

JUST GET READY TO HOLD WHEAT, FARMERS' ONLY SOLUTION TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM

By WILLIAM R. SANBORN

Mr. Capper, of Kansas, is pessimistic as to the early movement of new crop wheat, not only in Kansas, but anywhere. He says that his state still holds 25,000,000 bushels of old wheat, "which could not all be moved in 60 days, by loading 480 cars per day." In the meanwhile there will presently be more than 100,000,000 bushels of new Kansas wheat seeking both cars and storage facilities.

When we consider that there are still more than 45,000,000 of 1919 wheat on the farms, and around 100,000,000 in elevators "in sight," the early marketing and shipping of the new crop presents an almost insurmountable problem. The movement of the South West has already begun. Kansas City began receiving new wheat last week, running about 25 cars per day so far. Much of the southern wheat will find its outlet at Gulf ports, and a little of the wheat grown along the Mississippi will go to New Orleans in barges, but the great bulk of the harvest will seek terminal markets in the north and east.

Ohio to Hold Wheat

The Ohio farm bureaus, realizing the gravity of the car situation, are preparing to hold from 75 to 85 per cent of their wheat crop. The secretary of the state bureau federation states that they "will do this if cars are obtainable," as is feared. The banks have been consulted and replies received show that hundreds of local banks "are in" on this and are arranging to finance the farmers pending sale of the grain to be stored.

An Eastern Editor's Views.

The New York Times says: "Food must become cheaper because of unexpected abundance, both in Canada and the United States. The world's price could hardly stand up under the enlarged supplies, and a hundred million hungry foreigners would be fed, if the foodstuffs could be moved to them. But the abundant supplies are a mockery, alike to them and to the farmers here, who are hungry for profits out of reach because of im-

The Farm and the Farmer

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According to Charles Carpenter's records, the first load of 1919 wheat to arrive in Richmond was received at the mill on July 5th, and came from a threshing rig near Centerville. The seller, Robert Bova, got \$2.12 per bushel. He said he had hauled it here "because the Centerville elevator was not ready to take in wheat."

The mill records show that wheat came in four days earlier last year than in 1918, when the first load was weighed on July 9.

There is a feeling among Wayne farmers that those unable to market before the elevators are filled up, will do well to prepare to hold their wheat. The transportation problem is paramount. There is no telling to what extent the mills and elevators will be supplied with cars and the feeling is that there will be more wheat than cars for a long time to come. The price on oats still remains high, relatively, and these will be the next to seek an outlet, although the pressure to market oats will not be great, as these can be largely fed and sold at home.

Hopes Farmers Will Hold.

Goodrich Brothers, of Winchendon, have been quoting prices for grain to country elevators in this district, and will provide an wholesale outlet, as far as their capacity and inflow of cars will permit. Their opening price on new wheat, quoted last week, was \$2.66 to elevator men, the price to farmers being proportionately lower to permit a profit to the handlers at country points. The Goodrich idea is that every farmer able to hold wheat should do so, both for his own and the public good, "and we hope to see this done, because of railway congestion and absolute shortage of cars."

Township Federation Meetings

Three township federation meetings are announced for this week. The Webster meeting will be held on Thursday evening, as will that of Center township. The latter will be held at the town hall at Centerville. The Washington township meeting will be held at Milton on Friday night. Much business of importance is scheduled to come up and all farmers are invited.

Grain Dealers at Muncie.

The Indiana Grain Dealers' association went into session at a called meeting at Muncie on Wednesday afternoon. Matters of interest in connection with the opening of the speculative wheat markets on Thursday, and others of importance with relation to the handling of the new wheat crop are the principal topics of discussion. Charles Carpenter, of Richmond, is among the Wayne county men present.

A Giant Cherry Tree.

There is a cherry tree on a farm near Wapakoneta, that is known as "Ohio's great pie tree," and is supposed to be the largest cherry tree in the state. It stands 50 feet high, has a trunk 30 inches in diameter, and has been producing cherries for 56 years. No one remembers when it failed to produce a crop, and for many years its smallest yield has been 15 bushels.

possibility of moving their crops to market."

After stating that our wheat crop, including our old grain reserve, will total 856,000,000 bushels, and that we shall grow 11,000,000 more bushels of rice than ever before, the editor says:

"These figures are like water in the sight of Tantalus. To farmers, sorrow's crown of sorrow is memory of the times when their railway rates were higher, and there was a car supply to match the crops."

Problems of the Railways.

The public is aware of what has been going on in railway circles, of the efforts made to move tonnage, the heaviest in our history. We all know of the strikes, of congestion of millions of tons of freight in the great terminals; of the shortage of all kinds of rolling stock, including engines, and of the crying need for the distribution of every class of material and commodity. The strike of dockmen at the seacoast has prevented the export of millions of bushels of grain and other foodstuffs.

