

# News for the Farmer

## CURING HAMS AND BACON.

"Please give me the best method for curing hams and bacon."

There are different ideas about the curing of hog flesh. Some use the dry salting method and some use the brine method, and first-class meat is made in both ways. I was raised to consider the dry salting method the only one. My mother was a famous hand at meat-curing and taught me how to cut the hog and cure the meat. In later years I tried the brine method because I found a friend successful in making the best of hams in this way, and it is certainly far less work than dry salting. Hence for many years I used the brine method till I had no hogs to kill and no smokehouse and have had to depend on buying my meat already cured. Sometimes I get good and sometimes poor hams for as a rule I cannot get here home-cured meat, but have to take the packing house hams which are not the real thing of my early manhood at home by any sort of comparison.

In the first place, let the meat get perfectly cold before you cut the hog up at all. You cannot cut and trim the meat properly till it is cold and firm. Cut the hams with a short hook and trim them in good rounded shape. Make a brine strong enough to float an egg, and pack the meat in this for three days. Then take it out and either make a new brine or boil and skim the first and return the meat, putting hams and shoulders in a cask to themselves and the thin meat by itself. Keep this last in brine ten days. I add to this brine an ounce of saltpetre for each 100 pounds of meat. The hams and shoulders are let stay in the brine three weeks. Then take out and hang and smoke with any sort of wood except pine, or with corn cobs. Corn cobs smothered down with green cedar brush make an excellent smoke. When properly smoked, make a mixture of black molasses and black pepper and paint the meat over with this. Wrap on thick paper and put in cotton bags and dip these in white wash and hang in a dark house. The side meat after smoking can be packed down in bran or oat chaff. The hams and shoulders will be at their best at the next year's killing time.—Progressive Farmer.

## WAR TIME FARM PRICES

Germany's Limitation of Shipping Would Have Put Them Below Cost of Production.

By Clarence Ousley, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

It has been lightly asserted that the American farmer has no material interest at stake in the war with Germany. Let us see. Those who think that there is nothing in the American cause except the privilege of pleasure seekers to travel on passenger ships to Europe must have forgotten the specific condition upon which Germany offered to permit American shipping. Without reviewing the tragic events which caused the death of 226 American citizens including women and children, without discussing the sinking of any particular ship, and without even considering the four separate and distinct promises of Germany in effect not to sink ships without safeguarding the lives of passengers and crews, let it be recalled that in her declaration of purpose of January 31, 1917, to extend the submarine zone to Great Britain, France and Italy and therein to sink all ships regardless of flag or cargo, she offered to this country as a special favor the privilege of sending one steamer a week each way to the port of Falmouth, England, upon condition that it should be striped with three stripes each a meter wide, white and red alternating, and upon the further condition that a guaranty be given that such ships should not carry contraband.

Perhaps one ship a week each way would accommodate the pleasure seekers but how much of our export and import business would it accommodate?

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917, we exported to Europe farm products to the value of \$1,122,651,

985. Among these products are the following:

Animals, alive	\$ 7,080,122
Dairy Products	3,220,893
Eggs	4,391,653
Packing House Pro.	162,706,355
Cotton	147,357,195
Fruit	36,345,517
Grain & Grain pro.	210,523,721
Oil Cake and Oil Cake Meal	29,441,252
Oil Vegetable	24,044,011
Tobacco	49,353,595

Let us consider the two items of cotton and wheat. The cotton consists of 4,562,295,675 pounds or 9,124,591 bales. The cotton alone would require at the rate of 10,000 bales to the ship more than 900 ship cargoes. As there are only 52 weeks in the year, it will be seen how long it would take a ship a week to move the cotton alone. The wheat consisted of 91,602,974 bushels. It will be an interesting calculation for the children to figure out how many cargoes of 2500 tons each would be required to move this wheat to Europe and how long it would take at the rate of one cargo a week.

As to these two main products and as to other farm products, not to speak of manufactured products, their commercial value depends upon the foreign market. Without a foreign market for cotton, for instance, even this year with the probable crop of only 12 million bales we have for export something like five million bales above the American consumption of approximately seven million bales. If we could not export cotton, therefore, we would have a surplus of five million bales and that surplus would cause cotton to decline from the present high price of 26 or 27 cents a pound to a price far below the cost of production. As illustrative of this point it is necessary only to recall the conditions in 1914 when at the beginning of the war shipping was uncertain and as a consequence cotton sold at six or seven cents a pound. Even with the short wheat crop this year we have something like 100 million bushels more than we need for consumption in the United States. It happens that Europe needs not only that 100 millions but very much more, but if we had accepted Germany's dictation and were to send only one ship a week to Europe, that 100 million bushels above our own needs would be a surplus which would carry the price of wheat below the cost of production.

