

DIVERSIFIED FARMING TO WAGE WAR URGED BY HOUSTON IN ANNUAL REPORT UPON PREDATORY WILD ANIMALS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—That there is no emergency which justifies government assistance to farmers directly through the use of government cash or credit, was the position taken by Secretary Houston of the department of agriculture, in discussing rural credits in his annual report submitted today to President Wilson. Secretary Houston's statement was regarded as indicating the policy of the administration.

Secretary Houston pointed out that the new bank law "takes just and particular knowledge of the farmers' requirements." He suggested that any credit needs of the agricultural community beyond those cared for under the federal reserve law should be cared for by a system of "co-operative credit associations," financed with private funds, by means of which the combined credit of farming communities could be utilized, and by a system of land mortgage banks, likewise privately capitalized.

Hoof and Mouth Disease
Secretary Houston asks congress for an additional emergency appropriation of several million dollars on account of the recent outbreak of the foot and mouth disease among cattle.

Meat Decline
While the production of grain generally showed a great increase in the crop of 1914, the report pointed out, the production of corn showed no advance, and the meat production showed a distinct decline. In this connection the secretary points out a "lamentable neglect of livestock production in the south."

The secretary's report includes a table giving the census figures for 1899 and 1909, showing that in all products except corn and meat animals there has been a marked increase in production during the ten-year period. Continuing, the report says:

Greatest Apple Crop in History
"We know that the wheat crop of 1914 of approximately 822,000,000 bushels is the greatest ever produced in our history, and that the crops of oats, barley, rye, potatoes, tobacco and hay are unusually large. The cotton crop forecast in October at 15,340,000 bales, is the second largest. The apple crop, estimated at 259,000,000 bushels, is the greatest ever harvested. The total production of six leading cereals is estimated to have been nearly 5,000,000,000 bushels, or about 428,000,000 bushels in excess of the crop of 1913. As for the country as a whole, the crop yields per acre were 2.5 per cent better the average for the past ten years. The average yield per acre of all the staple crops was 9.4 per cent greater than 1913, and, except for corn, oats, and flaxseed, greater than the ten-year average."

"But after all our efforts, while there is an increased diversification of agriculture and both a relative and absolute increase in important products, such as wheat, forage crops, fruits, dairy products and poultry, we still note not only a relative, but also an absolute decrease in a number of our important staple food products, such as corn and meat."

Urges Diversification
In urging farmers generally to diversify their products and especially to produce beef, swine and poultry, at least for home consumption, the secretary said:

"If farmers in the south had heretofore practiced diversification on a sufficiently large scale, producing their own home supplies, that section would not be in its present hard case. The experts of this department are laboring earnestly to bring about a better direction of the agricultural activities of the south."

GRAND JURY PROBE FOR COURT GRAFT

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 11.—Judge Sturtevant of the superior court let it be known today that he will empanel a special grand jury to investigate charges that Horton Phipps and Arthur Crist traded on their connection with Judge Wiley Crist, a police magistrate, to extort money from defendants whose cases were set for hearing in Judge Crist's court.

Phipps is under arrest and a warrant for Crist was sworn out today. Phipps was first accused by J. C. Wilson, a bankrupt broker charged with embezzlement, of offering to sell immunity if the firm of Crist, Von Schrader and Cadwallader, in which Horton Phipps was a clerk, was retained. Similar charges were brought last night by Mrs. Sadie V. Thompson, a money-lender.

According to the announcement of the district forester at Portland, Oregon, the recently passed agricultural appropriation bill contained a provision by which \$100,000 is to be set aside toward the destruction of predatory animals.

It is estimated that over \$15,000,000 worth of stock is destroyed annually in the United States through the depredations of such animals as wolves, coyotes, wildcats, cougars and bears.

While the Biological Survey will have charge of the work, the forest service will co-operate with them in the regions of the west where there are National forests. The service has already had some experience in hunting wild animals. The invasion of the National forest range in years past by wolves, coyotes and cougars has been very marked, and it has at times been found necessary to employ trained hunters to trap and kill these invaders. The rangers, too, have done excellent work in trapping and poisoning these preying animals. But the service has been handicapped for lack of funds to spend in hiring men for this purpose and furnishing them with the necessary arms and ammunition. Hence, the work done has been but a temporary relief.

