

PROSPERITY AWAITS AMERICAN FARMER

Growth in National Wealth Would Be Prodigious If Tillers Could Increase Output to Its Capacity.

MOSS INVESTIGATES CONDITIONS

"I Deplore Miseries of War But Can See in It Uplifting of Farming Class," Says Representative.

By BURTON K. STANDISH.
Washington, Feb. 24.—Never since the day Adam was so summarily ejected from the Garden of Eden has there been a generation of farmers so favored as are the farmers of America today. And one of the reasons is the present war in Europe.

So says Ralph W. Moss, a prosperous farmer of Center township, Clay county, Indiana. Why pick Mr. Moss out, you ask? Well, Mr. Moss, in addition to being a prosperous farmer is a student of agriculture on a broad scale and a member of congress. It is rather the regular thing to ask him about such things. For instance, when President Wilson was picking a commission to study agricultural conditions in Europe the first man he picked was Representative Moss. Mr. Moss spent all the time he could crowd between congress sessions in examining first hand their methods of doing things in the Old Country. Some of his conclusions appear in the following summarization of an interview had with him a few days ago:

"The American nation has worshipped at the shrine of the manufacturer since the close of the Civil war, because this industry has had the power to reward its votaries with abundant wealth."

Pause, if you like, while I reassure you that these are his exact words. To make it clear in your mind, picture a man on whom life's struggle has left its mark, has left him a serious student, just as serious and just as much a student as he was in the days when he was working his way through Purdue university.

Point Out Advantages.
"High wages, short hours and large dividends have become associated with the American furnace and workshop. During the same period, the American farmer has been a man who was compelled to work long hours, sell his products for low prices, pay low wages to his labor and even to deny his family the luxuries of life.

"Political economists have repeatedly pointed out the tremendous advantage which would accrue to our nation if it were possible to increase the output of our farms to any degree near their maximum capacity. Our growth in national wealth and prosperity would be prodigious.

"Such an increase in yield has been followed by a corresponding decrease in price. So universally has this been true, that strong societies have been organized among farmers to limit their output in order to advance the price.

Wheat to Pigs.
"Last July, the price of wheat fell to 70 cents in Indiana when it became known that our yield was to be the largest on record. On my farm, we fed wheat to the pigs because it was the cheapest feed available. It has been estimated by the department of agriculture that the farmers sold 80 per cent of the crop at an average price of 98 cents per bushel. This sounds like romance now when we are threatened with a bread famine and it is reasonable to predict \$2.00 wheat before the new crop can be harvested.

"I have thus briefly referred to the past in order to rivet attention on the change which is coming. The European war is fraught with such momentous consequence to our nation as to appear incredulous to the average citizen. New riches are to be added to our nation as suddenly as good fortune came to Aladdin. The present generation of farmers is to be the most favored since Adam was driven from the garden of Eden.

"At the outbreak of the war we were in a splendid state of preparedness to meet an extra demand for agricultural products at a higher price. For a generation we had been busy improving our roads and transportation facilities; we had likewise improved our livestock, seed grains and agricultural tools. We have steadily extended our arable area by draining swamps, clearing forest areas and irrigating the desert. Our schools and colleges have been adding to our source of knowledge by diffusing

(Continued on last page.)

HAVE FOOD PROBLEM.

(United Press)
Berlin, Feb. 24.—On account of problems of feeding the alien population, Germany plans an extensive conquest of Russian soil after Warsaw has been taken.

PROUD LOVE AFFAIR.

State Governor Chairman Says Bemidji.

"There seems to be a proud love affair on between the governor of the state of Minnesota and the city of Bemidji. And the things Mr. Hammond says of Bemidji are as nice as the things your city is saying of him." In this manner A. L. Sortor, chairman of the Democratic State Central committee writes to A. P. Ritchie, Governor Hammond was given a most cordial welcome on his first visit here and upon his next trip to the "Magic City of the North," his reception will be doubly enthusiastic, so favorable an impression did he make.

SCHOOL FUND GROWTH BIG

\$41,702,456 Has Been Distributed in Schools of Minnesota in 52 Years—\$5.80 Per Pupil Awarded.

412,456 STUDENTS RECEIVE AID

In fifty-two years Minnesota's permanent school fund has grown from \$242,513 to nearly \$25,000,000 and during the same period earnings from this fund to the amount of \$41,702,456.45 have been distributed among the public schools of the state. This showing is the greatest of any state in the Union.

