



FARMERS NOT GUILTY OF HIGH PRICED PILLAGING

(Written Specially For The Bulletin.)
Last week we talked a little about the relation which prices paid by consumers bear to prices paid to farmers. We tried, at that time, to go as easy as we could with the retail dealer. At any rate, we gave him the benefit of the doubt. We assumed, since he had to raise his prices largely to the consumers, that he had some excuse for trying to cut down his buying expenses.

Judging from a recent address in New York city by Dr. Porter, New York state commissioner of foods and markets, we were altogether too charitable. He asserts that wholesale prices for farm products in the New York city market are down below even pre-war rates. Commission stores in the wholesale section are filled with perishable products which the wholesale merchants are unable to sell even at pre-war prices. And he says, right out loud, that a great many people believe "the retail trade is not giving people the benefit of low wholesale prices."

No man is in better position to know the facts about both wholesale and retail prices of farm products in New York city than Commissioner Porter. When such statements come from such a man, they are worth more than all the assertions of interested profiteers in that Shrink-infested Gomorrah.

He gives facts and figures to back up his beliefs. For concrete illustrations, take these simple cases:

A Genesee county, N. Y., farmer who shipped in a carload of good potatoes, last week, got \$150 a barrel for them after freight, etc., has been paid. Last year, at this time, they would have brought him from \$3 to \$3.50 a barrel.

A carload of onions from central New York brought seventy-five cents per 100-pound bag. After freight, etc., had been deducted, the farmer got a net return of twenty-five cents a bag, out of which he had to pay at least fifteen cents for each bag. This left him ten cents a hundred pounds to pay for the seed, the labor, the fertilizer, and all the rest of his unnumbered producing expenses.

Last year's bill for freight, commission, etc., amounted to \$224.64.

A Texas spinach grower sent a carload of 756 baskets which sold at wholesale for \$467.35. He paid in freight and other charges \$724.64.

A Florida trucker sent a carload of 480 crates of lettuce. It sold at wholesale for \$339.48. The freight alone amounted to \$339.75, and being war-tax, cartage and commission brought the shipper's expense up to a total of \$491.65.

The lettuce raiser paid \$152.17 for the privilege of giving away his carload. The spinach raiser paid \$253.35 for a similar privilege.

But the hungry people of New York city, who wanted portions of that lettuce and that spinach and those onions and cabbage, etc., when they came to buy their daily rations found no corresponding reduction in the prices charged them by the retailers. They paid a cent or two less than last year, to be sure, but nowhere got the half or two-thirds reduction which the wholesalers and retailers were forcing upon the farmer.

A New York city newspaper, which took up Dr. Porter's assertions and made an independent investigation of them has fully corroborated him. As a result of its inquiries in both retail and wholesale markets, it found conditions which it summed up in the statement that "the public is not getting the benefit of the big drop in wholesale prices."

The reporter following up wholesale and retail quotations of various farm products. A bag of Maine potatoes, weighing 180 pounds, sold at wholesale, the morning of his investigations, for \$2.50. That afternoon, they were selling in the retail market at five cents a pound, or at the rate of \$9 for the 180-pound bag. The discrepancy was equally marked

to it with neatness and dispatch. But, speaking in general terms, it does not seem as if the spokesmen for the retailers of New York city make out a very good case for themselves. That is, if it is to be assumed that other people have the right to live, move and have a being. Of course, if all the millions of consumers and all the other millions of producers are here simply on sufferance for the benefit and profit of middlemen, if these millions are merely pawns in the game to protect the pockets and knights of predatory profiteering; if "the market" is not a reflection of supply and demand but simply a register of himbie-rigging chicanery—why, then, the case is different. In that event, the profiteers are logical. If they are, indeed, the sole heirs of all the ages and the proper possessors and rightful custodians of all the world's money, the sooner they get it the sooner the trouble will be over.

But both past experience and present observation unite in indicating that this theorem will not be agreed to unanimously.

Indeed, if the primary object of all social and economic functions is the greatest good of the greatest number, it ought not to be. The world is hardly likely to go back to oligarchical rule, whether by an oligarchy of oldest sons or by one of middlemen. It was Shakespeare's ancient Pistol, I believe, who asserted that the world was his oyster which he with sword would open. Yet, if the voracious chronicler of his adventures may be believed, he didn't open it, after all.

That which the swash-buckler of Shakespeare's time couldn't do, there is small chance of the graft-grabbers of our time effecting.

But, dear friend of the busy towns, there is just one thing which is daily becoming startlingly manifest. That is, that the high-price pillaging of which you complain is one which you and you alone must put a stop to. You have been criticizing and denouncing the farmer as the original source of high prices. That you have been wrong in this, all the time, we have believed. That you are wrong in it now, only a self-blinded willfulness can deny.

