

LARGE FARMS IN INDIANA

Great Farming Enterprises Are Conducted on Business Principles.

GIFFORD HOLDS 32,000 ACRES OF LAND

Swamp Land Made Most Productive in the State by Drainage—Successful Farmer—Other Large Tracts.

An Indianapolis correspondent of the Chicago Record says: The largest farms in Indiana—one of them the largest of its kind in the world—are strung along through the northern part of Jasper and Newton counties and the southern part of Lake county. The largest of these farms is the B. F. Gifford tract, which by recent additions now consists of 32,000 acres. It is doubtless the largest body of land ever held by one individual in Indiana. There have been large farms, but they have been held by firms or men representing the centralized interests of others. From the viewpoint of the large farms of the west the Gifford farm is not so notably large. But in Indiana, where a farmer that has from eighty to 150 acres is considered in good circumstances, the size of this large holding is enormous. In one respect the Gifford farm is a notable one compared to any tract. It is the largest cultivated swamp farm in the world. It was only ten years ago that the section which Mr. Gifford is now converting into pasture and vegetable and grain producing land was a series of marshes, pools and lakes—a part of the Kanawake swamps. Mr. Gifford had previously developed a great tract similar to this near Champaign, Ill.

Reclaims Land by Drainage.

When Mr. Gifford first conceived the idea of converting a portion of the Kanawake lands in Indiana to agricultural purposes he acquired at a nominal price about 10,000 acres. He then bought two dredges similar to those used by the government in the river dredging. The dredges were put to cutting large ditches, almost the size of small rivers. This work has been going on night and day for years and now there are 8,000 acres in a high state of cultivation. The last year the alfalfa crop and probably the best in Indiana was raised on this tract. Instead of fences Mr. Gifford has waterways—between pastures. He has seventy-five miles of large ditches through the farm and has thousands of miles of smaller ditches. In addition to this he is now putting in drain tile. The soil taken from the river and ditch beds has been shoveled back over the fields, and thus the fields have been raised little by little as the ditching work went on. The work is still going on, but it will take years to put all the tract into cultivation.

Mr. Gifford has between 300 and 400 tenement houses on the farm and the population is probably 2,000 people. He has a spur to the farm from the nearest railway and ships his products direct to the markets. The land, when in a state of cultivation, is as productive as any in Indiana and is worth from \$10 to \$15 an acre. It cost Mr. Gifford from \$1 to \$1.50 an acre. Mr. Gifford lives at Kanawake.

Raises Largest Corn Crop.

Leroy Templeton, a few years ago the populist candidate for governor, owns a farm of 5,000 acres in Newton county and is said to raise more corn and cattle every year than any other man in the state. Less than ten years ago the state sold the land for 17 cents an acre. The only crop then was bullfrogs and malaria. A drain thirty feet wide and eight feet deep was constructed and the land soon became productive. Mr. Templeton paid \$16 an acre for it and would not take less than \$30 an acre now.

Year before last the farmer raised 100,000 bushels of corn on his farm. He cleared \$16,000 on the year's crop. During the year just ended he raised 80,000 bushels of corn. He has more than 1,000 cattle on the farm. He employs fifty men to look after the work.

The Allen Gregory farm, which is now being divided among the heirs, includes 8,000 acres. The William Kent farm, southwest of Fair Oaks, consists of 7,500 acres. The Otis farm comprises nearly 10,000 acres and lies parallel along the Monon railway from Fair Oaks to Rome Lawn. The farm of H. W. Cooley, who recently fell dead in his office in Chicago, has almost 9,000 acres and last year it produced nearly 100,000 bushels of corn. Brown Bros. of Crown Point have a farm of about 8,000 acres. The Hamlet Hay company has about 10,000 acres near Hamlet. Nelson Morris has 10,000 acres and W. L. Shelby of Grand Rapids has nearly 15,000 acres. Portions of all these farms are in a state of cultivation. The tenants are largely Poles, Swedes, Germans and Hollanders.

One Woman Farmer.

One of these large farms is owned and managed by a woman. She is Mrs. Jennie Conrad, and she lives in Newton county. She farms every acre of it, conducts a big cattle business, breeds horses for the Chicago market and is making a great deal of money. She is a woman of about 45 and has all the graces of her sex. But she looks after her farm as a man. She personally does not trusting any one to attend to it for her. The land is worth from \$10 to \$20 an acre.

