

## THE FARMER IS THE BALANCE WHEEL OF PROSPERITY

By JAMES WILSON, Secretary of Agriculture

One familiar with the situation it must appear that there will be no panic in this country now, so long as the farmer of the United States is able to produce good and salable crops. THE AMERICAN FARMER SUSTAINS THE COUNTRY and feeds a great portion of the world. He is virtually independent of any other class.

Let me premise by giving a few figures. From 1880 to 1890 the average of exports of farm products was more than \$703,000,000. In 1901 they were \$952,000,000. In 1903 the surplus, which we did not need in this country and was sold abroad, amounted to \$878,000,000.

It was the farmer who held the balance of trade with the United States. Excluding the products of the farm, there was during the period from 1899 to 1902 an annual adverse balance of trade amounting to \$62,000,000. Including the farm products, THIS BALANCE IS WIPED OUT, and we have left \$275,000,000 to the credit of this country. During 1903 there was an unfavorable balance of trade in exports and imports other than those of the farm, which amounted to \$56,000,000, but when the farmer's part in the international commerce is included the balance in our favor is just about \$367,000,000.

HERE YOU HAVE THE TREMENDOUS RESERVE SUSTAINING POWER OF THE FARMERS OF THIS COUNTRY. THEY ARE THE PEOPLE WHO PAY THE FOREIGN BONDHOLDERS.

I will tell you that the farmers are independent of the banks, the money lenders or anybody else. They are prosperous. In the east anybody can see it for himself. They are getting good prices for their grain, hay, milk, butter, cheese, fruits and other produce. Think of the prices for eggs and poultry! Then they have the advantage over their western brethren in not having the long haul and heavy freight rates.

The farmers of the west were NEVER in such easy circumstances. Their crops have been good, and the demand from abroad has been such as to keep the prices at a comfortable figure. This is true of everything the farmer raises to sell—hogs, cattle, wool, etc.

On the Pacific coast the story is the same. There the trade is opening with the orient, and there the farmers have the advantage of a soil which will raise almost everything, including fruits which outsell the tropical fruits and which can be sent across the country and shipped to Europe at a profit. THEY ARE DOING SPLENDIDLY.

In the south the farmer who raises even a small crop of cotton has provided for himself. Tobacco was never in greater demand. The south is rapidly becoming AS PROSPEROUS AS THOSE OTHER SECTIONS of the country which escaped the devastations of civil war.

## THE PERILS OF IMMIGRATION

By WHITELAW REID

FOR seventeen years there has been a steady decline in immigration from the lands of our ancestors and of their kinsfolk—that is to say, from England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Germany, Denmark and Switzerland. During the same period there has been a STEADY AND PROGRESSIVE INCREASE from Italy, Austria-Hungary, Russia, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Belgium, Rumania, etc., and, finally, to give an analysis by races rather than mere nationalities, 28 per cent of the whole immigration in 1902 was Italian, 11 per cent of it was Polish, 9 per cent was Hebrew and 15 per cent was Slovak, Croatian, Slavonian and Magyar—THESE RACES THUS MAKING PRACTICALLY TWO-THIRDS OF THE WHOLE IMMIGRATION.

This free people will never take away the welcome we have given to the pauper and the illiterate, to the communist and the anarchist from abroad whom we have already made at home among us; will never withdraw the suffrage from the man who now has it, but CAN NOT READ HIS BALLOT; from the man that votes without ever paying taxes or from the man that has been convicted of crime but has been pardoned out just before his term expired in order that he may again render us his help in securing the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity. WHAT IS DONE IS BEYOND RECALL, and with all its faults the achievement is colossal and of worldwide beneficence. But if, in the onward rush of this magnificent development no great harm has yet resulted—if, indeed, good has come because of or in spite of our having so largely lost sight for the time of the purpose declared in the constitution—is it wise to continue INDEFINITELY on the changed course?

Are we really taking a safe course to preserve the blessings of liberty for ourselves and for our posterity when we hesitate now TO SIFT OUT OF OUR IMMIGRATION not merely the pauper and anarchist and the poor Chinaman, but with less invidious discrimination more of the notoriously undesirable elements?

