

Food Conservation

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agent of Shelby county. At his suggestion the bankers of Shelby county had made 1,000 seed corn testers. These were distributed to farmers who would use them. At one meeting attended by forty-eight farmers forty-two agreed to use seed corn testers for the first time and took the testers provided. As a result Mr. East reports that farmers who planted corn with the usual plates found that their corn was thicker than they wanted it and much thinning was done.

Conservation of the extensive plantings of garden crops by home canning on a scale never before attempted has been systematically planned. In LaPorte county, the

banks of LaPorte after consultation with County Agent J. D. Harper, installed a factory size pressure canner to sterilize vegetables for the entire community. Housewives pack vegetables in the cans cold, bring them to the factory and take them away when the cooking is complete, thus avoiding the expense and heat of doing this at home. All that they are required to pay is a proportionate share of the operating cost which is very small.

In Morgan county Boys' and Girls' clubs are growing tomatoes for prizes totaling \$100 for the best one-fourth acre plots. Of this county the county agent reports that when he asked for a small sum of money for prizes two firms immediately subscribed \$150 and he declined other offers as no provision had been made for their appropriate disposal. The farmer in Marion county growing the best field of potatoes of four acres or more, yield and economy of production to be considered, will receive a prize of \$100 offered by an Indianapolis bank. Everywhere the county agents have enjoyed the hearty co-operation of progressive business men and farmers.

Permanent agricultural improvement through livestock production is being sought particularly in the more broken counties in the southern end of the state. As lack of capital has been one of the greatest difficulties, bankers of Monroe, Orange, Warrick, Posey, Vigo, Sullivan and other counties have started what are known as endless chain pig clubs to help stock counties with good animals.

In Monroe county, for example, forty members of the county Better Farming Association, contributed

\$400 with which to buy pure-bred gilts of one breed all-bred to pure-bred boars Forty men put in \$10 each to finance this. One was given to a boy in each township. These boys were selected by a competitive examination on the care and management of pigs. The breed was selected by secret ballot at a public meeting after a county-wide campaign by breeders who stirred up interest that would have done credit to a close political race.

This fall, after the pigs have been weaned, each of the boys is expected to return to the township organization two gilts if he saves as many as four pigs and two gilts are included in the number. These will be given to two other boys on the same terms as the first. This chain will be continued at intervals of six months until the fall of 1920, when the surplus pigs will be sold at auction instead of being distributed. At this time the originators of the club will be repaid without interest and the extra money will go into a county fund for the promotion of agricultural education and rural betterment.

NEW YORK BANK PRESIDENT AN EMBEZZLER

The following statement was issued from the office of the comptroller of the currency at Washington, September 8:

The comptroller of the currency said today:

It has been recently ascertained that J. B. Martindale, the former president of the Chemical National Bank of New York City, who died July, 1917, was an embezzler and forger to the extent of about \$300,000. He had been president since December, 1910; and prior to that had been for a number of years vice-president.

The loss will not impair in the slightest degree the capital and surplus of the Chemical bank, which amounts at this time to ten million dollars; but will be charged out of its "Undivided profits," which at the present time amount to over \$1,500,000 after charging off the \$300,000.

The suspicions of the bank's officers were aroused while Martindale was absent from the bank, ill in a hospital, shortly before his death; and the embezzlement was discovered as a result of an inquiry instituted by Vice-president Twitchell, who was recently elected president by the bank to succeed Martindale. The money was not stolen directly from the bank; but was obtained by manipulating the deposit account of a wealthy depositor, for whom Martindale acted as financial adviser and trusted agent. Under his instructions, the statements of this depositor's account were rendered by the bank periodically to Martindale, instead of direct to the depositor, and Martindale then manipulated and changed them before presenting them to the depositor.

The method by which Martindale obtained most of the money was by withdrawing money from this depositor's account, either through a forged check or a debit slip signed by himself as president. He would personally present these checks for \$5,000 or \$10,000, or whatever the amount might be, to the bank teller, explaining that the depositor had asked him to draw this money from the account for a donation to some hospital, not wishing the name to appear as the giver, or that the depositor desired it for some other plausible reason, and he would then appropriate the cash to his own uses.

