

HEAVY SNOWSTORM IN PARIS GIVES TRACTOR WORK



Following a heavy snowstorm in Paris a new snow plow drawn by a Renault tractor was put into commission to clear the walks, with great success.

Crop Estimating Gigantic Task

Government Bureau Collects and Publishes Much Important Information.

AGENTS COVER WHOLE COUNTRY

More Than 4,000,000 Pieces of Mail Handled by Division of Crop Reports During Past Year—Reports Are Issued Monthly.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1919, the bureau of crop estimates of the United States department of agriculture issued the regular monthly crop reports, showing estimated acreages planted, growing conditions, yields per acre, and total production, farm prices of different crops for each state and the United States, estimates of total number of live stock of different classes on farms and ranges, their condition, and losses from diseases and other causes. Commercial estimates of the apple and peach crops were made, and the weekly truck-crop news service which had previously been in force, was continued and extended, according to the annual report of the chief of the bureau, an extract from which is given below.

Many special inquiries were made during the year, including:

Quantity of commercial fertilizers used per acre of cotton and proportion of fields upon which used.

Percentage of various crops to which commercial fertilizer and manure was applied and quantity used.

Binding requirements for the grain crops of 1918 for the use of the Grain corporation.

Emergency live stock survey, to determine the number on farms July 1, 1918.

Uses made of wheat crop, for the United States food administration.

Quantities of various crops fed to different classes of live stock.

Live stock survey of January, 1919. Fertilizer inquiry of January, 1919, to ascertain quantity of commercial fertilizers and manure used for crops.

Wages of farm help.

Prices farmers pay for equipment, machinery, and supplies.

Percentage of farm labor requirements available.

Agents Gather Facts.

Field agents prepared estimates of acreage, yield, production, and stocks on farms of wheat and corn by counties for the United States Grain corporation, and they also prepared estimates of the value of agricultural production by counties in each of the principal states for the use of the treasury department. Field agents co-

operated with officials of the department of agriculture, the treasury department, and the state extension services in the states where seed-grain loans were made to farmers in the drought-stricken regions of the north-west and the southwest in the fall of 1918 and spring of 1919.

The bureau compiled innumerable statements showing the production, consumption, surplus and deficiency, exports and imports, and prices of important agricultural products for all the principal countries before the war, and of production and requirements during the war, for the information of administrative officials of the department of agriculture, of other federal departments, and various war-emergency organizations. Many of these statements were for the use of the department committee on crop production and were used as a basis for the crop-production programs which were recommended. Other compilations were made for the confidential use of the war trade board and for the committees on agriculture in congress.

Much Information Compiled.

Summaries of weekly reports of the state field agents of the bureau were furnished for the confidential informa-

tion of the secretary and chiefs of bureaus of the department of agriculture, and after the signing of the armistice the mailing list for these summaries was extended to include other government officials and senators and members of the house of representatives. Monthly foreign crop reports were issued in the spring of 1919 and will be continued.

A vast amount of information was compiled and furnished in response to inquiries received by telephone, telegraph, letter, or personal call of representatives of the food administration, the war trade board, the war industries board, the military intelligence office of the war department, the tariff commission, the federal trade commission, the council of national defense, other departments of the federal and state governments, congress, and private individuals.

More than 4,000,000 pieces of mail were handled by the division of crop reports during the year, as compared with 3,200,000 by the same division for the preceding fiscal year, an increase of 25 per cent. About the same relative increase was noted in all other branches of the bureau at Washington.

In the state offices of field agents the work more than doubled in the fiscal year 1919 as compared with the preceding year. The issuance by field agents of monthly state crop reports bearing their names which are generally reproduced in all the state papers has made them widely known throughout their states and has resulted in a heavy volume of correspondence.

More Energy and Zip in Germany

Writer Says There Is Less Laziness Than in Any Other European Country.

LOW EXCHANGE IS BIG AID

Gives Germany Advantage in Laying Her Commercial Lines in Little Nations About Her—Bitter at United States.

By HAROLD E. BECHTOL.

(In Chicago Post.)

Berlin.—I have been traveling in central Europe for months. I have visited farms and factories and stores and banks and government offices.

A marked difference is noticeable as soon as the German frontier is crossed. There is more energy and zip in Germany; there is less laziness; trains move regularly; clerks in stores are well staffed; wagons and cars and freight trains (one of the rarest sights in Europe) move briskly; smoke comes from the stacks of at least some of the factories.

German factory owners say "Made in Germany" goods can never again depend on cheapness for sale abroad. They point out that her sources of material are cut and that the old long hours and cheap labor are gone.

