

### Farm Wage Rates Show 37 Per Cent Decline in 1921

Average Drops to \$43 a Month Without and \$30 With Board—Still Above Pre-war Scale.

Farm wages in the United States declined approximately 37 per cent during the calendar year of 1921, reaching an average of \$43.32 per month without board and \$30.14 with board, according to statistics recently published by the United States Department of Agriculture.

But the farmer failed to profit by the reduction in wages, as the price of farm produce in general slumped in just about the same proportion, according to "Weather, Crops and Markets," a weekly publication issued by the Department of Agriculture. The average value of crops is estimated to have dropped about 17 per cent during 1921, and livestock prices went below this figure.

Food Prices Lower. So far as the farm laborer was concerned, the 37 per cent decline in his wages was, in a large part, compensated for by the reduced wholesale prices of food consumed by his family. The laborer generally buys most of his supplies from his employer at reduced rates, rather than from a retail store, according to the department.

The bureau of labor statistics of the Department of Labor estimates a drop of 27 per cent in retail food prices during last year. The general decline on wholesale prices is frequently estimated as 40 per cent on the average.

Day labor in harvest time during 1921 received \$2.79 per day without board and \$2.24 with board. Outside of harvest, the sum of \$2.22 was paid without board and \$1.98 with board. These figures do not include various supplementary allowances such as milk, cow pasture, firewood and the like.

The smallest decline with respect to methods of hiring 33 per cent, was for labor hired by the month without board and the largest decline, 40 per cent, was for day labor with board outside of harvest time.

With respect to geographic divisions, the largest decline was in the south and north central states west of the Mississippi river. In the mountain and Pacific states the decline was 35 per cent in the north central states of the Mississippi, 33 per cent, and in the north Atlantic states 27 per cent. The smaller declines occurred in the industrial regions.

Higher Than in 1913. The farm wage average for 1921 was still much higher than in 1913, the year before the world war, with a range from 41 per cent above for hirings by the month with board, to 48 per cent for day labor outside of harvest and without board. Part of this gain might have come to farm wages had there been no increase in the records of the Department of Agriculture extending back to 1866 show a tendency for farm wages to rise from year to year.

Cost of board, often including lodging is not generally reckoned by farmers in appreciation for the allowance for this appears in the difference between the rates with and without board. In hiring by the day in and out of harvest, the board allowance is 55 cents and 54 cents, respectively, while in hiring by the month, it is \$13.18 or 44 cents a day.

Annual Banquet Held by St. Paul Community Club. St. Paul, Neb., Feb. 25.—The 11th annual banquet of the St. Paul Community club was held in the school church in this city. More than 200 members and friends attended the dinner served by the women of that church.

County Judge R. A. Haggart, toastmaster, presented C. J. Christensen, president of the club, with a gold watch in appreciation for his club membership for his work during the last 11 years. Judge Rayard H. Paine of Grand Island and Rev. George Weber of York spoke.

Declaratory Contest to Be Held at Albion Feb. 28. Albion, Neb., Feb. 25.—(Special.)—The annual Albion declaratory contest will be given February 28 at the high school auditorium. Twenty-four students are entering the contest. The Albion high school dramatic department is one of the largest in the state and the contest for this year is larger than ever before.

Ernest C. Misner of the Misner School of Spoken Word in Omaha is to judge the contest. The winner will represent the school in the district contest at Norfolk.

State W. C. T. U. Will Hold Meeting at Central City. Central City, Neb., Feb. 25.—(Special.)—The W. C. T. U. institute for the state of Nebraska will be held in Central City March 20 and 21. Mrs. Culla J. Vaynhinger will be present as the representative of the national W. C. T. U. Mrs. Laura P. Miller and Mrs. Dora Knox, national directors, and Mrs. Lela G. Dyer, state president, also will be here.

Bombs Exploded in Rear of Two Hotels in Chicago. Chicago, Feb. 25.—Two hotels were bombed here last night, the explosions taking place 15 minutes apart and causing guests to flee in panic. Black powder bombs were exploded at the rear of the Newport hotel and the Van Buren hotel. Although unable to explain the bombing, police believe the same persons set off both bombs.

Two Killed, Two Wounded in Mississippi Gun Fight. Jackson, Miss., Feb. 25.—Warren Ashley, 33, and Walter Sullivan, 30, were shot and killed, and Marshall Albert Lack is seriously wounded and Mrs. Warren Ashley wounded as a result of a gun fight that occurred at a basket ball game there today.

Legion Convention. McCook, Neb., Feb. 25.—The Fifth district convention of the American Legion passed will be held in McCook, February 28.