In explaining to the depositor at the end of each month these withdrawals, his plan was to inform the

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SALE OF REMAINING UNALLOTTED CREEK TRIBAL LANDS IN THE CREEK NATION, OKLAHOMA, by the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

There will be offered for sale at public auction at Okmulgee and Muskogee, Oklahoma, beginning November 19, 1917, 2500 acres of unallotted land, 21 vacant town-lots in the city of Muskogee, and 42 forfeited town-lots in the town of Lee, all located in the Creek Nation, Oklahoma. The entire estate in the lands offered will be sold without reservation as to oil or other mineral. No one person will be permitted to purchase more than 150 acres of agricultural lands, but no limitation will be placed on the number of town-lots any one person may purchase. Residence on the land not required. Bids may be submitted in person or by mail accompanied by currency, bank draft or postal money order for 25 per cent of the amount of each separate bid. All tracts (except 42 forfeited town-lots in Lee, Oklahoma, which must be sold for cash), will be sold on the deferred payment plan, 25 per cent in cash at the time of sale, 25 per cent additional within six months from date of sale, the balance within one year from date of sale, all deferred payments to draw 5 per cent interest per annum from date of sale. Descriptive lists showing location and appraisal of all tracts and lots offered may be had upon application to the Superintendent for the Five Civilized Tribes, Muskogee, Oklahoma. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

CATO SELLS, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Sale of Timber Lands and Other Unalotted Lands and Surface of Segregated Coal and Asphalt Lands Belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indian Tribes in Eastern Oklahoma

by the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

There will be offered for sale at public auction at certain railroad points in eastern Oklahoma, from October 15th, 1917, to October 31st, 1917, inclusive, approximately 400,000 acres of timber land, 50,000 acres of the surface of segregated coal and asphalt land, and 500 acres of other unalotted land, all belonging to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indian Tribes in Oklahoma. The surface of the segregated coal and asphalt lands classified as suitable for town-site purposes, and the timber lands, will be offered for sale for not less than the appraised value. Land and timber will be sold together. The entire estate in the timber lands and other unalotted lands will be sold except, however, that of the segregated coal and asphalt land area only the surface will be sold, the coal and asphalt therein or thereunder being reserved to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, except where the descriptive circular specifically states that the coal and asphalt will be sold with the surface. The timber land will be offered in various sized tracts but no person will be permitted to purchase more than 160 acres classified as agricultural land nor more than 640 acres classified as grazing land. No limitation is placed on the acreage of timber land which may be purchased by one person. Residence on land not required. Bids may be submitted in person or by agent with power of attorney, or by mail. Terms of sale of surface of segregated coal and asphalt lands, classified as agricultural or grazing lands, shall be cash, the successful bidder being required to pay 25 per cent of purchase price at time of sale and the balance within 15 days thereafter, or in case the successful bidder submitted his bid by mail, said balance must be paid within 15 days from date of notice. Terms of sale of surface of segregated coal and asphalt lands, classified as suitable for town-site purposes, shall be 25 per cent cash at time of sale, 25 per cent within one year, and balance within two years from date of sale. Terms of sale of timber lands and other unalotted lands shall be 25 per cent cash at time of sale and balance in three equal annual installments of 25 per cent each, payable in one, two and three years, respectively from date of sale; the purchaser of any of the above mentioned lands to pay 5 per cent interest per annum on all deferred payments. Bids by mail must be accompanied by certified checks or bank drafts for 25 per cent of the amount of bids. Where houses or other improvements are located on the timber lands, or on the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt lands, the same will be sold with the timber land or the surface of the segregated coal and asphalt land as the case may be, said improvements to be paid for in full at time of sale, and except in case of the improvements within the segregated coal and asphalt area classified as agricultural or grazing land, shall not be sold for less than the appraised value. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Detailed information in regard to dates, places, conditions, and terms of sale, and including lists or circulars descriptive of the lands to be offered for sale, may be obtained free of cost from Mr. Gabe E. Parker, Superintendent for the Five Civilized Tribes, Muskogee, Oklahoma. Maps and plats may also be obtained from said Superintendent at a cost of from 25 cents to 50 cents each.

CATO SELLS, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

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Mr. Bryan is especially anxious to get the book into the hands of University, College and High School students. Any student desiring to act as agent can obtain terms by addressing the publishers, Fleming H. Revell Co., 158 5th Ave., N. Y. Readers of The Commoner can secure the book at one dollar per volume by addressing The Commoner or the publishers.

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