

## LUCK NOW FAVORS GREATEST GAMBLER

FARM MACHINERY AND LABOR  
COSTS DECLINE—NORMAL  
CROPS PLANTED.

By Alexander F. Jones

(United News Staff Correspondent)  
CHICAGO, April 15.—The greatest gambler in the world is getting a little better run of luck than he has had for more than a year.

He cannot see daylight yet, but according to authorities here, it is just over the hill.

This gambler—the farmer—drew a needed ace here Thursday when the International Harvester company, the largest manufacturer of farm machinery in the world, announced a 10 percent reduction in the price of most of its implements.

Within the last six months he has made progress in filling his hand. Labor, exorbitant in its demands a year ago, is again asking reasonable wages. Farm wages have taken one of the most pronounced slumps in the industrial field. According to bankers, money will be easier to get next fall, and this again will help the farmer.

Now he needs the biggest card—assurance that falling prices on what he buys will be followed by advanced prices for what he has to sell.

With no assurance that he will get this card, American farmers everywhere are gambling with chance and planting an almost normal crop, according to farm authorities.

"The reduction in the price of machinery will be welcomed by the farmer, but it will do little good this year," said J. W. Coverdale, secretary of the American Farm Bureau federation. "Just the same farmers are taking a chance and the outlook is for a crop that will be nearly normal."

All factors in handling the farmers' crops are cautious about any predictions as to his chances of getting better prices this fall. Bankers interviewed here Thursday, today were unusually reticent. They declared that they would be accused of building the market if they predicted better prices for this fall.

"But if farmers made money in 1913 feeding fifty cent corn to six cent hogs," said one official, "he should be able to make money this year feeding 50 cent corn to eight cent hogs."

The farmer is going to be obstreperous about buying stock for feeders this year, it was stated by J. J. Lawler, one of the biggest dealers in "feeder" stock in the country.

"Farmers are not making money on stock and they are not buying feeders," he said.

Grain men would not venture a prediction.

Bankers here pointed to the report that a bond issue of \$40,000,000 for farm loans will be issued by the government soon and declared that this would aid materially in getting farmers over difficult rough spots.

There is a great supply of farm labor on the market that is asking from \$35 to \$50 monthly this year, instead of from \$50 to \$70, it was stated by Charles J. Boyd, vice-pres-

dent of the Illinois free employment bureau.

"We have more applications for farm work than we can handle," he said.

The International Harvester company, in announcing its reductions in its products, announced it is following the reduction in steel prices.

In commenting on the industrial situation, Harold B. McCormick, president of the harvester corporation, said:

"The principle trouble with industry in the United States, I think, is that by the severe and sudden decline in prices of farm products, agriculture, the basic industry, has been thrown out of balance with other industries. Restriction of the equilibrium can be assisted by increasing the price of what the farmer sells and

decreasing the price of what he buys, or by both processes."

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BODY OF MAN FOUND IN  
FIRE RUINS OF HOTEL

By United News  
SANTA BARBARA, Cal., April 15.—  
Laborers engaged in clearing away the ruins of the Ambassador Hotel here today found the charred body of a man under a huge pile of ashes. No one has been able to identify the

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