The farmer has been pushed and crowded and driven into the last ditch where he can't get away his products, through the channels, without paying for the privilege.

You'd do better, henceforth, to turn your criticisms and your inventive towards those regular channels, and see what you can do for yourself in clearing them out.

Some good may, sometimes, come from fighting your enemies. But no good will ever come from bludgeoning your friends. Especially, when they're already down and out.

THE FARMER.

Cromwell—A carload of horses from Indiana has arrived here for Louis Kabanick. In the car were 21 horses and two mules.

Their third argument is that buyers won't any longer clean up their shelves for them, but insist on picking only the choice portions of their stock. Said one butcher, holding up a juicy chunk of steak: "Women won't look at either end of this, even if it is good meat. They will take nothing but the middle. The rest is left on our hands. They are too busy running to movies and matinees and then getting home just in time to throw something together. The women are to blame for retail high prices. Let them stay at home and learn to cook stews and such things, and you would see prices come down."

This argument I stoutly decline to comment upon. It is herewith passed along to those concerned, in the deep-rooted conviction that they can and will attend

BRIGGS' NERVOLETTED-HOARSEHOOD COUGH DROPS

Children call them Candy

INSTANT RELIEF FOR ALL THROAT IRRITATIONS

C. A. BRIGGS COMPANY, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

MANSFIELD CENTER
In spite of the severity of the storm Sunday, the morning service and Sunday school were held as usual, but with reduced attendance. The evening service was omitted. The pastor, Rev. H. G. Faby, is beginning a series of Lenten sermons with questions of religion, commencing with What Think Ye of Christ? given this week.

About 18 inches of snow fell Sunday and with the wind rising, causing it to drift, by night traffic was at a standstill. A car from Storrs garage which attempted to make the usual Sunday afternoon trip to Willimantic was stalled on Spring Hill on the return and the passengers were obliged to spend the night at homes there or walk to their destinations. However, the roads were opened Monday morning, although it was not until Wednesday that a state highway truck appeared and cleared the state road from Willimantic to most of the remaining snow. Off the state road, horses are more popular than cars.

The supper with the Tawani Bible class was to serve Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hawkins had to be postponed.

The meeting of Echo grange was omitted this week. The Young People's club met at the home of Mrs. G. H. Wyman Thursday evening of last week. The topic was Original Essays, and the committee in charge, Miss Blanche Davoll, Miss Lillian Dunham, James Eaton, each of whom read essays written especially for a meeting. Miss Davoll gave an account of the development of the essay and read as her special contribution The Value of Disagreement. Miss Dunham chose as her topic Making Believe, and James Eaton amused the club with an essay dealing with a day's experience with a Ford. A vocal solo by Miss Coe and a piano solo by Mrs. Willis Homer completed the program. Sandwiches, cake, cocoa and candies were served.

CHESTERFIELD
Miss Meredith Tinker spent two days recently with Mildred Powers.

Miss R. Elizabeth Tinker, who spent the week end with her parents, has returned to Grassy Hill to resume her teaching.

Jack Kaplan and J. E. Powers were breaking out the roads Monday.

Mrs. Jeanette C. Phillips has returned home after visiting Mr. and Mrs. George Lincoln.

Miss Beale Miller of New York spent the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Miller.

On account of the snowstorm Postmaster Harry Atwood was delayed two days in the mail delivery.

Lilly Kaplan of New York is spending her vacation with her parents here.

John Koronsky's goods left Sunday for Portchester, N. H.

Mr. and Mrs. F. O'Shaughnessy spent the holidays at Fairy Lake farm.

Advocates of home industries are not always industrious when at home.

NORTH WOODSTOCK
Mrs. William Gordon, who is critically ill in Day Kimball hospital, Putnam, remains about the same.

Howard Perrin of New Haven was at Elmer Cortis' over Washington's birthday.

No services were held in the church Sunday owing to the snowstorm.

Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Kiffin of Danielson were local visitors over the week end.

The social Friday evening was well attended. The program consisted of old-time songs, cake, sandwiches and coffee were served.

Mrs. Virginia Cortis attended the reception given at the church in Southbridge Saturday evening of the dancing class of which she was a member.

A farmers' institute was held in Society Hall Wednesday, Feb. 24. Speakers from Connecticut Agricultural college gave talks on fruit, poultry and dairying. Sandwiches, doughnuts, cheese and coffee were served.

C. M. Ferrin was appointed commissioner to hear testimony in the case of Minnie Karl Cole vs. Thomas Cole in divorce proceedings. The hearing took place last week Thursday. The plaintiff was represented by J. Bennett Southard of New York and the defendant by Lawyer Torrey of Putnam.

Several people had a narrow escape from injury Friday afternoon when a motor truck owned by Max Ribben of Wormwood Hill overturned, throwing the occupants underneath the car. The accident occurred on the Willimantic state road near the home of Mrs. A. W. Olin and was occasioned by a blowout of a rear tire, causing the driver to lose control. None of the occupants were injured although considerable damage was done to the car, including a broken rear end and wrecked wheels.

