

## DARK CLOUDS OVER FARM SITUATION HAVE SILVER LINING

SECRETARY WALLACE IN ANNUAL STATEMENT SAYS THAT WORST OF AGRICULTURE DIFFICULTIES IS OVER AND SKIES ARE BEGINNING TO CLEAR.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Discussing the present plight of the American farmer, Sec. Wallace tells the president in his first annual report today that there seems to be good reason for believing that the worst is over and that we may reasonably hope for gradual improvement from now on.

He adds that a clear recognition of the condition as they exist should help us to realize this hope.

In large part the troubles of the farmer today are due to world wide conditions and the inevitable result of the world war, the secretary says, adding that it is not to be expected that by some miraculous transformation the period of adversity may be turned over night into a period of prosperity.

High freight rates, big crops produced in the face of high costs, unemployment in other industries, with attendant lessening in buying of foodstuffs, and the lack of foreign markets are given as the more immediate causes for present condition in agriculture. Wallace lays particular stress upon the lack of foreign markets and high freight rates.

"It is a terrible indictment of modern civilization," he asserts, "that with such abundance here, there are millions of people overseas suffering from necessities and other millions of starving."

Large advances in freight rates, while bearable in time of high prices, Wallace says, if continued are bound to involve a remaking of the American agricultural map.

"The simple process of marking up the transportation cost a few cents a hundred pounds," the secretary writes, "has the same effect on the surplus producing state as picking it up and setting it down 100 to 200 miles farther from the market. Agriculture is depressed until the rates are lowered or until population and industry shift to meet this condition."

The secretary thinks that when the country finally emerges from the present condition it will find itself at the beginning of a new agricultural era. Most of the easily cultivated land has been taken up, and the time is not far distant when home needs will require practically all that our farms produce in the average years.

Wallace draws attention to the advisability of combining the bureau of markets and crop estimates and the bureau of farm management.

## WOMEN VOTERS TO DEMAND EQUAL RIGHTS

Washington, Dec. 12.—Announcement was made today by the National Woman's party that agreement had been reached on the form of the proposed new amendment to the constitution to cover all political, civil and legal discriminations against women. The amendment reads:

"No political, civil or legal disability or inequality on account of sex or on account of marriage, unless applying alike to both sexes, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

Legal authorities of national prominence have approved the amendment and called it constitutional, said the announcement.

Stating that this blanket equal rights amendment would endanger the existence of our government, would throw into the courts for years of litigation state legislation now in effect for protection of working women, the National Women's Trade Union league asked the Woman's party to announce whether it was against the laws.

The laws said to be endangered include the mothers' pension act, several statutes prohibiting sweat shop conditions, and those prohibiting working in factories immediately before and after the birth of a child.

## REPORT MELLON TO RETIRE FROM CABINET

Washington, Dec. 12.—The first cabinet change to occur in President Harding's administration is but a few weeks off, according to reports in official quarters.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon is to retire. Secretary of War Weeks will become head of the Treasury and Secretary Denby head of a new Department of National Defense that will combine both the War and Navy departments. It is said.

The change probably would have come before this but for the need of legislation involved in a part of the program, which makes the change necessary. It is indicated Congress will support the plan, which has received the approval of Mr. Harding and enact whatever enabling legislation may be required to create the Department of National Defense.

## CHICHESTER'S PILLS

THE DIAMOND BRAND. Endorsed by your Druggist for Chichester's Diamond Brand Pills in 1914 and Gold Medal awarded at the 1915 World's Fair. Take one or two. Buy of your Druggist. 25c. CHICHESTER'S DIAMOND BRAND PILLS. SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.

Can Influence Color of Goldfish. The color of goldfish is modified by changing the amount of mineral substances in the water.

The pupils of St. Xavier's Academy will hold a pre-Christmas sale and a social, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 13th and 14th. Afternoons and evenings, in the American Legion hall.

All patrons and friends of the Academy are requested to render moral and financial support to the enterprise by attending in large numbers and by purchasing the articles on sale.

Tuesday P. M., December 13th.—A card party for ladies, and a food sale from 2 to 5:30.

Sale and social from 7 to 10.

Informal dancing party from 10 to 12.

Wednesday P. M., December 14th.—

School children's party, from 2 to 5:30.

