

COLUMN FOR THE FARMER FRIENDS

Farm Legislation.

When congress tackled the problem of controlling speculation in grain and cotton it opened up a question of more far-reaching importance than any it has attacked since 1914. When the hearings were begun by the house committee on agriculture not many witnesses were present, but before the day was over it was clear that the significance of the movement had not been overlooked. Representatives of big grain exchanges were among the first to ask for an opportunity to be heard, following the testimony of those who favored the bills. A dozen or more measures are proposed, ranging all the way from limiting future trading of certain classes to plans for price fixing under government control.

As soon as representatives from the cotton-growing states appeared, it was clear that all the old controversy concerning the functions and influence of the cotton exchanges would be brought up for consideration. It was also shown that not only was the system of trading in grain on trial, but that speculative operations in all lines were involved, and that a new precedent would be set if a law should be passed.

Wheat Farmers Holding.

Thousands of farmers in the western grain states are holding their wheat. The Wheat Growers' Association of the United States, a new organization born yesterday and claiming 100,000 members today, boasts that to it is due the credit for this action. The strong and well-seasoned Farmers' Union also urges holding and demands credit for its part in the movement. Various other farm organizations make similar claims. And finally a lot of individual farmers say they are holding on their own volition. Thus a number of parents claim the child, but of them all the new association, which has its headquarters in Wichita, Kansas, is most active.

About a year and a half ago A. Slaughter, of Manchester, Oklahoma, conceived the idea of a national organization of wheat growers banded together for their mutual interest and to obtain a price for their product based on cost of production. Delegates from Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas met at the first convention of the Wheat Growers' Association of the United States in Hutchinson, Kansas, last May. They elected officers and fixed the price of \$3.13 a bushel for wheat at the growers' terminal market as giving cost of production plus a profit. It is not necessary to tell here how they arrived at this figure, any more than to say that the estimated cost of raising a bushel of wheat derived from data supplied by 144 wheat growers. At a second meeting during the past summer the price asked was reduced to three dollars. In September came the big break in wheat.

Three Southern States Use Half Nations Fertilizer.

We are using now each year approximately 7,000,000 tons of commercial fertilizer. There are no figures available as to the acreage covered, but a conservative estimate would be that the average ton is spread over at least five acres of land. This would mean that 35,000,000 acres of crops receive an application of commercial fertilizer yearly.

The commercial fertilizer industry is relatively new. It had its real beginning in this country in the sixties of the last century, at which time the large phosphate rock deposits of South Carolina were discovered. The use of the Peruvian guano began approximately 20 years earlier, but the utilization of the phosphate deposits may be considered as the real beginning of the industry as we have it today. The discovery of phosphate rock in South Carolina was followed a short time later by finding similar large deposits in Tennessee and Florida and in various places in the western states.

The four states, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, consume approximately 3,500,000 tons of fertilizer a year, or slightly more than one-half the total consumption of the nation. The grain and hay crops are not grown with fertilizer, mainly because the acre value of the product is not high enough to make fertilizer application an overwhelmingly paying proposition.

In the United States army thirty-two persons were sentenced to death by court martial during the last fiscal year but in no case was the sentence carried into effect. Only nine of the cases were for military offenses.

Because the land is so badly torn up by shell fire many villages in the Verdun region of France will never be reconstructed.

TRY A WANT AD IN THE STAR.

DAWES TALKS TO THE POINT IN THE HOUSE

Gives the Petty Fault-Finders a Jolt That Should Wake Them up— "Saved Civilized World".

Congress needs to hear more of the kind of plain speech that Charles G. Dawes addressed to the house subcommittee investigating war expenditures. It should have a wholesome effect.

Mr. Dawes did not speak softly. He is not easily overawed or intimidated. The clearness with which he expressed himself left no doubt as to what he thought of the methods of partisan defamation and abuse that congressional investigating committees have been pursuing. He took no pains to repress his contempt for critics, who had tried to detract from the glory of the American army's achievement in France by petty fault-finding 3,000 miles away. To one of his questioners he administered the just rebuke, "There is no use to try to throw mud when you were not there to know conditions."

Mr. Dawes was in France with the American army. He knows what was done in clearing up surplus food and clothing supplies and in liquidating accounts, and as a business man he is sure the United States made an excellent bargain in the final settlement. Up to the time of the signing of the armistice it was a question of winning the war, and the army in France had to be fed and supplied with equipment and material. When the fighting stopped, the business was to bring the American army home and dispose of surplus stocks. Mr. Dawes taught the subcommittee a good lesson when he told it, "Oh, it's all right now to say we bought too much cigar and too many cold chisels, but we saved the civilization of the world."