Tuesday C. G. Schulz, state superintendent of education, filed with members of the legislature advanced copies of the eighteenth biennial report of the department.

\$4,500,000 in Two Years.

During the last two years Mr. Schulz has supervised the expenditure of over \$4,500,000 as state aid to public schools. This included appropriations made by the 1913 legislature.

At the close of the school year 457,041 pupils were registered in the public schools. Of this number 412,456 were earned in appropriation from the permanent school fund. The number of teachers employed was 16,920.

The average wages of the women teachers in the rural schools was \$49 a month and of men, \$58; in the high and graded schools men received on an average of \$113 a month and women \$61. The number of the teachers were high school graduates.

School receipts in the various districts, according to Mr. Schulz, totaled \$24,574,073. The disbursements of these same schools was \$19,396,782.

The public schools of the state, numbering over 1900 districts, have now a total indebtedness of over \$12,000,000.

Last year the state distributed the earnings from the general school fund among 412,456 pupils. The apportionment was on the basis of \$5.80 per pupil. This is the highest distribution in the history of the state.

Included in the report are statistics covering the five normal schools of the state.

PROHIBIT INVESTIGATION

(United Press)
Washington, Feb. 24.—Minister Van Dyke this afternoon cabled information concerning destruction of the Carib. This steamer was reported sunk by a German mine on a route outside of those prohibited by German instructions.

Unclaimed Letters.

List of advertised letters "UNCLAIMED" at postoffice department: Men—Banning, Mr. Krist, Bloomquist, Mr. Chas., Bynens, Mr. Martin, Comrad, E. H., Dahl, Mr. Bobby, Doty, Mr. Jos., Glassey, Mr. Thos. G., Hall, Frank, Harris, Mr. L. O., Hill, Mr. Bob C., Johnson, J., Johansson, Mr. Elam, King, Mr. Lewis, Kyle, Mr. John, McCaffrey, John, Reynolds, John W., Smith, O. D., Star Restaurant, Stoesser, E., Wilson, Mr. O. J. Women—Damien, Mrs. Oscar, Elher, Mrs. W. M., Foster, Mrs. Berget, Gunroe, Mrs. Belle, Gunman, Mrs. Belle Roy, Padoc, Mrs. Clara, Rivett, Miss Dollie, Rivett, Miss Gladys, Roberts, Mrs. Helen (2), Schummer, Miss Leona, Vanderlaan, Miss Pearl.

POGUE CASE IN COURT

Jury in \$11,400 Damage Suit Against Great Northern Railroad Secured This Morning.

IS IN COURT FOR FOURTH TIME

With Judge C. W. Stanton presiding, the trial of J. P. Pogue against the Great Northern railroad was begun in district court this morning. The jury was secured just before eleven o'clock.

The suit, in which Pogue asks \$11,400 damages from the railroad company, has been in district court on three previous occasions. At the first trial the action was dismissed by the plaintiff; at the second trial Judge McClenahan dismissed it at the end of the plaintiff's case on motion by defendant and at the third trial a verdict for \$3,500 was awarded the plaintiff. An appeal was taken and the state supreme court sent the case by for retrial.

Pogue asks \$10,000 damages for permanent injuries brought about by the accident, in which his automobile was destroyed on October 28, 1909, when struck by a freight train; \$1,000 for the loss of the machine and \$400 for time lost and medical attention. A. L. James and Thayer C. Bailey appear for the defendant in the case and Pogue is represented by John Gibbons and Judge M. A. Spooner.

The jury in the case comprises: J. C. Reibe, William B. Cooney, Nat Jokela, L. T. Bjella, L. C. Christianson, Harry Bachley, E. E. Schulke, Tom Hayden, Hugo Hensel, Frank Spear, John Norris and J. O. Anderson.

The jury in the case of J. C. Johnson versus Leota R. Dickenson, involving a note, returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$332.55 late Tuesday afternoon. Johnson was represented by Attorney P. J. Russell and Carl L. Heffron appeared for the defendant.

In the case of Sorenson Brothers against Wes Wright, a verdict for \$5.16 in favor of the plaintiff was returned. This case was brought to recover \$75 for the purchase of a carload of hay which Wright refused because of poor quality.

AUSTRALASIANS TO ORGANIZE.

