

# WHEAT AND FLOUR

Total Commercial Stocks as Shown by Partial Tabulation of Food Survey of December 31, 1917

The total stocks of wheat in commercial channels on December 31, 1917, as indicated by a partial tabulation of the food survey of the latter date, were approximately one-half as large as the commercial stocks on hand December 31, 1916, according to a statement issued by the United States department of agriculture. In this connection it is pointed out that the commercial visible supply figures published by the Chicago board of trade showed stocks on hand January 5, 1918, about 30 per cent of the commercial visible supply reported for January 5, 1917, while the visible supply reported by Bradstreet for January 5, 1918, was approximately 36 per cent of that reported for January 6, 1917.

The commercial stocks of wheat at the end of December, 1917, compared more favorably with those of a year earlier than did the stocks at the end of August, 1917, the holdings of December 31, 1917, being 50 per cent of those reported for the corresponding date in 1916, while the commercial stocks of August 31, 1917, were only 37 per cent of those for the same date in 1916. At the same time it is indicated that there was only a slight change in the relative importance of the commercial stocks of flour on the dates of the two surveys as compared with the corresponding dates a year earlier. On August 31, 1917, the commercial stocks of flour were about 75 per cent of the stocks reported on hand August 31, 1916, while on December 31, 1917, the stocks of flour were 70 per cent of those reported for the corresponding date in 1916. The total wheat crop of 1917 was approximately 650,000,000 bushels, as compared with 640,000,000 bushels for the previous year and with 808,000,000 bushels, the average for the five-year period 1911-1915.

The final figures for the August 31, 1917, food survey show that the total commercial stocks of wheat on that date were 75,000,000 bushels, or less than a two months' supply, while the commercial stocks of flour were about 12,000,000 barrels, representing approximately a six weeks' supply.

The elevators, mills, and wholesale grain dealers held 88.4 per cent of the commercial stocks of wheat reported for August 31, 1917, and 35.8 per cent of the total commercial stocks of flour reported for that date. In the case of flour, retail dealers held 24.9 per cent, bakers 20.3 per cent, wholesale grocers 9.7 per cent, and storage warehouses 5.3 per cent.

Minnesota and California reported the largest commercial stocks of wheat on August 31, 1917, their holdings being 7,290,000 and 6,891,000 bushels, respectively, while Missouri, Illinois, and Kansas each held about 5,000,000 bushels. The combined holdings of these five states amounted to 28,000,000 bushels, or more than 45 per cent of the total for the United States. In the case of flour, eight states reported about one-half of the total stocks of the country, New York leading with 812,896 barrels, followed by Pennsylvania with 659,438, Illinois with 639,126, and Nebraska with 634,915 barrels, while California, Texas, Minnesota, and Missouri each reported about 500,000 barrels.

## Varieties of Cheese Catalogued

(By the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The distinct varieties of cheese number probably about 18, although the names given to the manufactured kinds total several hundred. This statement is made in the United States department of agriculture's bulletin No. 608, "Varieties of Cheese, Descriptions and Analysis," which is a revision of former government publications on the subject. More than 40 names of cheese are given in the bulletin and are of local origin, usually having been derived from towns or communities.

A list of the best-known names applied to the distinct varieties or groups is as follows:

Brick, caecocavallo, camembert, cheddar, cottage, dry, edan, emmental, gouda, hand, holstein, limburg, neufchatel, parmesan, roquefort, sapsago, scanno and trappist. Descriptions and chemical analyses of the foreign and domestic cheese mentioned in the bulletin are given alphabetically.

Attempts to make emmental and limburg cheese in this country have been very successful, the bulletin says. These varieties are being made by 500 factories in Wisconsin alone and by factories in Ohio, New York and northern Illinois. Investigation also has shown that camembert and a cheese of the same general nature as roquefort or stilton, can be made successfully in this country.

"There is no reason," says the bulletin, "to believe that any variety of cheese imported cannot be made here, although with present knowledge it would not be advisable to try to make many kinds. Probably scientific investigation would show how to improve on the average quality of the cheese made in the old countries, for it must be remembered that only the very best is shipped by the European makers, the rest, or poorer grades, being consumed at home. Unfortunately a feeling prevails in the United States that cheese equal to the best of the European product cannot be produced here. This feeling is based upon a lack of knowledge of actual conditions in Europe and of the conditions affecting the qualities of cheese. Certain parts of Europe probably are better favored by desirable climatic conditions and by more general dissemination of the bacteria or molds necessary to the characteristic ripening of different varieties, but even the best average natural conditions can be improved on by artificial means since necessary molds or bacteria can be grown in pure culture and utilized anywhere. However, the cost may render it impracticable."