Many years ago Adam Earl and Moses Fowler owned the largest farm there ever was in Indiana. Before the war they acquired a stretch of 41,000 acres in Jasper and Benton counties. The farm took in almost all the vast prairie lying from the north of Howell to the Summer holdings. Fowler held about 25,000 acres in his own name, and Earl had the remainder, which centered in and around Earl Park. They farmed together. During the war they grazed and stocked it with tens of thousands of head of cattle and filled large government contracts. Their Benton county interests caused them to push the Indianapolis and Lafayette line through their lands.

MOVES THE COUNTY SEAT.

Power caused the county seat to be moved and built the present town of Fowler on the eastern border of his farm by making land donations and giving \$500 toward the erection of a court house. After awhile Fowler and Earl dissolved partnership and the former began to sell off his land. Fowler had in view the perpetuation of his great estate and in his will made provision that it should not be cut up for twenty years. The will was broken and the farm divided and large parts of it sold. Fowler and Earl got some of this land by government entry, but most of it was bought at \$3, \$4 and \$5 an acre. It is today in the best corn-producing section of the state and is worth from \$50 to \$70 an acre. Fowler died a millionaire and Earl was worth about \$500,000 when he died two years ago. The Summer farm, north of the Earl holdings, was even larger than the Fowler tract. It comprised about 35,000 acres. The land has been divided since Sumner's death. He was reputed to be as wealthy as Fowler and died leaving his estate to three children. They are Jesse Sumner of Milford, Ill., and Mrs. Jane Hawkins and Mrs. Jennie Caldwell of Earl Park, Benton county.

NEW POINTS IN PIG FEEDING.

Paper Feed Before Kansas Improved Stock Feeders' Association.

Wallace's Farmer: Over 275 head of hogs have contributed to the data now on hand, and have left us some very satisfactory results. The feeds fed were those adapted to the greater part of Kansas—namely, Kaffir corn, soy beans and alfalfa hay, with corn as a comparison.

We find that Kaffir corn is practically a good feed for pigs as corn. In a feeding value corn has about 20 per cent

RESERVE FOOD OF THE WORLD

Some Speculation as to How Long the Supply Will Hold Out.

INTERESTING AND STARTLING FACTS

Nut Trees Alone Could Feed Three Times the Population of the World—Planting Nut Orchards in New England.

"How long will the world's food supply hold out?" is a problem which faces the alarmist every time he runs up against a fresh batch of statistics proving the rapid increase of population throughout the earth. The alarmist, as well as the man who regards three square meals a day as necessary to his comfort, will find reassuring news in the fact that the reserve food supply of the world has been declared inexhaustible.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington is authority for this comforting piece of information. For some time past it has been carefully and systematically investigating the food stock in trade of nearly every country on the globe.

Agents who are food students have been sent out to China, Persia, Mexico, everywhere to the remotest ends of the earth for the purpose of finding out what the new or neglected food products are, their value as a nutritious diet, and the extent to which they can be used to lengthen the menu of the civilized cook.

Some very interesting and startling facts are being handed in through the reports that cover the food question from New England to the Philippines, from Mexico to the heart of the Mongolian empire.

That the nut trees alone of the world could as a pinch feed a population ten times as great as the present number of inhabitants.

While a dozen vegetables cover the limit of variety on the average table, the earth is growing hundreds of kinds that are nutritious, delicious and easy to cultivate. That among wild tribes of western Indians is using forty-one kinds of vegetables which are absolutely unknown, even to the chef who draws a salary as large as that of a United States senator.

Downtrodden Weeds Are Edible.

An endless variety of downtrodden weeds can be converted into wholesome, succulent "garden truck." Even the much maligned nettle has the latest qualities of a delicious entremet.

Especially interesting are the facts furnished by the nut specialists. There is no product that requires so little cultivation as the nut, and none is more wholesome as a food staple. The nut orchard of California yields every year over 2,400 pounds of hulled nuts.

Already the commercial mind has set on the enormous profits to accrue from the sale of various preparations of nuts, and at least ten large companies manufacture nothing but nut products.

The government is making a special point of recommending nut culture. In New England the abandoned farms are being planted with nut trees, and the worked-out ground is found to furnish nourishment enough to cultivate the walnut, hickory and chestnut to flourish abundantly. Farms in nearly every northeastern state are planting nut trees along with their peaches and pears, and are utilizing the hillsides where nothing else will grow for nut orchards.

In the past the objection to nuts as a food has been that they are deemed hard to digest, but with the new methods of preparing and cooking them, they are rendered as healthful as they are palatable, even in America, where good digestion does not invariably wait on appetite.

