so it is water for mine from now on."

FUNNY LETTERS GO TO WASHINGTON.

Here are a few prize sentences from letters received by the government insurance department:

"I ain't got no book learning and I am writing for inflammation."
"She is staying at a dissipated house."
"Just a line to let you know I am a widow and four children."
"He was inducted into the surface."
"I needed his assistance to keep me enclosed."
"I received my insurance polish and have since moved my post-office."
"Please correct my name as I could not and would not go under a consumed name."
"I am writing in the Y. M. C. A. with the piano playing in my uniform."
"Please return my marriage certificate, baby hasn't eaten in three days."

"Now Mrs. Wilson, I need help bad. See if the President can't help me. I need him to see after me."
"Both sides of my parents are old and poor."
"I have been in bed 13 years with one doctor and I intend to try another."
"You have changed my little girl to a boy. Will that make any difference?"
"I have not received my husband's pay and will be forced to lead an immortal life."
"You have taken my man away to fight and he was the best fighter I ever had."
"Now you will have to keep me as who in Hell will if you don't?"
"My son is in Co., 158th Infantry. Please tell me he is living or dead and if so what is his address."
"I have learned that my husband is in the constipation camp in Germany."

STEADIER HOG MARKETS PLANNED

Hog Producers and Packers Confer With Representatives of the Food Administration and Agricultural Department and Adopt New Plan of Regulation.

In accordance with the policy of the Food Administration since its foundation to consult representative men in the agricultural industry on occasions of importance to special branches of the industry, on October 24 there was convened in Washington a meeting of the Live-Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board and the special members representing the swine industry to consider the situation in the hog market.

The conference lasted for three days, and during this time met with the executive committee of the fifty packing firms participating in foreign orders for pork products and with the members of the Food Administration directing foreign pork purchases.

The conclusions of the conference were as follows: The entire marketing situation has so changed since the September joint conference as to necessitate an entire alteration in the plans of price stabilization. The current peace talk has alarmed the holders of corn, and there has been a price decline of from 25 cents to 40 cents per bushel. The fact that the accumulations of low priced corn in the Argentine and South Africa would, upon the advent of peace and liberated shipping, become available to the European market has created a great deal of apprehension on the part of corn holders. This decline has spread fear among swine growers that a similar reduction in the prices of hogs would naturally follow. Moreover, the lower range of corn prices would, if incorporated in a 13-to-1 ratio, obviously result in a continuously falling price for live hogs. In view of these changed conditions many swine producers anticipated lower prices and as a result rushed their hogs to market in large numbers, and this overshipment has added to and aggravated the decline.

The information of the Department of Agriculture indicates that the supply of hogs has increased about 8 per cent, while the highest official estimate does not exceed 15 per cent. On the other hand, the arrival of hogs during the last three weeks in the seven great markets has been 27 per cent more than last year, during the corresponding period, demonstrating the unusually heavy marketing of the available supply. In the face of the excessive receipts some packers have not maintained the price agreed last month. On the other hand, many of the packers have paid over the price offered to them in an endeavor to maintain the agreed price. The result in any event has been a failure to maintain the October price basis determined upon at the September conference and undertaken by the packers. Another factor contributing to the break in prices during the month has been the influenza epidemic; it has sharply curtailed consumption of pork products and temporarily decreased the labor staff of the packers about 25 per cent.

The exports of 130,000,000 pounds of pork products for October compared with about 52,000,000 pounds in October a year ago, and the export orders placeable by the Food Administration for November, amount to 170,000,000 pounds as contrasted with the lesser exports of 98,000,000 for November, 1917. The increased demands of the allies are continuing, and are in themselves proof of the necessity for the large production for which the Food Administration asked. The increase in export demands appears to be amply sufficient to take up the increase in hog production, but unfavorable market conditions existing in October afford no fair index of the aggregate supply and demand.

It must be evident that the enormous shortage in fats in the Central Empire and neutral countries would immediately upon peace result in additional demands for pork products which, on top of the heavy shipments to the Allies, would add materially to increase the American exports, inasmuch as no considerable reservoir of supplies exists outside of the United States. It seems probable that the present prospective supplies would be inadequate to meet this world demand with the return to peace. So far as it is possible to interpret this fact, it appears that there should be even a stronger demand for pork products after the war, and therefore any alarm of hog producers as to the effect of peace is unwarranted by the outlook.