It is time that the sneers and slurs of partisan snipers in congress at the expense of the American army in France were stopped. Of course, the war led to enormous waste and extravagance, but that it, not the whole story. The war was won and "we saved the civilization of the world" as Mr. Dawes said. In refusing to make apologies for what was done because it seemed the wisest thing in the circumstances, in hammering home blunt truths as the best answer to small-minded fault finder, he appealed over the heads of a parcel of congressmen to the common sense of the American people.

CLEVELAND ALLOTTED 63 ORPHAN CHILDREN

O. M. Mull is Chairman in This County and Contributions Should Go to Him

Suffering and starving Armenian and Syrian children today looking to North Carolina for support and February 14 is the date named by State Chairman George H. Bellamy for the beginning of a general relief campaign for the salvation of these homeless tots. North Carolina has been asked to take care of 3,334 orphans now at Trebizond and some relief is necessary at once to keep these children alive.

Cleveland county has been allotted 63 children and to properly appeal to the people to help these needy tots in distress the Near East Relief has been fortunate to get the services of O. M. Mull, Shelby, as county chairman. As head of the campaign in this county he will be surrounded by a corps of aids who are deeply interested in the cause and who will see that every child allotted to the county is given support. Some donations have already been received and they will be credited to the county.

No general appeal has been made in this state for the Armenians and Syrians this year, although other organizations have asked for funds. The Near East Relief is separate and distinct from the Central European relief and not one penny contributed to Mr. Hoover's council goes to the Armenians and Syrians. Chairman Bellamy wants the people to bear in mind that this is the first general appeal he has sent out over the state. It is, therefore, urgent that some aid be extended the starving children of the "Land of Horrors" before death claims its hundreds of victims.

"What better is there to save one little soul instead of letting it die," appeals Chairman Bellamy.

FAVORS A NAVY AS BIG AS ANY OTHER NATIONS

An American navy "at least equal to that of any other power" is advocated in a report of the senate naval committee filed in the senate. The committee, replying to the Borah resolution, said "it is not practical and is not a sound policy to suspend naval construction for a period of six months nor at all." It urged completion of the great 1916 naval program, except that two huge aircraft carriers be built in place of 12 destroyers and six submarines which have been authorized, but not yet contracted for.

TO ASK AUTHORITY TO GET AT ESCAPE OF BERGDOLL

Investigate Draft Dodgers Charge of Getting \$105,000 in Gold From United States Treasury

Washington, Feb. 10.—After developing some of the high spots in the case of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, the house military committee decided today to ask congress for authority to find out how the rich Philadelphia draft dodger escaped from a military guard and made his way to Germany, the country he had refused to fight.

The committee voted to go to the bottom of the case, after hearing District Attorney Charles D. McAvoy of Philadelphia, who declared there was no evidence to justify the charge that anybody connected with the war department had been corrupted with Bergdoll money. The name of D. Clarence Gibbons, counsel for Bergdoll, was brought into the proceedings and Mr. McAvoy was quite positive in asserting the belief that Gibbons was drowned in Mexico, despite an anonymous report received by the committee that he was alive.

Chairman Kahn, who introduced a resolution last May providing for appointment of a special committee to conduct the Bergdoll investigation, announced tonight that enough evidence had been developed to indicate the necessity of action at this time. Recent statements cabled from Germany by the former military convict prompted the committee to renewed effort, in view of the runaway's charge that he had obtained from the treasury department and concealed in the woods \$105,000 in gold to be used in effecting his release through bribery of government officials.

Leaving aside a multitude of details connected with Bergdoll's escape, the committee will seek to ascertain what influence enabled Bergdoll to obtain so much actual gold from the treasury at a time last year when the supply was being conserved. The more important thread to be followed, members said, was the ability of the prisoners lawyers to obtain his release under guard for the purpose of proceeding to the end of a rainbow in the hills of Maryland to find and dig up his pot of gold. It was while he was out on the golden chase that Bergdoll, stopping over in Philadelphia, to visit his brother, indicted with him, eluded his soldier guards and slipped away in the same automobile he had used many times for highway speeding.

AL JENNINGS FINDS HIMSELF AT WRONG END OF SIX-GUN

New York, Feb. 10.—Al Jennings, reformed train robber and bandit, admitted he had been victimized here by "an inconsiderate, discourteous" member of his former profession.

Returning to his hotel from Brooklyn, Jennings was accosted by a shabby individual and found himself at the unfamiliar end of a "six gun." He obeyed with celerity the usual "Hands up" command, then sought immunity by divulging his identity.

"Oh, come on now," he pleaded in a friendly manner, "I'm Al Jennings." "Never mind that guff," returned the other, lifting a jewel and a roll of bills from Jennings' pockets, "I'm President Wilson."