### The Better Way.

"Do you tell bedtime stories at your house?"  
"I used to until my wife got next to me. Now I either get home in good season or say nothing about it."

## Carries His Own Bones Around as a Mascot for Coming Diamond Season

All ball players believe in luck and most carry a talisman of some sort, but it remains for Forrest Cady, Mack's new big catcher, to carry around with him the strangest token of all. It is nothing less than two bones from his own body.

Last winter Cady was in a motor accident and had his shoulder broken in several places. Two pieces of bone



Forrest Cady.

were removed, and now Cady is never without them.

"They are a part of me or were," Cady explains, "and I'm only carrying them as near where they belong as I can. My arm's as good as ever, although I thought for a time that I would never play ball again. Yet somehow I feel that if I lost those two little pieces of bone my arm would go back on me."

## Salaries Paid to Governors By Various States of Union

Governors of Vermont and Nebraska receive \$2,500 a year, the governors of Arizona, Maine, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Rhode Island and South Dakota receive \$3,000 a year; the governor of South Carolina receives \$3,500 a year; the governors of Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Nevada, North Carolina, Texas, Utah and Wyoming receive \$4,000 a year; the governors of Maryland, Mississippi and Oklahoma receive \$4,500 a year; the governor of Iowa receives \$4,600 a year; the governors of Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Oregon, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin receive \$5,000 a year; the governors of North Dakota and Washington receive \$6,000 a year; the governor of Kentucky receives \$6,500 a year; the governors of Minnesota and Tennessee receive \$7,500 a year; the governors of Indiana and Massachusetts receive \$8,000 a year; the governors of California, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania receive \$10,000 a year; the governor of Illinois receives \$12,000 a year; the governor of New York receives \$20,000 a year.

## EXPLOSION KILLS 56

Nearly Hundred Employes in Hospital and 31 Still Missing—Country Miles About Devastated.

Pittsburg—Fifty-six men are known to be dead, 94 injured and in hospitals and 31 employes of the Aetna Chemical company are missing as a result of nine explosions Saturday that wrecked this company's explosive manufacturing plant at Oakdale, 16 miles from this city.

Throughout the night and all day men were extinguishing fires in the debris and bringing out remnants of human bodies. In most cases there was nothing to indicate the identity of the victim. All day a blue-brown smoke hung over the ruins, impeding the work of the searchers. Its deadly fumes are feared by the residents.

Thousands of persons streamed into the temporary morgue all day to view the gruesome finds. The country is desolate for several miles around the plant. The meadows and fields have been seared and fruit and shade trees blasted.

## LIBERTY LOAN \$4,170,019,650

Oversubscription of 39 Per Cent Announced—17,000,000 Subscribers.

Washington, D. C.—The total of the third liberty loan is \$4,170,019,650, an oversubscription of 39 per cent above the three billion minimum sought. The number of subscribers was about 17,000,000. Every Federal reserve district oversubscribed, the Minneapolis district going to 172 per cent, the highest, and the New York district to 124 per cent, the lowest.

In announcing these figures the treasury explained that the total may be changed slightly by later reports from Federal Reserve banks.

"This is the most successful loan the United States has offered, both in number of subscribers and in the amount realized," said Secretary McAdoo in a statement. "I congratulate the country on this wonderful result, which is irrefutable evidence of the strength, patriotism and determination of the American people."

"This great result was achieved notwithstanding the fact that the country has been called upon to pay since the second liberty loan, and to include the month of June, income and excess profits taxes to the amount of approximately \$6,000,000,000, which will make a total amount turned into the treasury of the United States from such taxes and the third liberty loan of about \$7,000,000,000."

## DUTCH WARSHIPS TO CONVOY

Holland to Send Merchant Vessels to Colonies in East Indies.

Washington, D. C.—Announcement from Amsterdam of the determination of the Dutch government to dispatch three of its merchant vessels to the East Indies under convoy of Dutch warships has aroused keen interest in naval and diplomatic circles here.

