

# WHAT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IS DOING

## SHOW HOW TO GROW MORE CORN

The Clermont County (Ohio) Farm Bureau, through the county agent, last year demonstrated how the yield of corn could be increased by using manure and acid phosphate and by liming. On a total of 75 acres of corn 22 farmers produced an average of 10 bushels an acre by broadcasting eight loads of barnyard manure and 200 pounds of acid phosphate an acre. From a group of fields on which three carloads of ground limestone were used the yield was increased an average of five per cent. Two lime pulverers were purchased and last spring one farmer ground 200 tons and another 100 tons of stone from their farms.

## CANNING A BEEF YEARLING IN TEN HOURS

From the hoof to the can in ten hours. That is the transformation through which a beef yearling went in a demonstration conducted by the home demonstration agent in Montgomery County, Tex. The yearling was killed in the morning while the agent was getting the canners ready, sterilizing the jars and preparing the pots for cooking. The meat was cut from the bones in neat, convenient sizes and that which was to be served as roast beef was dredged in flour and cooked in wash pots of hot grease until brown. The steak was cut in small pieces, cooked in the wash boiler, packed in the cans and covered with gravy. While these were sterilizing in another pot, all the bones were boiled and after these were cooked the meat was removed from the bones and ground through a food chopper for hash, loaf or croquette meat. To the beef stock was added what vegetables were on hand and all excess fat, and this was canned for soup. In the meantime the liver, heart and tripe had been cooked and was speedily placed in tins. Three canners heated by coal furnaces were used, and by night the entire beef was in cans ready for future use.

## DEVELOPING BETTER HOME GROWN BULBS

To determine the practicability of successfully growing flowering bulbs and to do the work at a cost which will enable the industry to thrive in this county in competition with imported stock of similar character, experiments are being undertaken by the United States Department of Agriculture at a bulb farm which it maintains at Bellingham, Wash. Besides the work at Bellingham, some

species are tested at two points in California. At the Bellingham station, from five to seven acres are annually devoted to bulb growing, and so far several species of commercial bulbs have responded so well that the stock produced has proved superior stock of the same species. In the fall of 1917 a carload of bulbs grown at the Bellingham gardens was shipped east and constituted the supply of this class of bulbs used in the congressional seed distribution. This car of bulbs was the first full carload of domestic grown bulbs ever shipped across the continent. Last fall another full carload of similar stock was sent east for the same purpose.

## NEW CROPS FOR CALIFORNIA

Special crops are needed for conditions near the coast of California and in the mountain districts, where the weather remains cool at all seasons and many crops fail to grow or to reach normal maturity, and the United States Department of Agriculture is conducting experiments with a number of plants, many of which have been imported for this purpose. Of special interest attaches to the possibility of securing varieties of potatoes and other root crops from which the high table lands of South America, which are able to grow under conditions of low temperature. Numerous other food crops, fruits, and useful trees that grow successfully in the cooler mountain regions of South America are being studied to determine their possibilities of use in California. Among these are varieties of Indian corn from the cool table lands of Peru, including the remarkable large sized Cuzco type of maize.

## PEACE INCREASES LABOR DEMANDS

Originally the United States Boys' Working Reserve was organized to mobilize, chiefly for work upon the farm, the high school boys of 18 years of age and over and under 21 years of age, throughout the United States.

All through the United States during the past year there has been an acute labor shortage in regular industries which shortage has been most keenly felt on the farms. Thousands of tons of foodstuffs have been wasted through lack of labor to harvest the crops. The department of Labor was convinced that if high school boys could be employed during their vacation periods to help in a measure to meet the shortage, a national service of the very highest quality would be rendered by the department. In consequence some

200,000 high school boys of the United States were enrolled into the reserve and were placed upon the farms to maintain and to harvest the planted crops.

Manifestly it was unfair to the farmers to attempt to send to them from the cities boys who knew very little of country life and next to nothing of farm practice. Endeavor was therefore made to train the boys sent out under the auspices of the United States Boys' Working Reserve. Of the 200,000 that went out approximately 55,000 were trained in high schools and approximately 5,000 more were trained in central farm training camps located in or near State Agricultural colleges.

With the coming of peace the demands upon the Department of Labor for such service as the high school boys of the country can render is rather increased than diminished. Mr. Hoover stated in his great speech of November 12, that 60 per cent of the burden of saving Europe from starvation rests squarely upon the shoulders of the United States and that North America must export twenty million tons of food to Europe during the present and coming year. Therefore the United States Boys' Working Reserve is summoned to redouble its energies. No readjustment of labor from war industries to normal industries, and no supply from soldiers returning from abroad, will begin to meet the situation upon the farms. It must be borne in mind that we are to ship abroad from three to four million tons of food to Europe. In spite of the best that we can do Mr. Hoover assures us that at least ten million people in Russia will almost certainly starve during the present winter.

The Educational section of the Reserve issued December 10 a series of monographs which make up what is known as the "Farm Craft Lessons." These lessons have been prepared by a great educator, Eugene Davenport, dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois. The lessons make a text in vocational education of the very highest quality, and are remarkable in that they cover a field hitherto inadequately covered, and that they have a simplicity and directness about them, and that they breathe the spirit of a noble patriotism that is beyond all praise. They are an institute in the elements of farm practice, and they make an excellent foundation for the prosecution of studies in agriculture that very naturally follow in any carefully considered course of vocational training that relates to farming. Dean Davenport has included within the body of the lessons a simple and sufficient and convenient biography.

