THE REVIEW'S SPECIAL FARM NEWS DEPARTMENT

John H. D. Gray
Editor

Live News About Crawford County Farms and Farmers

WILL FARM PROSPERITY LAST.

Marshalltown Times-Republican: Will it last? How long will it last? Will there be a terrible slump in prices when the war closes and hard times for the farmer?

Not on his life and his acres. That there will be lowered prices is certain because prices now are abnormal and excessive. The ultra high prices that have their basis in the immediate necessities of mighty armies will not continue.

But, as one good farmer said the other day, "I don't care about that if I get what I consider fair prices. I'm satisfied with 75 cents a bushel for corn. Of course I'm going to get mine along with the rest while the high price endures but any old time I can sell corn for 75 cents and hogs for $9 or $10 I'm going to be a mighty satisfied and contented little farmer."

Well, he's going to get satisfactory prices—that is prices satisfactory to that sort of reasonable man who wants to live and live well and make some money and let others live. The sort that is not insistent that famine and starvation shall be the basis of his prices but asks for a good demand.

The food administration has covered the outlook fairly well. A few points on conditions and prospects should assure the farmer of a continuation of high prosperity and satisfactory prices.

The number of ships available for carrying food supplies has been seriously depleted by the ravages of the German submarine and by the use of many merchantmen for military purposes, and with what result to us?

First, that 120,000,000 more animals in Europe have been killed for food since the war began than have been raised, and that in consequence American Argentine and Australian beef and mutton are going to command high prices for years to come after peace is declared, at least until this huge depletion of livestock is again restored.

Second, that great stocks of grain in Russia, India, Australia and South America, which peace times automatically went to Europe, now are unavailable for lack of ships. Nations that previously had a full year's supply of foodstuffs stored within their own borders are now reduced to mere hand to mouth living.

Not only has the present enormous demand to be supplied but after the war is over great stores of all grain foods must again be accumulated.

The only way the American farmer can dodge prosperity is to hide himself in weeds on his own farm.

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COUNTY AGENTS NEEDS ORGANIZED BACKING.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct 24.—That the active co-operation, advice and assistance of farmers themselves is necessary to the success of county agent work is one of the most important lessons impressed upon officials of the United States Department of Agriculture after six years of experience with this work in the northern and western states. The best means of securing this local support has proved to be the establishment of a county organization usually known as a farm bureau.

To enable the county agent and local farmers to organize and conduct a farm bureau most effectively, the department has just published detailed suggestions as to methods of procedure in a guide known as "Handbook on Farm Bureau Organization for County Agricultural Agents." The plan represents the fruit of experience in this field thus far, it is said. It can be adapted readily to the varying conditions of different counties. It may be established in counties having inefficient organizations, in counties contemplating the employment of an agent and in places where the agent is now unsupported by a local county organization.

The chief functions of a farm bureau, as outlined in the handbook are:

(1) To coordinate the efforts of existing local agricultural forces, either organized or unorganized, and to organize new lines of effort. It does not supplant any existing organizations or compete with them, but establishes a clearing house through which all may increase their efficiency without in any way surrendering their individuality.

(2) To bring to the agent the counsel and cooperation of the best farmers in the county in planning and executing an agricultural improvement program.

(3) To furnish the necessary local machinery for easily and quickly reaching every community in the county with information of value to that community or to the county as a whole.

(4) To encourage self help through developing and exercising leadership in the rural affairs of each community.

(5) To reveal to all the people of the county the agricultural possibilities of the county and how they may be realized.

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Last week W. C. Pollock, who lives three and a half miles west of Denison, told me he had been a Review subscriber for more than thirty-five years. God bless the old subscriber! He has stood by the newspaper through storm and sunshine and has always come up smiling with the needful yearly. One of the peculiar things about these old standbys is the fact that they seldom say a word of complaint about our newspaper and are generous enough to credit our mistakes as coming from the head and not the heart. They are always there with a word of encouragement and are proud of the fact that they have taken the old sheet for lo, these many years. The old subscriber is the backbone and mainstay of every newspaper. I am always glad to enroll new subscribers upon our subscription list, but I have almost a holy reverence for the good old subscriber who never forsakes us. Hats off to the old subscriber. May his cup of happiness be full and overflowing.

