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THE DATA OF AGRICULTURE—THE FACTS ABOUT THE FARMER

Editor Statesman: The other day, in an office in Salem, I heard a young social uplifter (city born and city nurtured) abusing the farmers for their conservatism and upbraiding them for their stiff-necked opposition to what he called "economic social and ethical progress."

In a recent address before a conference of farm organizations in Washington City, Henry Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture, asserted that, "for more than seventy years our grain and stock farmers have been selling their products below the actual cost of production, if we include all items of cost that business methods require."

Many persons imagine that the farmers made big profits during the war, but the income tax returns in the United States for 1919 show that only one in every 400 farmers earned enough to pay an income tax, while one of every 200 teachers, one doctor in every 14, and one lawyer out of five paid income taxes.

Statistics collected by the Missouri and Kansas State Agricultural Colleges and recently published in the Kansas City Weekly Star, edited by Dr. H. J. Waters, ex-president of the Kansas Agricultural College, show that from the year 1909 to the year 1918, inclusive, the grain farmers of the Middle West received a labor income of about \$3.50 per day for each day spent in producing and marketing their crops.

The October 20th issue of the Weekly News Letter of the United States Department of Agriculture gives a report of a farm-profits survey conducted by specialists of that department and covering twenty-five farms in Ohio from 1912 to 1919; one hundred farms in Indiana, 1912 to 1919, and sixty farms in Wisconsin, 1912 to 1919.

The writer has, during the past four months, made a careful and somewhat exhaustive study of the financial status of the farmers of Marion county during the year of 1920. This study was conducted mostly as a means of making a comparison between the earning capacity of the farmer and the earning capacity of other essential professional classes during the same period.

BIT OF FOOLISHNESS. An organization of women passed a resolution protesting against the retention by the French of any colored troops in the army of occupation in Germany.

FUTURE DATES. May 13, Friday—Entertainment for library benefit, Highland school, 8 o'clock.

When economic conditions such as these prevail it is any wonder that the farmers are everywhere organizing for cooperative selling and buying, and are "holding conference after conference" in all the big cities of the East?

There is a new economic gospel that has been adopted by all the farm organizations in the United States, and is being proclaimed from thousands of platforms in every state through the nation.

being proclaimed from thousands of platforms in every state through the nation. The fundamental doctrines of this gospel are:

(1) That the American farmer is now an educated man, that he performs his professional duties as wisely and scientifically, as efficiently and economically, as any other professional expert, and is entitled to just as good pay for his day's work.

(2) That the farmer is a business man, and is entitled to interest on his investment and all other overhead claimed by legitimate business.

(3) That the farmer is entitled to the use of the nation's credit, as much as the banker or any other business corporation.

(4) That he has the same right to political representation in the councils of state and nation as any other professional class.

(5) That he has the same right to the rewards of intelligent industry, to the enjoyment of leisure, and the fruits of culture as the most favored professional class.

There was a time when the American farmer need worry but little about the cost of overhead. Those were the days of cheap land, when, according to the words of the old song, "Uncle Sam has got enough to give us each a farm."

There will be war in the United States during the next four years. It will be an economic war; a forensic war; a gentlemen's war, fought by gentlemen. It will be fought by the American farmer along the lines indicated in the above gospel. And it will be won by the American farmer—won with affluence and ease.

—S. H. VAN TRUMP.

(Mr. Van Trump, writer of the above, is Marion county horticulturist. Perhaps it may be new to some readers; but he does not exaggerate concerning the movement among farm organizations, which is one of the most sweeping and wide spread ever seen in the United States.—Ed.)

It is costing the government a lot of money to enforce the national prohibition law, but it is costing the violators much more to break it.

It is now officially reported that manna still falls in Asia Minor, but what the Republican war horses just now are interested most in is the expected fall of manna at Washington.

Charlie Paddock, the world's premier sprinter, will desert the cinder path for the rocky road of journalism. He should be a success at scoring beats.

The combined American fleet will find plenty of sea room to do its maneuvering when it comes to the Pacific this summer. And, then, it is not so all-fired far from Yap.

Nearly 200,000 acres additional will be devoted to growing wine grapes in California the coming season. Doesn't look very much as if prohibition had killed the grape industry. That was another thing that was largely exaggerated.

"That the end of the deflation period has been reached and that more courage and constructive-ness, accompanied by large bank accommodation is needed, is the statement of Governor Harding of the federal reserve board. The market during the past week has been active and strong with prices advancing during most of the time and an unusually large turnover has resulted.

MADE IN GERMANY. The Germans are selling structural steel in Europe for \$20 a ton less than the English can make it. The Germans are selling pneumatic tools in Detroit—the same line of tools that Detroit was shipping to Germany before and after the war—and are underselling the American manufacturer at his door.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST. Spring days at last. Germany has finally agreed— She has agreed to begin to do the things she agreed to do at the peace conference.

Plant your broccoli seed. If you are a member of the Salem Broccoli association, your seed is ready, at 267 South Church street, the home of the secretary, U. J. Lehman.

And the association has a little extra seed. But if you want some of it, you would better go and get it, or send for it at once. Before the end of the month, there will not be an ounce of Valentine broccoli seed left anywhere.

In a little bit longer, there will not be an idle man, woman or child in the Salem district, who wants to work or is able to perform labor.

THE GENERAL AND THE "NON-COM"

(Charles W. Duke in Philadelphia Ledger.)

Over at Camp Dix, New Jersey, the other day the crack Sixteenth Infantry of the famous First division, one of the units of the first American forces sent to France under the leadership of General Pershing, "first to fight and last to quit," swept across the parade grounds in a regimental review.

