

Farm Trend Indicates Overproduction Danger

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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.

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.

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.

Most American farmers sell on the basis of the world's market, and

Here's Howe

BY E. W. HOWE
"The Sage of Potato Hill"



The Hundred Days—Good Conduct—Advice

Fiction is a poor thing compared with facts. I suppose I know the story of the Siege of Troy, from having read a little of it, and hearing of it many years. It never interested me, its incidents seeming childish, specially that one of the river taking sides, and leaving its banks, at command of the gods, to inconvenience some of the combatants.

But I read of Napoleon, a real man, with absorbing interest. Every little while there is a new book about him, and I am not satisfied until I get hold of it. His life was crowded with incidents an ordinary man can in some measure understand.

His first wife had an impudent, troublesome, highly-bred and ugly little dog he hated; he was so frequently away from home on his big affairs that the dog did not know him, and it occasionally bit the conqueror. He tried to bribe a servant to get rid of the dog, but could not, with all his power.

I have heard all my life that when a man "amounts to something," his wife reverences and obeys him. Probably Napoleon amounted to more, considering everything, than any other man that ever lived, yet both his wives were unfaithful, and made a specialty of nagging him.

To my mind the most remarkable incident in Napoleon's life was his return from Elba. He was a prisoner of the allied nations, after his disaster at Waterloo. His own country was in hostile hands; his soldiers and turned against him. Yet he landed in France, almost alone, and marched toward Paris. As encountered soldiers sent against him,

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 horses 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,

he spoke to them, and they were converted to his cause; when he approached the gates of Paris, he had a vast army at his heels, and the king fled, taking his treasure with him, which the people on the other side of France captured to lay at the feet of this impudent, strangely powerful and lovable man.

He walked the steps of the king's palace, removed his travel-stained clothing, went to bed in security, and fell asleep to the sweet sound of "Long live Napoleon!"

In all his omnipotence God never witnessed a stronger scene.

When good conduct does not pay, I do not urge it; indeed, I believe that when a man's conduct is not generally profitable, it is not good, and he should change it. The scheme of life contemplates a healthy, normal body, and in 95 per cent. of births is natural inheritance. The details food getting, shelter, association with pleasing creatures of our kind, and thus conduct is born. As it is good or bad, we succeed or fail.

When most people talk, they are merely barking what others have said.

The utility of good advice has often impressed me. A gentleman in Michigan who has long made a business of giving advice about securing employment, and who has written extensively on the subject, writes to me to confess he is out of a job, and cannot find one. Somehow this old gentleman reminds me of a doctor who has spent all his life in advising others as to health, and is himself ill, and writing to others for advice.

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.

Texas claims 45 square miles of Oklahoma; the big state took a long time to discover that anything was missing.—Cincinnati Times-Star.

Marion Nixon Weds



Marion Nixon, film star, married Edward Hillman, son of the late Chicago millionaire merchant.

Wed Secretly



Louise Urie, Broadway star, whose secret marriage on May 23 to Sidney Packner, actor, has just recently been discovered.

We learn from the press that the Rockefeller foundation recently gave Yale seven and a half million dollars. This should entitle John D. to one seat on the ten-yard line.—Judge.

The farm board plans to increase the price of farm products without increasing the cost of living. It is not known what other miracles they expect to perform.—Southern Lumberman.

If Edison's postage can resist temptations offered by vaudeville managers, magazine publishers and lecture bureaus to tell how he succeeded, he has the stuff in him for success.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Heart to Heart Talk

By Dr. John Joseph Daines

PERSPECTIVE

It is a marvelous spring morning. I am looking out through the window as I write; the summit of a purple lilac bush is visible; its blooms in process of formation. The cooing sunbeams are at work. When I have finished this sketch, I shall hurry outdoors and get all of the wonderful picture; one cannot see much from a window case.

So much depends on one's vantage point. So much that is essential to really intelligent living, I cannot see all that is for me, unless I hasten to the broad view.

A long time ago, an author wrote, "The West Through a Car Window." He saw a mere ribbon of the west, some fifty miles wide. It was very interesting—what he saw, but meager in scope.

There are big things outdoors; one cannot see them through a car window, much less understand them.

I believe it is the duty of every man and woman, to secure the best viewpoint possible; yet there are those who exclaim loudly, while looking through a knot-hole in the park enclosure.

Especially are people so about serious things—like religion and politics. Men condemn church and state, while viewing these colossal edifices through a crack in the fence! Hundreds and thousands of men and women are voting today on questions that they think they see through their key-hole! "If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."

The extent of my enjoyment this splendid morning, will depend on how thoroughly I get acquainted with all the entrancing things spread for my understanding, by mingling, seeing, touching, tasting; my happiness cannot be complete, unless I fully understand.

The welfare of our great nation depends on the capability of its sovereign voters; they must not peep through key-holes, cracks and narrow casements.

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