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Destiny took E. B. Gooch gently by the hand and led him up perfumed paths to where pure bred Hereford cattle were for sale and he had the good judgment to open the door when opportunity knocked and today he stands at the head of the class of successful breeders of the white faced cattle. He started right and has been everlastingly at it. He is always after the highest type of individuals, bred from the most noted ancestors. With him it is not a question of price, but of quality. He has not only been a good buyer, but has raised many cattle of great class on his farm five miles west of Charter Oak. About four weeks ago he attended the Kansas City Royal sale and purchased the top cow, with calf at side, paying $2,575 for her. This cow came from the herd of Henry Halff, of Texas. She is a great show cow. She was the grand champion at the Dallas fair last year and has been grand champion wherever shown. Her name is Dove, and she is as handsome and gentle as a dove. I will give her credit for being the best Hereford cow I have ever seen. Mr. Gooch has several other cows that are almost as splendiferous as this one. While he has many cows that are about as large and good as it is possible to breed these great beef cattle, he also has a number of gilt edge males that are just about perfect. He now has 90 head of these pure bred Herefords on his farm and it would repay those enjoying looking at a beautiful animal to visit his farm. Mr. Gooch sold seventy-five head last year at Omaha and it was said of his cattle that the offering contained many great show prospects and as desirable and valuable an array of high class, royally bred breeding cattle as ever went through a sale ring. They sold for an average of $1,038, the seventy-five head, which exceeded by $400 the best average up to that date made at a cattle sale at Omaha and up to time of going to press the record still stands. During the month of January next he will have another sale at Omaha and it is reasonable to expect that it will attract the most noted breeders in the United States. By the way, four millionairies have purchased their foundation stock from Mr. Gooch for what are now some of the best herds in America. Once again we say, for the best what is, come to Iowa.

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C. N. Dunham, who resides about two miles west of Dunlap, is one of the "Who's who?" in his section. Last March he become owner of one hundred acres of land without a building upon it and soon modern buildings were reared skyward. He lives in a dwelling made of hollow tile brick and it is modern throughout. It is 28.4x 28.4, two stories high. A horse barn, 28x38, is one of the most attractive appearing buildings of its kind in the county. Another building, which is a combination corn crib, granary and machine shed, 32x44, is now being built. A foundation is completed for a hog house, 20x48. He raises pure bred Hampshire swine. His father has been raising these swine for about eight years and C. N. took several brood sows to his farm last spring. He now has 100 head, big and little.

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The scarcity of corn huskers has put the punch in the sale of mechanical corn pickers in Iowa this fall. It is claimed these machines pick and shock the corn and load it into a wagon.

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The farm bureau in Webster county last week adopted a resolution opposing the general request of huskers for ten cents a bushel for husking corn. They fixed six cents as a fair price in that county.

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The process of science must be applied in these days to practically everything for profit. Roosters fighting around the yard are an expensive nuisance as every poultryman knows, and so are cattle in the feed lot. No doubt this is the reason feeders desire dehorned cattle. The cattle are more congenial in the feed lot, injure each other less and make better gains, so many feeders have told me. In their wild state these projections were used by them principally for self-defense, but in their domesticated condition horns seem to be useless, dangerous and very costly. The best time to dehorn the cattle is when the calves are three or four weeks old. Then the chemical process which works satisfactorily can be carried on easily and with practically no pain.

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I have visited several farmers in their corn fields during the past week and nearly all of them report considerable soft corn. Considerable of the soft corn will be fed on the farms to hogs and it may produce indigestion; if so worms will cause considerable trouble.

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J. W. Roush will build a garage 12x 24 on the farm two miles north of Dunlap.

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Henry Schoupp has built a 14x22 addition to his residence in section seventeen, Boyer township.

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I am a little jealous of J. H. A. Christiansen, for he has as many names as I have. He resides about three miles northwest of Ricketts. He was not at home when I called at his home. I noticed a small building being built and was told it was a wash house.

