

GREAT DRIVE BY ARMY OF SOIL FOR YEAR 1918

Annual Report of Secretary of Agriculture Tells How American Farmers Have Responded to the Food Needs of United States and Allies—Greatest Increase in History.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—How American farmers responded to the food needs of the United States and the countries with which it was associated in the war is described in detail in the annual report of the secretary of agriculture, David F. Houston, made public today.

For wheat and other leading cereals and for potatoes, tobacco and cotton, farmers in 1918 planted 289,000,000 acres, an increase over the preceding record year of 5,600,000. It is especially noteworthy, the secretary points out, that, while the acreage planted in wheat in 1917 was slightly less than that of the record year of 1915, it exceeded the five-year average (1910-1914) by 7,000,000; that the acreage planted in 1918 exceeded the previous record by 3,500,000; and that the indications are that the acreage planted during the current fall season will considerably exceed that of any preceding fall planting.

Food Supply Grows
Notwithstanding adverse climatic conditions in 1917, especially for wheat, and in 1918 especially for corn, the secretary reports that only 1915 has exceeded either 1917 or 1918 in the aggregate yield of wheat and other leading cereals.

"The estimated total for 1917," he explains, "was 5,726,000,000 bushels and for 1918, 5,638,000,000 bushels, a decrease of approximately 160,000,000 bushels. But the conclusion would be unwarranted that the available supplies for human food or the aggregate nutritive value will be less in 1918 than in 1917. Fortunately, the wheat production for the current year—918,920,000 bushels—is greatly in excess of that for each of the preceding two years, 650,828,000 in 1917, and 636,218,000 in 1916, and is next to the record wheat crop of the nation. The estimated corn crop, 2,749,000,000 bushels, exceeds the five-year pre-war average by 17,000,000 bushels, is 3.4 per cent above the average in quality, and greatly superior to that of 1917."

Turning to live stock, the secretary notes that the number of pounds of beef for 1918 is given at 8,500,000,000 pounds, as against 6,079,000,000 for 1914, the year preceding the European war; and that the total for 1918 of beef, pork, and mutton is given at 19,495,000,000 pounds as against 15,587,000,000 pounds for 1914.

Value Greatly Increased
On the basis of prices that have recently prevailed, the secretary says, the value of all crops produced in 1918 and of livestock on farms on January 1, including horses, mules, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, is estimated to be \$24,700,000,000 compared with \$21,325,000,000 for 1917 and \$11,700,000,000, the annual average in the five-year period 1910 to 1914. This greatly increased financial showing, the secretary explains, does not mean that the nation is better off to that extent, or that its real wealth has advanced in that proportion. Considering merely the domestic relations, the true state is indicated rather in terms of real commodities. The increased values, however, do reveal that monetary returns to the farmers have increased, proportionately with those of other groups of producers in the nation and that their purchasing power has kept pace in the rising scale of prices.

Yields in Crops
Yields in 1918 of the major food crops were as follows, the secretary reports, according to unraised estimates: 2,749,198,000 bushels of corn; 918,920,000 bushels of wheat; 1,635,297,000 bushels of oats; 236,505,000 bushels of barley; 76,687,000 bushels of rye; 18,370,000 bushels of buckwheat; 41,918,000 bushels of rice; 61,182,000 bushels of kafir; 390,101,000 bushels of Irish potatoes; 88,114,000 bushels of sweet potatoes; 17,802,000 bushels of commercial beans; 40,185,000 bushels of peaches; 10,342,000 bushels of pears; 197,360,000 bushels of apples; 6,549,000 tons of sugar beets; 29,757,000 gallons of sorghum syrup; 52,617,000 bushels of peanuts.

The estimated 1918 production of all the cereals, 5,638,077,000 bushels compares with 5,796,332,000 bushels in 1917, and 4,883,819,000 bushels, the average in the five-year period 1910-1914. On January 1, 1918, it is estimated, there were on American farms 21,563,000 horses, compared with an average of 20,430,000 in the five years 1910-1914; 4,824,000 mules, compared with 4,346,000; 23,284,000 milch cows, compared with 20,876,000; 43,546,000 other cattle, compared with 38,000,000; 48,900,000 sheep (an increase, for the first time in many years, over the preceding year) compared with 51,929,000; 71,374,000 swine, compared with 61,365,000.