In the light of these circumstances it is the conclusion of the conference that attempts to hold the price of hogs to the price of corn may work out to the disadvantage of pork producers. It is the conclusion that any interpretation of the formula should be a broad gauged policy applied over a long period. It is the opinion of the conference that in substitution of the present plans of stabilization the Live-Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with the specially invited swine representatives, should accept the invitation of the Food Administration to join with the Administration and the packers in determining the prices at which controlled export orders are to be placed. This will be regularly done. The influence of these orders will be directed to the maintenance of the common object—namely, the stabilization of the price of live hogs so as to secure as far as it is possible fair returns to the

producer and the insurance of an adequate future supply. These foreign orders are placed upon the basis of cost of hogs to the packers. As the result of long negotiations between this body and the Packers' Committee, representing the 45 to 50 packers participating in foreign orders, together with the Allied buyers, all under the Chairmanship of the Food Administration, the following undertaking has been given by the packers:

In view of the undertakings on the part of the Food Administration with regard to the co-ordinated purchases of pork products, covered in the attached, it is agreed that the packers participating in these orders will undertake not to purchase hogs for less than the following agreed minimums for the month of November, that is a daily minimum of \$17.50 per hundred pounds on average of packers' droves, excluding throw-outs. "Throw-outs" to be defined as pigs under 130 pounds, stags, boars, thin sows and skips. Further, that no hogs of any kind shall be bought, except throw-outs, at less than \$18.50 per hundred pounds. The average of packers' droves to be construed as the average of the total sales in the market of all hogs for a given day. All the above to be based on Chicago.

We agree that a committee shall be appointed by the Food Administration to check the daily operations in the various markets with a view to supervision and demonstration of the carrying out of the above.

The ability of the packers to carry out this arrangement will depend on there being a normal marketing of hogs based upon the proportionate increase over the receipts of last year. The increase in production appears to be a maximum of about 15 per cent, and we can handle such an increase.

If the producers of hogs should, as they have in the past few weeks, prematurely market hogs in such increasing numbers over the above it is entirely beyond the ability of the packers to maintain these minimums, and therefore we must have the co-operation of the producer himself to maintain these results. It is a physical impossibility for the capacity of the packing houses to handle a similar overflood of hogs and to find a market for the output. The packers are anxious to co-operate with the producers in maintaining a stabilization of price and to see that producers receive a fair price for their products.

(Signed) THOS. E. WILSON, Chairman Packers' Committee.

The plan embodied above was adopted by the conference. The Food Administration has appointed a committee, comprising Mr. Thomas E. Wilson, chairman of the Packers' Committee; Mr. Everett Brown, president of the Chicago Livestock Exchange; Major Roy of the Food Administration; Mr. Louis D. Hall of the Bureau of Markets, to undertake the supervision of the execution of the plan in the various markets. Commission men are asked to co-operate in carrying out the plan embodied in the packers' agreement. It must be evident that offers by commission men to sell hogs below the minimum established above is not fair, either to the producer or the participating packers. Mr. Brown has undertaken on behalf of the commission men in the United States that they will loyally support the plan.

It is believed by the conference that this new plan, based as it is upon a positive minimum basis, will bring better results to the producer than average prices for the month. It does not limit top prices and should narrow the margins necessary to country buyers in more variable markets. It is believed that the plan should work out close to \$18 average.

Swine producers of the country will contribute to their own interest by not flooding the market, for it must be evident that if an excessive over percentage of hogs is marketed in any one month price stabilization and control cannot succeed, and it is certain that producers themselves can contribute materially to the efforts of the conferences if they will do their marketing in as normal a way as possible.

The whole situation as existing at present demands a frank and explicit assurance from the conferees represented—namely, that every possible effort will be made to maintain a live hog price commensurate with swine production costs and reasonable selling values in execution of the declared policy of the Food Administration to use every agency in its control to secure justice to the farmer.

The stabilization methods adopted for November represent the best efforts of the conference, concurred in by the Food Administration and the

Livestock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with special swine members and the representatives of the packers, to improve the present unsatisfactory situation, which has unfortunately resulted because of the injection of uncontrollable factors.