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A lady friend, who resides in the state of North Dakota, told me the other day that in the town where she lives a business man had built a storage cellar, or pit, for storing potatoes during the winter months. The farmers store their surplus spuds in this pit, paying five cents per bushel for the first month and one cent per month for each additional month. The pit in her home town is 60x60, about ten feet deep and the walls and floor are made of concrete. The pit is under ground and the wagons are driven on the top and the potatoes are dumped in a chute. In Minnesota, I am told, there are many of these potato pits.

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Harry Morgan resides just across the county line in Willow township, Monona county. He built a silo this year and will find a silo goes very nicely with the dairy business, which he is working into. Right now he is milking eleven head of cows, seven Holsteins, two Jerseys and two Polled Durhams. He has ten head of heifers that will freshen next spring and then he will have a nice bunch of milch cows. This summer he installed a milking machine and says: "Would not take any amount for it if I could not get another."

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They're off. The husking of corn has started. This year it looks like a family reunion out in the corn fields. Many of the farmers are being assisted by the other members of the family. It looks like the farmer don't intend to hire any more husking than is absolutely necessary. In some cases the good wife has put on the gloves and is assisting in the work, and, in some cases, the rosy cheeked daughter may be seen tossing King Corn into those high wagon boxes. A few weeks of good weather will solve the question of whether or not it will be necessary to employ extra help to gather the corn. As soon as a farmer has completed his husking he will assist his neighbor and this is the right spirit. I always like to visit a neighborhood where the farmers are neighborly and assist one another. It works to their mutual benefit as well as cultivates a good feeling for each other. Life is short at best and we should all try to lighten the burdens of our neighbors. Many hands make the burden lighter.

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Emil Sinow has built a garage, 16x 22, on his farm in section twenty-two, Iowa township. Mr. Sinow is one of those big hearted fellows a person likes to meet. When I called at his farm last week he was busy installing a corn elevator, but had time for a little chat. I knew him when I resided in the town of Manning and it was certainly a pleasure to renew old acquaintances.

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L. G. Dorale is well known to the farmers living adjacent to Denison, for he resided here for several years, moving to the west part of the county some seven years ago. He is building a very good barn on his farm in section five, Charter Oak township. It is a horse and cow barn, 58x64, twenty-six feet high. It will have plenty of space for storing hay and will make a very desirable farm building. Mr. Dorale thinks kindly of the dairy business. He has the skim milk for feeding calves and hogs and that little old cream check comes in mighty handy too. In the near future a milking machine will be installed. A milking strain of Shorthorn cows is preferred by Mr. Dorale.

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Henry Rowedder is having a double corn crib and granary built on the farm seven miles south of West Side, in Hayes township. It is 29x40 with a thirteen foot driveway. A garage, 10x 18, was built a few weeks ago.

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Stories have been coming to me recently in regard to that new hog house and sale pavilion Raymond E. Brown is building on his farm one and a half miles north of Dunlap. I drove over to see the building last Monday, but did not find Raymond at home. The building was not completed, the roof remained to be placed on the same. There was enough of the building to prove that it is one of the best of its kind in this part of the state. It is built of hollow tile brick and is being nicely arranged with plenty of light in both the hog house and pavilion. The hog house is built at the south end of the pavilion. The hog house part is twenty feet wide and forty-eight feet long and the pavilion which is circular, is thirty-six feet across and fourteen feet high. Mr. Brown will have the building completed before he has his next public sale, which will take place February 20th. He has had some very successful sales, but the next one should beat all previous records, if good stock counts for anything. He has one of the best herds of Chester White swine in Iowa.

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So far I have not heard a word concerning a farmers' institute in Crawford county this coming fall or winter. Surely an institute will be held, I should think. Special importance hinges on the institutes during the coming season on account of the big part the farming is being asked to play in the war by producing maximum crops of farm products. Special lectures in potato culture, dairying, poultry husbandry and soils were never more needed than right now. Household economics should also have a place in the institute. No doubt many of our farmers, and their wives, are planning to attend institutes this winter and there is no better place to hold them than right here in Crawford county. It takes about six real live wires to put across a successful institute and I know there are many times that number in the county. I will do what I can to assist in the work of an institute if a half dozen or more progressive farmers will step out in front and lead off. Who will volunteer to help put it across?