It is believed this decision is likely to bring about a situation that would plunge Holland into the war. International law, officials pointed out, fully warrants the dispatch of an armed convoy by a neutral state on the high seas to its own colonies, and this was done by nearly all maritime powers during the Napoleonic wars.

So far as the entente powers and America are concerned, it is said that the Dutch convoys would be treated with all the consideration demanded by international law. But it is not probable that German submarine commanders would act with any such consideration, as is indicated by their past treatment of Dutch and other neutral vessels.

If a German naval commander attempted to search, sink or make prize of any convoyed vessels, the Dutch commander would be obliged to defend them forcibly, and the first shot fired would amount to a declaration of war, in the opinion of officials here.

### Early Sentence is Asked.

Los Angeles—William H. Carlson, ex-mayor of San Diego and a banker here several years ago, was sentenced Saturday to four years' imprisonment for using the mails to defraud in the sale of Imperial Valley land.

Carlson pleaded his own case. He was convicted Friday, and asked Judge B. F. Bledsoe, in the United States District court, to impose sentence at once, rather than Monday, to shorten the nervous strain of waiting.

### Wolves Destroy Sheep.

Plains, Mont.—Thompson River ranchers report that wolves, from whom there has been little trouble in that district for years, are on the rampage again and have destroyed numerous sheep. Mountain lions had been blamed for losses, but when a determined effort was made to corral the robbers they were found to be wolves.

## \$500,000 FOR CANAL

Senator Jones Wires Government Will Spend That Sum in Development Work on Wapato Project.

Yakima—The government will spend \$500,000 in developing canals on the Wapato project within the next year. A telegram from Senator Jones Friday said congress had made that sum available to be spent immediately.

F. A. Wiggins of Toppenish and others in touch with the situation say this will mean 20,000 more acres put in cultivation on the reservation for 1919.

Superintendent L. M. Holt, in charge of irrigation development, will proceed immediately to organize crews to speed up construction, and will put on at once three drag line excavators and order another. The main canal will be extended several miles and the main lateral of the new system constructed this summer, as work on these will not interfere with the present distributive system. One machine working on drainage continuing work last fall was discontinued recently because the appropriation was exhausted.

This decision of congress to expend this sum for immediate construction is due to the fact that more acreage can be developed for crop production on the Yakima reservation for the same money than for any other place in the United States. The plan was approved by Charles Heberd, food administrator.

### Traffic Records Broken.

Vancouver, Wash.—Last Sunday was a record-breaker for inter-state bridge tolls. The receipts on the bridge, exclusive of streetcar revenue, which will run between \$500 and \$600, were \$931.10. Receipts one Sunday several weeks ago were \$930.30. Receipts from the streetcars will bring the total up to more than \$1500, it is thought. The fine weather was largely responsible for the unusually heavy traffic across the Columbia river.

### Women Study Tractor Driving.

Yakima—Twenty-two women, ranging from high school girls to mothers of families, enrolled in Yakima's first class in truck and tractor driving, assembled at the Y. W. C. A. Thursday, donned overalls and proceeded with the first lesson. The class was organized by the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. as a war emergency measure, and is part of the association's "win-the-war" campaign.

## NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Wheat—Bulk basis for No. 1 grade: Hard white, \$2.05. Soft white, \$2.03. White club, \$2.01. Red Walla, \$1.98. No. 2 grade, 3c less; No. 3 grade, 6c less. Other grades handled by sample. Flour—Patents, \$10 per barrel; whole wheat, \$9.60; graham, \$9.20; barley flour, \$14.50@15.00; rye flour, \$10.75@12.75; corn meal, white, \$6.50; yellow, \$6.25 per barrel.

Millfeed—Net mill prices, car lots: Bran, \$30.00 per ton; shorts, \$32; middlings, \$39; mixed cars and less than carloads, 50c more; rolled barley, \$75@76; rolled oats, \$73.

Corn—Whole, \$77 per ton; cracked, \$78.

Hay—Buying prices, delivered: Eastern Oregon timothy, \$29@30 per ton; valley timothy, \$25@26; alfalfa, \$24@24.50; valley grain hay, \$22; clover, \$19@20.00; straw, \$9.00@10.

Butter—Cubes, extras, 37c; prime firsts, 37c; prints, extras, 42c; cartons, 1c extra; butterfat, No. 1, 41c delivered.