We ask the producer to co-operate with us in a most difficult task. The members of the Conference were:

Producers—H. C. Stuart, Elk Garden, Va., Chairman Agricultural Advisory Board; W. M. McFadden, Chicago, Ill.; A. S. Sykes, Ida Grove, Ia.; John M. Evard, Ames, Ia.; J. H. Mercer, Live-Stock Commission for Kansas; J. G. Brown, Monon, Ind.; E. C. Brown, President, Chicago Livestock Exchange; N. H. Gentry, Sedalia, Mo.; John Grattan Broomfield, Colo.; Eugene Funk, Bloomington, Ill.; Isaac Lincoln, Aberdeen, S. D.; C. W. Hunt, Logan, Ia.; C. E. Yancey, W. R. Dodson.

Food Administration—Herbert Hoover, F. S. Snyder, Major E. L. Roy, G. H. Powell.

Department of Agriculture—Louis D. Hall, F. R. Marshall.

The packers present and others sharing in foreign orders were represented by the elected packers' committee. Those represented were:

Packers—Armour & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cudahy Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Morris & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Swift & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Wilson & Co., Chicago, Ill.; John Agar Co., Chicago, Ill.; Armstrong Packing Co., Dallas, Tex.; Boyd Dunham & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Brennan Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati Abattoir Co., Cincinnati, O.; Cleveland Provisions Co., Cleveland, O.; Cudahy Bros. Co., Cudahy, Wis.; J. Dold Packing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Dunlevy Packing Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; J. E. Decker & Sons, Mason City, Ia.; Evansville Packing Co., Evansville, Ind.; East Side Packing Co., East St. Louis, Ill.; Hammond Standish & Co., Detroit, Mich.; G. A. Hornel & Co., Austin, Minn.; Home Packing & Ice Co., Terre Haute, Ind.; Independent Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Indianapolis Abattoir Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; International Provision Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Interstate Packing Co., Winona, Minn.; Iowa Packing Co., Des Moines, Ia.; Powers-Begg Co., Jacksonville, Ill.; Kingan & Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; Krey Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Lake Erie Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Layton Co., Milwaukee, Wis.; Oscar Mayer & Bro., Sedgwick and Beethoven streets, Chicago, Ill.; J. T. McMillan Co., St. Paul, Minn.; Miller & Hart, Chicago, Ill.; J. Morrell & Co., Ottumwa, Ia.; Nuckolls Packing Co., Pueblo, Colo.; Ogden Packing and Provision Co., Ogden, Utah; Ohio Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Parker Webb & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Pittsburg Packing and Provision Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; Rath Packing Co., Waterloo, Ia.; Roberts & Oak, Chicago, Ill.; Rohe & Bros., New York City; W. C. Routh & Co., Logansport, Ind.; St. Louis Ind. Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Sinclair & Co., T. M. Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Sullivan & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Theurer-Norton Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Wilson Provision Co., Peoria, Ill.; Western Packing and Provision Co., Chicago, Ill.; Charles Wolf Packing Co., Topeka, Kan.

"Should Disband His Army"

The Polk County Post says: "The defeat of the state tax levy is a notice to Governor Withycombe that the taxpayers of Oregon do not want their money spent for a state police. If assurances had been given that no state money would be spent for that purpose, the proposed levy would have received an affirmative vote." That is true. A state army was repugnant to the public. It conveyed the impression that the people of Oregon are lawless, and to be held down only by military force. The governor should disband his army.—Portland Journal.

The American's Apt Reply

"An American, eh," said one of the perennial casual inquirers to one of the first American soldiers seen in England. "What are you, Y. M. C. A.?"

"No," drawled the Yank. "I reckon we're the Salvation Army."

"BE GRATEFUL AND REJOICE"

SAYS PRESIDENT WILSON

Continued from Page 1)

purpose, and pray that in all that we do we shall strengthen the ties of friendship and mutual respect upon which we must depend to build the new structure of peace and good will among nations.

Wherefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, the 28th day of November next, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer, and invite the people throughout the land to cease upon that day from their ordinary occupations and in their several homes and places of worship to render thanks to God, the ruler of nations.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done in the District of Columbia this sixteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighteen and of the independence of the United States of America the 143d.