Meat Production
The estimated 1918 production of beef, 8,500,000,000 pounds, compares with 7,384,007,000 pounds in

The Tourist Agent



FINE SHOWING IN REDUCTION OF CITY INDEBTEDNESS

The finance committee of the city council has made the following report upon city finances showing a reduction of \$67,000 in the bonded indebtedness, in spite of hard times and a low tax levy:

Bonds Paid Off
Your attention is called especially to the bonds called during the past two years. In spite of the depressed conditions due to the war we point with pride to the following bonds paid off during the last two years:

General bonds, city.....	\$15,000
General bonds, city hall.....	5,000
Street improvement bonds, water.....	\$11,000
Street improvement bonds, sewer.....	1,000
Street improvement bonds, paving.....	35,000
Grand total, \$67,000. This has stopped an interest charge of almost \$4000 a year.	\$47,000

This showing is remarkable for three reasons:

1st—Never before in the 40 years history of Medford have any bonds of any kind been paid off. Some issues have been refunded twice until the city has paid in interest alone twice the original debt. The city still owes for the old water ditch, pumping plant and tower discarded long ago; long before the memory of most of our citizens.

2nd—The payment of \$47,000 of street improvement bonds is more remarkable because of the fact that prior to two years ago it was quite generally thought that the city could not pay these street improvement bonds except by levying a tax as in the past, yet without a tax the council has paid off \$11,000 in water, \$1,000 in sewer and \$35,000 in paving bonds during the past two years of its administration.

3d—That while previous councils had levied a general tax running into a number of mills to pay interest on improvement bonds not one cent has been levied by the present council for that purpose during the past two years and what is more important, none is provided for in next year's budget. And, too, last month there was enough surplus that we were enabled to call and pay off the entire original Main street and Oakdale avenue paving in full.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.
1917; 10,500,000,000 pounds of pork compares with 8,450,148,000; 495,000,000 pounds of mutton and goat meat compared with 491,205,000; 8,429,000,000 gallons of milk produced in 1918 was 141,000,000 pounds more than in 1917 production; 299,921,000 pounds of wool; 18,029,000 pounds more than 1917; 1,921,000,000 dozens of eggs, 37,000,000 dozens more; 589,000,000 head of poultry, 11,000,000 more.

RESERVE BOARD PREDICTS ERA OF PROSPERITY FOR U.S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Confidence that the nation will go through the readjustment period without serious difficulty is expressed by the monthly review of the federal reserve board, made public today, which reflects the observations of the board's trained agents in all parts of the country.

The extreme scarcity of labor has been relieved by the lessening activity of munition and other strictly war work plants and by demobilization of the armed forces the report states, adding that the general level of prices had begun to decline slightly before the armistice was signed. "In some districts," says the review, "it is already reported that cancellation of government contracts has altered the commercial aspect very profoundly, besides influencing for the worse the ability of concerns with high cost inventories to pay taxes. On the other hand, readjustment of labor, in a way that will restore the employes in munitions and other war plants in their old lines of industry is regarded as essential and will be a problem of the immediate future. Whether it will be practicable to take all of the floating supply of labor off the market as fast as it appears is now admitted to be a serious question.

"The readjustment period is expected to be short, is the opinion in some districts. It is, however, reported from important sections, largely those engaged in agricultural occupations, that comparatively little readjustment will be necessary and that ample outlet for everything that can be produced is already seen. "The future is regarded with general confidence and but little pessimism or fear is evident."

Cut This Out—It Is Worth Money
DON'T MISS THIS. Cut out this slip, enclose with 5c and mail it to Foley & Co., 2835 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup; Foley Kidney Pills, for pain in sides and back; rheumatism, headache, kidney and bladder ailments; and Foley Cathartic Tablets, a wholesome and thoroughly cleansing cathartic, for constipation, biliousness, headache, and sluggish bowels.—For sale by Medford Pharmacy.

Leonard Carpenter who has been in Portland and Salem for a few days returned home this morning.