### Homes of Comfort



This "love nest" has been planned with the greatest economy, yet is complete with every convenience. A cozy, attractive home outside, with a large comely porch. It is surprisingly roomy within. Light, cool bedrooms, plenty of room for furniture. Plenty of closets for the new clothes and linen, and a kitchen that makes even first attempts at cooking a delight.

### Quaker City Ranks Third as White Potato Market

Shipments Received Annually Total Approximately 7,000 Carloads—Large Part of Supply Grown in Eastern and Southern Sections—Run Heaviest by Far During Month of June.

Philadelphia ranks third among the cities of the United States in the consumption of white potatoes, using over one-third as many as New York and more than half as many as Chicago, according to the United States department of agriculture. With the exception of these cities and Pittsburgh, which takes nearly as many as the Quaker City, Philadelphia unloads two or three times as many carloads as any available, averaging nearly 7,000 cars and averaging 1,196,000 bushels from 1910 to 1920. The above figures do not include the home-grown potatoes, of which there are several hundred carloads annually.

Receipts were by far heaviest for June, supplies during that month always exceeding 1,600 cars and averaging 1,196,000 bushels, with an average of 578 cars for all months. June is the month when supplies of old stock, then nearly exhausted, are being replaced by shipments of new potatoes from the south, and arrivals from Florida and South Carolina reach their height during this month. If home-grown stocks, which would ordinarily fill several hundred cars, were included in the tabulation, July would nearly equal the record of June.

Summer Heaviest Season. The period of heavy receipts is from April to November, while unloadings from December to March average only about 400 cars per month. Actual supplies in the winter and spring include the surplus from the fall receipts. Consumption, probably, does not differ greatly from month to month, except for the sharp increase in June following the arrival of the new crop.

Nearly growers specialize on the early crop. Over two-thirds of the home-grown stock comes in June, July and August, when fresh potatoes usually command high prices. Imports, usually only a few hundred carloads, arrive during the winter months.

The bulk of winter and early spring receipts are from Pennsylvania, New York and Maine. New stock from the southeastern states enters the market in summer. Most of the potatoes from Florida arrive in May and June, and from the Carolinas in June and from Virginia in August. Supplies from Virginia and New Jersey are heavy during June and July. New Jersey leads in August and Pennsylvania and New Jersey during the fall months.

Shipments on Increase. Of the city's average yearly supplies—6938 cars, excluding home-grown stock—Pennsylvania has shipped an average of 1,843 cars annually for five years and Virginia 1,159. New Jersey and New York have each averaged from 700 to 800 cars yearly.

The proportion of supplies from Virginia has tended to decrease during the five years, but the volume of shipments from Pennsylvania and New Jersey has shown an upward tendency. Shipments from northern producing sections, chiefly Michigan and Wisconsin, have approached 1,000 cars in some years when the price justified long distance shipments of the main crop. Usually the proportion of northern and western shipments has been small and the greater part of the city's supply has originated in eastern and southern states. Of the average yearly total, slightly less than one-half came from the early shipping states.

Pennsylvania stock brings higher prices than potatoes from other sections, though the Petoskey Russet and Green Mountain varieties find much favor and bring a higher scale of prices than other varieties from the same shipping sections. Considerable price variation is noticeable in stock from different counties of Pennsylvania, because of different soil conditions and more careful methods of grading.

Because of these reasons, the Manungo section of Pennsylvania has made a reputation for its potatoes which bring the growers a premium over other potatoes sold in the Philadelphia market. Another important

### U. P. President Backs Move to Eat More Corn

Passengers on Diners Offered Every Corn Product Except Corn Whisky—Placards Boost Plan.

If half of the population of the United States consumed one-half pound more of corn per person each day, this would provide a market for 35,900 bushels of corn each day. This is at the rate of 16,000,000 additional bushels per month, and would amount to about 89,000,000 bushels by Carl R. Gray, president of the Union Pacific system, looked at these figures and decided to get back of the movement to eat more Nebraska corn. As a result, passengers on the diners of his railroad can now obtain any corn product except corn whisky.

Transcontinental travelers are offered corn cakes, corn muffins and corn flakes on the breakfast menu, and corn bread for dinner. Gruts, fritters, old Missouri hoe cakes and Kentucky corn ponies are featured as specialties.

Delicious Food. "There is nothing better for breakfast than corn dishes," says Mr. Gray. "corn is a healthy, hearty, and delicious meal, and when cooked properly, a delicious one. It is to the interest not only of the corn belt, but of the whole nation that the farmers should receive the cost of production for their crops. The increased price of corn already has done much to open up business. Anything to increase the demand for corn products will help the west."

