

# CORN ONLY CROP UP TO AVERAGE

HEAT AND DROUGHT HIT ALL OTHER CROPS A HARD BLOW SAYS JOINT REPORT.

All important crops, except corn, grown in the state are below the ten-year average. Heat and drought have been responsible for this condition. The unprecedented period of extreme heat that continued during a part of June and throughout the month of July seriously injured the most of the grains and some of the minor crops. It has reduced the prospective production of some crops to a point below the returns received by Michigan farmers in any recent year, according to the joint report issued by Verne H. Church, agricultural statistician, U. S. Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates, and Herman H. Hallday, commissioner, State Department of Agriculture. Perhaps the chief consolation lies in the fact that Michigan has not suffered more severely than most of the other northern states, and not as much as some. The diminished production for the country as a whole will be conducive to better prices, which will compensate in part for the lower yields.

Corn is well advanced and is in generally good condition over the state. In the southwestern counties, where the weather is very dry at present, and on light soils in other sections, it is rolling and firing more or less. More moisture during the last two weeks would have produced a larger yield. The outlook is for a crop of 94,479,000 bushels as compared with 65,000,000 last year.

Winter wheat shows an average yield of 19 bushels per acre, which is about one bushel below the ten-year average. The forecasted production is 1,198,000 bushels, or about 700,000 less than last year. There is much shriveling and lightweight grain, the quality being 84 per cent as compared with an average of 90. Spring wheat is a poor crop, the estimate yield being only 54 per cent of normal.

The oat crop was almost a failure in the northwestern counties. In many parts of the state the straw was too short to cut with a binder. Some fields were too poor to harvest, and some that were harvested were not threshed. The estimated production is only 55 per cent of a crop, or 31,022,000 bushels, the smallest for the state since 1907. The United States crop is the smallest since 1913, being 1,107,000,000 bushels.

The barley crop has suffered from heat and drought, as in the case of oats, and shows a yield of only 60 per cent normal. This represents a crop of 5,912,000 bushels, as compared with a crop of 6,246,000 bushels last year.

The yield of rye is 123 bushels per acre as compared with a 15-year average of 147 bushels. The total production is placed at 8,405,000 bushels; last year it was 9,702,000. Much of the grain is light and shriveled, and the quality averages 85 per cent, or nine per cent below the average.

The buckwheat average has been declining for a number of years, and there is a further decline of 10 per cent this year compared with last, leaving an average of 38,000. The weather has not been favorable for germination and growth, and the condition is 77 per cent, or six per cent below the average. This forecasts a crop of 51,000 bushels.

The outlook for potatoes is very discouraging. Hot weather during and following the planting season destroyed much seed. Many fields were replanted with no better results, and some have been abandoned and utilized for other crops. The stand is relatively poor in every part of the state, and the outlook is for only 50 per cent of a crop, or 18,870,000 bushels, as compared with 35,700,000 bushels last year. The crop for the United States is estimated at 315,000,000 bushels.

797,000 as compared with 415,458,000 bushels last year. Since 1908 only two smaller crops have been produced, those of 1911 and 1916.

The estimated hay production is 69 per cent of a full crop; last year there was 83 per cent of a crop, and the ten-year average is 86 per cent. Timothy shows a condition of 67 per cent. The yield of clover is 0.9 of a ton per acre, less than two-thirds of normal. Alfalfa has withstood the drought well and shows a condition of 90 per cent. Two cuttings have been harvested and a third crop will be made in most sections.

The extremely hot weather blasted many blooms on early beans and there are many empty or poorly-filled pods. Harvesting and thrashing of the early crop has commenced, but the yields are disappointing. The late crop is now blooming and shows a much better prospect under the present favorable weather conditions. The present outlook is for 75 per cent of a crop, or 2,212,000 bushels. Last year's crop was 3,575,000 bushels.

The condition of sugar beets is 80 per cent compared with 83 per cent last month, and an average of 85 per cent. The weather is favorable for the storing of sugar, and if rains are sufficient during the latter part of the season the beets will undoubtedly attain satisfactory size.

Tomatoes offer a prospect of an average crop with a condition of 87 per cent. Cabbage and onions have suffered from heat and dry weather and are below normal, the percentages of condition being 70 and 72, respectively.

There is a prospect for a 30 per cent crop of apples in Michigan; it is chiefly in the commercial orchards. Some of the northwestern counties will probably ship more than last year because of the prevailing higher prices, and the fact that all will be harvested, which was not the case last year. The percentage for the United States is 34.8. The prospective production for the United States is 109,453,000 bushels. This is the smallest production since 1890, when the population of the country was only about one-half as large as it is now.