Yet Germany bid far lower than anybody else on a contract for metal uniform buttons for the Czecho-Slovak army recently. I could cite several other cases.

Germany has a big advantage in laying her commercial lines in the little nations about her (sentiment aside of course) because of the fact that her exchange is very low, like theirs.

From Germany alone, among the big nations, can the new nations get values approximating what their money represents to them.

Germany's Bright Side.

That is, for Germany, the bright side of a bad situation. Her mark is worth under a nickel, about a sixth of par. She has got to have a credit before she can buy cotton and copper from America. She can't buy with marks.

Government officials urge a credit for the hope it would give the German people as they enter on a hard winter.

The same pleas, of course, are made by the other nations of central Europe, some of whom helped the allies to win the war.

American observers here say the Bauer government is doing the best

it can, but the attitude of the Prussians in the business world is:

"You have to give us credit before we can pay France and Belgium and England! You're delaying to give France and England a further head start!"

They hold Uncle Sam personally responsible; he's hated for declining to rush humbly across with open money bags.

There are several reasons why the south of Germany is leading the north.

The Prussian worker had less freedom in the old days than the south German worker. Now that he holds the whip hand, he hasn't as sane an idea of what to do with his liberty.

Prussian capitalists, too, are slower. They hate to "get to work for France and England," as they put it.

British officers in the occupied area tell me the big dye works in the northern Rhine district are kept closed by the Germans. The Germans know the allies cannot yet equal their dyes—especially a "fixed" blue—and they do not propose to start these plants and let the allies learn the secrets if they can avoid it.

What She Can Export.

Germany can export some glass, china, potash, cutlery, optical instruments, surgical and scientific instruments and toys, without importing raw materials. She needs from America principally cotton and copper.

French and British chocolate, soap, toilet articles, etc., are on sale in the stores everywhere in Germany. The only American goods found generally are prewar stocks.

The French and British occupied zones are now commercial fronts. Military officers there and military missions in Germany give the French and British commercial travelers and bankers every assistance. All of the American commercial men and bankers I met in Germany told me they had fought their way through in spite of the American government, rather than with its assistance.

The Germans realize their overseas trade will be absolutely dependent on the allies for years to come. Germany now owns only 3 1/2 per cent of her prewar shipping.

Catch Two-Legged Whale.

Victoria, B. C.—A female humpback whale having two hind legs 50 inches in length has been caught at the Kyugot whaling station. Manager Ruck of the Consolidated Whaling company says that in his 20 years of whaling experience he has never heard of whales having legs on the exterior.

Betsy's Story

By LINCOLN ROTHBLUM

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It was such a small hall bedroom—way up near the top of the house—so high above the ground it seemed suspended midway between heaven and earth, somewhat after the fashion of those hanging gardens which are said to have required neither under nor upper support. But though the room by its elevated location strove for a place in the sun, it received none of its rays at any time of the day, for the one window faced, in unceremonious fashion, against the bleak and bland stone wall of the building opposite. Now, if one were as dexterous as Betsy Bond, a very good glimpse, albeit limited, could be obtained not only of the sun casting a seemingly forgotten beam of light down the murky courtyard, but also of the window in the other building one floor below. It is true the bit of light was only enjoyed on Sundays, when Betsy's exacting and onerous duties as salesgirl at the notions counter of Tilden's, Inc., did not call for her expert services for the somewhat startling compensation of seven dollars the week—startling how little might be procured on that amount in the way of daily necessities. And it is also true the window of the room across the court afforded little distraction, for up to the writing of this—Betsy's story—it had remained untenant.

For Betsy's heart, starving for affection and dying because there was none on whom to lavish the love pent up within, hungered for romance; she looked for it everywhere, and found its substitute only on the "Fiction page" of the evening paper. It was a very unsatisfactory substitute.

The days of August had made a blistering advance, and it seemed to Betsy this day that summer was exerting every effort to leave a scar and scorching memory of its torrid presence. A hot, musty humidity pasted the ringlets about her perspiring forehead into fantastic forms as she entered the room breathless from the interminable climb of stairs. Up went the window, the courtyard sending forth its nightly quota of onion and other odors from the quarters below. Betsy had no taste for the articles of food on her table and listlessly adjusted herself in the oblique and uncomfortable position necessary to see the window in the building opposite. She leaned forward. Glaringly it stood forth, and not even the dirty panes concealed the yellow jet of gaslight which illuminated the room and its solitary occupant. Betsy laughed aloud.

