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The Athena Press

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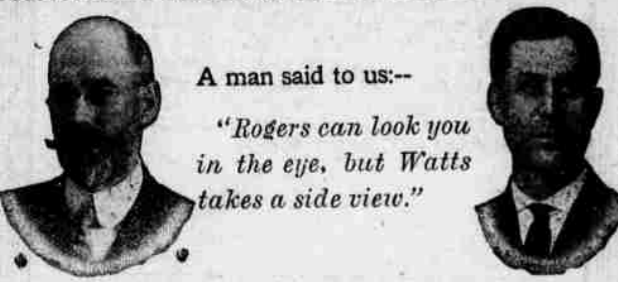
There is But One Instrument

Which actually recreates in all its splendor the golden voice of a great singer. That is The New Edison, the "phonograph with a soul." The perfection of

This Wonderful Invention

is relegating to obscurity the talking machines and other devices for sound reproduction which once seemed quite adequate. If you respond to beautiful music, call at our store and learn what the phrase, "Music's Re-Creation" means.

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Complete Furnishers of Homes, Offices and Schools—10-20 Alder St.
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"Rogers can look you in the eye, but Watts takes a side view."

Every day your chance is one less to secure one of those McCormick Combines. Order and after 6 days tell us if

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We have the best grain bin made, the best grain tanks and will put you next to the best farmer elevator.

Electric Washer and Rotary or Two-Spool Sewing Machines. A new shipment of Phonographs that play all records.

ONE NEW FORD TOURING CAR
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War Savings Stamp
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We carry the best MEATS
That Money Buys
Our Market is
Clean and Cool
Insuring Wholesome Meats.
LOGSDEN & MYRICK
Main Street, Athena, Oregon

Doubling the Farmer's Wheat Dollar

By Charles W. Holman
(In the Country Gentleman)

DOUBLING the farmer's share of the wheat dollar is one of the wartime jobs Uncle Sam has done since food control became possible. After five months of grappling with the problem, Uncle Sam is now translating into the pockets of both producers and consumers benefits derived by the Nation. He has shut off speculation, produced a free market and movement of all grades of wheat, cut expenses and induced a normal flow of wheat in natural directions, and effected a thousand other economies.

The Food Administration Grain Corporation, which supervises the sale, or itself buys every bushel of wheat produced in the Nation in its progress from country elevator to foreign buyers or domestic consumers, marks a new step toward national efficiency. How in four short months it has been done is told in the following episodes wherein two bushels of wheat traveled to market.
One fine fall afternoon, Col. Bill Jenkins, who farms somewhere in Missouri, loaded his wheat into a wagon and drove along the black road that led across the prairie to town. When he reached the co-operative elevator of which he was a stockholder, he pulled up on the scales, checked his gross weights carefully, and began to unload. The manager came out and asked:
"When you want to sell this wheat?"
"I dunno," he answered. "One time's about as good as another—these days. I won't weigh any more later," he added, with a dry smile.

"Wheat shrinks a lot," admitted the manager. "I hear the Government wants as much wheat as it can get just now—understand the Allies don't eat a terrible lot of it since the war."
"What's wheat to-day?" asked Col. Jenkins, getting interested.
"Well, let me see," parleyed the manager. "I guess this wheat'd be a good No. 2 under the new grades."
"Grades? What about grades?" That Food Administration seems to mix into mighty nigh everything from rabbits to axle grease.
"Hold on, Colonel," said the elevator man, good-naturedly. "The Food Administration is not to blame. Congress passed the act and told the Department of Agriculture to fix the grades. They became effective last July. I sent out a letter on it."
"Well, I guess you better sell for the best you can," said the farmer. "I am needed at home." And he drove away.

A New Order in the Grain World.
CONVERSATIONS of this kind might have taken place in almost every town in the great grain belt of the Nation after August 10; for revolution in grain marketing was taking place. Uncle Sam had started on this remarkable experiment; he was going to see whether wheat could be marketed minus rake-offs to the speculators. This necessitated complete control by the Government of storage facilities, transportation and distributive agencies, and the marketing machinery for wheat and rye.

