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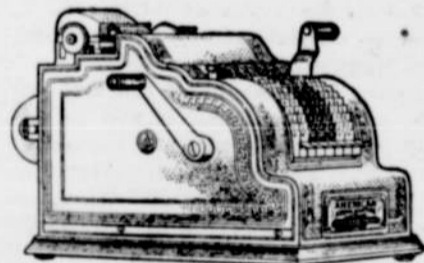
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Farm Legislation is Suggested By Department of Agriculture

In his annual report for the fiscal year, the secretary of agriculture indicates a number of measures for the betterment of agriculture, both on the production and marketing sides, and for the conservation of the resources of the nation. These measures await the consideration and action of Congress, and involve among others:

Legislation designed to promote the better handling and storage of farm products and the trading on the basis of fixed grades and standards, including a permissive warehouse act, a cotton-standards act, a grain-grades act, and provisions for a market news service to obtain and disseminate information regarding crop movements and prices.

A land mortgage banking act which shall inject business methods into the handling of farm finance and place farm securities upon the market in a responsible way.

Assistance to communities near the national forests in road building and similar improvements through a plan involving the advancement of funds for these purposes to be charged against the state's future share of receipts from the forests. This action would promote local development of agriculture and other resources.

More effective control over the production of hog-cholera serum. To accomplish this purpose, a definite plan, involving the establishment by the Federal government of a station for testing all serums intended for shipment in interstate commerce, is outlined for consideration.

Following are summaries of the sections of the report dealing with rural credits, warehouse legislation, and farm marketing. The question of rural credits is not discussed at length in view of the fact that a joint committee of the House and Senate has been preparing a bill on the subject. The report says:

Rural Credits

"It is expected that as a result of the deliberations of this committee legislation will be proposed which will furnish a practical solution of the problem from the financial view point. It is generally recognized that the rural credit problem is not a simple one. It is essentially complex. There is no single solution of it. Specific financial legislation on the part of the Federal government, or of the state, or of both, will not furnish a full solution. It seems clear that there should be a Federal law providing for a land mortgage banking system. It is a question whether by Federal action existing banking arrangements may not be modified as to bring them into closer contact with rural communities and with individual farmers, giving farm collateral more readily and fully the advantages of the rediscount feature of the Federal reserve act. It also seems clear that legislation on the part of the states permitting and encouraging the creation of personal credit-unions and removing

any obstacles that may exist to the easier and more orderly handling of farm finance should be enacted. Reinforcing such agencies, there would be at work all the great forces of the department of agriculture, of the land grant colleges and of the state agricultural departments. Their activities all contribute to make agriculture more profitable, to improve distribution, to eliminate waste, and to inject business methods into farming. In proportion as they accomplish these tasks they tend to solve fundamentally the whole problem of rural credits. Further Federal legislation vitally important to a more efficient agriculture, such as a cotton standards act; a grain grades bill, a permissive warehouse law, and proposals for the improvement of marketing conditions also will contribute directly to its solution.

"But even if the desirable legislation were enacted and were put into operation there still would be a vast amount of constructive work to be done by individuals and groups of individuals, including the farmer, the business man, and the banker. If these assume a helpful and constructive attitude, they will furnish indispensable support for practical reforms. All these forces working in combination can effect marked changes in conditions, especially of the very class of farmers whose state most critically excites interest and concern.

Warehouse Legislation

"Investigations conducted by the office of markets and rural organizations indicate that there is serious need of warehouse legislation. It would seem that the most desirable action on the part of the states would be the passage of laws which would guarantee the integrity of warehouse receipts. These laws should be uniform, so that the conditions governing such receipts may be the same throughout the country, thereby greatly increasing their availability as collateral for loans at distant-banking centers. The uniform warehouse receipts act is now in force in 31 states.

"In addition to the legislation that has been enacted or may be enacted by the states, it is believed that the enactment of a Federal warehouse law would be of great benefit. The general interest in the subject is well shown by the inquiries the department is constantly receiving. The proposed measure, which is permissive in character, would enable the department of agriculture to license bonded warehouses in the various states. It would promote the better storing of farm products, increase the desirability of receipts as collateral for loans, and therefore would be of definite assistance in financing crops. A Federal statute on the subject also would promote the standardizing of storages, of warehouse receipts, and of marketing processes."