The introduction of new foods is an excellent plan for both the health and commercial prosperity of a nation. Nearly all of what are now regarded as indigenous fruits and vegetables have been imported to us from other lands. Of the food plants now in use, only pumpkin and a few grapes, plums and berries were originally found on the soil.

Oats, barley and rye originated in wild forms along the Mediterranean. The first netted species of wheat were brought from Persia. The common garden bean traces its ancestry back to the landing of the Pilgrims to an early aboriginal state in the Andes. The Orient furnished us with melons, cucumbers and onions. Egg plant and tomatoes were discovered in Peru; quinces, pears, currants and large white grapes in Europe; while the most common of our bean-fed hogs came from the cabbage and spinach—were transplanted from the shores of the Mediterranean.

The taming of wild fruits is another branch of the food agent's business. Mr. Augustus Henry, who is authority on Chinese fruits, states that there are at least 100 varieties of fruits growing wild in the interior of China, that, if transplanted to another soil and properly cultivated, would prove as important a food supply as our present necessary apple and pear. The Le Conte pear, which has revolutionized pear-growing in southern California, was originally the Chinese sand pear, grown solely for ornamental purposes.

Oleomargarine Will Not Down.

Racine (Wis.) Journal: It is always in order to take a whack at oleomargarine, the greasy food of the nineteenth century. The business of legitimate dairying, a business which lies at the very foundation of a permanent agricultural prosperity for a greater extent than the dairymen of the country themselves realize. They should raise as one man and one woman of the continent such legislation as will absolutely prevent this fraud being sold under the name of butter.

The kidney fat of a fat steer, such fat as it is claimed is used for the production of better grades of oleomargarine, weighs about forty pounds. Assuming that the average cow will produce 150 pounds of butter in a year, it will take four steers to offset one cow as a butter producer. Enough oleomargarine was made last year to offset the product of over 600,000 cows, so if this choice fat was used alone in its production, 1,600,000 steers were drawn upon, but there was not any such number of steers killed, and so it proves that oleo is not made of that sort of fat.

Copper Colored Spots.

Mulberry Street, Newark, N. J., says: "I contracted a terrible blood disease which broke out into sores all over my body. I spent a hundred dollars with doctors but grew worse instead of better. Many blood remedies were also used with no effect, until I decided to try S.S.S. This remedy seemed to get at the seat of the disease and cured me completely and permanently."

S.S.S. For the Blood

(Swift's Specific) is the only cure for Contagious Blood Poison; no other remedy can reach this terrible disease. Book on self-treatment mailed free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.

REAR THE COUNTRY SEAT.

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of the advantage, but when the yield is taken into consideration the balance is strongly in favor of the Kaffir corn. A record for the last eleven years on the College farm at Lamhanstun (upland) shows the following: Corn during this period averaged 34.5 bushels per acre, which if fed to hogs would produce ordinarily 404 pounds of pork. Kaffir corn during the same period has averaged forty-six bushels per acre, which if fed to hogs would produce 460 pounds of pork.

We find that a combination of feeds is better than a single feed, though the feeds be practically the same. Corn and Kaffir fed together, equal parts of each, gave much better results than either alone. Soaking of corn is of doubtful advantage, while with Kaffir it is an absolute detriment to apply water to it except just to moisten it as it is fed. Grinding, to our surprise, gives results similar to soaking. If corn is old, dry and hard and the facilities for grinding are very convenient and inexpensive, it may pay to grind, but it surely will not pay to haul any distance or pay the ordinary toll for grinding. With Kaffir corn grinding is an absolute detriment. A bushel of whole Kaffir corn will reduce more pounds of pork than a bushel of ground Kaffir corn.

Alfalfa hay fed to hogs on full feed gave astonishing results. The hogs fed in this trial were bought of one near the station and averaged 125 pounds each at the beginning of the experiment. The hogs were fed all the Kaffir corn meal they would eat cleanly in an hour or so after feeding, and in addition were fed alfalfa hay in forklifts in flat troughs. The hay was in a splendid shape, had been cut in the early bloom and perfectly cured. The hogs were fed no more than they would eat closely, the coarser stems being rejected. The lot fed the alfalfa hay in addition to the Kaffir meal made an average daily gain during the feeding period of nine weeks of 1.44 pounds per head and were in splendid condition at the close.

