

STEADIER HOG MARKETS PLANNED AT RECENT LIVESTOCK CONFERENCE

Hog Producers and Packers Confer With Representatives of Food Administration and Agricultural Department and Adopt New Plan of Regulation.

In accordance with the policy of the Food Administration since its foundation to consult representative men in the agricultural industry on occasions of importance to special branches of the industry, on October 24 there was convened in Washington a meeting of the Livestock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board and the special members representing the swine industry to consider the situation in the hog market.

The conference lasted for three days, and during this time met with the executive committee of the fifty packing firms participating in foreign orders for pork products and with the members of the Food Administration directing foreign pork purchases.

The conclusions of the conference were as follows:

The entire marketing situation has so changed since the September joint conference as to necessitate an entire alteration in the plans of price stabilization. The current price talk has alarmed the holders of corn, and there has been a price decline of from 25 cents to 40 cents per bushel. The fact that the accumulations of low priced corn in the Argentine and South Africa would, upon the advent of peace and liberated shipping, become available to the European market has created a great deal of apprehension on the part of corn holders. This decline has spread fear among swine growers that a similar reduction in the prices of hogs would naturally follow. Moreover, the lower range of corn prices would, if incorporated in a 13-to-1 ratio, obviously result in a continuously falling price for live hogs. In view of these changed conditions many swine producers anticipated lower prices and as a result rushed their hogs to market in large numbers, and this overabundance has added to and aggravated the decline.

The information of the Department of Agriculture indicates that the supply of hogs has increased about 8 per cent., while the highest unofficial estimate does not exceed 15 per cent. increased production

production for which the Food Administration asked. The increase in export demands appears to be amply sufficient to take up the increase in hog production, but unfavorable market conditions existing in October afford no fair index of the aggregate supply and demand.

It must be evident that the enormous shortage in fats in the Central Empire and neutral countries would immediately upon peace result in additional demands for pork products which, on top of the heavy shipments to the allies, would tend materially to increase the American exports, inasmuch as no considerable reservoir of supplies exists outside of the United States. It seems probable that the present prospective supplies would be inadequate to meet this world demand with the return to peace. So far as it is possible to interpret this fact, it appears that there should be even a stronger demand for pork products after the war, and therefore any alarm of hog producers as to the effect of peace is unwarranted by the outlook.

In the light of these circumstances it is the conclusion of the conference that attempts to hold the price of hogs to the price of corn may work out to the disadvantage of pork producers. It is the conclusion that any interpretation of the formula should be a broad gauged policy applied over a long period. It is the opinion of the conference that in substitution of the previous plans of stabilization the Live Stock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with the specially invited swine representatives, should accept the invitation of the Food Administration and the packers in determining the prices at which controlled export orders are to be placed. This will be regularly done. The influence of these orders will be directed to the maintenance of the common object—namely, the stabilization of the price of live hogs so as to secure as far as it is possible fair returns to the producer and the insurance of an adequate future supply.

These foreign orders are placed upon the basis of cost of hogs to the packers.

As the result of long negotiations between this body and the Packers' Committee, representing the 45 to 50 packers participating in foreign orders, together with the Allied buyers, all under the chairmanship of the Food Administration, the following

undertaking has been given by the packers:

In view of the undertakings on the part of the Food Administration with regard to the co-ordinated purchases of pork products, covered in the attached, it is agreed that the packers participating in these orders will undertake not to purchase hogs for less than the following agreed minimums for the month of November, that is a daily minimum of \$17.50 per hundred pounds on average of packers' droves, excluding throw-outs. "Throw-outs" to be defined as pigs under 130 pounds, stags, boars, thin sows and skips. Further that no hogs of any kind shall be bought, except throw-outs, at less than \$16.50 per hundred pounds. The average of packers' droves to be construed as the average of the total sales in the market of all hogs for a given day. All the above to be based on Chicago.

We agree that a committee shall be appointed by the Food Administration to check the daily operations in the various markets with a view to supervision and demonstration of the carrying out of the above.

The ability of the packers to carry out this arrangement will depend on there being a normal marketing of hogs based upon the proportionate increase over the receipts of last year. The increase in production appears to be a maximum of about 15 per cent, and we can handle such an increase.

If the producers of hogs should, as they have in the past few weeks, prematurely market hogs in such increasing numbers over the above it is entirely beyond the ability of the packers to maintain these minimums, and therefore we must have the co-operation of the producer himself to maintain these results. It is a physical impossibility for the capacity of the packing houses to handle a similar over-flood of hogs and to find a market for the output. The packers are anxious to co-operate with the producers in maintaining a stabilization of price and to see that producers receive a fair price for their products.