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B. W. Hunt, who resides about one mile north of Denison, attended the Waltemeyer Duroc sale at Melbourne, October 17th, and purchased a May male pig for $205. It is said to have been one of the best in the offering. G. B. McAndrews & Sons, of Vail, purchased one of the good ones, paying $295 for it.

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All day last Friday I drove around the county, in the north central part, and only visited two farm homes where the Review was not a weekly visitor. This happens quite frequently. It looks to me that the Review, with that kind of a circulation, would be a mighty good place to plant your public sale advertisement.

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B. A. Samuelson & Son, of Kiron, recently sold their herd boar, Kiron High Model, the boar used in the Samuelson herd the past two years. The fact that this boar was considered good enough to head this famous herd is proof that he is an animal of great quality. The purchaser was Frank L. North, of Vail, and the consideration was $400.

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Seventy-five car loads of baled straw were shipped from the big Adams ranch in Sac county recently.

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E. S. Miles reports to the editor of the Woodbine Twiner that his 310 stands of bees made 29,000 pounds of honey this year.

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Battle Creek Times: Notwithstanding the prediction of a shortage of farm help, on account of the war corn huskers are much in evidence around Battle Creek. About five and six cents a bushel for field corn and fifteen and seventeen cents a bushel for pop corn seems to be the prevailing scale that farmers are willing to pay.

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W. C. Pollock is building a barn on his farm three and a half miles west of Denison, on the Lincoln highway. The barn will be 32x42. It is planned to devote the center section, from floor to roof, to the hay mow, on either side of same will be the stalls. The horses on one side and the cattle on the other. Twenty-five years ago Mr. Pollock started to breed pure bred Durocs and he has been in the game ever since. I had the pleasure of looking over two yearling sows which Mr. Pollock says are the best he has ever raised. They came in a litter of seventeen and their mother always farrowed from eleven to sixteen. She lived to be seven years of age before her demise and she lived a useful life, for she raised two litters per year. It would only take about two such brood sows to keep a farm supplied with young pigs. Yes, the Durocs are prolific. The thirteen months old herd boar is a wonderful animal. He was bought in dam from a noted Wisconsin breeder. He was sired by Cherry Chief, dam by Illustrator. The dam is still the property of Mr. Pollock and she is certainly a valuable piece of property. He has several other Durocs but Durocs are not the only pure bred livestock raised on this farm. Mrs. Pollock looks after an excellent flock of pure bred Buff Orpington chickens. Lovers of that breed of chickens would find much to admire by giving Mrs. Pollock's Buffs the once over. Mr. Pollock owns 136 acres in this farm and 80 acres nearby. He will move to Denison next spring, turning the farm over to his son, Ernest. A public sale will be held at the farm during the month of February.

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Chas. A. Detwiler has started work on an addition to his barn, three miles northeast of Dunlap. The addition will be 18x24.

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I found Eldred Larson repairing fences on the farm in section six, Stockholm township. As he lives only a few miles from Sac and Ida counties—the pop corn center of the world—it is easy to explain why he raised fifteen acres of pop corn this season. A couple of young men were husking it last week and it was going about thirty-five bushels to the acre. A hail storm did some damage to the field or it would have made a better yield. Eldred informed me that he is going to raise pure bred swine but has not decided just which breed he will select..

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L. F. Gronau has recently installed a water system on his farm three miles southwest of Boyer. A heating plant will be installed in the residence this week.

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A. L. Anderson, who is located in section eighteen, Stockholm township, was building additional machine sheds last week. He is building a 12x32 addition along the east and west sides of the corn crib. I noticed a number of grey hounds on the farm and was told he has six of them. I believe six dogs are too many dogs for any farmer to have, but not a one of them barked at me when I called, which seemed strange to me, for I am generally greeted with a serenade from old Shep when I visit most of the farmers. Now don't think by this that I dislike dogs, for I do not. One of the truest friends I ever had was a dog, and when I lost him I grieved more than some folks do over losing a human

Continued Page 7.)

