

FARMERS LOST TWO BILLIONS, GRONNA AVERS

Solon Will Ask Repeal of Law Creating United States Grain Corporation; Attacks Interference.

Washington Feb. 9.—Declaring that the grain farmers of the United States lost \$2,000,000,000 because of government interference with wheat, and that the price of bread would be not more than 2 cents per loaf cheaper if the farmers hauled their wheat to the mills and gave it to the millers without a penny of compensation, Senator Asle J. Gronna, of North Dakota, chairman of the senate agriculture committee, himself a farmer, has announced his intention to move for the repeal of the law under which the United States grain corporation is now acting, Senator Gronna said, in part:

"Let me say at the outset that if the farmer of the United States would give the wheat to the miller for nothing there could not be a difference of more than 2 cents on a pound loaf of bread, based upon existing prices. I am making this statement in order to inform the public that it is not the price of the unmanufactured wheat which is the cause of the high price of bread. It is evident that there is a propaganda going on for the purpose of getting whatever grain may be left, at a much reduced price, and it will be absolutely of no benefit to the consumers."

Prices Climb Rapidly.

After calling attention to propaganda designed to induce farmers to sell their wheat in anticipation of a drop in prices, Senator Gronna continued: "I have here a map which shows that on the first of November or about the time when Mr. Barnes announced the embargo was to be withdrawn, wheat was worth \$2.90 a bushel."

"On the 15th of November, when the embargo was withdrawn wheat was \$3 a bushel, and on the 15th of December it had advanced to \$3.40 a bushel, and later on to \$3.55 a bushel, showing that the embargo did affect the price of wheat. As Mr. Barnes stated before our committee, it was his purpose to keep it down. As I said, I am not criticising him for it, because he was following the instructions of the president of the United States to keep down the price of wheat if possible; but I do object to a propaganda being conducted by officials of the government and by the grain speculators to make combinations which will make it possible for the gamblers in grain to move all this grain or to ask that the grain shall be moved. Let me tell you that millions of bushels of this grain has been sold that can not be delivered on account of the shortage of cars."

Hoover Gets Bumped.

"They are trying to make the people believe that just as soon as the existing law expires wheat is bound to go down. I dissent from that statement. We know that all of Europe needs grain; that is needs more than we can supply. In connection with the propaganda carried on now to elect Mr. Hoover president there is a movement for the purpose, I assume, of showing the women of the country what great efforts Mr. Hoover is making to cheapen the cost of bread. Let me tell you what has already happened. The reduction in the acreage sown to grain last fall was 40 per cent. What will happen to the spring wheat crop under existing conditions? We are discouraging the wheat farmers from producing. Labor is costing them three or four times as much as it did before the war, and yet we are deliberately using a great government agency to hamper the grain industry of the country."

In conclusion, Senator Gronna recalled that when the food administration bill was under consideration, Mr. Hoover said it was desired merely to fix a minimum price for grain, but, after getting into power he made the minimum price the maximum price, a betrayal of the confidence of the senate.

"ESCAPE" AT BUNGALOW FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

The "Escape" opens at Bungalow theatre for a one day run is a story unusual in many respects. The theme on which it is founded, mismatching couples in matrimony, is age old yet it has never been pictured in such a truthful and instructive manner. There

is no more pitiful and hopeless state than that endures, more or less bravely, by those who find themselves out of harmony in their matrimonial relations.

Great psychologists have splurged wells of ink on this subject yet but to little avail, for love mad youth would not be denied and the glow of romance has all to often hidden a abyss of misery that lay just beyond the alter.

There is no lesson like experience and "The Escape" has been so skillfully handled, the cast so exceptionally well selected that the seeing of this picture lesson is like witnessing an actual experience in real life.

David Wark Griffith, the master director who gave us "The Birth of a Nation," "Intolerance," "Hearts of

the World," and many other really great screen masterpieces, has loaned his magic touch to the production and the characters seems to actually live before your eyes.

Robert Herron, star of all the later Griffith productions is co-starring in this great picture with Owen Moore, Blanche Sweet and Mae Marsh, making a cast of characters that is far above the ordinary feature release. The subject has been handled frankly and conditions that so many young couples face have been woven into the plot till the result is like a glimpse into real life. "The Escape" is powerfully compelling and besides being an evening's enthralling entertainment, will live in one's memory as a valuable lesson.



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