San Francisco, Feb. 24.—Arrangements have just been completed here for the organization of a permanent Australasian society. The arrangements were made at a meeting of the various Australasian state commissioners to the Panama-Pacific exposition and prominent Australian and New Zealand business men. The Australasian state commissioner will register the names of all resident Australians and New Zealanders with a view of securing their co-operation in a number of special events that are to be held in conjunction with the exposition.

CURFEW FOR ALBANY PLANNED.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 24.—Local club women would like Albany minors to "home and mother" with a curfew law. They have already pleaded their case before the city fathers. These now have the proposition under advisement. Albany's streets after 9 p. m. in summer and 8 p. m. in winter are unfit places for unaccompanied lads and lasses, in the opinion of the curfew advocates.

FAIR TICKETS TRANSFERABLE.

San Francisco, Feb. 24.—Books for transferable admission tickets have been placed on sale here by officials of the Panama-Pacific exposition. One book contains fifty coupons and the other one hundred, the price being \$20 and \$40, respectively.

TO VOTE THIS AFTERNOON.

St. Paul, Feb. 24.—The debate at 3 o'clock this afternoon on the county option bill was still in progress and it is expected that a vote will be taken before evening.

Has New Office.

A. H. Jester, president of the Bemidji Onion Growers association, has moved his office to the Matt Phibbs office in the Markham hotel block.

Our Slogan:
"Bemidji 25,000
Population
in 1925"

CIVILIANS NARROWLY ESCAPE DEATH

(United Press)
London, Feb. 24.—Dispatches say that a large vessel is in distress off Hasting. The cause is unknown, but evidently it has been torpedoed by a German submarine. Ninety-two civilians narrowly escaped death when a German torpedo passed within thirty yards from the bow of the passenger ship Victoria, enroute from Boulogne to Folkestone. The Norwegian government this afternoon ordered an investigation of the sinking of the Regina. Late dispatches say that another British steamer, name unknown, was torpedoed and sunk off Ramsgate by a German submarine late this afternoon.

NO CHANGE AT PERTHES

(United Press)
Paris, Feb. 24.—The French war department late this afternoon announced, except for slight progress of French troops north of Perthes, the situation has not been changed for twenty-four hours. In the Perthes region the French drove the Germans to retirement at the point of the bayonet. Minor engagements are reported in the Vosges region.

LUMBERMEN PLAN BIG ORGANIZATION

Chicago, Feb. 24.—Plans for the formation of a big organization to include all associations affiliated in any way with the lumber industry, were discussed here today at the opening of a two-day conference of lumbermen and representatives of the affiliated organizations. The new organization probably will be known as the Forest Products' federation. The object of the new organization, lumbermen explained, will be to compile statistics concerning fire losses in various kinds of construction, to push the search for a chemical combination by which woods may be fire-proofed and to organize an advertising campaign, calling the attention of the public to the advantages of wood over other construction materials. The meeting today was called at the instance of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association.

SINK BRITISH STEAMER

(United Press)
London, Feb. 24.—The British steamer Oakley was sunk in the English channel, off Folkestone, this afternoon, enroute from Boulogne to West Hartlepool. It was not stated whether the ship was torpedoed or struck a mine.

NEW BASEBALL LEAGUE.

Pueblo, Colo., Feb. 24.—Efforts are being made to start a Colorado State baseball league. The greatest attention is being given to Pueblo, as it is believed that if funds for a team here are guaranteed, the success of the new league will be assured. Cripple Creek, Rocky Ford, La Junta and Victor are said to be ready to put up the money for clubs in those towns.

EDUCATORS IN CONFERENCE.

Cincinnati, Feb. 24.—Public school superintendents from many cities of from 10,000 to 25,000 population, gathered here today in response to a call by the Federation Education commissioner. The meeting is in connection with the convention of the National Educational association superintendents.

CITY OF BEMIDJI FACES CRISIS IN FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Citizens Favor Bond Issue to Be Used in Paying Off of \$47,000 Warrants—Funds Overdrawn.

COUNCIL IS HELD RESPONSIBLE

Total Indebtedness of City Now Totals \$150,000, Not Including Warrants Now Outstanding.

When Bemidji's new council takes the affairs of the city under its control next Monday evening one of the most important problems to come before it for immediate settlement will be that of finances. Few residents of the city are familiar with the financial condition and the council, at the suggestion of many citizens, is probable to make arrangements for the holding of a special election on a new bond issue.

