

## CREAMERIES OBTAIN ANOTHER REDUCTION IN FREIGHT RATES

Radical Departure Made in Interest of Small Farmer; Poultry Show is Now Planned.

### CREDIT SYSTEM WILL NOT COST A CENT

Grain Growers Affairs Snarled; New President Asks Members To Be Patient.

(Farm Bureau News Service.) Freight rate concessions that will mean material savings to shippers of butter, wool, potatoes and other farm products, where producers at several shipping points combine to obtain carlot rates, have been announced by A. J. McGuire, general manager of the Minnesota Co-operative Creameries association. What is known as "stop" charges have been lowered 65 per cent. The reduction was ordered at a hearing in Chicago last week, which was attended by Mr. McGuire. When the Creameries association began combining part-car shipments for movement east, the rate for stopping at a station, without taking the car from the train was \$7. A request for a reduction cut the "stop" charge to \$6.80, effective July 1. The association considered even this rate too high and a renewal of the protest lowered the charge to \$2.50. The new rate, which applies to all concentration shipments, becomes effective October 1, 1922.

**Voted County Agent Funds.** In 61 out of 76 counties where county agents were working last year, commissioners already this year have voted appropriations to continue the work. In three counties, favorable action will be taken this week. Only five counties failed to back up the county agent and farm bureau work with funds. While failure to appropriate in these instances has been a handicap, in most cases farmers are so determined that farm bureau work shall be continued that arrangements have been made to cover the cost by increasing the membership and increasing the bureau's income.

**Grade Cows at Dairy Exhibit.** A grade cow exhibit will be an outstanding feature of the National Dairy Show, to be held on the Minnesota State Fair grounds, October 7 to 14. The decision to admit to entry an animal just outside the aristocratic circle breaks a precedent as old as the dairy show business in this country. Heretofore, blue blood lines always have been a first requirement for entry.

"We are going to admit grades," says W. E. Skinner, in charge of the arrangements for the show, "because we realize that good grades play an important part in inducing farmers to keep better cows. That being true, there is no reason why grades should not be a part of our Dairy show, for the first object of the undertaking is to carry on the fight to eliminate the scrub-animals that can not pay for their salt."

It is announced that a straight 50-cent adult admission will be maintained and that all railroads have granted a round-trip rate of fare and a third from all points in the northwest.

Initial steps for an international poultry show, to include egg and dressed bird exhibits, were taken at a representative meeting of poultry men. If the plan matures, the objective will be to hold one of the largest poultry shows ever undertaken.

**Credits System Self-Supporting.** State farm loan machinery to be authorized by the legislature after Amendment No. 1 (rural credits) is adopted on November 7, will be operated without a cent expense to taxpayers, according to J. F. Reed, chairman of the farmers' committee that is urging favorable action on the amendment.

"While it would be presumptive, as well as unwise, to contemplate the details of legislative action, there are certain fundamental features that are sure to be included," says Mr. Reed. "One of the most important of these is that taxpayers shall not pay a cent of expense incident to operating the system. In loaning money to farmers, the interest rate charged will be just

enough higher than that paid on bonds to take care of necessary overhead expense. One-half per cent should be sufficient.

"Another feature that surely will be recognized is an amortization plan for repayment; that is, payments will be extended over a long period—30 to 35 years. Each installment will be for the same amount, to be met annually or semi-annually. Of each such payment a part will go to meet interest charges then due and the remainder will apply on the principal. The older the loan, therefore, the greater will be the payment on principal, so when the term expires, the loan is paid automatically."

**Grain Growers' Affairs Snarled.** Farmers who have signed U. S. Grain Grower contracts, as well as creditors, must exercise patience while the new management endeavors to place the company on a sound financial basis, says a statement issued by E. H. Cunningham, new president.

"As the new management of the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., comes into control," the statement says, "it has no Utopian scheme to propose. We recognize certain economic laws which can not be flouted, without inviting disaster."

"We plan to create a producers' selling agency, which shall function in strict accordance with sound business methods and procedure. We do not expect to establish any spectacular reforms. Our members must exercise patience."