There is only 22 per cent of a normal crop of peaches in the state. The crop is principally confined to the western fruit belt, and ranges from less than ten per cent in the extreme southwestern counties to fifty per cent in some of the orchards of Mason and Oceana counties.

Pears show a condition of 41 per cent; grapes 35; blackberries and raspberries 70; watermelons 78; cantaloupes 77; plums 20.

AUGUSTUS PITOU, INC. Presents

DENMAN THOMPSON'S

'The Old Homestead'

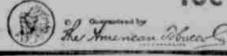
STRAND THEATER

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2



GENUINE "BULL" DURHAM

tobacco makes 50 good cigarettes for 10c



## AUCTION SALE

The undersigned administrator of Andrew Welch Estate will sell at public auction at Andrew Welch farm, 1 mile west, 1 1/2 miles north of Alma, on

Friday, August 26, 1921

commencing at 1 o'clock, the following described property:

- One double harness (old) 16.00
- One dark bay mare 30.00
- One red cow 60.00
- Two single harness 20.00
- One riding plow 20.00
- One walking plow 4.00
- One shovel plow .50
- One corn sheller 1.00
- One beet lifter 2.50
- One garden drill 3.00
- One 5-tooth cultivator 1.00
- One oil barrel, iron kettle, dinner bell, wagon tongue, spade, shovel and various other small tools 8.00
- About 3 1/2 acres of corn in field.
- One heating stove. One cozy top buggy.

TERMS OF SALE—All sums of \$5.00 and under cash; all sums over \$5.00, ninety days' time on good bankable paper at 7 per cent interest.

J. D. SULLIVAN

Administrator, Andrew Welch Estate

J. D. HELMAN, Auctioneer

### LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

You will find the best bread in Butter Cup wrappers. 02-tfc

Coming! Peaches at Ellison's, Tuesday and Thursday next week.—advertisement.

Dr. E. G. Sluyter, osteopathic physician, State Savings Bank Building, Alma, both phones. 57-tf

Mrs. A. P. Cook and daughter, Miss Edith Cook, were Grand Rapids visitors the first of the week.

Mrs. W. F. Welper has returned from Traverse City, where she was called to attend the funeral of her sister.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Osborn and son, Fred, and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Dunham spent the latter part of the week

visiting with relatives at Whitmore lake and Lansing.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Carter and son of Royal Oak are visiting Mrs. Carter's sister, Mrs. H. S. Babcock and family.

Lieutenant John C. Chick of Troop C, 106th Cavalry, was called to Alma from Grayling Sunday by the serious illness of his father. He returned to camp Monday.

You will find a nice line of selected fall hats, moderately priced at Miss Spaulding's at 231 Prospect ave.—advertisement.

President H. M. Crooks of Alma College has returned from a two weeks' vacation spent in northern Michigan resorts.

Dr. and Mrs. C. F. DuBois spent Sunday at the Michigan National Guard camp at Grayling, visiting with

the members of Troop C, 106th Cavalry as the Alma unit is known.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Sweet of Middlefield, Ohio, spent the week end in this city, guests at the home of Dr. and Mrs. R. B. Smith.

Alma Hive No. 332 will hold its regular meeting, August 25, at the usual place, the I. O. O. F. hall. Visitors are always welcome.

Mrs. Mary Hulse is entertaining her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wright of Kawader, Kansas, whom she has not seen for eleven years.

Miss M. Louise Hood has returned to her position as executive secretary of the Florence, Crittenden Home in Detroit, after a week's visit at the home of L. N. Baker and family.

Rev. W. C. Atwood, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Brookfield, Mo., will occupy the pulpit at the

Methodist Episcopal church on Sunday, August 21, at 11:00 o'clock.

R. B. Wagner and Leon Stinchcomb returned from the Michigan National Guard camp at Grayling Monday. The former returned for the gas rate hearing at Lansing today, and the latter to accept a position at Lansing.

The Loyal Daughters and Loyal Young Men's classes of the Christian Bible school will hold a porch social Tuesday evening at the pastor's residence, 737 Mass. Blvd. All the members and their young friends are cordially invited.

A reunion of the VanNorman family was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George VanNorman Sunday, which was attended by 28 members of the family. A sumptuous dinner was enjoyed at noon, and the balance of the day was spent in visiting.

BOYS AND GIRLS AT M. A. C.

Last Thursday about fifty members of the pure bred live stock clubs of Gratiot Co. had an outing at the Michigan Agriculture College. The day was a very enjoyable and profitable one. For most of them it was their first visit to M. A. C. and the courteous reception while there left a favorable impression with all. The first part of the day was spent in "doing the college," with a guide and then the different professors gave practical demonstrations in judging hogs, dairy and beef cattle.