Need \$60,000.
At the present time there are warrants outstanding to the amount of \$47,000, which with accrued interest takes the figures to \$52,000. In addition to this there is an indebtedness of \$6,000, already contracted for, for which no warrants have been issued. In order to cover this amount and making the various funds free from debt it will be necessary to sell \$60,000 worth of bonds. The money would be used entirely for the purpose of picking up the outstanding warrants.

Revenue is Now Less.
Bemidji loses one of its largest revenue sources in the closing of the saloons, not only being without the \$25,000 brought by licenses, but loses personal property taxes of considerable amount by the removal of many persons employed in the various liquor houses from the city, and this is a point for consideration.

Residents Are Awake.
The fact that the various funds are overdrawn, including the general fund, poor fund and permanent improvement fund, the warrants being payable only at a large discount, is a reflection upon the taxpayers of the city and the bond issue is practically the only remedy. Warrants now issued are paid at a discount of from five to ten per cent, the discount now being ten per cent, and at that it is with reluctance that the banks take them. The sale of bonds would also save the city the vast amount which is being paid each year for interest, six per cent, on outstanding warrants. In 1913, \$759 was paid for interest and last year approximately \$2,500.

The Total Indebtedness.
In October of this year bonds for \$25,000 will become due and there is sufficient money in the sinking fund for their payment, with accrued interest. In 1928 there will be due \$60,000; in 1930, \$15,000; and in 1932, \$15,000, a total bonded indebtedness of \$150,000. The total indebtedness outside of that due on warrants, is approximately \$150,000.

Unlawfully Issued.

According to the city charter it is unlawful to issue warrants on any fund unless there is sufficient money in the treasury for payment. The charter also provides that should a warrant be issued on any fund in which there is no money that the officials authorizing the issuance of the warrant are responsible. No new warrant may be drawn on any fund if previous indebtedness has not been removed.

For Twenty Years.
Should the council, by ordinance, provide for a vote on a bond issue, it will be made payable in twenty years.

PLUMBERS ARE INDICTED.

(United Press)
Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 24.—Thirty-six master plumbers were today found guilty of violating the Sherman anti-trust law, in Federal court. All of the convicted men are prominent in Iowa and other adjacent states.

Corsets worn by the women on the islands of Malaya are made of telegraph wires.

TO HOLD ANNUAL ELECTION.

Commercial Club to Name Officers and Directors March 9.

Much interest is being taken in the annual meeting of the Bemidji Commercial club which is to be held on Tuesday evening, March 9, and at which the officers for the ensuing year will be elected. Eight directors are to be named and already a large number of nominations have been made. All nomination for directors must be filed at least ten days before the election. According to the by-laws of the club no member who is back in his dues is entitled to a ballot.

PLAY FOR DISTRICT TITLE

Bemidji High School to Meet Little Falls Five in That City on March 13—Have Good Records.

LOCAL TEAM SHOULD BE VICTOR

With both teams having established brilliant records, the Bemidji and Little Falls high school basketball quintets will play in that city March 13 for the purpose of deciding which is to win the championship of the Sixth congressional district and the privilege of a place at the Carleton state tournament.

Little Falls has twice met defeat while Bemidji has humbled, and by decisive scores, all teams encountered. Aitkin defeated Little Falls at Aitkin by a score of 16 to 15 and Wadena won in that city last Friday by a score of 25 to 22, although defeated at Little Falls by a score of 36 to 23. Aitkin will play at Little Falls in the near future.

This is the Bemidji record:
At McIntosh 14; Bemidji 29.
At Akeley 10; Bemidji 35.
At Bemidji 81; Ada 5.
At Bemidji-73; Park Rapids 3.
At Bemidji 37; Brainerd 4.
At Brainerd 20; Bemidji 32.
Comparing the two records it would seem that Bemidji should be returned the victor. The local team has several hard games before the Little Falls contest but is expected to win all of them.

Showing speed, perfect teamwork, excellent handling of the ball and being wonderfully aggressive, the Bemidji boys, under the coaching of Julius Bestul, have perfected a basketball combination hard to beat. Tanner and Captain Johnson are without question the best forwards in this section of the state and as a scoring machine they have no equal. Equally good are guards, Fred Graham, Claude Bailey and George Graham, who have held their opponents scoreless in several of the games played. Cameron, the center, is a player of ability and has easily outjumped and outplayed his opponent in every instance.

It looks like the district championship for Bemidji and the chances appear excellent that the state title may be brought to this city.

