

FARM SITUATION

Babson Says Give The Farmers A Break

By ROGER W. BABSON.

Babson Park, Mass., Mar. 19.—Backed by the drive for Victory Gardens and as Spring draws closer my thoughts and those of countless others turn naturally to the production of food.



BABSON

England has been successful in increasing her productive acreage. What she can do, we can do here. Hence, I advise all who can to have a small subsistence garden this year. Place your seed orders now, but don't over-buy.

ECONOMICS OF FARMING
I have no concern over the amateur gardener. He will do a good job on his little home tract. In the course of the Summer he will raise a good many wholesome vegetables to supplement his rationed foodstuffs. Thus, in writing today, I am more fearful over the plight of the man who makes his livelihood from farming.

Whether we like it or not, we are with the farmers. I have at times taken exception to their demands and have not much use for the farm blocs. Yet, I recognize that they have many real troubles. The demand for foodstuffs continues while some 2,000,000 farm workers have left to go into industry and the armed services. This alone is a major headache.

FOODSTUFFS AND INFLATION

Unquestionably farmers are in agreement with wage workers and others and do not want excessive inflation. This is being controlled now to some extent but is still advancing too rapidly. Farmers want the haggling over the Parity question by the Administration stopped and consideration given to the increase in farm operating expenses. While being asked to produce more foodstuffs farmers are up against one bureau trying to increase food production, another drafting farm labor and a third stopping production of farm tools.

A good deal can be said in sympathy for the current position of the farmers. Most of them who are workers are not looking for subsidies. What they want is a reasonable price for their products and a small margin after expenses are deducted. The average farmer has not been able to build up much of a financial backlog and hasn't any money to lose. But many of them would be able to weather the next depression if they could make a profit now. Farmers as a rule are careful spenders for tools, buildings and other equipment. What they might obtain now would relieve future capital expenditures at a time when cash may be tight.

FARM EQUIPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Farmers are the real rugged individualists. They are dead against too much tinkering with the institution of property. They do not want the noose of government to so tighten that it may lead to dictatorship and socialism. They are proud of their independence and proud of their ownership of land. In common with many others, they still re-

gard it as the only real property. But they simply cannot understand many of the rules and regulations from Washington that restrict their purchase of new equipment and new parts for old equipment.

Livestock farmers in particular are having great trouble in moving their products. This is not only true in connection with their own truck transportation which is rapidly wearing out, but also in connection with rail transportation. Railroad personnel is, of course, decreasing by reason of men going into the armed services and in connection with their employment in war industries. Coupled with the need for hauling great quantities of war goods the railroads cannot be blamed. Adequate farm power and transportation are vital to the operation of any farm and our Washington representatives should provide it.

FARM REQUIREMENTS AND PROBLEMS

The United States has some 10,000,000 farmers and millions of productive acreage and grazing lands. By any comparison, agriculture is a big business. As such it involves certain obligations. Yet, many farmers are so constituted that they chafe under red tape restrictions and regimentation. Certainly, industrial management too has its labor, material, transportation and many other problems. But both groups have buckled down under the load and done an unprecedented job of production since Pearl Harbor.

Farmers resent ceilings on any kind of farm crops, particularly without adequate floors. But under our present managed economy, rightly or wrongly, the old rule of supply and demand is out for the window. The farmer cannot understand this and needs some definite encouragement. Certainly, if the rest of us, in view of lend lease requirements and rationing, are going to eat, the farmer ought to be at least provided with the tools of his trade. He needs a little hog wire, a few tires, gasoline and repair parts but above everything else he needs help in terms of manpower. The re-classification of draftees up to age 45 may go a long way toward solving the farm labor problem. It is a welcome move on the part of the Manpower Commission.

Food Conservation Sponsored by Office of Civilian Defense

Under the sponsorship of O. C. D. all Home Economists in North Carolina have volunteered their services to teach all families—urban and rural—how to conserve the foods produced under the Food for Freedom Program, so that no one in North Carolina will go hungry during the winter of 1943-44.

In organizing this program, Mrs. Stella R. Cusick of the Farm Security Administration, Miss Catherine T. Dennis of Vocational Home Economics and Miss Ruth Current of Extension met with Dr. John Fox Kendrick of O. C. D., who is State Chairman of the Nutrition Committee and worked out plans for (1) a workshop on the State level, at which time Home Economists on the State and District level met together to work out plans for reaching on the last row in the whole State. (2) worked out plans for these Home Economists to give demonstrations in every county in the State, first to the paid Home Economists in the county and then to all of the Sector leaders in the communities and towns of the county. In this two day meeting plans are to be worked out so that trained Home Economists paid and volunteers—will give demonstrations in every zone in towns and every rural community, so that leaders thus trained can reach every fam-

ily in every county.

