

Effect of the War on Agriculture

Background Material for Discussion in April by Our Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

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ROLL CALL QUESTION—Name one effect total war has had on agriculture.

At the present time, due to war demands and international confusion, products of the farm for both food and fiber are in heavy demand, particularly on the fresh markets basis. However, when conditions resume to normal peacetime business, we again must sell products of the farm, particularly food, in processed form as well as in the fresh form.

Most processing plants such as canneries and cold packing plants, freezing, drying, etc., have been working for many years to establish their products in the regular channels of trade. War has disrupted these regular channels and has, in part, destroyed the work that has been done to win consumers' acceptance of certain products. If a certain portion of this trade is not maintained during these war days, this consumers' acceptance will be lost and will have to be rebuilt after the war.

In the case of Michigan products, we must remember that we must compete with various other states for consumers' acceptance. Therefore, it is with a selfish interest that we ought to keep a certain portion, though small, of our products in the markets where they now have favorable acceptance, even if we might have to accept a lower price temporarily.

War has brought on several new developments and has accelerated other developments. Whether or not these developments will stick after the war depends on the acceptance by the public of the products developed by the new process. For example, we may be glad to eat dehydrated carrots if we are in Africa or in Alaska, but will we want such a product here after the war? Will we want dehydrated meat after the war, even though the soldiers are eating a lot of it at the present time?

However, some of these developments may prove to be very economical and very efficient, for example, dehydrated beans and potatoes may save a lot of freight and space and still prove to be a highly acceptable and palatable product.

A steady income is most desirable for the farmer in the long run. Therefore, he should choose between talking his chances on selling his products on the open market at whatever prices prevail at the time of selling, or making a steady delivery of his products to a Co-operative Association for packing, freezing, canning, drying, etc. Perhaps in some areas, a program combining the handling of products on a fresh basis supplemented by a processing program of some kind may be more desirable than to choose between an entirely fresh produce program and a processed products program. In either case, it should be a program of an association of growers.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What recent developments in chemistry and substitutes will affect agricultural production after the war?
2. What changes and developments have taken place during the war and may be expected after the war in the transportation and storage of food that will change agricultural practices in our community? Frozen food, locker system, storage, etc.
3. What are the problems of maintaining fertility of our soil in view of increased crop production?
4. What is the responsibility of the farmers, of the farm organizations and the government in promoting land use and soil conservation?
5. What are some of the changes brought about by the war which affect the ultimate consumer of farm products?
 - (a) Packaging changes, (b) Grading, (c) Dehydration and frozen foods, (d) Glass and cellophane.
6. What do you think of price control and rationing, its value in the past, at present and in the future?

WHY FEED PRICES HAVE GONE UP

Pathfinder magazine in a recent article reports the large increase in the prices for feed grains and mill feeds during the past year.

Oats are higher by \$19.25 per ton since Jan. 1943.

Barley is higher by \$22.15 per ton since May, 1943.

Wheat is higher by \$6 per ton since March 1943.

Prices for these grains, said Pathfinder, were driven up by the tremendous demand for grains to take the place of corn, which was not readily available because of the government low ceiling price on corn.

Feed prices are up because grain prices are higher and because mill feeds are higher.

Soybean oil meal increased \$11.50 per ton under the OPA ceiling set July 31, 1943.

Cottonseed oil meal increased \$10.50 per ton under the OPA ceiling July 31, 1943.

Linseed oil meal increased \$2 per ton under the same OPA ceiling.

Corn gluten feed increased \$9 per ton under the OPA ceiling July 31, 1943.

Manufacturing, mixing, and retail handling charges for feeds were limited by an OPA order dated January 16, 1943.

Farm Bureau Represented On Child Welfare Council

Stanley Powell is a member of the new state Child Welfare Council, representing the Michigan State Farm Bureau. The group will study changes in child welfare laws made by the special session of the legislature, study the visiting teacher program proposed by the state Dept. of Public Instruction, and other matters of interest to child welfare, and will make recommendations. Probate Judge Stephen Clark of Muskegon county is chairman.



"My Contest Winners are raised on STONEMO Granite Grit"
W.A. Seidel
TEXAS

EVERY YEAR sees Seidel taking his share of prizes in our National Egg-Laying Contests. Right at this time his hen holds the high record for White Leghorns 243 eggs, 376.25 points. This hen is also second high record hen of the world. In the 1942-43 Arizona Egg Tests, Seidel won high hen and high pen.

It takes good breeding PLUS a strong, vital bird to live and sustain such high egg production. This is why Seidel and other outstanding Contest Winners always feed their flocks on STONEMO—not only to their layers but especially to their growing birds.

STONEMO Granite Grit enables hens (and turkeys) to grind feed finely—to get fullest nutrition from available feed—to save up to 20% of the feed—as well as to help prevent losses from digestive troubles. These are important facts to every poultryman and turkey grower.

TAKE a tip from Seidel—feed STONEMO Granite Grit. Sold on a Money-back Guarantee. Get STONEMO from your Feed Dealer.



Importance of Wood

The vital importance wood has in the war is shown by the fact that practically any item that can be named either has wood in it or depends on wood in some process of its manufacture or its delivery to the fighting front.

Why Risk \$10.00

to Save a dime?

A good crop of legumes will grow on good land without proper inoculation . . . but it grows at an extra cost of at least \$10.00 per acre in nitrogen taken from the land.

Neither prior crops or the presence of nodules guarantee the proper inoculation necessary to take this nitrogen FREE from the air.

