

SWANN PLANS FOR 1,000 STORES TO SELL MILK AT 10C.

District Attorney Confers With Head of Dairy League in Move to Cut Price.

In an endeavor to procure an immediate reduction in the price of milk to the consumers in this city District Attorney Swann is in conference today with R. D. Cooper, President of the Dairy League and members of the Board of Directors of that organization.

The plan of the District Attorney is to have milk delivered in forty-quart cans at a minimum cost to chains of well-known retail stores throughout the city. He has already made arrangements with the owners of more than 1,000 of these stores so that Grade B milk may be sold from a can to the consumer very much below the present rate.

Mr. Swann has received the assurance, he says, of local retailers to handle the milk when satisfactory arrangements are made with the Dairy League. It is estimated that loose milk can be sold with a profit to the retailer at 10 cents a quart.

It was stated in the District Attorney's office that if the plan of the District Attorney goes through it will not conflict with the investigation now being conducted by Assistant District Attorney James E. Smith before a Grand Jury into the recent increase in the price of milk. Evidence has been adduced before the Grand Jury showing violations of the Donnelly anti-trust law by the Dairy League.

The Borden Farm Products Company pledges itself to sell milk at cost plus 4 cent a quart, and to throw open its books for inspection, declared Charles Welant, president of the company, testifying before the Mayor's committee on milk this morning.

Mr. Welant blamed the dealers for creating in the minds of the public that milk was a one-priced article. To eliminate the duplication of the competitive system by mutual agreement and regulation of the big distributing companies, under the direction of the Food Administration, was recommended by Mr. Welant as a solution of the problem.

Mr. Welant argued that the big companies be given an opportunity to distribute milk in co-operation with one another. He criticized the action of the Dairy League in raising the price of milk on Oct. 1, and said that the league would not only make another increase in price on Nov. 1, but would probably advance the price further in December.

The witness declared both the farmer and the distributor had received too small a margin of profit for several years.

GERMANS TRY NEW TACTICS.

Spread False Rumors to Alarm Families of Drafted Men.

CAMP DEVENS, Mass., Oct. 17.—False reports calculated to disturb the peace of mind of parents of drafted men at camp here have been circulated recently, and are believed by officials today to be the work of German agents. Stories of hangings, abusive treatment and of murdered girls are some of the rumors spread broadcast.

The Best Young Manhood in America Is in New York and the Large Cities; Rustic Physical Superiority a Myth



ANYTHING WRONG WITH THE CITY CHILD'S HEALTH IS CAUGHT AND CORRECTED IN THE SCHOOLS BY DOCTORS AND NURSES.

HEALTH DEFECTS City Children and Country Children Compared Percentage Averages of All Available Statistics

Health of Children Is Better Guarded in Cities and City Child Is Cleaner and Better Nourished Than His Country Cousin—War Has Proved That Our Finest Human Material Comes From Cities—"Little Red School House" Is Unsanitary and the Food of the Farm and Its Water Are Unhealthful.

By Marguerite Mooers Marshall.

"THE flower of our physical young manhood is to be found today in New York and other large cities, and not in the so-called healthy country."—Dr. Thomas D. Wood, professor of physical education, Columbia University.

Put the dear little red schoolhouse and the hardy sons of rustic toil in your crematory for illusions. Then cheer up and console yourself with the scientific fact that as a health resort for yourself and for your children New York is infinitely superior to the farm of your fondest recollections—where there was little ventilation, no sanitation and fried salt pork for dinner every other day.

The final turn of the oven door on the corpse of the "simple, healthy country life" stuff was given just the other day by Dr. J. A. Nydegger, in charge of the United States Public Health Service in Baltimore.

DR. NYDEGGER pointed out that the percentage of young men rejected as unfit for military service because of physical defects has been considerably larger among men from rural districts than among city residents. Statistics gathered by the Government show the number of children and young men defective or in need of medical attention is from 7 to 20 per cent, higher in rural districts than in the cities, and Dr. Nydegger attributed this startling contrast to the fact that the health of school children is almost entirely neglected in country schools.