Everybody was troubled; most of all, the officials of the Food Administration Grain Corporation who had undertaken, without salary, and at the sacrifice of their personal connection with the grain trade, to whip into shape the forces that would drive forward the big business machines for marketing American wheat. A single control; and a \$50,000,000 non-profit-making corporation to do the work.
This work is a necessary arm of the Food Administration, allowing the Government to do business quickly and without red tape. Its stock is held in trust by the President of the United States. For the time of the war it will supervise the rate or purchase the part commercially available of the 600,000,000 bushels of wheat and the 50,000,000 surplus of rye grown in America in 1917. Its job is to find a market for every bushel, irrespective of class and grade. Under its patronage, wheat screenings are moving just as easily as No. 1 Northern. It must also work out satisfactorily the local prices for wheat at each of almost 20,000 country elevator points, adjust thousands of complaints, organize the gathering and analysis of data, inspect concerns reported as dealing unfairly, solve vexatious disagreements among the trade, and deal effectively with the allies' purchasing agent and the neutrals who may desire to purchase.

In the early days, following the determination of prices for 1917 wheat by the President's Fair Price Commission, confusion existed in every part of the wheat-producing regions. This was intensified by the inauguration of the new grain grades, as promulgated by the Department of Agriculture, which took place about the same time, and led to diverse complaints and a feeling among farmers that the Grain Corporation of the Food Administration was responsible for both the price as determined and stricter observance of grain grades. But the corporation was responsible for neither act. It is purely

an administrative arm of the Government formed to buy grain or supervise its sale at the prices determined by the commission, and it must do its work on the basis of the new grades. But to return to our farmer and his expectations of price.
Introducing Two Bushels of Wheat.
Lying side by side in his wagon had been 2 bushels of wheat that fate had marked for strangely different ends. They were very much alike, those bushels of wheat, and to look at them you would not have suspected the strange and wonderful adventures in store for them. Yet one was destined to travel abroad for consumption in France; the other to find its way into Georgia, where it was milled and its bakers on the East Side. But in the sum of the travels made by the two, as we shall follow them, will be unfolded the international panorama of wheat marketing in time of war.

Finding a Price at a Country Point.
High war costs of production gave our Missouri farmer much concern as to his returns and accounted for his depression over the prospects of his wheat "grading down"; for that meant a reduction of 8 cents per bushel under the No. 1 grade. But it graded No. 2.
The elevator would also deduct an additional 5 cents a bushel to cover the handling charge made in this locality for fixed and selling. The 5-cent charge included the commission of 1 cent per bushel customary in 1917 among commission men for selling the wheat to domestic millers or foreign buyers.
The elevator man was none too sure as to how to get at the price which this wheat should bring. He knew considerably more about human nature than freight rates and decided to "check up" the problem to the nearest zone agent of the Grain Corporation. So he wrote a letter to the representative stationed at St. Louis. That letter was referred to the traffic expert in the New York office, who transmitted the following rule for determining the price of wheat at any country point:
"There is only one price for wheat at a country point. That price is always to be arrived at by taking as a basis the price at the most advantageous primary market where we have fixed a price and deducting the freight to that market and a fair handling profit. That is the price to be paid for wheat at any station, regardless of the point to which it may be shipped."
Working out the price which should be paid for wheat at your station is a fine occupation for an off day. If you cannot find the answer, write to the Food Administration Grain Corporation in New York City and its traffic expert will give you aid.

CORPORAL SEBASKY IS NOW IN FRANCE

Corporal Edward Sebasky, writing to his mother under date of Feb. 15, 1918 says:

"My dear Mother: We got here at our training camp. Had a great trip across France in side-door Pullmans. This sure is a nice country. The weather is just like spring over here. We have been quite busy today doing our washing and taking baths. It sure is great to settle down for awhile when you have been on the move like we have. When we landed in a port in France we went to a rest camp and stayed there a couple of days. They had catenets there and sold wine and ale. They sell champagne for eight francs, a bottle held about a quart, and you ought to have seen the corks hit the ceiling. Eight francs is about \$1.60, so that was not near as good as in the States. Jack bought ten bucks worth and they nearly fainted. They sure think we are it over here.