The business of transportation has been tied in knots from various causes, while the struggle on the part of the roads to move freight persisted, and still persists. In spite of all obstacles more tonnage has been moved in the past 90 days than during the same period a year ago, on all the great trunk lines, but seemingly there is a vastly greater tonnage to move.

What Should Farmers Do?

The peak load on this crop will come along in September. The pressure will come from farm, factory, steel plants, coal mines, etc. That conditions will greatly improve is not to be anticipated. The marketing of wheat is likely to be a slow and unsatisfactory process, at best. There will be a shortage of grain cars at country points during the rush season. Undoubtedly so. But how great the shortage remains to be discovered.

In the meantime what's the grain farmer to do?

It would seem the part of wisdom to prepare to store wheat, to hold and care for it at home or locally, because many will find it hard to move. That the banks in the Richmond radius will lend a hand in this direction can scarcely be questioned. Should the movement of grain be broader than now seems possible; so much the better. At the best the situation promises to be serious for the man who "must" sell early, or at once. Those who are better prepared to store and wait will help a lot by not forcing their wheat or oats on the market, "until a more convenient season."

HEAVY IMPORTS NOTED FOR MONTH IN LEAF TOBACCO

The heavy demands of domestic trade on foreign leaf tobacco and its manufactured products is apparent from the official statistics representing the re-exports for the month of April, 1920. Compared with the corresponding month last year, wrapper leaf shows a decrease of 243,487 pounds, or 61 per cent; all other leaf a decrease of 4,750,709 pounds, or 94 per cent. the total value of leaf re-exports decreased \$1,977,759, or 91 per cent. of the manufactured products re-exported cigars and cheroots decreased 101 pounds, or 33 per cent; cigarettes decreased 898 pounds, or 19 per cent; all other manufactures increased 2,905 pounds, or 415 per cent. The total value increased \$435, or 9 per cent.

The record for 10 months of the fiscal year reveals the following comparisons: Wrapper leaf increased 205,537 pounds, or 10 per cent; all other leaf decreased 9,314,758 pounds, or 44 per cent; total leaf value decreased \$351,276, or 5 per cent; cigars and cheroots increased 2,367 pounds, or 52 per cent; cigarettes decreased 114,916 pounds, or 91 per cent all other manufactures increased 2,806 pounds, or 30 per cent; total value of products decreased \$126,454, or 72 per cent.

THRASHERS RAISE PRICES IN HENRY COUNTY

NEWCASTLE, Ind., July 14.—The thrashing prices for this year have gone up with the trend of times, and after meeting of the thrashers of the county on last Saturday, it was announced that it will cost the farmers more this year than last, both for oats and wheat. The thrashing prices on wheat were increased to 10 cents, and on oats to 6 cents a bushel. Last year the price of wheat thrashing was 8 cents, and on oats was 5 cents a bushel.

The complete list of prices is as follows: Wheat, 10 cents; oats, 6 cents; rye, 15 cents; barley, 7 cents; clover hulling, \$3 a bushel, and corn shredding, 10 cents a bushel.

FIRST NO. 1 WHEAT SOLD. SHELBYVILLE, Ind., July 14.—Testing 61 pounds to the bushel, the first yield of 1920 Shelby county wheat crop arrived here Tuesday, and at a local mill was graded No. 1, carrying with it the premium price agreed upon between the farmers and the grain dealers of the county. The wheat was exceptionally good and was produced from a farm in Washington township, south of here. Other wheat thrashed yesterday and today in the same vicinity tested 58 to 60 pounds to the bushel.

The youthful ambition of Sir Arthur W. Plener was to become an omnibus conductor.

Suburban

MIDDLEBORO, Ind.—Mr. Boon Lieng, a graduate from Northwestern University, was the week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Patti. He leaves the states next week for a home in Sian....Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Dilly of Richmond, and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Stanley of Marion, spent Friday evening with Charles Borton and family....Mr. Harry Patti and Mrs. William Borton called on Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Marlowe evening....Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Hardwick spent Sunday in Modoc, visiting relatives....Miss Marjorie Gault was the guest of Miss Madge Whitesell of Richmond, Thursday evening....Rev. Woodruff filled the pulpit at the M. E. church Sunday evening.

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the Sunday guest of Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Culbertson....Mr. and Mrs. Charley Hollingsworth accompanied Rev. and Mrs. Ulmer of Chester to Williamsburg, Sunday evening....Mr. and Mrs. Sam Wycoff entertained at Sunday dinner: Mr. and Mrs. Elton Stanton and daughter, Leila, of Greenstock; Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Bonn, and children, of Fountain City....Mr. and Mrs. Howard Harris were Richmond shippers Monday....The Farmers' Federation, of Webster, will hold a meeting at this place Thursday evening, July 15. All members are urged to be present....Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Hardwick, of Modoc, Sunday evening....Rev. Woodruff filled the pulpit at the M. E. church Sunday evening.

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