Mr. Gray, as chairman of the agricultural committee of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, has been instrumental in having corn bread served with every meal here. The agricultural committee also is urging manufacturers to advertise their products more intensively.

Placards Posted. In every station along the lines of the Union Pacific system, placards are to be posted urging the people to see that some food produced from corn is on their table at least once each day. These give a dozen home cooking recipes for delicious dishes made from corn. "Eat corn, reduce your living expenses, gratify yourself and help America," is the slogan of these placards. "If you help create a demand for corn, the farmer can pay his debts and buy merchandise; the merchant can buy more goods; the manufacturer can put more men to work at good wages, and they, in turn, have money for food and clothes and the comforts of life, and the country prospers," the bulletin reads.

It is further declared that even if the present price of corn were doubled, the cost of living per day would cost less than 3 cents.

### Business Activities

Omaha Doctor to Odell. Odell, Neb.—Dr. C. E. Rice of Omaha has been in Odell to attend Dr. Biggs and Dr. Rice is a graduate of the medical school of the University of Nebraska.

Elect Officers. Nulph, Neb.—The executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce elected the following officers: A. H. Jensen, president; A. J. Knecht, secretary; and A. J. Knecht, treasurer. The membership committee appointed at this time was M. J. Romig, Fred Oimsted, G. C. Binkard and A. A. Bueckel.

May Buy Tabernacle. Superior, Neb.—The commercial organization passed a unanimous vote favoring, if arrangements could be made, the purchase of the big tabernacle which is now being used for the union evangelistic service as a site to retain it for a temporary auditorium and community gathering building. The structure is so built that it can be torn down and all of the material utilized.

Improve Stockyards. Superior, Neb.—Burlington carpenters are in business to improve the stockyards. This work is the outgrowth of a meeting between the railroad and the city officials and the Commercial club of Superior.

Enlarge League Room. Superior, Neb.—The baggage rooms of the Burlington are to be enlarged to house the American Express office, who find themselves now in very close quarters and expansion necessary.

Opens Jewelry Store. Pawnee City, Neb.—L. N. Andrus, a former Pawnee City apothecary, who has been in business in the city for several years, has returned to this city and will soon open a new jewelry and watch repair shop.

New Wynome Grocery. Wynome, Neb.—Leon Turner, formerly in business in Harrison and Blue Springs, is preparing to open a grocery store on the new highway block in Wynome. This will make the seventh grocery store in the city.

Community Club Elects. Wynome, Neb.—The newly elected members of the Wynome Community club are: A. E. Peral, president; W. Campbell, vice president; E. J. Miller, secretary; J. Smith, treasurer. The board of directors include the above officers and J. A. Reuling, Sherman Taylor, Jr., Charles Kemperley, W. A. Stahl and B. O. Youll.

Buyers Buy Lewiston Cafe. Pawnee City, Neb.—Judd Knowles, a former Pawnee City business man, has been elected proprietor of the new restaurant in Lewiston. Knowles has been in business for some time as an employee of White brothers, a large grocery store here. He takes over the business on March 1 from Richardson and Lytle, the former owners.

Broadwater Elevator Sold. Broadwater, Neb.—The Broadwater Co. elevator for Merrick county, J. R. Betts of O. Halston, The Lexington, was sold to T. O. Halston for a bid of \$5,000. T. O. Halston's bid was \$5,000.

Teconese Store Sold. Tecumseh, Neb.—James Britt of Lincoln has bought the Teconese store and probably go onto a farm. Mr. Britt has been in business in a Lincoln meat packing plant.

Mother's Banquet. Fairbury, Neb.—The annual mothers' banquet of the Christian church of the Fairbury church was held at the church. Mrs. A. T. Harmon, an instructor at Cotner university, delivered the principal address, using for her subject "Fishing for Missions." The annual fathers' and sons' banquet of the Methodist church takes place on the evening of March 7.

Girls Give Program. Tekamah, Neb.—The H-Y girls of Tekamah high school gave a program here at their annual banquet at the Orpheum hall. The proceeds of the entertainment were used to send the girls to Lake Okechobe for the summer camp.

Stockville School Program. Stockville, Neb.—The Stockville High school gave a program and a box supper here at the Stockville school. Seventy cents was raised. This goes to help defray the cost of the basketball team to the state tournament at Lincoln in March.

Broken Bow. Broken Bow, Neb.—The Broken Bow Woman's club netted \$138.25 from their public sale on tag day for the benefit of the public library.