UNI-CULTURE

the 3-in-1 Inoculant for Clover, Alfalfa and Soybeans

Sold by FARM BUREAU Seed Dealers

KALO INOCULANT CO. Quincy Illinois

MARKET INFORMATION

Listen to the Farm Market Reporter Daily, Monday through Friday

At 12:15 noon over Michigan Radio Network as a farm service feature of these stations

Early markets at 7:00 A. M. over Michigan State College Radio Station WKAR. Supplied by the Michigan Live Stock Exchange.

The Michigan Live Stock Exchange is a farmer owned and controlled organization—offering you the following services:

SELLING—Commission sales services in Detroit and Buffalo terminal markets. Feeders through national connections. Can furnish at cost plus a reasonable handling charge all grades of feeding cattle and lambs.

FINANCING—4½% money available for feeding operations of worthy feeders who have feed, regardless of where they purchase their feeders.

MICHIGAN LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE

Secretary's Office Hudson, Michigan
Frank Oberst, President; J. H. O'Malley, Secretary & Treasurer; George J. Boutell, Manager

SHIP YOUR STOCK TO US AT
Michigan Livestock Exch. Detroit Stockyards
Producers Co-op Ass'n East Buffalo, N. Y.

Penny Wise, Pound Foolish?

- 1—Will acreage of spring grains be greater or less this year?
- 2—Will weather conditions be more favorable than last season?
- 3—Will there be enough labor and machinery to do the job?

We do not know the answer to these questions, but we do know that

It Pays to Use GOOD SEED

- Poor seed is always expensive
- Seed oats or barley from another county or state generally pays for the change of seed
- Two bushels of added yield per acre offsets the increased cost of good seed
- Treating seed is good insurance

Your State Farm Bureau Seed Dep't has stocks of good seed oats and barley, including Marion, Huron, Worthy and Cartier oats. Also the popular Wisconsin No. 38 barley.

See your Co-op for Farm Bureau seeds of all kinds. Your Co-op, your Farm Bureau, and you make a combination that will win in the battle for farm equality.

Boost the Farm Bureau - - That Benefits You

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.
Seed Dep't, Lansing, Michigan

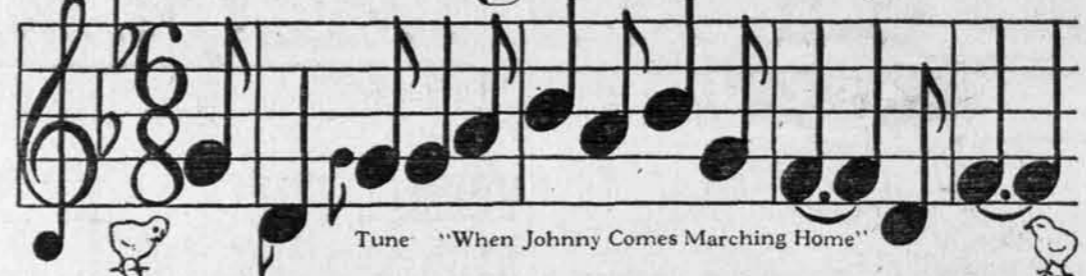
FARM LOANS

When credit will help you carry out your plans, come in and talk with us. All credit transactions are on a confidential basis—and the rate is low.

If you want to repair your machinery, purchase new equipment, buy seed and fertilizer, increase your livestock; if any financial assistance is needed to increase the production of your farm, we invite you to come in and talk with one of our officers. It is simple and easy to borrow from this bank.



The Song of Success



Tune "When Johnny Comes Marching Home"
I Never Raised Chicks Like These Before. Hooray!

This song, sung by happy chick growers since 1930 to the tune of "When Johnny Comes Marching Home" is the theme song of Mermash, the only chick starter containing Farm Bureau Mermaker.

Mermash 16% Is Fortified

with our own Vitamin G Supplement, Vita-Pak. The Vita-Pak, with liver meal, dried whey, distiller's solubles, and Merck's "50" carries an effective balance of natural Vitamin G and the B Complex Vitamins, plus a liberal enrichment from synthetic Vitamin G. --- MERMASH 16% includes 4 lbs. of 2,000A-400D carrier to every ton. This furnishes more than ample Vitamin A & D for Mermash 16% as it is recommended to be fed.

Ask your dealer for Farm Bureau Mermash 16%. It is formulated for farmers by a farmers' organization. We offer also Farm Bureau 18% protein Laying Mash, 32% protein Poultry Supplement (when you have your own grain), also Milk Maker

Dairy concentrates in 24% and 32% protein, with Irradiated Yeast, and Manganese Sulphate with trace minerals. Ask for Farm Bureau Porkmaker 33% protein hog concentrate. Build your own pig and sow feed.

Ask for Farm Bureau Feeds

FARM BUREAU BRAND SUPPLIES AT 300 FARMERS' ELEVATORS

Attention, please! - this is MICHIGAN POTATO WEEK

Thousands of bushels of U.S. No. 1

MICHIGAN POTATOES

ALL-PURPOSE
now await your daily eating pleasure
BAKED-BOILED-MASHED or FRIED,
-THEY'RE GOOD EATING AT LOW COST

NO POINTS REQUIRED



BY USING MICHIGAN FARM PRODUCTS YOU HELP RELIEVE VITAL TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES FOR OTHER IMPORTANT WAR PURPOSES.
Sergeant Speed