Now, however, that an appropriation has been made, the work can be carried on with some hope of success, and stock owners, both inside and outside of the National forests, may look forward to the time when their sheep and cattle will be free from the attacks of these rapacious marauders.

As a result of this activity on the part of the federal government, the stock owners themselves have awakened to the needs of the situation. At a recent meeting of the Oregon Wool Growers' association, a resolution was passed and a petition mailed to Washington, urging congress to make an appropriation of \$200,000 for the extermination of predatory animals in the United States. While it is felt that the present appropriation of \$100,000 will do much good in reducing the menace, it is not sufficient to bring about a permanent relief. Therefore, congress is urged to increase the appropriation with a view to the complete extermination of all predatory animals in every part of the United States where they have done damage to stock.

GEORGE ADE COMEDY AT STAR THEATRE

There is a comedy at the Star by George Ade that every man and woman that has ever run for office or is planning to do so should see, for it is a complete history of a political campaign from the time the committee visited the prospective candidate until the election reports were all in and delivered to the victim.

The Hearst-Seelig news, with scenes direct from the battlefields, are becoming very popular and are shown only at the Star Friday-Saturday and Monday-Tuesday. On the program today and tomorrow are also two splendid two-reel features, "The Last Mail Sack," with Helen Holmes, and "The Iron Master," from the Biograph studios.

DRUGS EXCITE YOUR KIDNEYS, USE SALTS

If your Back is aching or Bladder bothers, drink lots of water and eat less meat.

When your kidneys hurt and your back feels sore, don't get scared and proceed to load your stomach with a lot of drugs that excite the kidneys and irritate the entire urinary tract. Keep your kidneys clean like you keep your bowels clean, by flushing them with a mild, harmless salts which removes the body's urinous waste and stimulates them to their normal activity. The function of the kidneys is to filter the blood. In 24 hours they strain from it 600 grains of acid and waste, so we can readily understand the vital importance of keeping the kidneys active.

Drink lots of water—you can't drink too much; also get from any pharmacist about four ounces of Jad Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast each morning for a few days and your kidneys will set fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to clean and stimulate clogged kidneys; also to neutralize the acids in urine so it no longer is a source of irritation, thus ending bladder weakness.

Jad Salts is inexpensive; cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which everyone should take now and then to keep their kidneys clean and active. Try this, also keep up the water drinking, and no doubt you will wonder what became of your kidney trouble and backache.

BOMBS SIGNAL FOR LUDLOW FIGHT SAYS RAILROADER

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 11.—Information concerning the battle of Ludlow April 20 last, between militia, mine guards and strikers, was brought out today at the hearing of the United States industrial relations commission.

H. C. Farber, agent of the Colorado & Southern railroad at the Ludlow station, testified that two signal bombs fired from the militia camp opened the battle. He said that un-

viously he had watched the militia and strikers firing at Water Tank hill. Major Patrick J. Hanraoch, commanding the militia, had been in conference with Louis Tilos, leader of the strikers, he said, and had told him he was "afraid something was going to happen." The witness said he recognized mine guards among the militia.

Farber asserted he had been prevented from dressing the wounds of a Greek boy by Lieutenant K. E. Linderfelt, who took the lad away as a military prisoner. He said he had tried to protect women and children of the miners during the battle.

Attention A. F. & A. M.
Work tonight in the M. M. degree at 8 o'clock. Visitors welcomed.
A. N. HILDEBRAND, Sec.

INTERVENE TO PREVENT RAILROAD STRIKE

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 11.—W. L. Chambers, chairman of the federal board of mediation and council, will intervene again in the threatened strike of trainmen on the St. Louis-Southwestern railway, according to an announcement of W. C. Turner, one of the union leaders today.

Mr. Turner yesterday invoked the good offices of the federal board and telegraphed to Mr. Chambers that the labor leaders were willing to have Mr. Chambers count the recent strike vote. This action was taken after President Britton of the railroad had expressed doubt whether two-thirds of the union employed by the railroad had voted to strike.

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