

WASHINGTON NEWS  
LETTER  
By PARKER LA MOORE

Hearings on the Sinclair and Christopherson bills to revive the United States Grain Corporation continued throughout the week before the House committee on Agriculture with North Dakota men taking a leading part in the drive for fixed-price legislation.

Congressman George M. Young addressed the committee on Monday, and with Representative Sinclair, who is a member of the committee, opened the argument in favor of legislation to stabilize the market for farm products. Mr. Young stressed the dire extremity to which the farmers of the nation have been reduced, urging an immediate effort to put the producer upon a cost-plus basis. In discussing possible steps which might be taken Young declared that both the Christopherson and Sinclair bills had admirable features and suggested that a composite of the bills might lead to an acceptable solution.

In brief the Sinclair bill would re-establish the Federal Grain Corporation, coupled with a guarantee-price upon certain grains. This guarantee clause would be in effect for five years. The bill proposed by Representative Christopherson of South Dakota would effect a permanent guarantee policy.

Congressman O. B. Burtness, who appeared on Tuesday in favor of price-fixing, declared that the guarantee clause in the committee bill should include three staple products, wheat, corn and cotton. Such a proposition would not only benefit generally the farmers of the south and west but would likewise draw the voting strength of such agricultural districts in those sections.

In advocating a guarantee policy, Congressman Burtness made it clear that he favored such governmental action only as a temporary relief policy to meet an extraordinary emergency such as is now existing. Admitting the guaranteeing of profits to any business or industry as economically unsound under normal conditions Mr. Burtness sought to show that the present situation is decidedly abnormal and that without some drastic relief legislation the farmers face economic ruin.

Burtness suggested that emergency legislation be immediately passed authorizing proper government agents to determine the reasonable cost of production of such crops as wheat, corn and cotton for the next two years and that the government be authorized to buy the export surplus of such years before the crop for the year following should be placed upon the market. In the case of wheat the purchase might be made in May, June and July following each harvest, the local price to the farmer to be the fixed price less carriage to the time of purchase.

Stating that grain is now being sold considerably below cost of production Congressman Burtness emphasized that credit would not be extended for the coming season by prudent bankers and business men unless it could be shown that continued operations would not result in additional loss.

Mr. E. B. Page, of Leeds, North Dakota, who spoke in favor of guarantee legislation before the agricultural conference, also appeared before the House committee to urge immediate action.

While recognizing the good efforts of the War Finance Corporation to aid the agricultural industry Mr. Page told the committee that further credit might be extended to no good end unless it was assured that the farmer would be able to operate on a cost-plus basis during the coming crop year. Page frankly described the farmers' plight from the viewpoint of an actual producer, declaring that the agricultural industry would go to the wall unless speedy and sufficient steps be taken by Congress to give the farmer an adequate return upon his investment.

Predicting that the cost of production for 1922 might be considerably below that of the past year Page said that, given a fair yield, the fixed-price might not necessarily be as high as demanded from various quarters.

Congressman James Sinclair, as author of one of the bills and a member of the agricultural committee, was active throughout the discussion, being of material assistance to the witness presenting testimony at the hearing. Other members of the committee offered a rapid back-fire of questions, demanding consideration for producers of tobacco and dairy products, and asserting the rights of the consumers in the industrial sections.

Some however evidenced such sympathy with the proposition and Chairman Haugen appeared to be in favor of some legislation that might be prepared which would meet with probable approval in the House. Congressman Voight of Wisconsin suggested the possibility of legislation, similar to that proposed by Mr. Burtness, omitting the minimum-price feature but letting the government buy the surplus thus eliminating the local competition. It was the consensus of opinion among the witnesses that the tariff wall would have to be kept sufficiently high under a guarantee policy to prevent the importation of grain from other producing countries.

With the confirmation of Andrew Miller of Bismarck as United States judge for the district of North Dakota the representatives of the contesting factions, drawn to the city by the long fight upon the nomination, are departing for home, probably to take up cudgels for another round in the scrap to be staged in North Dakota in June.

The action of the Senate in the Miller case was predicted in this column months ago, and confirmation has seemed a certainty since the O. K. of President Harding was placed upon the McCumber nominee.

In the hearings before the subcommittee on Judiciary Mr. Miller's case was badly handled by Ex-Senator Thomas, of Colo. and the unanimous opinion of the whole committee regarded the charges filed as insufficient to disqualify the nominee for the Federal bench. The denial of pleas for additional time in which to substantiate charges, requested by Senator Gronna, Judge, N. C. Young and Ormsby McHarg, gave occasion for charges that the committee was being unfair and it was believed that Miller's opponents would endeavor to enlist the support of insurgent Republican senators to carry the fight to the floor of the Senate. This, however, did not materialize and when John Burke appeared to endorse Miller's confirmation hope of aid from the Democratic side of the chamber was at once dispelled for Mr. Burke has had the confidence of his party leaders in Washington since his term as

United States Treasurer under the Wilson administration when he was allowed practically a free hand in the dispensing of state patronage. Mr. Burke told the committee that the McKenzie influence was not of the best but expressed the opinion that Mr. Miller would not allow himself under such control.

PARKER LA MOORE.

A VARIETY OF FEED for the gilts and sows improve their condition. A little well cured alfalfa hay, with plenty of leaves makes a good roughage. When feeding one pound of alfalfa to a brood sow or gilt, she should have one pound less of grain. If a well grown gilt, weighing about 275 pounds, is not eating roughage, she should have about 4 1/2 pounds of grain daily. This grain ration may be one-half corn, as corn usually cheapens a ration. The ration then should be: corn, 2.2 pounds; middlings, 2.2; tankage, 1 pound. The yearling sows should have a pound less daily and the older sows a trifle less. Best results are obtained by feeding dry feeds.