"The U. S. Grain Growers is in a deplorable condition, financially. It has a net deficit of \$285,267.27. While that is significant enough to trained financiers, it gives the general public no conception of the financial entanglements and complications that will have to be ironed out before we can hope to attempt actual grain marketing operations."

"We have no illusions concerning the outlook. We understand perfectly the size of the task confronting the new management. We are making no optimistic promises that may prove impossible of fulfillment."

"Our immediate and most urgent concern is with the creditors. Practically everything depends upon the attitude they assume toward the new organization. Most of them are disposed to be lenient, but not all. Just what the future may develop, no man can say. At the proper time, after we have gathered up the loose ends, we shall make a frank statement."

**Bureau Directors to Meet.** County directors in the Minnesota Farm Bureau federation will meet in business session on Farm Bureau day at the Minnesota State fair, September 7. Call for the meeting was sent this week by J. F. Reed, president. Methods for using Farm Bureau machinery to obtain a solid vote for the rural credits amendment will be among the propositions to be considered.

Chester H. Gray of Missouri, a pioneer Farm Bureau leader, will discuss with directors ways and means of obtaining favorable action by congress on the Muscle Shoals project. J. W. Coverdale, national secretary, and F. W. Peck, director of extension, Minnesota College of Agriculture, will speak before a Farm bureau rally, to be held in the Hippodrome, at 11 a. m. to 2 p. m.

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**Notice.** The Farmers' Shipping association will ship livestock on August 28. Please list your stock as soon as possible.

Shipping rates as follows: Veal, per cwt 70 cents. Cattle, per cwt 48 cents. Hogs, per cwt 51 cents. Farmers' Co-operative Co., Max Gamradt, Manager. Phone 175, or residence 144. 9tf

## BETTER GRADE BUTTER NEEDED

State Dairy Department Wants All Creamerymen to Make a Still Greater Showing.

### \$66,000,000 REALIZED FROM SALES IN 1921

Average Butter Fat Handled by Minnesota Creameries Amounts to 150,000 Pounds.

The Dairy and Food department, working in conjunction with the University of Minnesota, dairy division, in a study of the variation of composition of creamery butter made in our state, as evidenced by analysis of samples of the butter entered in the May scoring contest, has secured some very valuable information which we wish to bring to the attention of creamery men and buttermakers.

When you realize that Minnesota creameries manufactured approximately 170,000,000 pounds of butter in the year 1921, over 80 per cent of which was butterfat, the returns for which aggregate nearly \$66,000,000, one readily appreciates the necessity of maximum efficiency in the operation of our creamery properties. In other words, such methods ought to be continually employed as will bring about the incorporation of proper percentages of other ingredients that go to make normal butter, such as salt, moisture, etc., in order that no unnecessary amounts of butterfat shall be disposed of without receiving due return therefor.

The standard composition of butter, definitely determined by law and by U. S. treasury regulation, requires, as is generally known, less than 80 per cent of water and not less than 16 per cent of fat, leaving the salt content to the skill of the maker or demand of the trade, or both.

Analysis of samples taken from the entire in the May scoring contest discloses the following averages: Fat, 82 per cent; water, 14.7 per cent; salt, 1.9 per cent; curd, 7 per cent. It will be noted that the average per cent of fat is approximately 2 per cent more than at all necessary, and is unfair to the producer. In other words, if these samples are representative of the average of the output of the several creameries from which these samples were received, we are forced to the conclusion that we are giving the consumer about 2 per cent of the butterfat handled by Minnesota creameries, an annual loss to our creamery patrons of considerably more than \$1,000,000, an enormous sacrifice to inefficiency that is neither fair nor necessary, and which can be largely eliminated by simply employing available methods of manufacture. Testing for moisture, fat and salt be-

fore packing the butter ought not to be the occasional practice, it should be unfailingly regular, and at all our creameries.

We know that careless and indifferent methods are not the rule in Minnesota creameries, and that there are scores of buttermakers who know just what they are doing every day. Unfortunately, however, there are some who do not, and these are the boys that need the help. The average volume of fat handled by a Minnesota co-operative creamery yearly is something like 150,000 pounds, and if our creamery is one of the average ones as to amount handled as well as to losses sustained through inefficient operation, it will be a simple matter for you to figure out just about what your contribution to inefficiency has been in the past.