High School Circus. Franklin, Neb.—Franklin High school put on a circus at the high school building which drew a crowd that filled the house to utmost capacity. Receipts of the circus were used to purchase new equipment.

Walker League Banquet. Columbus, Neb.—The Walker League had its annual banquet at the Orpheum hall here. A six-course dinner was served to the 600 members. Mr. Miller of Lincoln was the principal speaker.

Sale Prices Good. Superior, Neb.—Business has been quite free of recent auction sales in this section of the country.

### Scribner Sale Averages Over \$137

Scribner, Neb., Feb. 24.—(Special.)—John Bader got an average of \$137.50 for the 40 head of pure-bred Duroc-Jersey hogs, or a total of \$5,500. The buyers represented more than a half dozen states from the great corn belt, some being as far east as Ohio.

The top price was \$455 for the grand junior champion. It was expected that this animal would bring at least \$1,000 and that the sale average would be much higher, but the weather was held responsible. There was a great snow storm in the north and west that prevented buyers from attending.

### 1921 Crop of Seed Potatoes Beats Average

More Farmers Plan to Have Their "Spuds" Certified.

Hemingford, Neb.—The seed potato belt is just closing for this district for the season of 1921. A much larger crop of seed potatoes was produced in 1921 than usual, largely on account of a greatly increased acreage. The favorite variety for this section is Bliss Red Triumphs and several growers took extra pains with their potatoes this last season and had them certified.

The certification work is carried on by H. O. Werner of the College of Agriculture of the State university. Next year probably 30 per cent of the farmers are planning to improve their potatoes so that they can be certified. In 1921 all of the certified potatoes were of the Triumph variety, but next year a good many certified Ohio and Cobblers will be raised.

The market for the Triumphs is in the North Platte valley and in the extreme southern part of the United States. The price to the growers for uncertified Triumphs started in the fall at 70 cents until the very best grades of uncertified Triumph seed has reached the price of \$1.65 per bushel, sacked, to the growers. Certified seed has been much higher from the beginning of the season. The first sales were \$1.60 per bushel for November delivery and the final sales were around \$2.25 per bushel.

George Gabus, a prominent grower, starting with ordinarily good seed last season, by good care and by eliminating all potato diseases in the field, succeeded in certifying his seed. He secured a saleable yield of 126 bushels to the acre and disposed of his entire crop at \$2 per bushel, making \$252 to the acre.

The state inspection is very satisfactory as far as seed stock goes. There is some difficulty in regard to the number two grade, as it differs from the Minnesota number two grade materially and buyers do not understand that Nebraska number two may be nice large potatoes. There is no U. S. seed grade number one, hence all seed potatoes have to pass the table stock grade. There is a state regulation that seed potatoes do not have to conform to size. The growers and dealers feel that there should be an established seed grade varying somewhat from the number one table grade as to the kind of defects permitted. Number two table stock potatoes are 70 cents

### Cash Is Plentiful for Purebred Hogs

Norfolk, Neb., Feb. 25.—(Special.)—That it pays to raise purebred livestock developed in the Norfolk livestock sales pavilion when W. H. Hasmusen, breeder of purebred Duroc Jersey hogs, sold 52 head at an average of \$180 each. Fifty of the animals were listed and an additional 12 placed in the sale ring were snapped up speedily by buyers who came from all parts of the country to secure possession of the locally raised porkers. A number of the animals sold for over \$200 each and several hundred bidders contended for animals which they declared were among the best they had seen on sale in many years.

The hogs which were sold go to many parts of the United States, some going to Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana and Kansas. A feature of the sale is the cash which was displaced for the purebred exceptions being hogs expressed animals. In every case except four payments was made in cash, the "C. O. D." to distant buyers.

### Peru Normal Librarian for 23 Years to Quit Job

Table Rock, Neb., Feb. 25.—(Special.)—Miss Elva Kulon, who has been librarian at Peru State normal for the last 23 years, has resigned, effective March 1, 1922. She has accepted a position as chief librarian at Iowa State university.

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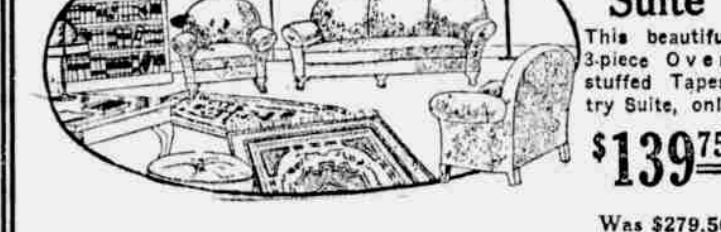
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