"WOODROW WILSON,"

By the president. Robert Lansing, secretary of state.

Glasgow and a Tour of Scotland

(Continued from Page 1.)

full length of that loch past Eilen's Isle and on to the Trossachs Pier. These places had all been made famous by Scott and his beautiful poems "The Lady of the Lake", "Lord of the Isles" and others. On Eilens Isle, a charming little island, in Loch Katrine still stands the "gnarled and twisted oak" which was the trysting place of Ellen and her lover. From there we went by coach to Cailander, past Loch Achray and Loch Vennoch, stopping enroute at The Trossachs Hotel for tea. This is what is claimed to be the most beautiful part of the Highlands. We will not soon forget that glorious drive of ten miles over splendid hard roads and beautiful scenes, high mountains over lapping each other, all purple and mauve with heather, while the lakes, like brilliant mirrors in their gorgeous purple setting, seemed each in its proper place. From Cailander we went by rail to Loch Aire. This lake is a narrow body of water about 23 miles long and is famous because of its being the old stamping ground of the Campbell Clan. At one time the Clan was 5000 strong and were a mighty race. There are still many Campbells living in the vicinity of Loch Aire and their pride in their fighting ancestors is still very keen. Klichura Castle, 1440, a ruins which stands at one end of the loch, was one of the early strongholds for the clan. We had now there Sept. 15, 1544, so you will know that probably at all times, it was either a climate that made the Hardy Scot or else they had to be Hardy to survive it. We went from there to Oban, a beautiful little place famous for its sunsets, situated on the Firth of Lorne. About three miles from here is the Dunstaffnage Castle, another ruin and another stronghold of the Campbells, built in 1436. This castle went through many sieges and up and down of those historic times. The Campbells carried with them to Dunstaffnage, the famous Stone of Destiny, which at present forms the seat of the Coronation Chair in Westminster Abby. This is said to be the veritable stone which Jacob had for his pillow when he lay down to sleep on his way to Padanarama. The Scots, who are said to have originally come from Egypt to Spain thence to Ireland and eventually to Scotland, carried this stone with them. This was 327 B. C. They deposited it in Tara's Halls where it was used as a coronation stone 700 years B. C. From there it was taken to Dunstaffnage Castle about 500 A. D. It was eventually moved in the 13th century to London by orders of Edward I. He destroyed everything Scotch he could lay his hands on, but this stone was preserved with awe and veneration and will be safe from now on for ages to come. From Oban had a 30-mile motor trip through the Pass of Melfort, passed Loch Melfort and Loch Etive to Ardris-haig where we took the steamer "Columba" to Rothesay through the Kyles of Butte to Weymes Bay. This was a glorious bit of scenery with Arran's Isle in the distance, the hills on either side purple with heather, and our steamer seemed fairly to nose its way through and around the hills which seemed to be springing up to stop our progress. With each turn a more beautiful and impressive scene awaited us, so we were only delighted with these seemingly apparent obstructions. At Weymes Bay we took a train to Glasgow, returning through a charming farming country back to the city. We had a varied and most interesting journey by every mode of conveyance. We met such lovely people everywhere. The Scotch people have a happy faculty of not making one feel an outsider. Our last day in Glasgow we visited the Bella Houston Orthopedic Hospital, a huge place covering 12 acres and given over entirely to correction of deformities, caused by injuries in the war. There are 1200 patients and everything possible is done for the men. Electric treatments, massage and baths with whirlwind currents, enforced air suction, etc. Every imaginable condition is met and in many cases completely restored. There are also workshops in connection with it where the re-education of the men is undertaken to prepare them for new work in life. On our way back to London we traveled a long distance by the North sea, but I am glad to say we did not see anything of the German fleet. We arrived back in Brighton in one of the worst storms of the season, but weather conditions look more promising now.

Well, daddy, my letter is a budget after all. If the censor has waded through this he is a sticker, or anyone else that finishes it, but I know you have plenty of time and won't mind.

Your loving daughter,

BERTHA.

Cox & Co., Indian Dept., 16 Charing Cross, London, England.

Ike always thought... Real Gravely Chewing Plug... PEYTON BRAND... each piece packed in a pouch... SMOKE FREE GRAVELLY TOBACCO CO. DANVILLE, VA.

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