The Farm Marketing Problem

A vital question that the farmers should ask themselves, according to the report, is what they can do with their produce when they secure it. In this connection it is stated:

"Even if the farms everywhere were of the requisite size for efficiency in production and reasonable diversification were practiced, the difficulties would not be solved. The farm unit which may be efficient for production still would have acutely to consider the problem of marketing. The farmer would not, through his own resources, be able to command easily the requisite transportation facilities or the daily information needed as to market conditions and the best near-by market, and in most cases would be at a disadvantage in bargaining with purchasers. The most promising solution seems to lie in the development of community cooperation or team work to determine what to produce, to employ the same methods, and to secure marketing information so as to enable producers to deal with buyers on an equal basis.

"There are problems, however, which under existing conditions neither efficient individual or community effort can solve. These can be reached only by legislation.

Need of Grades and Standards

"Among the difficulties of American farmers are lack of familiarity with, and remoteness from, the actual machinery of distribution and finance; absence of order or system in the conduct of business transactions; inadequacy of storage facilities for their products; and ignorance of what their products really are in the terms of market phraseology, as well as what they are worth. A producer of a manufactured article knows what it is and what it costs. He knows this better than the buyer. The reverse is true in agriculture. The solution of these difficulties involve a better system of warehouse receipts which will be acceptable a collateral; the establishment of standards and grades of grain and cotton and other staple crops; the trading in the market upon standard types or grades ascertained and fixed by the government, with supervision and control over the operation of exchanges as may be essential to secure justice for the producer, the consumer, and the intermediary.

"For the accomplishment of these ends it seems desirable that the cotton-futures act, which has been in operation about a year, should be supplemented by a Federal permissive warehouse act, a cotton standard act, a grain grades act, and a land mortgage banking act, which shall inject business methods into the handling of farm finance and place upon the market in a responsible way reliable farm securities."

Worked in the Hay Field

Arthur Jones, Allen, Kas., writes: "I have been troubled with bladder and kidney troubles for a good many years. If it were not for Foley Kidney Pills I would never be able to work in the hay field." Men and women past middle age find these pills a splendid remedy for weak, overworked or diseased kidneys. Orange Pharmacy.

Didn't Like the "New" Christmas.

The story is told of Thackeray that he was invited to a party at a country house where the host determined to make the experiment of keeping Christmas in "new style." Toward the conclusion of the feast, in which nothing common to a Christmas dinner figured, it was found that Thackeray had disappeared. He was discovered in a corner of the mansion regaling himself on beef and plum pudding, which he had bribed one of the servants to bring him from the kitchen table.

"Jul" Stamps For Christmas.

For some years there has been a Christmas stamp issued by the Denmark government. The Denmark stamp is issued by the postoffice and with the king's head on it and the word "Jul," which is Danish for Yule. It is issued each year at Christmas for the season, and every penny from its sale goes to help the fight against tuberculosis in Denmark. It costs a farthing and sells by the millions, having almost doubled its sale each year for the past few years.

Oregon delegates who may be elected to the different national party conventions for the nomination of presidential candidates must pay their own expenses as the old law allowing them \$200 each was repealed by the last legislature.

Presbyterian Church Services

Rev. Winfield S. Smith, Pastor
Sabbath Services
10:00 A. M. Sabbath School
11:00 A. M. Preaching
7:00 P. M. C. E. Prayer Meeting
8:00 p. m. Preaching
Wednesday
8:00 p. m. Prayer Meetings

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CHRISTMAS ROSEBUDS.

Charming Belief of Roumanian Peasants in Coming of the Christ Child.

Every year on Christmas eve, they say, the Christ Child, on his way to Germany, comes through the Roumanian hills to gather rosebuds and to kiss into the hearts of those he cannot carry a love charm which has power to awaken a lasting love in the heart of any one to whom it is presented, provided the gift is made in the open air in solitude before the hour of 10 and ere a word of greeting has been spoken. On the night before Christmas, therefore, the gypsy swains go rosebud hunting, and on Christmas day the chosen maidens who accept lovers' suits wear the buds.

What roses are to holiday Roumanian grapes are to gypsy France. Lovers divide a perfect bunch of them; beggars offer grapes to passersby, expecting in return a coin for each one taken. Similarly in Hungary lovers share a dumpling pie. In Italy a Christmas fagot, if it be the last in the bunch, is a token of affection and is saved to light the wedding fire when given by a maiden to her lover. In Spain there are colored lights and fireworks which lovers watch together. And in Somersetshire, England, where the Christmas thorn grows, it was long the custom for young people to gather underneath a thorn tree to hear the buds burst into bloom.

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