COUNTY AGENT TO GIVE HOME DEMONSTRATIONS

Miss McCormick, the home demonstration agent, has made plans to give a series of food demonstrations in Medford. The city has been divided into five sections and a demonstration is to be given in each section, thus making it more convenient for women to attend. Miss McCormick is especially anxious to reach the mothers of small children but all women are welcome to attend.

Three of these demonstrations will be given the second week in December and two during the third week. Below is given the date and the location.

- Dec. 10th—Mrs. Hurd, 1136 West Tenth street.
- Dec. 11th—Mrs. Stewing, 531 West Palm.
- Dec. 12th—Mrs. L. B. Brown, 309 South Central.
- Dec. 17th—Mrs. DeVore, 1107 East Main.
- Dec. 18th—Mrs. Currier, 420 Beatty.

All women in the city who are interested are asked to come to the demonstrations given nearest to their home. These demonstrations will begin promptly at 2 o'clock and women who wish to attend are asked to be on time.

NEW ELECTRICAL STORE OPENS NEXT MONDAY

The opening of the Electrical Home Supply company at 111 West Main street, will occur Monday, December 9. Everything is new and up to date and they carry all kinds of electrical supplies, washing machines, ranges, vacuum cleaners and do all kinds of electrical wiring and repairing, having expert electricians. This is a new store in Medford and they would appreciate your calling. They have a nice line of things electrical for Christmas.

RAISE PERU LEGATION TO RANK OF EMBASSY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—With the approval of President Wilson, Secretary Lansing has asked congress to raise the American legation at Lima, Peru, to the rank of embassy. Peru has signified a desire to appoint an ambassador to the United States and the administration wishes to agree.

RULE OF TYRANNY BRINGS MISERY TO STARVING RUSSIA

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 7.—The Dutch minister at Petrograd, who has arrived in Holland by way of Germany, spoke freely of the conditions brought about by Bolshevism in Russia and appealed to the workmen of all nations against Bolshevist tendencies.

The minister characterized Bolshevism as "the end of civilization." Translated into practice, he declared, the Bolshevist principles are "high wages for no work, the taking of others' property without punishment and no taxation."

"The state of unemployment in Petrograd is terrible," the minister said. The situation is one of utter exhaustion. The people do not know how they will exist from day to day. I never dreamt of such corruption and tyranny and the absence of all semblance of freedom.

"The future to me seems hopeless. One thing is certain and that is if she is left as she is now, Russia will be completely and utterly ruined."



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AS we've all been working and living under a stress—the tendency may be to let the tension break with a snap. A too sudden letting down might loosen that strangle hold we've taken on Thrift—to let go easily and gradually.

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Wm. G. Tait President.



PAGE THE HOUSE OF BIG FEATURES

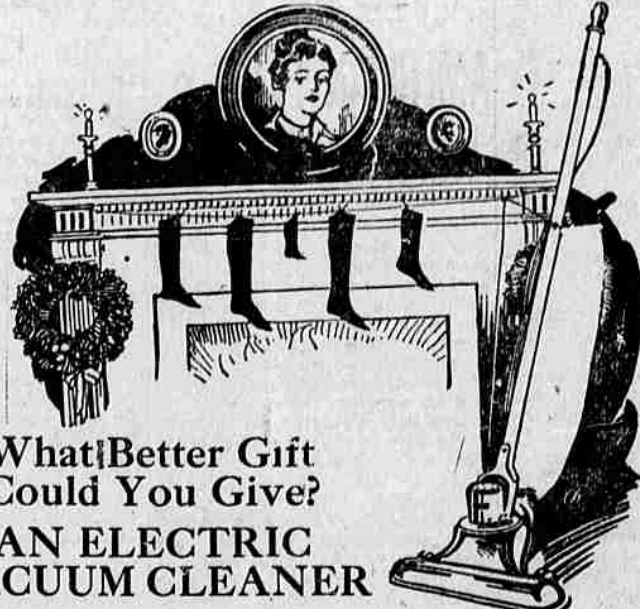
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The Feature "FROZEN WARNING" Orchestra Sunday Matinee and Evening. Adults—25c Children—10c



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California-Oregon Power Company
Phone 168 Medford, Oregon

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I Tim. 1:15.

You are invited to the Apostolic Faith Mission.

HALFWAY.—Baker corncripp post road, approved at Washington, will cost \$100,000.