IF THERE IS DRY TIMBER near and the seedling can be dug up and transplanted to it, no better trees for the farm shelterbelt can be had, according to Extension Circular 43, "Shelterbelts for North Dakota," free upon request to the Agricultural College.

TO BRINE CURE PORK rub each piece of pork lightly with salt and pack in the barrel or crock. Cover with a board and weight down with a stone. Dissolve 8 pounds of salt in 4 gallons of water, boil to sterilize the solution, and skim or filter if necessary. This will make a saturated brine and is usually so used in curing pork on the farm. If one gallon of boiling water is added a milder brine or pickle will be obtained which will give a more palatable cured product. The brine should be allowed to stand until cold and then poured on the meat. Be certain the meat is completely covered. Keep the meat in a cool place out of direct sunlight and keep from freezing. After five or six days the meat should be overhauled and repacked, using the same brine. This operation should be repeated after another interval of about a week. For meat that you expect to use before midsummer one and one-half days in the brine per pound weight of piece will give a splendid mild cure. If the meat is to be kept over summer two days in the brine per pound weight of piece is to be recommended. For example a 20 pound ham will need curing about six weeks. The thinner or lighter pieces should be taken from the brine when they are cured or they will become too salty. Meat that has to be freshened before using is never so palatable as that which is cured just right. To make sugar cured pork use three-fourths salt and one-fourth sugar in making the brine.

FEEDING THE DAIRY COW

Fargo, N. D.—Consider the pancake, quote livestock specialists of the N. D. Agricultural College, in discussing the seven essentials of a good livestock ration; palatability, variety, bulk, succulence, balance, effect on system, and economy. These essentials are being explained in the livestock feeding schools being conducted in the state this winter by the extension division. If a pancake has kerosene spilled over it, it doesn't taste good and won't be eaten. Neither will a feed be eaten if the cow doesn't like it, say

the specialists, in urging palatability in the ration. Palatable feed is important for this reason, for if a cow won't eat, except just enough to keep on condition, there will be little milk. Provide feeds of good quality relished by the cow, fed in a clean manger.

As pancakes every meal and every meal soon tires, so a ration, even a palatable one, made up of one or two feeds, soon tires. As radical or frequent changes in the ration upset the cow's system, it is important that a combination of rations be mixed and fed. Unlike the hog and the beef animal, the dairy cow is on feed for long successive periods, doing the hardest kind of work. The more good feeds included in the ration the better.

One pancake won't make a farm hand a meal; neither will a wisp of hay and a handful of rubbins fill the stomach of a cow with its two-vinegar-barrel capacity. The cow can eat and digest only a limited amount of grain or concentrates, and the rest of the stomach capacity must be filled with bulky feed to aid in digesting the grains.

As a pancake needs butter and syrup so a dairy cow needs a succulent feed, one with lots of water in it. The dairy cow, of all livestock, needs water, because she is manufacturing a product that is 88 percent water, and the more water she will use, the larger flow of milk to be expected. A succulent feed also has a good effect upon the system, just as apples or prunes do upon the human system when eaten with pancakes.

Boost Your State

Boost your State! And try it fairly! Treat its fertile acres squarely. North Dakota's soil doth hold Wealth that yields an hundred-fold.

Boost your State! Its wealth and treasure Will be yours in fullest measure If you nobly do your part With your brawn and brain and heart.

Boost your State! No skies are clearer, Nor are homes on earth more dearer— North Dakota's sure of winning If you watch her every inning.

Boost your State! By hard endeavor Purchase thou success. But never Knock or whine! Just hit the line! Boost! You'll think your State "just fine!"

—Huldah Lucile Winsted.

The Wonders of a Watch

It is said that a watch is the smallest, most delicate machine that was ever constructed of the same number of parts. About 175 different pieces of material enter into its construction, and upward of twenty-four hundred separate operations are comprised in its manufacture.

Certain of the facts connected with its performance are simply incredible, when considered in total. A blacksmith makes several hundred blows on his anvil in a day, and is glad when Sun-

day comes around; but the roller jewel of a watch makes every day, and day after day, 432,000 impacts against the fork, or 157,680,000 blows in a year without stop or rest, or 3,153,600,000 in the short space of twenty years.

These figures are beyond the grasp of our intellects, but the marvel does not stop here. It has been estimated that the power that moves the watch is equivalent to only four times the force used in a flea's jump; consequently it might be called 4-flea power. One horse-power would be sufficient to run 270 million watches.

Now the balance wheel is moved by this 4-flea power one and forty-three one-hundredths inches with each vibration—3,558 3/4 miles continuously in one year.

It doesn't take a large can of oil to lubricate the machine on its 3,500-mile run. It requires one-tenth of a drop of oil to the entire watch for a year's service. But it has great need of that one-tenth of a drop.

Married But Still Retains Maiden Name

The marriage of Miss Elsie Hill, chairman of the executive committee of the National Woman's Party, only recently became known. That may have been because she still retains her maiden name. She was married Dec. 24 to Albert Leavitt, professor of law at University of North Dakota. She met him last March when he gave \$100 to the suffrage cause "in honor of Woodrow Wilson."

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- Etc. — Etc.

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Some of these songs you know. You'll know them better when you hear these great Victor artists interpret them. Others you'll want to know. Come in and let us play them for you.

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