

# MONTANA FARMERS MAY HELP WIN WAR

Agricultural War Measures in Use by Allies May Be Put Into Practice in Montana, According to President Hamilton of the Agricultural College, Who Has Just Returned From Conference With Secretary of Agriculture; Man Who Tills the Soil May Render His Country as Patriotic a Service as Soldier Who Bears the Brunt of Battle; Increased Acreage of All Foodstuffs Grown Is Urged by Government; Enlistment of Army for Agricultural Purpose Is Suggested; Organized Effort to Be Made to Arouse Farmers of Montana to Do Their Part in World Struggle by Planting Every Acre Available; World's Food Supply Was Never So Low as Now.

President Hamilton of the state college has just returned from St. Louis where he was called by Secretary Houston of the department of agriculture to attend a conference of 62 officials representing 32 states called together to discuss the agricultural situation in the present national crisis. Immediately upon his return President Hamilton called together all the members of the college faculty and experiment station staff and explained the agricultural situation in a manner which impressed all with the seriousness of the present crisis and the need of immediate action in arousing Montana to do her part in the world struggle. Early this week President Hamilton conferred with Governor Stewart, pledging him the full support of the state college and experiment station, and outlining plans for the organization and increased development of all branches of agriculture practiced in Montana.

At St. Louis President Hamilton was a member of the committee appointed to formulate the views of the conference and to submit suggestions for courses of action. The report of this committee is of the greatest interest to every citizen as it forecasts government control of private industry to an extent never experienced by the American people.

During the next few months we may expect to see in operation the most drastic of the agricultural regulations now in use in foreign countries for, according to President Hamilton, it was the unanimous opinion of the conference that this country should immediately put into practice the agricultural war measures now in use by the allies which have proven of greatest value.

Following are some of the recommendations and suggestions made by the committee:

### The Farmer's Responsibility.

Upon the farmer rests in large measure the final responsibility of winning the war in which we are now involved. The world's food reserve has never been so low. Not only our own consumers, but much

of the world at large, must rely more completely than ever before upon the American farmer. Therefore, the man who tills the soil is rendering as noble and patriotic a service as is man who bears the brunt of battle.

### Increase the Food Supply.

The food supply should be increased by the following means: Increasing the acreage of spring wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat, potatoes, and beans; by the planting of gardens in city, town, and country so that every family may have enough vegetables for use during the summer and a surplus to can for winter use; increasing milk production one-fourth by better feeding methods; substantially increasing pork production by more extensive use of fall litters, better care and feeding; doubling the poultry products by doubling the number of chickens usually hatched; preventing loss of farm animals by increasing state and federal veterinary services; preventing loss of crops by prompt and efficient control of insect pests and plant diseases and the treating and testing of seed before planting.

### Mobilizing Farm Labor.

The committee's report on farm labor is of special interest. It protests against the enlistment of men from the farms for service at the front and advocates enlistment of an army for agricultural purposes, such enlistment to be regarded as part of the public patriotic service and to be given proper official recognition. This enlistment should include three classes: Men beyond military age, men of military age but not accepted for active military duty; and boys between the ages of 15 and 19. It is pointed out that there are more than ten million of this latter class in towns and cities not now engaged in productive work.

It is recommended that the federal trade commission co-operating with the secretary of agriculture shall make a thorough survey of the food labor and other resources of the country and of the needs of the local communities.

The secretary of agriculture should be authorized by law to license warehouses, cold storage brokers, packing plants, wholesale distributors, etc., and when directed by the president should have power to take over and operate such of these businesses as may be warranted in a manner similar to the receivership. This undoubtedly means that speculations in foodstuffs will no longer be tolerated.

### Price Fixing if Necessary.

Because of the very low food reserves of the world, the increase demands due to the consumption and waste of war, and the poor present conditions of the winter wheat crop, the committee believes that the producer is assured of profitable prices this year. Therefore the fixing of maximum and minimum prices need not be undertaken at this time but because of the fact that such a course may become necessary in the near future it is recommended that congress authorize the council of national defense, if deemed necessary, to purchase, store, and subsequently distribute food products or to fix prices in an emergency caused by a temporary or local over production, or by a sudden ending of the war or by restraint of trade and un-economic speculation. This step is taken to protect the producer from any possible loss on account of the extraordinary effort he is now asked to make and in order that consumers may not be made to pay oppressive prices in case of disorganized or inadequate transportation.

### Increased Home Economy.

The committee points out that al-

most as great a saving may be made through more economical manufacture, purchase, and use of foods as can be made through methods of production which are immediately feasible. As an example, our bread stuff supply may be increased eighteen million barrels of flour per year by milling our wheat so as to make 81 per cent of 7 1/2 kernel into flour instead of 73 per cent as at present. This flour would have as high nutritive value as that which we now use.