The regimental band was playing. Grouped about the parade grounds were the wives and sweet hearts of the doughboys. It was a holiday setting, a gala affair that a Rudyard Kipling could have set to the music of poetry. It was the first review of the Sixteenth since it moved into Camp Dix, just home from the Rhine valley, six months ago.

Wonderful old regiment and grand old division! These were the boys who slipped quietly out of New York harbor three years ago bound for the western front. One morning the American people were told the first of the American expeditionary forces were "over there" and in battle array.

It was all true. This was the division that accompanied Pershing when he went across to join hands with Foch and Haig in the new allied triumvirate. They went in first on the Sommeville front in the Lorraine sector near Lunville. They were the first American troops under fire. Some of the First division were at Cantigny in the first engagement fought by American troops. The first American troops killed by the Hun in combat were of this gallant old First. You remember the circumstances—how three Yankee lads, reconnoitering the German position at night, were captured and ruthlessly put to death, their throats cut from ear to ear.

While the troops stand at attention, eyes front, ears alert to hear what is said, Lieutenant G. T. Phipps' lips begin to move. He is reading general orders No. 5. And what do you suppose general orders No. 5 is all about? Nothing about a new president or a new general or a distinguished foreign visitor or a new assignment for service.

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True enough: there he stands by the side of Colonel Lacey. He is, Sergeant Major William P. ("Jack") Brannan, of regimental headquarters, 49 years and four months old, a sturdy son of the western plains and a soldier in the United States army in almost continuous service since 1898. From the beginning of the Spanish-American war until well after the wind-up of the world war this taciturn, grizzled old veteran has stuck to his job—true to his ideal of service.

And this ceremony is all in honor of Sergeant Major (Jack) Brannan. They are telling the story of his life to all this great assembly on the parade grounds. They are telling the world how faithful this man Brannan has been. Never once has he flinched. On all his honorable discharges he has received the "excellent." From the excitement was thrown into the advance against the Hindenburg line at Chemin-des-Dames on through the Argonne campaign until the Germans were given refuge in armistice just as the doughboys were prepared for the last grand assault on the last line of Hun fortifications around Metz and Sedan, Sergeant Major Brannan was in the thick of the fighting.

For conspicuous bravery in battle he was awarded the French Croix de Guerre with palms. His life was continually endangered, but he escaped it all with not a scratch. Now he has reached the end of his contract of service and is going to retire. He has served in all, including double time for foreign service, 23 years with the army of Uncle Sam. Now he is leaving for the west to pick up his mother and

"shoulder arms," hundreds of rifles swing into position. In another moment the Sixteenth regiment is on the march. They are passing in review before Sergeant Major ("Jack") Brannan. He who has served unostentatiously in the ranks all these years is standing by the side of his colonel watching his comrades of the world war swing by in review. These boys who helped hurl back the minions of German autocracy and the crowned heads of Europe are now passing in review before a "non-com" sergeant major!

Company after company they are coming. They give him the "eyes right" as they pass before him. But Sergeant Major Brannan's eyes are not "right." He who has laughed at the whine of a Heinie's shell or stood impassive before the spectacle of his pals struck down in cold blood or stolidly served on the lonely watch through all these years without the flicker of an eyelash, now stands with great tears coursing down his cheeks. Soon it is over—and then comes the flood. As though he were one lone "enemy" against thousands, these doughboys of the Sixteenth swarm about him. They salute him, they grasp his hand, they wish him good-bye and good luck. The good right arm is pumped until it is sore and aching. The general comes himself to salute this veteran "non-com." It was the general himself who ordered the demonstration.

"We are honoring service," said General Sumner. "For it is as when a man, going into another country, called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. Now after a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and maketh a reckoning with them. Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over many things. I will set thee over many things; enter into the joy of thy lord."

When You Feel Blue—See "Toby"—Adv. Why "blue" laws or "red" laws? Why not the red, white and blue laws? Are they not satisfactory?

WILLIAM DeMILLE'S What Every Woman Knows. STARTING SUNDAY GRAND Where The Big Shows Play

SALEM OREGON

BIG REDUCTIONS ON ALL SHOES At THE PRICE SHOE CO. WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY. Men's Brown and Black Elk Work Shoes; \$3.50 and \$4.00. Women's Black and Brown Pump; regular \$12.00. Boys' Brown and Black Dress Shoes; \$6.00 and \$7.00. Men's Brown Dress Shoes; all sizes; \$9.00. Women's Dress Shoes, Brown and Black, \$9.00, \$10.00 and \$12.00 grades. Men's Brown English Dress Shoes; rubber heels; \$14.00 grades. Women's Black Lace Comfort Shoes; \$6.00 and \$7.00. Men's Black Kangaroo leather lined, rubber heels; \$15.00 grades. Women's High Grade Brown Oxfords; all sizes; \$12.00 grades. Men's Felt House Slippers, all sizes and colors; \$3.00 and \$3.50 grades. Women's High Grade Black Oxfords; all sizes; \$10.00. Men's Leather House Slippers; all sizes; regular \$5.00 grades. Women's Low Heel Brown Oxfords; all sizes; \$9.00. Children's High Grade Shoes; up to \$5.00 grades. Women's Low Heel Black Oxfords; Kid and Calf; \$8.00 grades. Children's high grade Pumps; all sizes; \$6.00 grades. WOMEN'S WITCH ELK OUTING SHOES, BROWN AND SMOKE; \$13.00 GRADES. Rubber Heels Put On Half Price Wednesday Only 25c.