We feel that nearly all creamery operators really want to render a maximum of service to their employers, and to these as well as to those whom they are serving, we wish to say that the dairy department has an efficient field force the service of which is at your call. If your creamery is numbered among those not securing the most profitable results, the department wants to co-operate with you, in bringing about substantial improvement. Call on them. "Let's do still better," says Chris Heen, state dairy and food commissioner.

### LATEST CROP REPORT. Bumper Production Indicated by Recent Government Figures.

Bumper crop production in general this year, resulting in highly favorable growing conditions during July, was indicated by the government's August crop report just issued.

A 3,000,000,000 bushel corn crop, for the fourth time in the history of farming in the United States, was forecast.

A record crop of hay estimated at 93,100,000 tons, is being harvested, surpassing the record made in 1919. The second largest crop of white

potatoes was reported in prospect, the total production being forecast at 440,000,000 bushels, or 2,000,000 bushels less than 1917.

Sweet potato production probably will make another record, according to the August forecast which equals the record of 1920.

The fourth largest crop of tobacco is forecast, with a total production of 1,425,000,000 pounds.

Another 200,000,000-bushel crop of apples, the eleventh in 33 years, is indicated.

Peaches are plentiful, with a total production this year second only to 1915.

July weather's influence on the growing crops was said to have been extremely beneficial, as indicated by the increase in forecast of production this month as compared with those of a month ago. Spring wheat showed an increase in its production forecast of 15,000,000 bushels; corn, 157,000,000 bushels; oats, 64,000,000 bushels; barley, 10,000,000 bushels; white potatoes, 11,000,000 bushels; tobacco, 10,000,000 pounds; apples, 12,000,000 bushels, and peaches, 1,700,000 bushels.

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### HOOVER POTATO DIGGER

The Hoover Potato Digger digs up all the potatoes in the field and piles them in neat rows where they can be handled with minimum labor. This digger has proved to be an especially good investment to all potato-growers who have used it.

The shovel is of best quality high-carbon crucible steel and shaped so as to gather the potatoes with the least possible loss. No danger of cutting the potatoes to the extent that a plow or hoe does. Stone guards can be used in stony ground. You can raise and lower the shovel while the machine is in motion. All adjustments are made from the seat by convenient levers.

The vine-separating rear rack has a backward and forward motion that sifts out all dirt and deposits the potatoes in a compact row on clean ground directly

at the rear of the machine, while the vines and trash are deposited at one side.

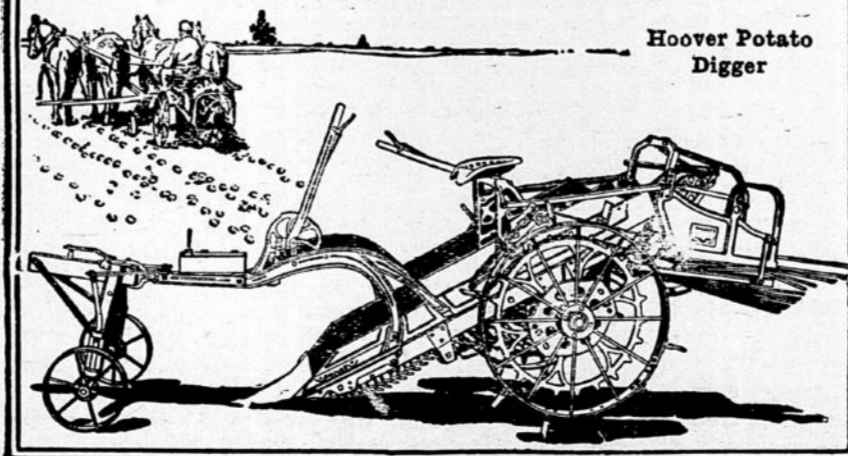
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Patented Double-Action Front Truck permits the digger to be turned in a very short space.

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Hoover Potato Digger



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