Another important saving may be effected by making the diet as largely vegetarian as possible, without lowering food efficiency, by partial substitution of such foods as beans and peas and of milk and its products for the more expensive meats. The serious food wastes that occur in many households through a lack of culinary knowledge and skill may be minimized through the introduction of better methods.

**National and State Organization.**  
The conference recommends the organization of a small central agricultural body, whose services and presence might be required in Washington constantly, to be composed of men who have wide knowledge of agriculture and executive experience.

Also a small central body in each state of five to seven members representing the various agricultural interests and appointed by the governor. The national central body and the state central bodies will be expected to keep in intimate contact and to work in close co-operation.

### Appropriation of \$25,000,000.

To meet the extraordinary needs of agriculture in this emergency the committee recommends an appropriation of \$25,000,000 to be available immediately for the use of the secretary of agriculture as he may deem best.

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1,920 ACRES, 70 per cent good wheat and corn land, balance excellent stock land. Two good springs, \$10 per acre, easy terms. Fagan-McCutcheon Price, 108 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Mont.

640 ACRES, 12 miles from good town, Custer county, 450 acres good wheat and corn land, balance good grazing land, good spring, \$12 per acre, \$1,200 cash, balance 10 years at 6 per cent. Fagan-McCutcheon-Price, 108 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Montana.

EXCELLENT stock ranch, 1,920 acres, 11 miles from good town, prosperous country, well watered, 600 acres good plow land, good heavy blue-joint and buffalo grass, \$6.00 per acre, \$2,000 cash, balance ten years at 6 per cent. Fagan-McCutcheon-Price, 108 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Mont.

A SNAP—Choice section Missouri river bottom land; 75 per cent tillable; will divide; fenced; live spring; easy terms; dandy dry farming locality; a fine stock maker. Investigate sure. Penwell Companies, Helena, Montana.

100 ACRES, 4 miles from market; 130 acres tillable \$15.00 per acre, terms to suit buyer. Mercantile Realty Co., 604 First National Bank bldg., Great Falls, Mont.

FOR SALE—80 acres good, rich, black soil; nicely located; well improved; good 8 room house, barn, hay sheds, small orchard, apples and cherries; private water right, 4 1/2 miles north-east of Ronan and 3 miles from new townsite on Mud creek on R. 1. Sec. 20, T. 12 N., R. 10 E. Well equipped farm. Price \$110.00 per acre. S. G. Irish, Ronan, Mont.

320 ACRES between Oxford-Wright and Judith Gap, 300 acres tillable land, 50 acres cultivated, small house and barn, all fenced, \$17.50 per acre, Nelson & Emerson, 16 Steele bldg., Great Falls, Mont.

1,000 ACRES in the Highwood district, finest proposition of its kind for diversified farming. Over 60 percent cultivated. Running water and good improvements. A high class proposition. Nelson & Emerson, 16 Steele bldg., Great Falls, Mont.

480 ACRES, all tillable, buildings and fenced; has a flowing well of 800 barrels a day and only 6 1/2 miles from town. Located between Choteau and Collins. Very reasonable. Nelson & Emerson, 16 Steele bldg., Great Falls, Mont.

FOR SALE—292 acres, 180 tillable, 100 irrigated hay land, private water, 10 winter wheat, big list machinery, team, fine range, two sets small improvements. Single, two sets small improvements. Stephens-Bates Co., Missoula, Montana.

IT IS NOW POSSIBLE to get a good-sized ranch loan at as low a rate as 6 per cent with a very reasonable commission charge, and with the privilege of paying same off at any desired time. Many ranchers who have been borrowing money on their livestock are taking advantage of this lower rate and borrowing what money they need on their land. Write to P. O. Box 887, Billings, Mont., for particulars about these loans.

I HAVE THE PURCHASER, you have the land to sell. Let me have a complete description immediately, so I can sell for you. Reimbursements wanted. J. I. Eaken, Dunn block, Great Falls, Mont.

IF YOU WISH to buy or sell a farm anywhere in Montana, write Mutual Realty Co., 335 Ford bldg., Great Falls, Mont.

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FOR SALE—Stock ranches, good locations, the best. H. O. Clark, Jr., 123 W. Broadway, Butte, Mont.

FOR SALE—2,720 acres 34 miles from Butte and 4 miles from two good towns, which will sell in solid tract at a price of \$12.50 per acre, terms one-tenth down, balance 10 years at 6 per cent. Or will sell in tracts as follows: 800 acres, 500 tillable, 125 irrigable, \$13 per acre, 10 year terms. 640 acres, 200 tillable at \$8 per acre, same terms. 640 acres, small house, well, steel tank, barn at \$15, 500 tillable, 60 acres, 400 tillable, \$13 per acre. H. O. Clark, Jr., 123 West Broadway, Butte, Mont.