Eggs—Ranch, current receipts, 34c; candled, 35c; selects, 36c per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 27c; broilers, 40c; ducks, 32c; geese, 20c; turkeys, live, 26@27c; dressed, 37c per pound.

Veal—Fancy, 18c@19c.

Pork—Fancy, 23@23c per pound.

Sack Vegetables—Carrots, \$1.15 per sack; turnips, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.25; beets, \$2.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 75c@ \$1 per hundred; new California, 10c per pound; sweet potatoes, 10c per pound.

Onions—Jobbing prices, 1@1c per pound.

Cattle—May 21, 1918.

Prime steers, \$13.00@14.00.

Good to choice steers, 11.50@12.50.

Medium to good steers, 10.00@11.00.

Fair to medium steers, 8.50@9.50.

Common to fair steers, 8.00@9.00.

Choice cows and heifers, 10.00@11.00.

Com. to good cows and hf, 6.50@8.00.

Canners, 3.00@5.00.

Bulls, 6.50@10.00.

Calves, 8.50@12.00.

Stockers and feeders, 8.00@10.00.

Hogs—

Prime mixed, \$17.40@17.50.

Medium mixed, 17.15@17.35.

Rough heavies, 16.15@16.35.

Pigs, 15.00@16.00.

Bulk, 17.35.

Sheep—

Prime spring lambs, \$17.00@17.50.

Heavy lambs, 16.50@17.00.

Yearlings, 12.50@13.00.

Wethers, 11.50@12.00.

Ewes, 10.00@10.50.

# GOOD ROADS

## TRACTOR AIDS ROAD MAKING

Successfully Used in New Hampshire in Conjunction With Regulation Road Machine.

In Atkinson, N. H., the farm tractor has been successfully used in making and repairing roads, doing away with horses.

A 20-horse-power tractor, as shown in the picture, was used in conjunction with the regulation road machine for rounding off the surface of the road and cleaning out gutters. It was found that the tractor not only easily does the work of six or eight horses, but better and in less time. Two men only are required as compared with four required with the former system. Besides, double the ground is covered.

When the tractor is used with the road drag, one man, driving the tractor, can round up and smooth as much state road in half a day as one man with a pair of horses in one day and a half. The tractor hauls four to six



Efficient Aid in Road Repairing.

cartloads of gravel in the same time that a two-horse team requires for one load. Figured in dollars and cents, the tractor could easily do \$24 worth of work at a cost of only \$8, with an additional saving of from 25 to 50 per cent in time.—Popular Science Monthly.

## RIGHT SYSTEM OF HIGHWAYS

It Should Include Everything From Expensive Concrete to Minor Dirt Wagon Ways.

What we need and in time will have is a system of highways which will ramify from the largest cities to the doorway of the humblest citizen—villager or farmer. Such a system of highways will include trunk lines with expensive concrete or brick surfaces for the very heavy traffic, including trucks and automobiles. Less used but important roads may be of waterbound macadam or gravel. Perhaps in certain regions where stone and gravel are not at hand oiled roads may prove most economical and practical. Minor wagon ways must remain of native soil, built and maintained with the road drag. Meanwhile antagonism to road dragging breeds in a lack of information or a narrowness which fails to comprehend the facts.—D. Ward King.

## BENEFIT OF IMPROVED ROADS

Make It Possible to Consolidate and Establish Graded Schools in Rural Districts.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

That improved roads would benefit our country-school system there would seem to be no doubt. Good roads make it possible to consolidate or centralize the schools and to establish graded schools in the rural districts. Such schools centrally located will accommodate all of the children within a radius of four or five miles. In many communities having the advantage of improved roads commodious buildings have been provided, more competent teachers employed, and modern facilities for teaching supplied at a minimum cost.

## EXPERIMENTS TO BE TRIED

Temporary Improvement of Sand Roads to Be Made by Use of Straw, Hay or Wire Grass.

For the first time an experiment in temporary improvement of deep sand roads by use of a carpet of straw, hay, or wire grass, sprinkled with tar or bituminous produce, will be tried on Wisconsin highways in the vicinity of Ria, Columbia county. It is hoped to devise methods which will fit the road for travel at small expense, and it is predicted that this straw carpet will last three years where traffic is not heavy. Other experiments in resurfacing highways are to be tried on the Baraboo-Kilbourn road. Thirty-four hundred sections have been staked out, and treatment of each will be different.