

OVERPRODUCTION IS FARM TREND

GROWTH IN CROP ACREAGE FORSEEN; HOPE IN LOW PRODUCTION COST.

By O. E. BAKER, Senior Agricultural Economist, United States Department of Agriculture.

The present agricultural situation has many causes, but among the most important may be mentioned excessive production, changes in diet, and changes in exports and population trend.

Increase in agricultural production has been more rapid since 1922 than in any previous period since 1900. The production of farm products between 1917 and 1926 increased nearly 14 per cent, while population increased only 8 per cent.

LESS MEAT EATEN

Changes in diet affect the farm situation considerably. It takes about six pounds of corn to produce a pound of dressed pork, about sixteen pounds of grain or equivalent feed to produce a pound of dressed beef; consequently, a shift from a cereal toward a meat diet means a notable increase in the consumption of farm products. The reduction in meat consumption means a reduction in crop acreage needed and may result in the increasing surplus of foodstuffs. If it continues it will aggravate the agricultural situation.

Exports of foodstuffs to Europe have decreased in recent years.

Provided immigration does not increase, it is believed that in 20 or 30 years the population will begin to decline. The effect of a declining population upon agriculture would be most serious, unless conditions should be such as to facilitate exports.

OVERPRODUCTION DANGER

In the next decade, it is likely tractors and autos will continue to replace horses or mules. If this process of replacement goes on, there will be 15 to 20 million acres more of crop land released to feed milk and meat animals, instead of being used to feed horses and mules.

In addition, better conditions have brought about a great improvement in the amount of meat and milk produced per unit of feed consumed.

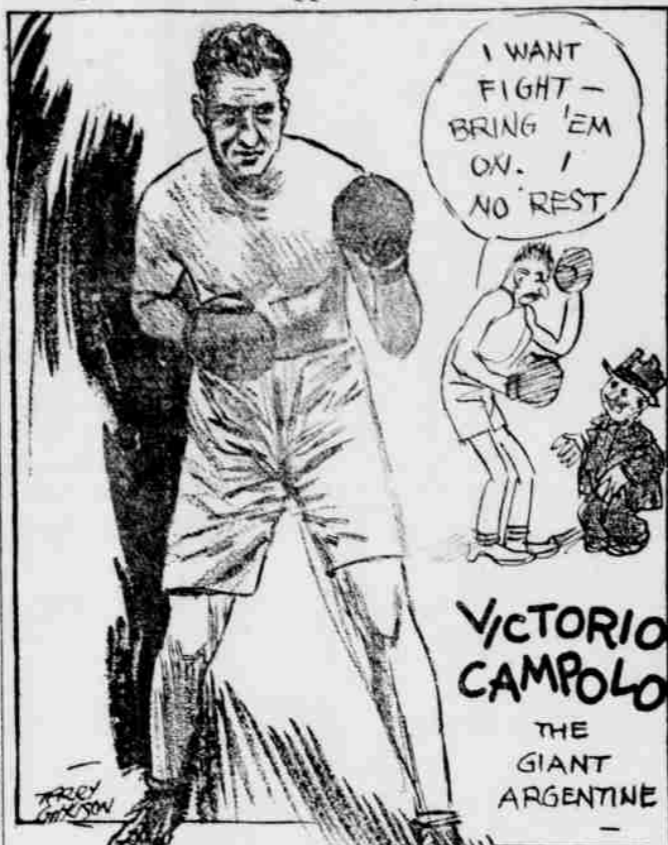
These factors are capable of increasing agricultural production more rapidly than the increase in human population, but whether they will do so no one can state positively. There are many other factors that may intervene.

All that can be said is that the approach of agricultural production and consumption on a price level that will place the farmer on a par with the average of other occupations has been retarded for nearly a decade.

A RAY OF HOPE

Most American farmers sell on

Fight Fans Roar Approval of Giant Campolo



Devoted followers of the fistie sport are going loco over the 28 year old cowpuncher from Buenos Aires, Victorio Maria Campolo. The awed whispers that followed his smashing knockout of gallant Tom Heeny have grown to delicious yells of approval. The suspicion that the giant Argentinian is the Champion the fight world is seeking has become a certainty to some excited fans.

the basis of the world's market, and they seem likely to continue to sell there. They have found it profitable to do this in the past largely because of the greater use of power than in most other countries, and greater production per farmer; while in recent years they have acquired the further advantage of more efficient livestock than most foreign lands possess.

These two advantages can be further developed; and if, in addition, the prices of things farmers buy should go down, it would be quite possible for the farmer to recover economic equality with other occupations—despite the prospect of a stationary or possibly declining population 20 or 30 years from now.

FARM POINTERS.

The practice of discing land for fall grain is an undesirable one, believes the Oregon Experiment station, unless the land has been spring plowed and is in good physical condition in the fall, or unless the ground is being prepared for such crops as vetch and mixtures of vetch and oats for hay. For the

production of fall wheat or barley or even oats for grain, it is believed best to plow.

Experienced poultrymen are careful not to feed enough protein to force the birds into laying before maturity. For Leghorns this is about six months of age, and for Rocks and Reds about a month later. If the laying mash is gradually



introduced before this maturity date, the birds will be ready to go into the laying house on full laying rations, says the Oregon Experiment station.

Worthless dockage, such as weed seed, chaff, dirt and straw can be kept out of the wheat by proper tillage and cultivation practices and by proper adjustment of the thresh-

ing equipment, says the Oregon experiment station. It is best to remove the valuable dockage, such as oats, and wild oats, vetch, etc., before marketing.

Mr. and Mrs. Werner Rietmann were Heppner visitors Friday from their farm home near Ione, having completed the wheat harvest with a good yield.



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Stanley Minor, Agt., Heppner

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