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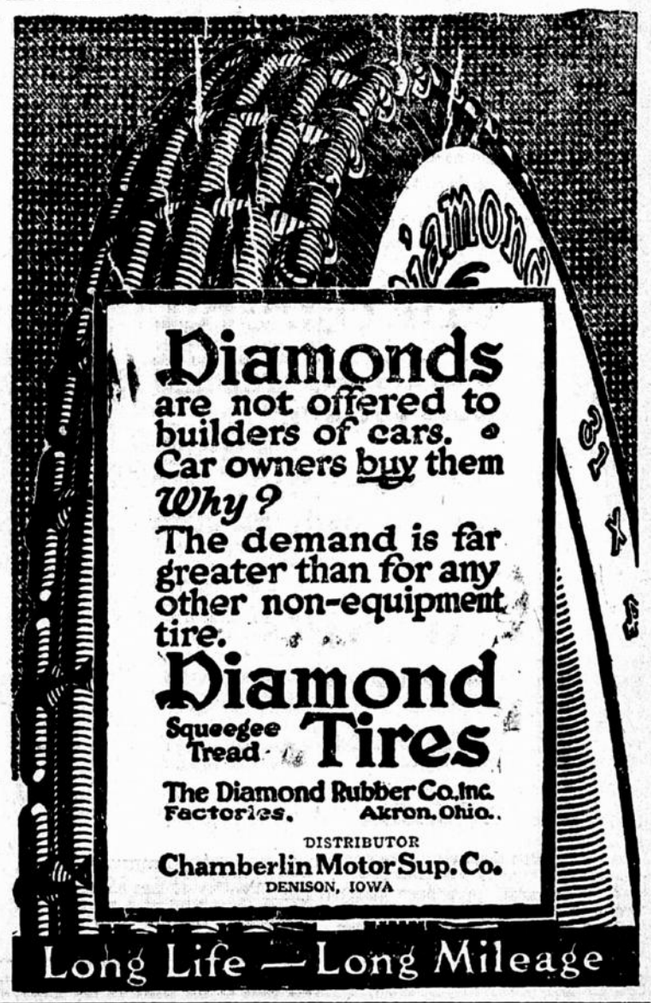

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Sale Commencing at 2:30 O'clock P. M.

Having reached the age where I desire to free myself from the responsibility of owning and looking after farm interests, I have decided to offer at public sale my fine 280 acre farm, located in Wall Lake Township, Sec. 32, R. 37, adjoining the town of Lake View and situated 3 1-2 miles from Wall Lake, Iowa.

This is positively one of the best farms in the state, every foot of which is under cultivation, lying in gentle slope and all self drained, free from rocks, ponds, etc. Good deep black loam soil with clay subsoil.

Improvements consist of good well built house, 30x40, 14 rooms, exclusive of large garret and full size basement; running water, bathroom, hot air furnace. One barn 46x71, 12 foot posts; one barn 40x28, 12 foot posts; new double corncrib, 31x54, 12 foot posts, cement floor; one granary, 36x54, with farm scale; one granary 18x28; tank house 16x10, with stone cave; 90 barrel tank, water piped to hog and cattle yards; automatic hog water supply, cement tanks; severat small buildings such as garage, chicken house, ice house, etc. Good 50 foot, four post steel windmill, with never failing well. Fenced practically hog-tight

Three acre orchard with all kinds of fruit and walnut trees. Also maple and evergreen grove. If purchaser desires to rent out farm for 1918, owner has applicant waiting to rent same for $12.00 per acre or half crop.

TERMS: $2,500 cash on day of sale, $15,000 on March 1, 1918. Balance in first and second mortgages as follows: One-half in first mortgage to run ten years at 5 per cent; remainder in second mortgage to run five years at 5 1-2 per cent, with optional payments.

J. Westrom, Owner

Teaquist & McLaughlin, Aucts. **C. W. Zeilman, Clerk**

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