His conclusions are more than borne out by one of our scientists of distinction, Dr. Thomas D. Wood, who recently conducted a nationwide survey of the health of country and city children for a joint committee of the National Education Association and the American Medical Association. When I talked with him yesterday at Columbia University Dr. Wood frankly admitted that the finest physical types of the present generation are to be found in the large cities.

"New York and other large American cities," he added, "are reverberating, at least temporarily, that great natural law which says that the soil is strength, life, the source of our best raw material. Our finest human material, physically speaking, comes just now from the cities."

I am a sufficiently confirmed and unregenerate New Yorker to bug that fact with complacent pride. But Dr. Wood is more socially minded. He thinks that one of America's greatest jobs, as soon as the war is over, must be to make the country as healthy as the city. "Otherwise," he assured me, "we shall degenerate as a nation."

"Sixty per cent, of the school children of the United States, over 12,000,000, are attending rural schools. Country children attending rural schools are, on the average, less healthy and are handicapped by more physical defects than the children of the cities, including all the children of the slums. And this is true, in general, of all parts of the United States."

THEN Dr. Wood showed me one of his charts, graphically comparing the health of city and country children and based on reports of over half a million children. There were fourteen sorts of physical inefficiency listed—teeth defects, tonsils, adenoids, eye defects, indigestion, enlarged glands, ear defects, breathing defects, spinal curvature, anemia, uricemia, lung defects, heart disease and mental defects. On each of these fourteen counts the metropolitan youngsters made a better record than country dwellers.

"But why are city children so much healthier?" I asked. "For one thing they get better food," he replied promptly. "All the children of New York, including the poorest districts, eat food that is better cooked and that has more variety than that given to all the children of many a country district. The bread eaten by the average city child is much healthier than the bread given to the average country child. The best food from the farms does not go to the children on the farms, but to the children in the city. And the mother of the farmer's children does not

know how to prepare such food as she has. Of the two groups, the city children drink the better water.

The country school house is the worst, the most unsanitary and inadequate type of building in the whole country, including not only the buildings for human habitation, but also those used for domestic animals. The average slum in New York, for its purpose, is a better school house than the average 'little red school house' for its purpose. "I visited the summer boarding house in the country. The finest sort of air is all around country children, but they do not breathe it," answered Dr. Wood. "A woman from Orange County was telling me the other day how the farmers up there are barricading themselves, 'holing in' for the winter. Instead of opening their windows, they put up double windows, and when they do open them they hang heavy door garments far too heavy. The country home often is ill ventilated and over-heated. In many country communities there is less outdoor activity during the cold months, than in the city. We, in New York, walk, if we do nothing else, but I have traversed the miles along the country roads without meeting a soul."

"MANY of the causes for which the city population have rejected the country life, such as defective climate, defective food, spinal curvature, could have been corrected in childhood, and probably would have been corrected in the case of city children. They are protected by an elaborate system of school nurses and doctors. In how many country schools is there a school nurse?"

"Our philanthropy and social service is city-biased," summed up Dr. Wood. "Country children depend at least as much on health and attractive rural schools as do city children. Healthful and attractive rural schools are absolutely essential to the physical, mental, social, economic and moral well-being of the children themselves and to the life and welfare of the Nation as a whole."

"If rural America is to continue to be a satisfactory part of human life for the Nation it must be made healthful and attractive; it must provide conditions favorable for the cultivation of the best. The problem of improving the health of country children is dealing with the best educational and most endangered of all our national resources and affecting national perpetuity."

And then Dr. Wood drew me his golden rules of health for children, in the country and in the city. Here they are: "Does YOUR child keep them?"

1. Has hard and fair but loyal to your teeth and gums and to your appetite.

2. Has plenty of food and water between meals.

3. Never drinks a cup of coffee or tea several times during the day.

4. Keeps clean body, clothes and mind.

5. Washes your hands six or eight times a day.

6. Keeps your body cool and dry.

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