OR WHEN WE HESITATE TO EXCLUDE PEREMPTORILY FROM THE SUFFRAGE, NATIONAL, STATE OR MUNICIPAL, ANY NEW-COMER WHO CANNOT READ THE LAWS BEFORE HE VOTES FOR LAWMAKERS AND WHO DOES NOT PAY TAXES HIMSELF WHEN HE VOTES TAXES UPON OTHERS?

## FOR SAKE OF ECONOMY.

An Instance in Which a Theory Failed of a Satisfactory Result.

Somebody told him that two could live cheaper than one, and his salary of \$10 a week was so small that it seemed a long time between pay days. So, as a matter of economy, he got married.

He had the good luck to get a smart girl for a wife who had literary ambitions. At the end of the first three months they were in debt to everybody who would trust them, and they held a consultation as to whether it would be wiser to go into bankruptcy or move over to Jersey. Economy and retrenchment were discussed at every meal, but in practice they went from bad to worse, and the young husband began to lose color and have a worn and anxious look.

One evening he came home with a bundle under his arms, his head held high, his step buoyant and a gleam of triumph in his eye. His wife was glad to see him thus and made certain that he had at last got the raise in salary for which both had been hoping. She set the evening meal before him and waited for him to say something, but, manlike, he kept her waiting. At last, when she could stand it no longer, she asked him:

"What is it, George?"

"I've found out how to live on ten a week."

"Have you?"

"Sure!"

"Tell me."

"It's all in this book," said he, taking up the package. "Practical Household Economy." We'll spend the evening reading it."

"How much did you pay for it?"

"Seven dollars—\$1 down and 50 cents a week. I know it's steep, but if it shows us how to live, why, it'll be cheap."

"Where did you get it?"

"Book agent came to the office today. All the boys bought one. You don't seem to think it's much of a bargain."

"Well, no; I don't think we're built the right way for economy. That book agent was here and sold me one too!"—Philadelphia Press.

## Beginnings of Literature.

Some stories are unchanged to the end of time, but more grow in the telling. "Have you ever heard Brown tell about the time he got halfway up Mont Blanc with one of his little nephews and no guide?" asked one man of another.

"How long ago did he tell you about it?" was the evasive reply.

"Last October, when he'd just got home," said the first man.

"Well," said the other, "in the four months since then he has climbed the rest of the way, succeeded a fainting guide and sustained a snowstorm on the summit, accumulated two benumbed strangers on the way down and guided the entire party to the foot, where a group of frantic relatives were waiting."

## Spoiled the Romance.

"We are looking for the comet," explained the young man on the porch as the father of the young woman came out to see what was detaining her.

"Why, bless you," said the kind old gentleman, "the comet is in an entirely different part of the sky."

And he took him round to the other side of the house, showed him the position of the comet and talked to him for about half an hour about it.

## Useless Phrase.

Bobby had returned from his first tea party, his round face wreathed in smiles. "I hope you were polite, Bobby," said his mother, "and remembered your 'Yes, please,' and 'No, thank you,' when things were passed to you."

"I remembered 'Yes, please,'" said Bobby cheerfully, "but I didn't have to say 'No, thank you,' mother, because I took everything every time it was passed."

## Kept His Word.

"I used to think you were not a man of your word, Jones, but I've changed my mind."

"Ah, you understand me now, friend Smith. But what led you to change your mind?"

"You remember that \$10 you borrowed from me?"

"Yes."

"You said if I lent it to you you would be indebted to me forever."

"Yes."

"Well, you are keeping your word like a man."

# W. A. MESSNER.

You are cordially invited to call and inspect our new arrivals in Fancy Waistings in Zarinas, Damasks, Veronas, Caronas, wool finished Cotton Violes, etc., and also one of the neatest lines of Wool Suitings ever shown in the city. Fine voiles, the newest weave out, in many colors; also etamines, nub voiles and mohair suitings.

We also have received many nice things in the cotton line, a very choice line of art goods in Silkalines, Cretons and Art Denims in many colors and patterns; also a full line of Fancy Gingham.