(Signed) THOS. E. WILSON, Chairman Packers' Committee.

The plan embodied above was adopted by the conference.

The Food Administrator has appointed a committee, comprising Mr. Thomas E. Wilson, chairman of the Packers' Committee; Mr. Everett Brown, president of the Chicago

Livestock Exchange; Major Roy of the Food Administration, Mr. Louis D. Hall of the Bureau of Markets, to undertake the supervision of the execution of the plan in the various markets. Commission men are asked to co-operate in carrying out the plan embodied in the packers' agreement. It must be evident that offers by commission men to sell hogs below the minimum established above is not fair, either to the producer or the participating packers. Mr. Brown has undertaken on behalf of the commission men in the United States that they will loyally support the plan.

It is believed by the conference that this new plan, based as it is upon a positive minimum basis, will bring better results to the producer than average prices for the month. It does not limit top prices and should narrow the margins necessary to country buyers in more variable markets. It is believed that the plan should work out close to \$18 average.

Swine producers of the country will contribute to their own interest by not flooding the market, for it must be evident that if an excessive over percentage of hogs is marketed in any one month price stabilization and control cannot succeed, and it is certain that producers themselves can contribute materially to the efforts of the conferences if they will do their marketing in as normal a way as possible.

The whole situation as existing at present demands a frank and explicit assurance from the conferees represented—namely, that every possible effort will be made to maintain a live hog price commensurate with swine production costs and reasonable selling values in execution of the declared policy of the Food Administration to use every agency in its control to secure justice to the farmer.

The stabilization methods adopted for November represent the best efforts of the conference, concurred in by the Food Administration and the Livestock Subcommittee of the Agricultural Advisory Board, together with special swine members and the representatives of the packers, to improve the present unsatisfactory situation, which has unfortunately resulted because of the injection of uncontrollable factors.

We ask the producer to co-operate with us in a most difficult task.

The members of the Conference were:

Producers—H. C. Stuart, Elk Garden, Va., chairman Agricultural Advisory Board; W. M. McFadden, Chicago, Ill.; A. Sykes, Ida Grove, Ia.; John M. Evard, Ames, Ia.; J. H. Mercer, Live Stock Commission for Kansas; J. G. Brown, Monon, Ind.; E. C. Brown, president Chicago Livestock Exchange; N. H. Gentry, Sedalia, Mo.; John Grattan, Broomfield, Col.; Eugene Funk, Bloomington, Ill.; Isaac Lincoln, Aberdeen, S. D.; C. W. Hunt, Logan, Ia.; C. E. Sancy, W. R. Dodson.

Food Administration—Herbert Hoover, P. S. Snyder, Major E. L. Roy, G. H. Powell.

Department of Agriculture—Louis D. Hall, F. R. Marshall.

The packers present and others sharing in foreign orders were represented by the elected packers' committee. Those represented were:

Packers—Armour & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cudahy Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Morris & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Swift & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Wilson & Co., Chicago, Ill.; John Agar Co., Chicago, Ill.; Armstrong Packing Co., Dallas, Texas.; Boyd Dunham & Co., Chicago, Ill.; Brennan Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Cincinnati Abattoir Co., Cincinnati, Ohio.; Cleveland Provisions Co., Cleveland, Ohio.; Cudahy Bros. Co., Cudahy, Wis.; J. Dold Packing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Dunlevy Packing Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; J. E. Decker & Sons, Mason City, Ia.; Evansville Packing Co., Evansville, Ind.; East Side Packing Co., East St. Louis, Ill.; Hammond Standish & Co., Detroit, Mich.; G. A. Hormel & Co., Austin, Minn.; Home Packing & Ice Co., Terre Haute, Ind.; Independent Packing Co., Chicago, Ill.; Indianapolis Abattoir Company, Indianapolis, Ind.; International Provision Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Interstate Packing Co., Winona, Minn.; Iowa Packing Co., Des Moines, Ia.; Powers Begg Co., Jacksonville, Ill.; Kingan & Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; Krey Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Lake Erie Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Layton Co., Milwaukee, Wis.; Oscar Mayer & Brother, Sedgwick and Beethoven streets, Chicago, Ill.; J. T. McMillan Co., St. Paul, Minn.; Miller & Hart, Chicago, Ill.; J. Morrell & Co., Ottumwa, Ia.; Nuckolls Packing Co., Pueblo, Colo.; Ogden Packing and Provision Co., Ogden, Utah; Ohio Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Parker Webb & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Pittsburg Packing and Provision Co., Pittsburg, Pa.; Rath Packing Co., Waterloo, Ia.; Roberts & Oake, Chicago, Ill.; Rohe & Bros., New York City; W. C. Routh & Co., Logansport, Ind.; St. Louis Ind. Packing Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Sinclair & Co., T. M. Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Sullivan & Co., Detroit, Mich.; Theurer-Norton Provision Co., Cleveland, O.; Wilson Provision Co., Peoria, Ill.; Western Packing and Provision Co., Chicago, Ill.; Charles Wolf Packing Co., Topeka, Kan.