The Department of Labor desires to introduce this text into every high school of the United States and earnestly hopes that many thousands of boys who are unfamiliar with farms will undertake the course. The course is planned to begin in January and to continue until April; there are 29 lessons together with some material that is to be studied along with the lessons, making the equivalent of a total of 32 lessons. The fall semester ends about the middle of January and school men will then be preparing their programs for the spring semester. By the elimination of unessential studies; by elimination of unessential elements in essential studies; by curtailing of vacations; by instituting a six days a week school, and by other devices, boys will be able to be released from school without danger to their necessary work, by April 1, 1919. In large schools boys may be organized into sections with studies specially arranged for very section. In smaller schools a practical program of instruction may be introduced in order to deliver boys in these schools for farm work by April 1.

We have received a supply of the lessons and hope to have a large number of boys take the course at the Logan High School. Further information may be obtained from Principal Hamilton or Frank D. Thatcher.

**Kipling's Choice.**  
Alexander Smith, rain-bound in a skye bothy, found on a shelf two volumes of the Monthly Review. The advertisements were to him more amusing reading than the critical articles. "Depend upon it," wrote Smith over 50 years ago, "to the reader of the next century the advertising sheet (of a magazine) will be more interesting than the poetry, or the essays, or the stories." Mr. Kipling, it is said, when he was unhappy in the United States would buy magazines, tear out the pages of advertisements and throw the rest away.—Boston Herald.

**Advance the Result of Experience.**  
The world's advance is due only to the hopes, the plans, the progress and the work of living men and women who have tested of the waters of life for themselves and know what it is to live and are determined that the rest of the world shall have life those abundantly.

**Concrete for Irrigation Gates.**  
Concrete as a material for gate structures in American irrigation canals is beginning to displace wood, its durability overcoming the disadvantage of higher cost.

**Conscription Under Moses.**  
Moses made the first conscription law. He wanted an army and he made this rule: "From twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel" were to serve. His registration boards were also allowed to grant exemption which included men who had new houses not yet "dedicated," and those who had vineyards of which they had not yet eaten and finally those who were afraid to fight.

**Still Good.**  
"No men can act with effect who do not act in concert; no men can act in concert who do not act with confidence; no men can act with confidence who are not bound together by common opinions, common affections and common interests."—Burke.

**An Evergreen Shrub.**  
One always associates heather with Scotland, and it is one of the chief glories of that land of colors; but heather, or ling, is an evergreen shrub which grows all over northern Europe, certain species even being found in Africa, where it reaches the height of large bushes.

**Be Sure of Your "Eats."**  
If there's a certain food that you are uncertain about don't eat it, advises a physician. There are too many good things in the world to eat that you know are good for you.

## GIVE "SYLUP OF FIGS" TO CONSTIPATED CHILD

Delicious "Fruit Laxative" can't harm tender little stomach, liver and bowels.

Look at the tongue, Mother! If coated, your little one's stomach, liver and bowels need cleansing at once. When peevish, cross, listless, doesn't sleep, eat or act naturally, or is feverish, stomach sour, breath bad; has sore throat, diarrhoea, full of cold, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours all the foul, constipated waste, undigested food and sour bile gently moves out of the little bowels without griping, and you have a well, playful child again. Ask your druggist for a bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which contains full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups.



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**When they come back**  
WE SENT our men over little better than raw recruits; they're coming back not only as better trained soldiers, but as better equipped citizens. They've learned on the battlefield the value of the "best" — they're certain to demand it here as they fought for it there.

Are they going to come back and find us satisfied with less than "the best?" We think not. We have learned our lessons over here—to know the best and to demand it.

We, as clothing merchants, have set ourselves a standard, too—not to sell less than the best. That's why we are offering Hart Schaffner & Marx clothes—well made; all-wool.

**The MEN'S Shop**  
The home of the Hart, Schaffner and Marx Clothes

**CHICHESTER'S PILLS**  
THE DIAMOND BRAND  
Medical Ask Your Druggist for  
Chichester's Diamond Brand  
Pills in Red and Gold wrapper.  
Bottle sealed with Blue Ribbon.  
Take one pill, 3 or 4 times a day.  
DIAMOND BRAND PILLS, for 25  
years known as Best Relief. Always reliable.  
SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE

## ATTENTION ALL SOLDIERS WHO HAVE RETURNED HOME

The Red Cross desires that the following blank be filled in and returned to the office at the Commercial Club at once. Do it now. This is important. We must have this record.

**RED CROSS "WELCOME HOME" REGISTRATION CARD**

(Full Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date of Discharge) \_\_\_\_\_

(Division) \_\_\_\_\_ (Regiment) \_\_\_\_\_ (Company) \_\_\_\_\_

(Rank) \_\_\_\_\_ (Branch of Service) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Street and Number) \_\_\_\_\_ (City or Town) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_

(Chapter) (Branch) Mountain Division, A. R. C.

(This will be a permanent record. Use only pen and ink.) Date ..... 191...