"A neighbor," she mused, and reached for the pillow from the bed to make her cramped position comfortable. "Romance!" her thought continued, and a smile exposed two pretty rows of even white teeth. It was in spite of, and not because of, her clothes that Betsy was considered attractive; for the worn serge skirt loudly proclaimed its age by a lustrous sheen and the white lawn waist no longer admitted further mending.

But there was little in the man's occupation to excite undue curiosity or romantic conjectures; laboriously he wrote, stopping to press his temples with his fingertips or pass a handkerchief over his forehead. Betsy slipped from the sill to the floor and protruded her head through the window into the court until she could almost touch the opposite wall, for up through space came the voice of the man faintly singing:

"When our Ship o' Dreams comes in, dear,
When its cargo comes to shore,
With gold so fine, it will all be thine,
You alone I adore—"

Betsy smiled as she recalled the first occasion when she had heard the words and sacrificed the precious minutes of her luncheon period to hear the end of the lyric.

"When our vessel comes sailing back, dear,
Laden with wealth all for you,
Then we'll marry; no need to tarry,
When our Ship, our Ship o' Dreams comes true."

She caught up the lilting, catchy melody and the easy, rolling words, and ate her luncheon with the tune in her head. Anxious for six o'clock, the afternoon flew quickly by and closing time found her hurrying toward her boarding house with thousands of other souls, all closeted in their own little worlds of personal interest. Mechanically she bought the evening paper and mechanically read the usual run of news, and equally mechanically turned toward the classified section in search for the always possible, but never probable, "better job." Her eye drifted to the adjoining column of "Personals," attracted possibly by the words, "Ship o' Dreams." They seemed to pursue her this day. The man seated to her right hummed with heavy breath, "When our Ship o' Dreams comes sailing in, dear."

Betsy read:
"Royalties awaiting Leonard Sutcliffe. Information wanted as to present whereabouts of composer of 'Ship o' Dreams.' Phone Popular Music Co."

Betsy gasped. Could it really be so wonderfully romantic? It was more than food she brought him.

"Are you Leonard Sutcliffe?" she asked as she entered the room and smiled to see him seated in the chair.

He nodded with surprise and looked at the newspaper she laid in his lap.

"Then your Ship o' Dreams has come to port, Captain Singing-Man," Betsy announced and picked out the stopper of the milk bottle with the tine of a fork.

A wonderful light danced in his eyes. "Good Samaritan, it's our Ship o' Dreams, isn't it?"

And over the toasted crackers Betsy nodded assent.

Another Matter.
"Pa, what is meant by a 'blue sky' law?"

"It's a measure designed to prevent the sale of fraudulent stock, my son."

"Yes, pa."

"You should not confuse the term with aerial traffic regulations which will soon be on all our statute books."

—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Asked and Answered.
"Can a man lift himself by his bootstraps?"

"I dunno."

"Why, the question answers itself."

"Well, teacher, that lets me out."

and hypnotically Mrs. Slattery obeyed, awkwardly assisting as they loosened his collar and undid his worn shoes. "Get some water," was the parting order, and Betsy flew out of the room, down the steps, out of the house into her own, and thence up the stairs to the room where mutely reposed the untouched food. Gathering the articles in her arms she rapidly retraced her steps, and as the young man came to consciousness he saw a not unbecoming girl standing on a chair holding a tiny pot above the gas jet. She smiled down at him a genuine, comforting smile.

"Hot milk in a minute. Toasted crackers and a mite of cheese. How does that sound?" Her voice sounded merrily in the room and the man answered the smile with a wan effort.

"It smells better," came the whisper from the bed.

And it tasted equally good as Betsy held his head and fed him the browned biscuit dipped in the warm milk. The man slept and Betsy tiptoed from the room. Mrs. Slattery mounted guard in the hall with a Dame Grundy vigilance.

"His room rent be behind." Evidently in Mrs. Slattery's makeup there was no trace of that impelling force which had governed Betsy's spontaneous act of loving kindness. She looked into her meager purse, wearing out at the corners.

"Will a dollar on account be satisfactory?" she asked. The bill was tendered and accepted in silence and Betsy returned to her room, supperless and happy. As she crept into bed she shifted the alarm clock. It registered awakening at half past five.

The hour thus gained next morning was devoted to assisting her newly acquired ward. With a promise to the man who lay weak and inert to stop in on her way home from work in the evening, she turned to go.

"Why are you so good to me?" he questioned her.

"Why doubt the motive?" by interrogation she answered.