Our line of Dress Trimmings and Allover Laces cannot be beat. A new line of Laces and Embroideries, also a full line of Ladies' Muslin Underwear.

# W. A. MESSNER.

Independence, Oregon.

## A CAPE NOMEITE HERE.

W. J. Keene Interested With C. A. McLaughlin and Ralph Richards Talks Of Alaskan Gold Fields.

W. J. Keene, of Cape Nome, visited with C. A. McLaughlin and Ralph Richards over Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Keene has put in seven years in the Alaskan country and is not done with it yet.

Messrs. McLaughlin and Richards are interested with him in mining property at Nome and Mr. Keene will return in the near future to look after their joint interests. Messrs. McLaughlin and Richards expect to go in June.

The claims held by the three, according to Mr. Keene, are very promising.

"The country around Nome" said Mr. Keene "has not started to be worked yet as far as mining is concerned. On Ruby Creek there are thousands of acres of ground which have not been touched. A great change is taking place in the ownership of lands in that country. Years ago men went in there and located land and held it as long as they could with very little development. Of late years some of the old miners have died and others have sold their holdings to men who have means to work the placers and provide machinery for the successful development of the ground.

"I am interested in a new style of steam shovel to handle the earth, the capacity of which will be 600 yards every 12 hours. As this gravel will carry values of from \$2 to \$5 per yard, some idea may be gained of the profit in handling the ground. Dirt which only carries the values that Ruby Creek contains will not pay for handling by shovel, as a man can only make

wages, but by the new methods things will be different.

"Quartz mining is taking on much activity, and much machinery is being shipped to the northern country. The ores for the greater part are base, and need a great amount of machinery to work, but as the facilities are plentiful for that purpose mining can be carried on at good profit."

## A WIFE'S CONFESSION.

Of course every one knew when they were engaged and every one pretended to be surprised when they heard it was suddenly broken off. It was first said she had broken it off, then that his heart had changed, but finally she confessed that she had been so irritable, so depressed and blue that she had fairly driven him away. Her good looks were vanishing. She was getting thin, pale and hollow-cheeked, with dark circles around her eyes. Suddenly all society was pleased again to hear of the engagement being renewed, and it was not long before a beautiful and radiant bride was taken to the altar. She had regained her good looks, her former happy disposition and strong nerve all through a secret friend gave her. A few bottles of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is what made two more lives happy and a radiant bride more beautiful than she had ever appeared before.

Backed up by over a third of a century of remarkable and uniform cures, a record such as no other remedy for the diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women ever attained, the proprietors and makers of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription now feel fully warranted in offering to pay \$500 in legal money of the United States, for any case of Leucorrhoea, Female Weakness, Protrusion or Prolaps of Womb which they cannot cure. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure.

Mrs. O. O. Scripture, of Prescott, Ariz., L. Box 328, writes: "For nearly two years I was a great sufferer with ulceration and enlargement of womb, also suffered severely with dyspepsia and was run down—a perfect wreck. I doctored for several years, got no better, until about seven months ago I began taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and Pleasant Pellets. I can stand on my feet and work hard all day. I feel that life is now worth living, and shall ever feel grateful to you and shall always recommend your medicines to all who are suffering in any way."

If troubled with weak digestion, belching or sour stomach use Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will get a quick relief. For sale by All Druggists.

## Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed administrator of the estate of Sarah Jasperson, deceased, by the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Polk County.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same duly verified, together with the proper vouchers therefor, to the undersigned, at his office in the City of Independence, in said County, within six months from the date of this notice.

Dated this 18th day of February, 1904.

H. H. JASPERSON,  
Administrator of the estate of Sarah Jasperson, deceased.  
Oscar Hayter, Attorney.

## War Clubbing Rates.

The Portland Daily Journal, one year is \$4. By ordering now you can get both the WEST SIDE ENTERPRISE and Daily Journal, one year for \$4.50; the Semi-weekly Journal and WEST SIDE ENTERPRISE, one year for \$2.25; the Weekly Journal and WEST SIDE ENTERPRISE, one year for \$2.10.

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