"We got some mail today, some papers and letters, so don't forget to send the Press and E. O. I sent you a letter from England. Tell George Winship's mother that he is O. K., but we left him in England. When we were in camp there one of the boys that was in his tent took the mumps and they quarantined the whole bunch.

"We got a look at the guns we are going to use. The barrel would more than reach across the dining room. We have not got our guns yet, but will get them next week I suppose. We get a chance to rest up this week. I suppose we will be able to get passes to go to town after awhile, but so far we have to stay in camp. We are not able to say very much in our letters. The captain reads them all to see we don't give the names of towns and any information that might be useful to the enemy, as there are a lot of spies around; and then we save a lot of time by having the letters censored here; because if they pass the captain, it's quite certain they are O. K. Otherwise a letter might get to New York and they would have to send it back. They do not censor the mail that comes to us. Will write you another letter as soon as we get our guns and things. We do not have a very long address, as they do not want to let the enemy know how many men there are at any one place. Will give you more news next time."

Chautauqua in June.
Athena will hold a five-day Chautauqua in June, the dates to be announced later. Twenty business men signed up as guarantors last Saturday which insures the holding of Athena's first series of entertainments of this character. The Chautauqua is the standard ten-number service, and will be held on after noon and evening in a big canvas pavilion, which in all probability will be located in the City Park. The program embraces different classes of entertainment and includes people of international reputation.

Begin Sidewalk Construction.
J. A. Barrett is making preparations for the construction of a concrete sidewalk in front of the C. A. Barrett & Co. Implement building on Main street, west of Second. The entire walk from Second street to the O-W depot will be replaced with concrete in the near future.

Seeding Spring Grain.
Indications are that a considerable acreage of spring grain will be sown in the farming country tributary to Athena. Many acres are now being put in readiness for seeding operations. The spring sowing will consist mostly of wheat, though a considerable acreage of barley will be sown.

Barber Shop Fire.
A destructive fire was narrowly averted by prompt action of the fire department Wednesday evening, when smoke and flames were discovered in the rear of Henry Keen's barber shop. The fire originated in the back room at the base of the hot water heater, after the shop had been closed for the night. The damage is slight, the small room being charred on the interior to some extent.

THE WEST TO FURNISH IMMENSE WHEAT CROP

"I never saw the wheat country looking better for a good crop than it is now," said E. T. Coman, president of the Exchange National Bank of Spokane, who returned to that city from a trip through the country as far as Pendleton.

"Winter wheat is in excellent condition and in many fields the grain completely covers the ground. There is an abundance of moisture and the grain has a good color and there is every indication that there will be one of the heaviest yields of fall sown grain in the history of that part of the country.

"There is great activity everywhere in Spring work in the Walla Walla country and in the western part of the Palouse country.

"Barring a rainy spell, Spring plowing and seeding should be finished in these sections by the middle of April. The ground is full of moisture and no rain is needed for some considerable time."

"SCRIBBLER" IS TAMPERING WITH CHICKENS AND CIGARS

After 23 years, James A. Scott, (Scribbler) has been heard from, and the opportunity again is presented the Press to chronicle a breezy line or two from his facile pen. He is located near Long Beach, Calif. and is engaged in the hen fruit business. He also grows tobacco and manufactures cigars for his personal consumption. That his stogies are appreciated by a friend once in awhile goes without saying. He writes to Postmaster Henry, an old tillicum as follows:

"Friend Chas. H.—Enclosed find a few obnoxious 'stinkers.' The weed was grown and rolled by yrs. truly. Should you have aspirations political, financial or otherwise, a few whiffs is guaranteed to curb or check the same instantaneously. If you have a grudge against any one, present the offender with one and mark the effects. To prove their merits in that respect, make a test case by trying the 'Jumbo' on Boyd; and if it don't bring results, call your humble servant a prevaricator. Said stinkers are of the vintage of 1917, and are guaranteed to retain all their original strength. After utilizing what you can of them, send the stubs to Bill Hohenzollern and help win the war."