A lot of exactly the same class of hogs, and receiving exactly the same treatment in every respect except they were not fed the alfalfa hay in addition to the Kaffir meal, made an average daily gain per head of only .85 pound, and were not in a marketable condition at the close of the trial. The lot fed alfalfa hay in addition to the Kaffir meal showed an actual gain due to the inclusion of the hay of 885 pounds of pork per ton of alfalfa hay. With pork at \$3.50 per hundred this gives us \$30.38 per ton for alfalfa hay, aside from the fact the hogs fed Kaffir alone had to be given an additional period of feeding before they were marketable.

We find the soy bean to be a remarkable feed for hogs. Under exactly the same conditions as above mentioned one lot of ten hogs was fed four-fifths Kaffir meal and one-fifth soy bean meal, and in a period of fifty days made a gain of 866 pounds, while a similar lot receiving Kaffir meal alone made a gain of but 441 pounds and ate only 462 pounds less feed than the other lot. The lots weighed exactly the same at the beginning, were the same class of hogs, and received exactly the same care in feeding.

Skim milk is also a very valuable addition to Kaffir corn. Hogs that had been fed on Kaffir corn alone in a previous experiment and not being marketable, were fed about twelve pounds of skim milk per day in addition to Kaffir corn and made an average daily gain of 2.43 pounds per head for three weeks. Feeding the Kaffir corn at what it ordinarily returns when fed to similar hogs, gave us 80 cents per hundred for the -skim milk.

In another case where two lots of twenty hogs each received two parts of Kaffir meal and in addition one lot received five pounds of skim milk per day per head, the gain attributed to the milk gave it a value of 24 cents per hundred. The lot receiving Kaffir corn alone made a gain of 834 pounds, while the one

and one-half pounds per day is a fair gain, or two to two and one-half pounds are put on very readily when soy beans or skim-milk is fed in addition to Kaffir corn.

These facts are appreciated by those who know that such feeds as alfalfa, soy beans, etc., tend to produce more lean meat, insure a rapid growth in young pigs that would not do well on corn alone, and that these are the cries of the hog market—young hogs and less lard. The American hog takes a back seat in the English market when the Danish and Canadian hogs are there. The Dane feeds his pigs skim-milk and barley. The Canadian feeds corn to some extent, but largely peas and beans. The Dane gets a third more for his bacon than we do and the Canadian receives from 50 cents to \$2 per hundred more live weight for his pea and bean fed hogs than we do for our corn fed stuff. However, we may make more money in the transaction than either the Dane or the Canadian, but our experiments show that it will pay to imitate them to some extent.

We Americans should appreciate good, lean bacon as well as the Englishmen. But as long as we continue to feed corn alone we will not solve the problem "Fat" was after when feeding his pig for his own use. He fed the pig well one week and the next he did not feed it at all, and when asked why he did so responded: "Sure, and I want a streak of lean and a streak of fat all the way through." The lean-producing element is not in corn."

I might be asked about cooking feed for hogs. I hope I need only to say that many other trials, as well as the Kansas station have tried, and tried faithfully, to prove that it pays to cook feed for hogs, but it has not been done. From my own observation it appears to me that the reason some feeders seem to find that it pays to grind and cook feed is that when they are feeding ground or cooked feed they take a great deal more pains in feeding. They feed regular and keep the feeding place in good shape. And the difference came from this, not from the grinding or cooking.

We are also able to see the meaning of the phrase "blood tells" for in buying up shams of various parties it was necessary at times to take some that were very much below the average in quality, while others, in a few cases, were above the average. While some of the best would make a gain of practically two pounds per day per head others that showed poor breeding, but apparently the same age, gained but a half to three-fourths of a pound per day per head.

The hog also responds very appreciatively to careful handling, kind treatment and regular feeding. The hog in its habits is very much superior to what it gets credit for being. When fed so that they know they will get all they want every time they are fed, and are fed regularly, they seem to lose many of the so-called hogish qualities and become quite manly. They are generally the last to receive attention and are often expected to eat what is refused by the other animals on the farm.

Little attention is usually given to their feeding or sleeping quarters and when thought of at all the thought usually is, "only a hog, anyhow," and in goes the water or swill in a dirty trough, or the corn in the mud. At one time the hog is burned up on corn and at another expected to develop two or three extra stomachs, necessary to subsist entirely on a forage diet. With such treatment it is no wonder that the little bacillus-cholera finds them an easy victim.

"I had dyspepsia for years. No medicine was so effective as Kodol Dyspepsia Cure. It gave immediate relief. For years I had produced marvelous results," writes L. H. Warren, Albany, Wis. It digests what you eat and cannot fail to cure.

1,058,910

That Was the Population of Nebraska According to the Census of 1890.