The right to use the seas is the right to buy and sell in the markets of the world. To be denied that right is to be compelled to live upon our own resources. Of course we can do that in this wonderful country but we can prosper as a nation and as individuals only by trading our surplus of products for the surplus of products which other people have to sell. If, for instance, our farmers could sell no more cotton or wheat than is needed in this country many farmers would be compelled to quit raising cotton and wheat and would use their lands for other farm products and thereby they would cause a surplus production in all farm products. To have accepted Germany's dictation, therefore, would have been to put our agriculture in a state of complete suffocation by taking from every farmer the value of what he produced above what he needed for his own consumption.

The same power that would forbid our exports would also in self interest forbid our imports except in the interest of that power. Therefore, to have yielded to Germany's dictation would have restricted us to imports from Germany alone and would have made us pay tribute for all time to her industries.

If we had acquiesced in the limitation of one ship a week we would have conceded the right of Germany to regulate our exports and imports as she might see fit now or hereafter. We had the choice of submitting to that dictation or of fighting to maintain our right to sell and to buy wherever we might sell or buy to advantage. It is inconceivable that an American citizen, regardless of his material interests, could yield to such dictation by a foreign power but on the low plane of material interests we had

## A Stitch in Time

Get ready now for those sudden cold snaps that are sure to come. Get a Perfection Oil Heater. It's always reliable, easily carried from room to room, economical to buy and to use; good-looking, durable and trouble-proof.

Now used in over 3,000,000 homes.

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 Norfolk, Va.      BALTIMORE, MD.      Charleston, W. Va.  
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### AN OLD RECIPE TO DARKEN HAIR

Sage Tea and Sulphur Turns Gray, Faded Hair Dark and Glossy.

Almost everyone knows that Sage Tea and Sulphur, properly compounded, brings back the natural color and lustre to the hair when faded, streaked or gray. Years ago the only way to get this mixture was to make it at home, which is messy and troublesome.

Nowadays we simply ask at any drug store for "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound." You will get a large bottle of this old-time recipe improved by the addition of other ingredients, at very little cost. Everybody uses this preparation now, because no one can possibly tell that you darkened your hair as it does it so naturally and evenly. You dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair disappears, and after another application or two, your hair becomes beautifully dark, thick and glossy and you look years younger. Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound is a delightful toilet requisite. It is not intended for the cure, mitigation or prevention of disease.—Adv.

### THOSE WHO IGNORED "RED CARDS" FACE PENALTY

New York, Nov. 30.—Roger B. Wood, director of the draft in New York City, announced that by direction of Adjutant General Sherrill 217 negroes who ignored the "red cards" sent to them will be "arrested on sight." These men will be taken before their local board, which will determine whether or not "they are to be treated as willful deserters."

### Ours Is A Little Better Than The Ordinary Jewelry Store.

Our new and beautiful line of Fall goods, full of choicest selections for the trade is now ready for the inspection and approval of all who know a good thing when they see it.

We have New Novelties in nice but inexpensive goods. We have Choicer and More Costly Gifts. But in ALL grades and ALL prices we can supply you with the nicest and most appropriate articles. Do not fail to see our special attractions.

**W. E. JOHNSON, Jeweler**  
Abbeville, S. C.

## SEABOARD

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## Teach Children To Save

Start the kiddies right by making them want to save their money.

A personal savings account in a high-class banking institution like this, where children are given the proper attention and encouragement to handle their own finances is a good start in the right direction. One dollar opens an account.

**Safety—Honesty—Courtesy—Service**

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## Economy Your Watchword

## Purity Your Standard

Your Uncle Sam wants you to be as saving as possible in the matter of Food, but there is not a citizen of these good old United States that he wants to go hungry.

In the matter of Conservation of food, remember this: The Best goes the longest way. You cannot economize by using the cheapest food products obtainable. Highly nourishing food comes higher in price and is the cheapest in the long run.

Feed your family from our store. We are constantly on the watch out for the best from every viewpoint. If it is pure and wholesome and at the same time highly nourishing, we have it. 'Tis the very best way to economize.

## W. D. Barksdale

to fight Germany or cease to be a nation of prosperous producers and become a nation of peons to Prussian autocracy.

seven dresses, two sets of furs, most of her lingerie, fifteen pairs of shoes, a cameo pin, two bracelets and a strand of beads.

At the Great Lakes naval stations the chief master at arm, who is disciplinarian of the mess hall is trying to teach the young "jackies" to eat with their forks instead of spoons and knives. He has five assistants and it takes them all. While a few of them know all details of table etiquette there are other who do not.

To avert confusion in distinguishing second lieutenants and enlisted men Secretary Baker has authorized distinctive insignia of rank for the lieutenants. They will wear a gold bar on the shoulder of the uniform coat and a loop of brown braid on the overcoat sleeves similar to the black loop on the overcoats of first lieutenants.