\$250,000 IS VOTED FOR DEFENSE WORK

At Salem Thursday the Emergency Board authorized the creation of a deficiency in the sum of \$250,000 for the purpose of carrying on the work of protection of shipyards and other industries engaged in war work.

It is the intention in making the appropriation that all protection and guard units be co-ordinated in one centralized and mobile force, as nearly as those objects can be attained, and it is left to the general staff and the State Council of Defense to work out the details. It is probable that a state police or constabulary will be organized, or an organization to follow as closely along those lines as the military laws of the state will permit. It is also understood that the force, which is to be made up of a minimum of 300 effective men, with officers will be distributed about the state.

Headquarters of the organization will be in Portland, with some of the men in Eastern Oregon, some in Coos county and some in the Lower Columbia River country, including Astoria. The organization to be composed of four companies, of 50 men each, with the necessary officers added. Included will be a battery of motorcycles.

The Council of Defense had recommended the use of 80 horses for a troop, with three companies of guards, and a detachment of 15 motorcycles, but the board decided to recommend that the horses be eliminated as far as possible and motorcycles substituted in their stead.

Athena's Service Flag.

Athena is soon to have a Service Flag. The matter has been taken up by the ladies of the local Library Board, and a suitable flag will be secured, with separate stars to represent each and every Athena man now in the service. A star will be added for each man who later joins the colors. The Service Flag will be permanently draped in the Library window, and the Board desires all having photos of boys in the service, having gone from Athena or vicinity, to present them and they will be securely framed in a group, and also placed in the window. This is a special request, and it is hoped will be responded to at once.

Had Thumb Mangled.

Bert Davis, employed at the Richards chompl, came near losing the thumb on his right hand Saturday. While putting a belt on a pulley, his thumb was caught between the pulley and the belt, with the result that the flesh at the first joint was stripped and the bone fractured. Dr. Sharp gave the injury immediate attention and while Bert is forced to idleness for several days he has the satisfaction of knowing that his thumb is saved.

Affidavits By Farmers.

The federal employment bureau has issued a statement urging farmers to file affidavits for deferred classification of their farm hands, warning that they can't complain if they fail to do so and the men are taken in a new special draft. "Local boards cannot defer calling such men unless the farmer employer supports the men's claims with affidavits. Therefore it's very important that farmers immediately execute and file such affidavits with the local boards."

Clyde Charlton, who spent his boyhood days in Athena and who of late years has been an O-W locomotive engineer running engines out of La Grande, spent yesterday in the city renewing acquaintances. With other railroad men, he is on a temporary layoff until business picks up on the main line.

BUY NOW

Easter will soon be here, why not buy that new Suit, Coat, Silk Dress or pretty Skirt now, while we have complete stocks to show you. We have all sizes from 34 to 46 stouts and regulars. In buying for 197 busy stores, cutting out all over-head expense, we can suit your purse.

Ladies Suits \$16.50 to 35.00	Misses Coats \$14.75 to 18.50
Ladies Coats 9.90 to 35.00	Childrens Coats 2.98 to 7.90
Ladies Silk Dresses 14.75 to 22.50	Ladies Georgette Waists 3.98 to 5.50
Ladies Silk Skirts 4.98 to 8.50	"Crepe de Chine" 2.98 to 3.98
Ladies Silk Underskirts 2.98 to 4.98	Ladies Tub Silk Waists 1.98
Ladies Serge Skirts 4.98 to 7.90	Ladies Voile Waists 98c to 1.98

Just received, pretty new Shoes, such as Field Mouse, Toney Red and Khaki. You will certainly want a pair to go with that new Easter Dress.

J. C. Penney Co.

Incorporated
197 BUSY STORES