What Will it Be in 1900?

Figure it Out and Share the

\$15,000 in Premiums

The Premiums

- 1st—10 room house and lot in Omaha, value .....\$3,500
- 2nd—Cash .....\$1,000
- 3rd—One Chickering Piano .....\$600
- 4th—Cash .....\$500
- 5th—One Kimball Piano .....\$450
- 6th—Cash .....\$200
- 7th—Cash .....\$200
- 8th—Cash .....\$100
- 9th to 19th—10 Sewing Machines, Davis Ball-bearing, \$50 each .....\$500
- 19th to 24th—5 Defiance Sewing Machines, \$40 each....\$200
- 24th to 29th—5 High Grade 1900 Bicycles, \$50 each.....\$250
- 30th—1 Omaha Commercial College full scholarship....\$60
- 31st—1 Omaha Commercial College mail scholarship....\$15
- 50 Cash Premiums, \$10 each.....\$500
- 100 Cash Premiums, \$5 each.....\$500
- Farm Implements, wagons, buggies, musical instruments, guns, household furniture, books, pictures, etc.....\$6,425

Grand Total.....\$15,000

You Can Figure It Out Yourself.

### Rules of the Contest.

The publishers of The Weekly Bee will give away these premiums, valued in aggregate \$15,000, to subscribers who make the closest estimates of the census population of the state in which they live. The awards will be made on the official figures of the United States census for 1900. The subscriber making the closest estimate of the total population of his own state will receive the first premium, the subscriber making the next closest estimate will receive the second premium, and so on.

Under the plan of award each subscriber will figure out the population of his own state and send the same with his subscription, which will be stamped with the date and hour of receipt at this office and filed. In case of a tie, the estimate first received will be awarded the premium.

For example: Suppose a Nebraska subscriber makes the closest estimate on Nebraska within 30,000 of the Nebraska census returns, while an Iowa subscriber makes the closest estimate on Iowa within 30,001 of the Iowa census returns—then the Nebraska subscriber would receive first premium and the Iowa subscriber second premium.

All territories, Nevada and the District of Columbia are barred as the basis of calculation. Subscribers living in those states will make their estimates on the population of Nebraska.

As the time when the census figures will be made public is not yet fixed, the close of the contest will be announced three weeks in advance through The Weekly Bee.

Every estimate competing for these premiums must be accompanied by \$1.75 as a subscription to The Weekly Bee for one year, and The Illustrated Bee for one year.

Every subscriber now taking The Weekly Bee may register his estimate by sending \$1.00 for The Illustrated Bee for one year.

You Get the Two Best Nebraska Papers With It. The Census Takers Begin Their Rounds in June.

### Nebraska Official Statistics.

Census	Population	Rank in List of States	Total Vote	School Census 5 to 21 Years
1860.....	28,841	39th	1890.....213,262	1890.....316,805
1870.....	122,993	36th	1891.....156,080	1891.....332,243
1880.....	452,402	30th	1892.....197,473	1892.....333,115
1890.....	1,058,910	26th	1893.....181,600	1893.....343,629
			1894.....203,852	1894.....352,175
			1895.....182,916	1895.....362,729
			1896.....223,988	1896.....352,101
			1897.....193,190	1897.....348,528
			1898.....197,657	1898.....354,929
			1899.....231,229	1899.....366,069

It's a Problem in Arithmetic. You Can Solve It. Address—Census Dept.

### The Weekly Bee

Omaha, Nebraska.

HEARTY EXPRESSION

Hundreds Tell of the Change Which They Have Felt.

The Time Comes for Omaha People to Tell What Has Been Done for Them.

The time has come when people in Omaha feel the change. Many people in this city have given voluntary endorsement of the great change they have felt after using Morrow's Kid-neoids, and this time refer you to Mr. H. E. Murphy, Coachman, of 218 South 25th street, who says: "After trying nearly all the remedies I heard of or read about, said to be good for kidney backache, rheumatism, neuralgia, urinary troubles, nervousness and restlessness, of which I have been afflicted for some time, and from which I got but little relief I decided to try Morrow's Kid-neoids. They relieved me of all my former troubles in a very short time. I will continue to use Kid-neoids for their tonic effect, and recommend them to others."

Morrow's Kid-neoids are not pills, but Yellow Tablets and sell at fifty cents a box at all druggists and by the Myers-Dillon Drug Co.

Mailed on receipt of price. Manufactured by John Morrow & Co., Chemists, Springfield, Ohio.