FOND DU LAC TOMORROW

Beginning tomorrow evening the "Big Bemidji" basketball five will play a series of three games with the Company E team of Fond du Lac. Last year Fond du Lac won the championship of the United States, winning 39 games without a single defeat. They secured 1,900 points while their opponents scored but 788. The average number of points per game scored by the champions was 49. "Big Bemidji" played three games with Fond du Lac last year, being defeated by close scores. The series should prove interesting.

WOMEN MAY JUDGE JUVENILES.

Denver, Feb. 24.—Colorado may have a woman juvenile court judge. A bill has been introduced in the legislature here at the request of Judge Ben E. Lindsey, to make Mrs. F. Gregory "associate judge" of the court which has become famous throughout the country. Mrs. Gregory now assists Judge Lindsey in the trial of cases, and advises him, but she is not legally authorized to render judgments.

KAISER ON FIRING LINE AS GERMANS SWEEP PRUSSIA

Near Battle in Which 30,000 Russians Were Killed or Wounded and 60,000 Taken Prisoners.

IS WORLD'S GREATEST VICTORY

Emperor With Men When Wosoczellen and Officers With Difficulty Restrain Him From Participating.

Suwalki, Russia, Feb. 22.—The German forces under Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, by hard fighting and extraordinary marches have inflicted such a striking defeat on the Russians in the recent battle in the Mazurian lakes country, that the Russian remnants are a negligible quantity in the operations now in progress. The Russian killed and wounded in the four days' fighting are estimated at 30,000. Over 60,000 Russians out of the total of 150,000 engaged, are now prisoners by the Germans.

Second to Tannenberg.

The statement, seemingly exaggerated, was vouched for by correspondents, who, motoring along the line of the Russian retreat over roads deep in snow, through a desolate and swampy country, gained the impression of the complete defeat and demoralization, which can scarcely be conveyed in words. Abandoned guns and automobiles, wrecked wagons, sledges, ammunition, caissons, encumbered the way. Rifles, knapsacks and other equipment had been thrown away by the fleeing soldiers. Dead horses and fallen soldiers were everywhere along the route. The fighting is regarded here as second to Tannenberg.

Kaiser on Battle Line.

The Kaiser was on the actual firing line when Von Hindenburg swept the Russians from Prussia and sped into Lyck thirty minutes after the Germans had stormed the city. While troops were rounding up Russians still hiding in houses there, the Kaiser addressed the soldiers in the market square, giving vent to bitter words over what he termed senseless destruction of property by the Czar's troops.

The Kaiser was also with his men when they took Wosoczellen, near Lyck, at the point of the bayonet. Staff officers could hardly restrain him from participating in the fighting and it was impossible to keep him from immediate danger.

GOULD MADE 204 TRIPS.

Eckles Market Garden Association a Success—McGhee Again at Head.

That vegetables and produce to the amount of \$4,117 have been sold during the 204 distributing trips that have been made to Bemidji, was one of the interesting items in the report of Manager Gould of the Eckles Market Garden association read at the annual meeting of that association. He reported that he had traveled 6,732 miles, the trips being made by automobile. The present officers were re-elected: J. C. McGhee, president; George Wilson, vice-president; William Dandlicker, secretary, and L. A. Gould, manager and treasurer.

NEW RECORD MADE.

No Arrests Made by City Police During Last Twenty Days.

Not since February 4, when a charge of intoxication was docketed, has there been an arrest by the city police. This is a record for Bemidji, being the first period of twenty days in its history that not a single arrest has been made.

CAUSE OF DEATH UNKNOWN.

Information reached Bemidji last evening that Bert Brown, for several years a resident of Bemidji, being employed at the Crookston Lumber company mill, had been found dead at the old Pitman farm, six miles south of Solway. Brown had been cutting box wood and his body was discovered late in the afternoon by Charles England, a companion. He had not been in good health for several years and heart trouble is believed to have been the cause of his death. Coroner Akerberg left for the Pitman farm early this morning. Mrs. John England, a sister of the dead man, is a resident of Bemidji.

WOULD ARREST JOHNSON.

(United Press)
Washington, Feb. 24.—The constitutional agency definitely announced this afternoon that if Jack Johnson sets foot inside of Carranza's sphere, influence, will be brought to have him arrested and given over to United States authorities.

SCOOP THE CUB REPORTER Scoop Passes Up Some Material For The Servant Problem Story By "HOP"