"There now, I'm leaving you a dime—beat it," Jennings did.

LINCOLN FIRST COUNTY TO PAY ITS TAXES IN FULL

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—Lincoln county, unbroken by revaluation and untuned to calamity music, today sent in a check for \$22,708.36, and took the blue ribbon for the first settlement in the state.

How imminent is rebellion in the state is inferable from the tax bills sent Lincoln for 1920 and 1919. One year ago that county paid Ben Lacy \$31,202.89.

This is \$8,804.53 for state taxes. And the bill has been cut nearly \$9,000 notwithstanding the millions additional required to run the schools six months and the other millions paid to school teachers.

ANOTHER WHISKEY LADEN CAR CAPTURED BY DEPUTY

Lincoln County News. Thursday afternoon Deputy Baxter and John Leatherman captured a touring car with 2 1-2 gallons of liquor on board. The driver of the car, Frank Queen, of Gastonia, was arrested and given a hearing before Justice Leatherman, who bound him over to superior court in the sum of \$500 which he failed to give and was placed in jail over night, or until the bond is made. There was another man in the car and he escaped. Queen stated that the man with him was from Charlotte, but that he did not know him, he having been engaged by the Charlotte man to drive to the source of supply to get whiskey. The arrest was made in North Brook.

HULL BROS.



When we mark our goods we mark them down from our REAL HONEST PRICE.

When you buy a thing from us "former price \$15.00; now \$10.00," you save \$5.00 of real money—because our GOOD STYLISH goods are always worth the first PRICE we put on them.

The quicker you come in the better the picking.

We tell you the TRUTH about what you buy for what you NEED.

BETTER HURRY.

Our GOODS are GOOD; our PRICES LOW.

We Are Through Taking Stock and We Want to State That We Have On A

SALE ALL THE TIME

And Expect to Until These Goods Are Sold.

Come In and Get Our Prices and You Will Be Convinced That Our Prices Are Right.

HULL BROS.

"ALABAMA JOE" A NEGRO STAGES THRILLING BATTLE

Philadelphia Feb. 10.—A six hour battle early today between a negro who had shot and killed a woman in the house where he was living, and nearly a hundred policemen and firemen, resulting in the capture of the man, mortally wounded, and the injuring of four policemen.

Pistols, axes, high pressure fire hose, sulphur candles and other chemicals were used against the negro, who had barricaded himself in the house.

Attention was attracted to the negro, who was known as William Drensen, "Alabama Joe" and other names, when he shot Grace Robinson, a negro, and threw her body out of the house. A negro policeman attempted to arrest him and he was shot in the leg. Reserves were sent for and when they attempted to break into the house, the negro appeared with two pistols and fired rapidly, wounding another policeman in the head.

Drensen managed to barricade the doors and the police called upon the fire department for assistance. A high pressure hose was kept in operation and every time the negro appeared at a window he was driven back by a rush of water, but not before he managed to fire several more shots.

Two other policemen were injured. The besiegers then resorted to strategy and procured sulphur candles and other chemicals from a hospital to drive him out. The negro, however, kept all windows open and this mode of attack failed.

Finally Richard Anderson, a negro member of the police vice squad, managed to get into the house unseen by the barricaded man and the two met at a stairway. There was a fusillade of shots and "Alabama Joe" tumbled to the bottom of the stairs. Anderson was not hurt. Six policemen seized the wounded negro and an examination of the hospital showed he had been shot six times. It is believed he received some of the wounds before Anderson fired at him.

CHEVROLET AT THE SOUTHERN AUTO SHOW

Arey Brothers Say Chevrolet Will be Featured at the Auto Show in Atlanta

The great Southern Automobile show, to be held in Atlanta, Ga., on March 5th to 12th, promises to be the most elaborate and extensive exhibition the automobile industry has ever held in the south.

Reports from this entire section indicate that unusual interest is being

manifested in the event by both dealers and the motoring public, and a large attendance seems assured.

That there is a decided optimistic feeling in automotive circles over the entire country is evidenced daily; and this activity is rapidly gaining in the southern states.

The show to be held at Atlanta will be strongly demonstrative of the healthy condition of the southern automobile business, and should be the means of giving stimulus to all lines of industry.

More than 150 models of 75 different makes of cars will be exhibited at this show, together with a comprehensive display of trucks and automotive equipment.

The famous Kilties Band has been engaged to furnish music for the event.

"Chevrolet models" says Mr. Arey of the Arey Bros "will be prominently featured at the show; and visitors will be given an opportunity to see all the latest developments of this car."

Because they claimed exemption from military service during the war on the plea that they were aliens more than 30 young men were denied final citizenship papers in New York city.