320 ACRES 4 1/2 miles from Joliet, Mont. All fenced. Big spring runs year around. 100 acres in winter wheat; 25 acres alfalfa; 270 acres tillable. Balance good pasture land. Snap at \$30 per acre including all crops, \$500 down. Easy terms. Owners, Grinnard & Brown, 306 Electric block, Billings, Mont.

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THE LAST GREAT WEST. Buy railroad lands in Dawson and Prairie counties, Montana, and get them in advance of the railroad, which is now under construction. Write me for price list and literature. Easy payments. Alex B. Lehman, Lewistown, Montana.

MONTANA LANDS from quarter section to 40,000 acres, at prices from \$4.00 to \$25.00 per acre. Frait Sales Agency, 218 First National Bank bldg., Great Falls, Mont.

640-ACRES, six miles from good live town, 385 acres broke, 70 acres in wheat, good water, all tillable \$17.50 per acre. \$20 per acre; one mile from town and school, plenty of water, all tillable, \$15.00 per acre. Sevier & Robinson, 15 1/2 Third street south, Great Falls, Mont.

FREE—Lists of fine, cheap farm land located in Montana opened up by Milwaukee railway. Write Immigration Agent, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, Seattle, Washington.

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900-ACRE ranch, seven miles east of Keokuk, Montana, for rent. About 400 acres broken out. For terms apply to J. N. Thelen, Conrad Bank building, Great Falls, Montana.

1071 ACRES of high-grade stock ranch in Bonner county, Idaho, adjoining on a forest reserve, samples of the vegetation are to be seen in our office. Strout Realty Co., 123 Central ave., Great Falls, Mont.

1,880-ACRE stock farm, good, cheap proposition, 320 acres deeded and three re-liquishments, good water, located in Fergus county, Montana. Strout Realty Co., 123 Central ave., Great Falls, Mont.

HOMESTEAD contents, filings, plats, re-liquishment transactions, all land matters. A. L. Gesdic, land att'y., Great Falls.

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WE HAVE two half sections, 3 1/2 and 6 1/2 miles from Montague, Big Horn county, wood district, for \$22.50 and \$35.00 per acre, respectively. One section of land, 230 acres cultivated, 173 acres in crop, 140 acres of crop goes to the purchaser, all tillable, at \$28.50 per acre. This is the biggest investment in the country. Nelson & Emerson, 16 Steele building, Great Falls, Montana.

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FIVE-ROOM modern house at a bargain; close in; terms. Mutual Realty Co., 636 Ford building, Great Falls, Montana.

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BIG INCOME from small investment. \$5,500 cash will buy old hotel and restaurant building located on two best business lots in thriving town. Room 425 Hotel Rainbow, Great Falls, Mont.

WYOMING OIL will undoubtedly make many fortunes for many people this year. For full, impartial and important information address Secretary Wyoming Montana Public Oil Exchange, Casper, Wyoming.

WE HAVE \$10,000 cash and half section of good North Dakota land for a price more or less good Montana land. Frait Sales Agency, 313 First National Bank building, Great Falls, Montana.

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WASHINGTON farm and SPOKANE city property to exchange for Montana land. Tell us fully what you have. Schlifer Investment Co., Spokane, Wash.

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Thirteen old line companies writing hail insurance withdrew from the Montana field as a result of losses sustained last season, according to C. A. Rinehart, president of the Ranchers' Hall and Fire Insurance company, who states that his company wrote nearly \$750,000 in hail policies during the 1916 season and came through without a scratch.

At the beginning of this year there were 70 policy holders in the Ranchers' company, and a campaign is being pushed briskly to get 3,000 members before the first hail hits the grain fields this year.

"The Ranchers' is strictly a mutual company," said Mr. Rinehart, "and in order to extend our membership to all parts of the state, we demand only a small fee for enrolling a member. Once a farmer is a member of the company he receives the benefits by paying only the actual assessments, and an annual membership fee of \$1.

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in the field to raise their rates to 10 per cent.

"Our company received its charter April 26th, 1916, and we commenced writing insurance at once. The amount written did not reach our expectations, but the insurance written was well scattered over the state and the uniformity with which it was distributed enabled us to pay our losses in full, notwithstanding that the summer saw the worst hail storms that ever visited the state.



C. A. Rinehart.

"The fire insurance department was started the first of this year, and from the way applications are coming in we should soon be leading in farmers' fire insurance in the state. We write only farm property, and our fire insurance is handled on the same basis as hail insurance, the farmer paying a small membership fee and then keeping up his assessments as needed and paying his annual fee. We are now appointing agents in every locality where we are not represented, and agents write both fire and hail."

### The Butcher's Wall.

"That's ninety cents a pound, ma'am," said the butcher.  
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\$1,000,000 TO LOAN

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