POCKET SPACE AN ESSENTIAL NOW.



Pocket space is an essential, now that all America is carrying small packages, instead of having them sent as in pre-war days. The gray coat, with checked lining and trimming, is so designed that big roomy pockets are available. The serge, with its chic, straight lines, is very exclusive—but, above all, practical and serviceable.

Mountain Meadow Butter
Manufactured by
SANDY CREAMERY CO.
The name "Mount Hood Butter" has heretofore been used by permission of the Mount Hood Ice Cream Co., which has all its dairy products registered under that title. That permission has ceased, hence the change of name, which became effective on January 1.
"Mountain Meadow Butter" will be found at all the leading stores in the county. Ask for it.

KELSO

Robert Jonsrud, captain of the United War Work drive in this district, with the following committee, were busily at work last week. Angela Canning, E. Nelson, Joe Hall, Mrs. C. Timmerman. To date, \$322.40 has been raised of our quota of \$343.50 which includes the fifty per cent increase.

School opened Tuesday after the enforced vacation.

Mrs. J. Albel is home, convalescing after an operation at a Portland hospital.

Walter Shriner, of Estacada, is employed in Robert Jonsrud's shop. Hazel Dunn returned from a trip to Salt Lake City with relatives. While there she was sick with influenza.

Mrs. P. W. Canning went to Butte, Montana, on receiving the sad news of the death of their eldest daughter two weeks ago.

Kelso, Nov. 19, 1918.

I wish to thank the people of my district who so generously and wholeheartedly contributed in the recent War Work campaign. Of our quota of \$343.50 which includes the fifty per cent increase, \$322.40 has been raised to date. It speaks well for the good citizenship of people who have so harmoniously supported the seven organizations which are united in a common cause—the good of our boys over there.

ROBERT JONSRUD,
Captain Dist. No. 19.

SANDY.
A telegram was received from the war department yesterday that Edward Hoffman, of company C, 28th infantry, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Hoffman, was a prisoner in Germany. He left home October 5, 1917, and last Christmas was on the ocean on his way across. The last letter received from him was dated July 9, and on September 1 an official telegram was received that he was missing in action July 21. On the last of September a telegram from the Red Cross prison relief stated that an Edward Hoffman, of the 109th United States infantry was a prisoner at Rastatt, but later reported that it was a mistake.

A telegram was received from the war department Tuesday by Mr. and Mrs. P. Gray, of Sandy, stating that their son, Alex, of company G, 109th U. S. infantry, has been missing since October 6. He left home June 23 and 3½ months later was reported missing. His last letter home was dated September 24.

COTTRELL
E. F. Andre, of Portland, visited Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Ball Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Craswell went to Ocean Park, Washington, to visit Mrs. M. C. Brown. Mr. Craswell is suffering from a severe attack of asthma.

S. F. Pitts has rented the Arnold Ruegg place and expects to move on it after Christmas. Mr. Pitts is going into the dairy business.

Miss Hazel Goger spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Goger. Miss Goger is attending Reed college in Portland.

Mrs. Harry Chase is substituting in Miss Burke's place in the Lusted school. Miss Burke has been having the influenza.

PHOTOS
ALL KINDS AND ALL SIZES
New Gallery
PICTURE FRAMING
GILT OR NATURAL WOOD
Neat and Cheap
MAX SCHNEIDER
Mathews' Bldg, Main Street
Phone 541

LUSTED

A bear has been quite troublesome to G. Lusted of late. It evidently got hungry and visited the orchard to eat apples. It tore down fences as fast as they could be built. Several men in the neighborhood watched, and also set a trap for the bear. They think it went back across the Sandy river.