(All school children are invited.)

Social and sale from 7 to 10.

The young ladies of St. Xavier's Academy request a special attendance at each social and sale period.

## Society

The Chicago Tribune this morning contained a picture of Miss Georgene Faulkner, "the story lady," who will meet the children of Chicago tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock at the invitation of the Chicago Historical Society. Miss Faulkner who is one of the finest authorities on children's stories in the country, is a sister of Mrs. Charles Reed of the North Bluff.

The members of the Baptist Brotherhood will be entertained at a supper and social at the supper table on Tuesday night in the basement of the church. An old fashioned sauerkraut supper with all the trimmings will be served. Following the supper an interesting program will be given. All the men of the church have been invited to attend.

Mrs. Charles P. Taylor entertained twenty-four guests at a bridge luncheon on Saturday at her home on East Main street. The affair was the first of a series of parties. Mrs. Taylor will entertain with another luncheon Thursday of this week.

The members of the Ottawa Elks lodge will be entertained at a Christmas party on the night of Dec. 24 at the Elks' home. There will be a turkey supper and a Christmas tree, with all the fun of an old fashioned Christmas party.

The members of the Bureau Society of the Trinity Lutheran church will be entertained on Tuesday night in the church basement. Miss Martha Olson will act as hostess. All members of the society are urged to be present.

John Mottar will entertain the members of his church club tonight at his home on Chestnut street. Two tables of cards will be played during the evening.

A meeting of the Robert Emmett Society will be held tonight at 8 o'clock in St. Columba hall.

## M. E. PASTORS ATTEND CHICAGO CONFERENCE

The Methodist Episcopal church has just concluded a great area conference at the Ravenswood church in Chicago which was participated in by several hundred ministers and laymen from northern Illinois, southern Wisconsin and northwest Indiana.

La Salle county ministers who attended were Rev. H. F. Lawler of Ottawa, Rev. E. N. Judd of Seneca, Rev. Brodgett of Manlius, Rev. E. S. Lyons of Leland, Rev. G. W. Welch of Earlville, Rev. J. W. Dack of Mendota, Rev. J. W. George of La Salle, Rev. L. V. Stiller of Sheridan.

Bishop Thomas Nicholson of Chicago presided throughout the sessions lasting from Wednesday afternoon until Friday noon. In his opening address the bishop noted the fact that in spite of the slackening of business in the country the church had nevertheless brought together the greatest sum of money for missionary purposes last year it has done in the history of the denomination.

With the immense sums gathered by the women's board of home missions and the Women's Foreign Missionary society the total in actual cash was more than \$19,500,000. In the days before the centenary giving the church as a whole raised but 70 per cent of that smaller apportionment, while now with a budget four or five times as big it raises 85 per cent of the sum apportioned, and that in times of business depression.

The value of baking powder is based on its leavening strength. You can't judge it by the size of the can—or by the amount you get for your money. You must estimate it by the amount of baking powder used in each baking and the results you get.

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## SOCIETY FOR IRISH FREEDOM OPPOSES FOUR-POWER PACT

CONDemn DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE PACIFIC CONTROL TREATY AS 'BETRAYAL OF AMERICAN PRINCIPLES FIGHT "FREE STATE" PLAN FOR ERIN.

New York, Dec. 12.—The vigorous support of Irish Republicans, who demanded complete political divorce of Ireland from the British empire, was pledged today by the national convention of the Friends of Irish Freedom.

The pledge constituted one of several clauses in a "declaration of principles" subscribed to before adjournment. Another clause denounced the proposed settlement through an Irish Free state, while a third condemned as a "betrayal of American principles" the four powers treaty announced at yesterday's disarmament conference.

"Ireland is to remain in the British empire under the designation of the Irish Free State," the declaration said, "on condition that her representatives swear fealty to the king of England."

"We reiterate our belief that the multitude of Ireland enrolled in the Irish republic army and the womanhood of Ireland who have endured untold suffering never intended that their blood and the lives of their kin should be given for a change in the character of English rule in Ireland, or for any measure of freedom less than national independence."

The United States senate is asked to refuse to ratify the four-power treaty on the ground that ratification "would involve abandonment of Washington's policy, and guarantee the territorial integrity of imperialistic nations."