Club members are planning on exhibiting their stock at the county fair and liberal rewards have been arranged for. Mr. Cook, County Farm Agent, will be glad to give information at any time regarding the club work.

# ROBINSON'S BUYERS' GUIDE

Foremost on the shopping calendar is the month of August. Even those who from past experience have learned to look to this month for extensive economies will be thrilled with this year's August Sale values. Already here and there in the store is a touch of Fall, where the new things are beginning to appear; and substantial displays of Summer and all year round merchandise are features at reductions that give the good old-fashioned dollar more value than it has possessed in years.

### Soft Dainty Fabrics That Make Sewing a Pleasure



What if the family dressmaker and her emery bag and pins are parked at the Jones' for an indefinite period! Undermishins have become so simple, you can make them yourself. Fine batistes and nainsooks are very inexpensive now. All you need will be a few yards, a bit of trimming, and a pattern.

We carry Butterick Patterns. You will find it easy to fashion any type of garment with the assistance of a Butterick Pattern. September patterns are now on display.

- Pink Batiste a yard \$1.00
- Fine Nainsook a yard \$1.00
- Val Lace Edging a yard 5c to 20c
- Filet Lace a yard 5c to 20c
- Lingerie Crepes a yard 39c and 49c

### New Fall Fashions Play Important Roles

On the Fall Fashion Stage, new players come from overseas. Wear this, wear that, wear anything, in fact! And it's not a bit too early to invest in Fall apparel, when such extensive and authentic displays are ready.

Dresses—Isn't it nice to know that chemise frocks are smart? Loose, graceful sleeves are competing with long tight ones, and that irregular hems, and Orientally inclined panels are good?

Suits—are very smart, with conservative skirts, but coats that make up for this in sumptuous fur embroidery or braid trim. The new wide Jenny sleeve with wide arm size is popular.

Coats—seem to be ignoring regular coat rules completely. Fur is absolutely necessary and lavish in its usage. Fabrics are of gorgeous, deep pile, richly colored. Long tuxedo fronts are stylish.



Tea

—that is brewed in a little brown pot like this, will "warm the inner cockles of even a frigid heart" for it has a "homey" comfortable look. It's made of warm tan and brown earthenware, and is a sturdy little pot—witness the independence of the trig little spout. Priced \$1.25 to \$2.50



Four Left

May be there are not even four. It is surprising how many tumblers get broken in the good old Summer time. But then it is rather nice to get new ones occasionally especially when they're low priced. These tumblers are of thin blown glass and a set of six costs only \$1.38.



Boys' Tub Suits

It's plain to be seen that Bill and Bob are "starting something" and they'll more than like to need clean suits when they've finished. It does take a lot of washing to keep up with the boy. Well tailored, pretty suits that will keep their color, may be had for \$1.98 to \$2.79.

### Oh Shades of Peter Pan



—What winsome blouses you have conjured up! Our August selling includes many that are just as pretty as this one. Priced \$4.95.



Glad Tidings!

It almost seems as though the good old days have returned! For now a woman can buy a smart up-to-date hat for an old-fashioned price. There's a lot to be said in favor of the forest brown duvetyn Hat such as the one portrayed. You could hardly guess the price. Just think, it's only—

\$7.50

## Blankets!

Prudent Home Managers Will Buy Now

Thrifty housewives do not wait until they face the immediate necessity of having certain merchandise. They buy when they can buy best. This is one of those best buying times for Blankets. The prices are much more favorable than they will be later in the season and the selections because of special purchases more comprehensive.

At \$8.75 a pair

Woolen Blankets of good weight. In various color combinations, in checks and plaids.

At \$2.98 a pair

Cotton Blankets in grey, white and soft tan with wide striped ends of contrast color.

### White Footwear—The Big Feature of This August Sale

You will be able to replace your White Shoes, now gray-looking and stiff from many cleanings with a spic span pair. It's a splendid chance to finish the season, without being the least extravagant because the August Sale prices on our entire collection of White Footwear are remarkably low. And housewives who find it attractive and comfortable to wear White Oxfords with their house dresses even in winter won't let this chance slip by.

### There's a Point

to this paragraph besides those on the lady's skirt. It's this —If you don't avail yourself of August Sales on these smart silk sport skirts, you'll be very sorry. They're priced so low, and of charming colors and combinations. Of course, they're usually pleated, and made of Fan-ta-si, baronette satin, crepe de Chine and Canton crepe. Stylish women are wearing them with sleeveless jackets, stunning sweaters or Oriental slip-on blouses of crepe. Priced \$11.50 up.



# ROBINSON'S