

New Quarantine Rules For Potatoes

Federal Regulations Published to Prevent the Spread of Powdery Scab.

THE new regulations governing the shipment of potatoes from Maine, which the presence of powdery scab in that state has necessitated, have now been promulgated by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and will take effect on August 1st. These regulations supersede the inspection hitherto carried on by the state authorities and are primarily designed to prevent the spread of powdery scab to other sections of the country. With this end in view the inspection is made especially strict for all seed stock. This must be grown from clean seed and in soil not infected with powdery scab and have been free from contact with anything through which they might have become infected with the disease.

The regulations provide that no potatoes shall be moved from any quarantined area unless they are duly certified as fit for either table or seed use and are packed in accordance with certain specified rules. To obtain the necessary certificates for shipments, growers must apply for inspection by a federal inspector and all potatoes intended for seed use must be stored and handled according to certain prescribed methods. Lots in which any of the potatoes are found to be infected with powdery scab or any similar disease will not be certified under any circumstances for seed use. They may, however, be certified for table use after the diseased potatoes are removed and destroyed.

The inspection will not be carried out in any warehouse in which the light is inadequate or where conditions are unfavorable for thorough work. The inspectors must at all times have access to any part of the warehouse or car. Furthermore, all seed potatoes must be packed for shipment in sacks or other suitable containers which do not hold more than 180 pounds net weight; and these sacks must never have been used before for holding potatoes. It is provided, however, that associations of shippers having suitable facilities outside of the State of Maine may ship to themselves in carload bulk under certain stipulations. All containers that have been passed for shipment are to bear a card with the words "seed potatoes" or "table potatoes" printed on it. This card will be issued by the Federal inspectors only and must be signed or initialed by the man who issues it. A certificate must also be issued for each separate consignment, one copy of which will be retained by the inspector, another copy by the railroad and the third by the consignor of the goods.

The rigid enforcement of these regulations will, it is believed, afford the necessary protection to all purchasers of seed potatoes while interfering as little as possible with the business of the growers. Copies of the regulations can be obtained from the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C.

Potato Question

"WHAT'S the matter with the potato?" is one of the first questions attacked by the Department of Industrial Survey in the new School of Commerce and Administration at the University of Oregon. The director of the survey, Hon. H. B. Miller, is collecting a vast mass of data on cost of production, transportation cost, middleman's profits, price to consumer, quality of product, shipping conditions and facts and figures tending to show the probable effect on the potato industry of the recent removal of the protective tariff.

The Oregon Agricultural College is co-operating with the university in this work. The college will supply data as regards cost of production in Oregon. The university is collecting data as to the cost of production in other states, such as Maine, Colorado and Idaho; foreign countries, such as Germany, Belgium, Netherlands and Japan; and freight rates from railroads, steamship lines and those agencies which provide for the teaming required for getting the product to market. Nearly a dozen different bureaus and departments of the Federal Government are contributing their data, as are such organizations as the Transportation League of the Chamber of Commerce of Portland and other commercial clubs and various corporations in the East and elsewhere. All this makes a mass of data never before collected.

"Sometimes the potato dealer has a fair general knowledge of his particular phase of the potato business, but this knowledge is not at the service of either the producer or the consumer," says Director Miller. "We are collecting this material for the general good of all concerned. There is not in existence, anywhere, a comprehensive analysis of the potato industry, such as we are working out. Who knows what will be the effect of the recent removal of the tariff? Who knows just how many potatoes Japan will be shipping to our shores in one year or two? What potato grower really knows with what conditions he is competing? Think of the advantage to him of being able to figure the exact cost of plowing, of fertilizing, of planting, of cultivating, of shipping, of marketing his product, and of knowing how these costs run in other producing districts. Now, he doesn't even know what his handicap is, or if he has any.

"I am perfectly amazed at the vast mass of undigested data which is coming to our department. I am amazed, too, at the fact that this expensive information has never before been put into usable form. Then, again, it's

surprising to realize the degree to which industry has been hampered by the lack of just such exact knowledge. Who knows where a starch factory would be a safe investment? An investor now has to invest largely by guess.

"The purpose of our Industrial Survey Department is to eliminate guessing so far as possible from one industry after another in Oregon, and to give that foundation of fact which will make Oregon investments safe and profitable, and bring prosperity to all."

UTILIZATION OF POTATOES.

THE industrial use of potatoes in Europe, but especially in Germany, has been treated at length in a monograph by Consul General Robert P. Skinner, of Hamburg, entitled "Utilization of Potatoes in Europe." The manufacture of starch, alcohol and dried potatoes for fodder is described, and some attention is given to the possibility of further developing these industries in the United States. The monograph has recently been issued by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce and copies may be obtained at 10 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington.

THE KANSAS CALL.

Her grain is standing in the field
And only waits the harvesting.
The bank account and auto yield
Is ready for the gathering.
So with insistent loud demands
Hear Kansas calling now for hands.

The poor are poor, the rich are rich,
The world with discontent is sick,
But Kansas does not care for sick,
She does not call for feet to kick,
But up and down through all the lands
Rings out her lusty cry for hands.

The world is full of untried schemes,
But Kansas means to let them lag,
She has prosperity, not dreams,
She does not call for tongues to wag,
So over all the hills and strands
Her holler comes for hands,
HANDS, HANDS.

TEMPORA MUTANTUR.

I remember when, not very long ago, our youthful merry
Sports were frowned upon, when night was coming on—
When a guardian with gumption would be scared we'd get consumption
If we stayed outdoors between the dusk and dawn;
When, a boy discovered lying on the ground was mourned as dying—
Or as good as dead! And I remember when
'Twas reckoned simple suicide to cast a shirt or shoe aside—
But times have changed a little bit since then.

We could read of how our fathers didn't have such pesky bothers,
How the old-time Injuns slept upon the grass;
How Arcandal Amaryllis never heard of a bacillus,
Though she lived among the illness-lucky lass!
Eudymion might charm us, but his moon-light naps would harm us,

And we couldn't sleep in dew damp moor or fen—
For when we called attention to his tale, our folks would mention
That times had changed an awful lot since then.

We're returning now, you'll notice, to the lovely Land of Lotus,
And the "night air" doesn't cause but cures a cough,
We defy the windy season now, for "listen, there's a reason—"
Clothing cures consumption (if you take it off).
Our grandmothers were silly when they warned us that a chilly
Day was rather hard on narrow-chested men.
And we moderns hear no more of what, perhaps, was a rule a score of
Years ago. You see the times have changed since then.

ASK ME NO MORE.

Ask me no more. The moon may draw the sea.
The cloud may stoop from heaven and take the shape.
With fold to fold, of mountain or of cape.
But, oh, too fond, when have I answered thee?
Ask me no more.
Ask me no more. What answer should I give.
I love not hollow cheek or faded eye;
Yet, oh, my friend, I will not have thee die!
Ask me no more, lest I should bid thee live.
Ask me no more.
Ask me no more. Thy fate and mine are sealed
I strove against the stream and all in vain
Let the great river take me to the main.
No more, dear love, for at a touch I yield.
Ask me no more.
—Alfred Tennyson.

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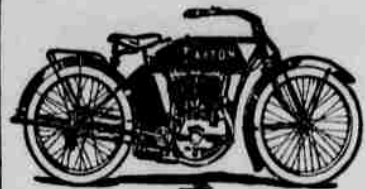


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