Mathew Rauw and several others went over into Washington on a fishing and hunting trip last Saturday, returning home Sunday.

School started here again Monday after being closed on account of the epidemic. There have been a few cases in this community. Mrs. Phil Eder and family were quite sick but are better now.

Mrs. Ellen Chase is filling the vacancy in the Lusted school for Miss Burke, who is unable to teach this week on account of illness.

SANDY BLUFF
Mrs. Wm. Andrews, who has been sick, is much improved.

Mrs. Melvin Andrews is receiving treatment in a Portland hospital. Melvin is down on a ten-day furlough.

School opened Monday with a fair attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Chandler spent Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks and family.

Mrs. Randolph Spier is improving after a slight attack of the "flu."

Word was just received that Jerome Brook and Walter Kock arrived safely overseas.

TO BE NO LETUP IN SAVING OF FUEL
Fuel conservation must continue, although war has ended, according to Fred J. Holmes, Oregon Fuel Administrator. The state has never been called upon to observe many of the stringent fuel regulations enforced in eastern states, on account of being peculiarly well situated with regard to fuel sources. But waste is inexcusable, and by conservation methods of heating, not only may fuel be saved for future emergency, but money saved as well.

The National fuel administration order of May 13, restricting the sale for road purposes of asphalt, road binders, road oil, tar binders and dressings has been cancelled, and shipments of these materials may now be made without special permit or filing application with the state highway department.

Tailoring
For men and women—cleaning, pressing and repairing done well. Peter Lenard, Powell street.

Bargains in the want ads.

BAKING EXCELLENCE
Allows us to compete with all rivals. The ingredients of our bread and pastries are in strict conformity with the war regulations and the neatness of our bakery has given us the highest sanitary rating. Patronize a home industry.

CITY BAKERY
Gresham. Phone 11.

SCENIC

Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich and Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Killin, of Hillsview, were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan.

Mrs. Ellen Chase is teaching in the Lusted school this week for Miss Burke.

Mrs. B. C. Altman is in the Good Samaritan hospital for surgical treatment.

Mrs. D. D. Jack received word that her son, C. C. Jack, who is with the 220th Engineers, has been appointed sergeant.

FAIRVIEW
School has been closed again on account of a number of cases of influenza and no services will be held in the churches on Sunday.

Lawrence Harvey and Clyde Stone, who are both members of the S. A. T. C. at Oregon Agricultural College, were at home over Sunday.

POWELL VALLEY
Services will be held at the Swedish Lutheran church next Sunday morning at 11:45 and in the evening at 7:30 o'clock. Rev. John Truedson, the pastor, will preach.

AUCTION SALE
ON THE CORBETT FARM
Corbett, Oregon.
MONDAY, NOV. 25, 10:30 A. M.
FOUR GOOD MARES
Shires and Belgian—Weight from 1500 to 1700
Sow and Boar, Chester White
Gas Engine, Feed Mill, Binder, Mower, Grain Drill, Hayloader, Hayrake, Tedder, Gangplow, Oliver Plow, Steel-Dipper Plow, Subsoil Plow, Hoover Digger, Kepler 6-row Sprayer, Spring Wagon, Bugy, Low-wheel Farm Wagon, two-horse Planet Jr. Cultivator, Bement 2-horse Weeder, Cabbage Planter, Bean Harvester, Acme Drag, Spike tooth Drag (three sections), Spring-tooth Harrow, Steel Land Roller, Cream Separator, Babcock Milk Tester, Planet Jr. Hand Cultivator, Planet Jr. Garden Drill, Wheelbarrow, Grass Seeder, Cart, Hay Carrier, Hay Forks, Pitchforks, Potato Forks, Manure Spreader, Potato Grader, Disc Harrow, Harness, Saddle, Household Furniture and many other articles too numerous to mention.

SALE RAIN OR SHINE **FREE LUNCH AT NOON**

TERMS—Sums under \$20 Cash. Over \$20 six months' time on approved security.

R. P. RASMUSSEN, Owner
W. S. WOOD, Auctioneer A. MEYERS, Clerk

OUR PATRONS PRAISE US EVERY DAY THAT SHOP FOR MINE IT WHEN THEY SAY!

We Have Heard a Lot
about the compliments that our patrons are paying us, and we want to say right here and now, "Mr. and Mrs. Customer, we thank you. Your kind words are sending your friends to this shop, and we are going to treat them right. Again, we thank you."

GRESHAM MARKET
A. J. W. BROWN, Prop.
Gresham, Ore.