"As sincere advocates of peace," the declaration went on, "we favor universal disarmament, but we condemn as dangerous to our security the plan submitted by Secretary Hughes to scrap a great portion of the American navy."

A number from here attended the annual sale at Serena Saturday evening, given by the French church. Floyd Jorstad and family of Newark were callers at the Win. Dornier home Sunday.

Cecil Meeker is driving an oil truck for the Standard Oil Co. E. R. Sinclair and mother and Miss Miller were Ottawa visitors Wednesday.

Mrs. Edward Jacobs was a visitor in Ottawa a few days last week. Those from here who attended the Western bazaar Friday evening reported a large crowd in attendance, con-

sidering the weather and bad roads. The Sheridan vegetable made a professional call here Sunday evening.

A farewell surprise party took place at the home of Mrs. J. H. Jacobs on Saturday night in honor of E. Jacobs, who will soon leave for his home in Michigan. A good number of invited guests enjoyed the evening very much, which was spent in different games and a social way. Refreshments were served.

Miss Gertrude Locke has returned home after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Setton and family in South Ottawa township.

Miss Mildred Locke departed recently for Mendota, where she will visit her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Turner.

Mrs. E. B. Williams of Grand Ridge was a recent Streator caller.

First Shipley called on the first of the week.

Miss Evelyn Foster called on Grand Ridge relatives Friday.

Mrs. Mabel Hedgeman visited her friend, Miss Myrtle Decker, Saturday afternoon.

Miss Nellie Lawrence returned to her home in Ottawa after a visit with her sister, Mrs. Arthur Thomas.

W. W. Locke attended the E. C. Merrell sale Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Wheatland and family called at Mr. and Mrs. Jay Vaughan's the first of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Clum enjoyed a visit with their sister, Miss Grace Hedger, a few days last week. Miss Hedger returned to her home Monday.

Mrs. Harry Muller and daughters were calling on local relatives the first of the past week.

Harry Black transacted business in Streator Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hampson and family, who have for the past year or two been living near Streator, will in the spring move back into the old Hampson farm in this community, where they resided for many years.

Mrs. M. C. Hodgson spent the week end with friends in Grand Ridge.

A. Snyder has returned to his home from Pontiac, where he spent a few days.

Mrs. Rowe is better after a brief illness with a cold.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Woodward of South Ottawa were visitors in this vicinity the first of the past week.

John Andrew attended the International Stock show in Chicago.

Mrs. Duffinger entertained relatives from La Salle Tuesday.

William and George Dader attended the choir party at the parish hall in Streator Friday evening. This was given by the choir director, George Hesel. The time was spent in games, contests and dancing, after which refreshments were served.

J. H. Andrews shipped stock to Chicago last week.

## FARM RIDGE

Mrs. Grilla Woodard has returned home from La Salle where she spent several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Miller. The Miller family have had a new and comfortable home. They have decided to remain in the farm life, expecting to spend the winter in Chicago, but have not decided just where they will locate.

Word comes in from Mrs. Iva in Florida stating they are well and enjoying the pleasures of the south.

Everett Hodgson is on the sick list. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lutz and family spent Sunday with Mr. Lutz's sister, Mrs. Ernest Hodgson.

Ped Peck was a recent business visitor in Ottawa.

Mrs. Elm visited her sister in the Ridge one day the past week.

Edward and Lester Reed were on their way to their homes in Iowa, having been called here by the death of their mother, the late Mrs. J. B. Reed.

Miss Belle Locke entertained some friends from Ottawa recently.

Mrs. Teney Walker was a Streator caller recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Atwood have received word from Miss Atwood stating she has arrived safely in Japan. The latter is a missionary and while here gave some very interesting talks on her travels and work.

Frank Moore was a Grand Ridge caller last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Stideler had as their guests one day of the past week Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and family.

Mrs. Patterson has returned home again after visiting her children, both in Grand Ridge and near the Ridge, at the James Patterson and Lewis Atwood homes.

A. C. Crovator was an Ottawa caller Saturday.

A. Houchin and son, Earl, were Marshall callers Sunday.

T. J. Hise and son, Harold, of Dayton township are chopping wood on their timber lot in West Serena.

Ed. Gail spent Saturday in Ottawa. Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Gail spent the weekend with the latter's sister, Mrs. Will Gaines, near Baker.

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