This is the first time in the history of the State that all organizations have worked together to put over a coordinated program of Food Conservation that will reach every family in the State—with uniform information. So impressive was this program that Washington not only sent representatives to the State meeting, but also asked that a copy of the plans for the meeting be sent to them to be distributed to every State in America.

On March 23rd and 24th Mrs. Lucy P. Gentry, District Home Management Supervisor, will be in Louisburg for a two day demonstration. On the 23rd Mrs. Gentry will give demonstrations in canning, brining, and drying to paid Home Economists of Home Economics, Farm Security, Extension and Commercial fields. On this day they will also work out plans for reaching all rural families in the county, with trained Home Economists—paid and volunteer—giving demonstrations to rural leaders throughout the county. Plans will be made for these leaders to give demonstrations to small groups of farm women so that all will be reached. On March 24th, Sector leaders will be given this same demonstration. Plans will be worked out with them for reaching



MOVING UP—Papuan carriers of the Southwest Pacific Islands are shown here as they cross a river in the jungles bearing a case filled with Red Cross comfort articles for U. S. servicemen in the front lines of the Pacific theatre of war.

every woman in towns and villages with demonstrations. They will enlist the services of all trained Home Economists—paid and volunteers—in giving these demonstrations.

At the State meeting Governor Broughton stated that this was not a matter of patriotism, but of grim necessity—not a matter

of volunteering but of dedication. It should stir the pride of every North Carolinian that our State is taking the lead in a matter so vital in the present emergency.

The fellow who always wants to run everything probably will balk at the lawnmower this spring.

WAR BOND QUIZ

- Q. If War Savings Stamps should be lost, stolen, or destroyed, can they be replaced?
A. No. They should be kept in a safe place and exchanged for War Savings Bonds at the earliest opportunity.
- Q. When do War Savings Bonds mature?
A. Ten years from the issue date.
- Q. Can a Bond be issued in the names of two persons as co-owners?
A. Yes, but only individuals may be so named. Corporations, associations, churches, and lodges may not be named as coowners.
- Q. What steps should be taken when a Bond is lost, stolen, or destroyed?
A. The Treasury Department, Division of Loans and Currency, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, Ill., should be notified immediately, reference being made to the series, year of issue, date, denomination, and serial number of the Bond, and the name and address of the registered owner. Instructions as to proof required will then be sent you.



By Gib Crockett.

Remember—the longer you keep War Bonds, up to 10 years, the more valuable they become.

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Cotton for Army

Atlanta, Ga., Mar. 15.—From the fields of Dixie came the cotton to manufacture duck cloth for the Army sufficient, if woven into one piece, to completely cover Washington, D. C. and the county of Arlington, according to figures for the fiscal year 1942 released by the Quartermaster Branch, Fourth Service Command.

And this is but one item purchased from the farms of the nation in the gigantic job of supplying America's war-time Army, the report shows.

Here are some examples: If milk were motor fuel, the amount purchased by the Army in the past fiscal year, would be sufficient to run all the motor cars in the cities of New York and Chicago for one day.

The Army has purchased sufficient cans of food, if laid side by side, to reach more than twice around the earth at the equator. The hens of the nation were kept plenty busy supplying the Army with eggs, for a sufficient number of eggs were purchased to build a six lane highway, two and a half inches thick from Washington to Baltimore. Or, if one hen laid all the eggs used by the Army in the past year, it would take her 20 years, at the rate of one egg a second.

In the past year, the Army has purchased a sufficient number of shoes to require the hides, fur, furs and uppers, of one half of all the cattle slaughtered in the United States during the year.

And Uncle Sam believes in the adage that a "penny saved is a penny earned." It is disclosed in records covering shoe and clothing repair shops. During the year 3,000,000 shoes have been repaired at the post repair shops with a dollar value of \$4,600,000 clothing, individual barrack and organizational equipment repaired during the last nine months is valued at \$5,800,000.

A. J. Eubanks, of Hookerton, Greene County, is delighted with his 4 acres of Loblolly pines, set two years ago. He has 95 percent of a stand and the trees average three feet in height.

FOR RICH FLAVOR AND EXTRA MILDNESS, CAMELS ARE FOUR-O!

Camel COSTLIER TOBACCOS

IN THE COAST GUARD they say: "SACK DRILL" for take a nap "FISH" for torpedo "FOUR-O" for very good, or tops "CAMEL" for the favorite cigarette with men in the Coast Guard

FIRST IN THE SERVICE
With men in the Coast Guard, Army, Navy, and the Marines, the favorite cigarette is Camel. (Based on actual sales records in Canteens and Post Exchanges.)

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