Preoccupied with her thoughts, Betsy failed to be annoyed as she was jostled about on street and car by throngs hastening to work. Morning duties were fulfilled in like subconscious fashion, for mind was helping the lad lying ill and helpless in the hot bedroom. Noon was sounded by sirens over the weltering city as Betsy passed the music counter of Tilden's, Inc., on her way out of the store for luncheon. In raucous tones sang the song-booster through his brilliantly colored megaphone, which he turned alternately to right and left so that all might hear:

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LARGE CAPACITY FOR DAIRY COWS

To Develop This Characteristic Calf Must Be Kept Growing From Beginning.

SUPPLY ABUNDANCE OF HAY

Holstein Heifers Should Not Be Bred to Freshen Before Twenty-Four Months Old—Work Up to Full Capacity Gradually.

It is a well-known fact that capacity is one of the essentials of a good dairy cow and in order to develop this characteristic the calf must be kept growing from the very beginning. A stunted calf will never recover from the handicap. The calf should be induced to begin eating grain and hay at as early a date as possible and there should always be an abundance of the hay accessible. Roughage develops capacity in the digestive organs—an item of importance—as the amount of feed that a cow will consume depends largely upon the development of these organs.

Age to Breed Heifer.

Heifers should not be bred too young, the age depending upon the breed to which they belong as well as the development of the individual. Holstein heifers should not be bred to freshen before they are 24 months old, as a rule, and a great many would do better if given 26 or 28 months. Heifers should be in good condition at time of freshening, although not fat from an



Splendid Type for Dairy.

excessive carbohydrate ration. After freshening, they should be worked up to full feed very gradually, receiving all the roughage they care to consume without waste; alfalfa or clover hay fed in connection with silage or roots being a very good combination.

Amount of Grain to Feed.

The grain should be light in character to begin with and gradually changed to a mixture of grains that will supplement the roughage; 300 pounds ground oats, 300 pounds ground corn, 100 pounds wheat bran and 100 pounds gluten feed being a good combination to go with the roughage mentioned above. The grain can be increased a fraction of a pound a day so long as there is an increase in the milk flow, but as soon as there is no response to the increase it must be cut down until there is a falling off in the milk flow and then the increase may be begun again. When on full feed they will be consuming about one pound of grain to every 3 1/2 pounds of milk produced.

In the absence of silage or roots, dried beet pulp may be used, but if none of these are available or are too high in price, oilmeal can be used in the grain mixture to advantage. In the absence of silage and roots, the cows will consume a large quantity of alfalfa. Sometimes it is advisable to chaff and moisten a portion of it when fed under these conditions.

FERTILITY IN DEAD LEAVES

Contain Large Amount of Potash and Are Useful as Mulch or Fertilizer for Garden.

Because leaves contain relatively large amounts of potash, chemists at the Ohio Experiment Station point out the economy of using leaves as a mulch or fertilizer for the garden, rather than burning them in the streets or gutters. They show that 100 pounds of leaves are worth about 56 cents for their fertilizing value.

When leaves are burnt the ash still contains a considerable amount of fertilizing materials; but as the ashes are generally swept away by the wind or washed away by the water, their value is lost. To secure the best results from leaves as fertilizer, it is best to pile them in the garden and let them furnish a mulch for the ground during the winter; then they may be spaded in the spring and incorporated with the soil.

COW CONSUMES BULKY FEEDS

Most Economical Method for Marketing Different Crops—Much Fertility Is Saved.

When it comes to marketing grain, hay, silage, green crops, etc., the dairy cow is almost indispensable for economy. She consumes these bulky feeds, converts them into finished products and at the same time saves much of the fertility in the manure. Where hay, corn, fodder, etc., must be hauled to market there is considerable expense. If most of this expense can be saved there is a wider margin for profit on the farm.

1919 Fashions Harmful Says Woman of 100

New York.—Catherine Tibball, who celebrated her one hundredth birthday a few days ago at 964 Lafayette avenue, Brooklyn, does not see longevity for any woman who follows the maxims of dress approved by Dr. Royal S. Copeland, health commissioner. Her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Thomas Tibball, said:

"My mother-in-law and I are entirely against fashions of dress for women. I never wore anything but the simplest kind of stays, and neither did she."

The centenarian was told about Doctor Copeland's statement that women can wear silk stockings, high-heeled shoes, tight corsets and low-neck gowns with benefit rather than harm. "I have never painted or powdered my face," she said. "I never wore high-heeled shoes or low-neck gowns, yet I have lived to be a hundred years old and expect to celebrate another birthday next year. Woman's fashions today are more than bad; they are harmful."