The village school was closed Monday and Tuesday as planned last week, the

SOUTH KILLINGLY
Byron Place and family of Foster called on friends here Wednesday.

Mabel Spink has finished work in Danielson and has returned home.

Ruth Coffey enjoyed an automobile trip to Worcester Saturday.

Pupils having perfect attendance in the local school for the year are Ruth Coffey, Francis Coffey, Alice Spink. Pupils receiving high honors for the week ending Feb. 22 are Ruth Coffey, Lillie Young, Francis Coffey, Lucius Whitaker, Albert Whitaker, Emma Terwilliger, Margaret Terwilliger, Juanita Mills. Pupils receiving honors are Nicholas Dumbury, Alice Spink, Antoinette Manarella. High honors require an average of 95 per cent and honors an average of 90 per cent.

A. E. Hall has been reappointed fire warden for this district.

Through the kindness of Rev. Walter Williams the children of the local Sunday school enjoyed a candy party at the Congregational church in Day last Saturday afternoon. Rev. Williams took the children to his automobile.

A. E. Hall made a bus trip to Worcester Saturday.

Owing to the storm Sunday there was no service at the church.

ONECO
Mr. Harry Streeter of Passaic, N. J., returned home Tuesday after visiting his sister, Mrs. Charles Potter.

Francis Carpenter of Providence was Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carpenter.

Dennis Richmond has moved his family to the tenement recently vacated by Tom Browne.

Mr. and Mrs. John Webb of Putnam, N. Y., returned home Tuesday after a visit to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Marriett in Putnam.

ROCKVILLE
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QUINCY
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WALTHAM
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MARLBORO
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White Flannel Heavy fleece 36-inch Lapland 22c Swiss Muslin 39c	Kimona Flannel 36-in. heavy fleece Kimona Flannel, in all the wanted patterns. Colorings are wonderful. Full pieces 25c	Cameo Cloth Chamois finish, 36 inches wide 29c Black Sateen 49c	32-Inch Foulard Pacific Foulards, highly mercerized, dots and a handsome lot of scrolls and figures on navy grounds. Worth double 39c 5-4 Hill Sheeting 39c	Dress Voiles that were selling last season at \$1.25 and \$1.49—highly mercerized hard twist yarn, used only in the better voiles, light and dark grounds, flowers, scrolls and all-over patterns, all new and approved by the best dressers 39c
Mercury Shirting Yarn dyed, 32 inches wide 39c	White Voile Forty inches wide, fine enough for any use, and worth double at 29c	Percalé A very choice lot of Percalés, yard wide, standard and high count, soft finish, large range of patterns 15c White Voile Remnants 19c \$1.49	Cretonne Thirty-six inch Harmony Art Cretonne, all the newest and most wanted patterns 39c Figured Marquisette 39c	Gingham Checks Lancaster staples, 27-inch 17c Fancy Printed Crepes 49c
Thirty-two Inch Ginghams Bates, Amoskeag, Kalburnie. They are fancy dress plaids, checks and Roman stripes 22c Sunfast Drapery 59c	Ginghams 27-inch Staple and Plaid Ginghams. A small but choice lot. Don't wait and regret it 15c	Imported Madras 32-inch yard dyed corded stripe, soft colorings 79c 18-inch Diaper Cloth \$1.35	Fancy Sateen Thirty-six-inch handsome patterns for coat linings, the designs are new, a limited quantity 49c Satin Stripe Voile 79c	Direct from Loom to You If it's a Cotton woven material, try us first. Percalés, Ginghams, Flannels, Madras, Sateens, Plisse, Voiles, Draperies, Sheeting, Lawns, Organ-die, Toweling, Linen, Marquisette, Bleached and Unbleached Cotton Cloth, Etc., Etc.
Flannels Popular-brands. Dainty patterns in pink and blue. The kind you have paid 39c for 15c	Sheet Blankets Gray Blankets with pink and blue borders, subject to mill imperfections \$1.69	Long Cloth "Red Star" chamois finish 25c Curtain Muslin (Cross-bar) 29c	Red Rose Gingham Twenty-seven-inch "Red Rose" of Lancaster, plain pink, blue and nurses gray stripes 19c Emerald Crash 17c	

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Molasses and Peppermint Cuts, pound 39c
An Ideal After Dinner Candy.
Peanutines—Sort of Peanut Brittle Puffs—Something new and very nourishing, pound 49c
Assorted Hard Candies—Pure Sugar—Just the thing for Children, pound 39c
Fresh Made Fudge—For Saturday Only, pound 49c
Figs in Syrup, pound 69c
Stuffed Dates With Nuts—For those not eating candy during Lent, pound 69c

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