DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expresely disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 61 Section 1 June 11, 1925.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

The New York Times to-day says: ".....The President has found plenty of food for thought in the agricultural problems of the West. He does not believe from what he saw and gleaned, that the radical proposals for farm relief can be renewed with any hope of success in the next Congress if crop expectations are realized. There is reasonable prosperity with the farmers, but nothing like the prevailing conditions in the industrial East, he found. The farmers are hopeful but not satisfied. They find improvement, but are not assured that it will continue or place them on an equality with the purchasing dollar of the industrial class. Therefore, they are still considering their position with great seriousness. One thing impressed on members of the President's party was that if there should be a deflation in wages which would decrease the prices the farmer pays for all he buys, then play of the economic law of supply and demand would help solve the farm questions of the Northwest. If not, then artificial stimulation of prices for farm products through Federal legislation promises to be an issue of political importance in the next Congress. This issue may be revived, according to prevailing opinion, even though conditions do not warrant it, by a group playing upon prejudices and the sad plight of the farmer.

"President Coolidge intends to get at first hand the best opinion as to how the next Congress ought to deal with the farm situation. He will have as his guests this summer several leading practical farmers and Republican politicians who will present both sides of the problem. In addition to this, Secretary Jardine will make a series of speeches next month in the wheat belt and will study on the ground the needs of the of the producers. Secretary Hoover is scheduled to do the same thing. Both have been requested to recommend to the President the best method to help the farmer and to give attention to the threat now being made by certain members of Congress to break down the protective tariff on farm products unless another artificial medium is given by the Government to push up the price of wheat..... The farmers assert that experience has shown that the 50 per cent. increase in the tariff rates on wheat is ineffective. It protects, they say, only those producing hard wheat against the similar Canadian product, but does not help the majority of farmers....."

CANADIAN CROPS

An Ottawa dispatch to the press to-day states that the Dominion Bureau of Statistics June 10 announced the condition of the wheat crop on May 30 as 102 per cent of the average yield per acre of the previous ten years. This compared with 96 per cent on May 30, 1924, and 98 per cent on May 30, 1923. In the different prairie provinces, the figures are: Manitoba, 102 per cent; Saskatchewan, 100 per cent, and Alberta, 107 per cent. Hay and clover are estimated at the same percentage as last year.

Section 2

Cotton

In a review of the price of cotton from a world standpoint, A. R. Marsh, writing in The Economic World for June 6, says: ". . . The burden of the advices reaching the cotton markets at home and abroad from the cotton-producing States is all to the effect that a superabundant yield is promised this year, that the supply of cotton will be so great that the consuming world can obtain it at its own price, and above all that the price level now obtaining for American cotton, though considerably lower than the post-war value norm described above, is yet far higher than is commercially warranted. This predominant American manner of thinking about the price of cotton has now become so inveterate that all price movements in the markets for cotton that do not accord with it are regarded as essentially irrational and in defiance of sound economic principles. Nevertheless, these markets--being, of course, world markets and governed by world commercial opinion--have for a long time past shown a striking disregard of the American 'pre-war price complex' and have afforded the most unmistakable evidence of the existence of the new post-war price norm for cotton described above and of the effect of this price norm in determining the world price level for the commodity. This was made particularly plain by the happenings in the cotton markets during the current week. On Tuesday a report on the condition of the present season's cotton crop in the United States at the end of May was issued by the Department of Agriculture, which was immediately interpreted by the great majority of American traders in cotton as indicating that the yield this year is likely to be even larger than last years' relatively large production, so that the question of the adequacy of the supply of American cotton to meet the needs of the world's spinners during the coming twelvemonth may be regarded as disposed of for the time being. The inference drawn from this conclusion, of course, was that the chief obstacle in the way of the long-anticipated downward movement of the price of cotton had been removed, and that consequently the process of price readjustment might be expected to begin immediately and to continue until the price level for the commodity was again in more or less close conformity with that obtaining in the pre-war years. But the initiation of this process is precisely what did not happen this week; on the contrary, the Department of Agriculture's condition report had hardly been issued, producing at first a moderate decline, when the markets for cotton in this country and abroad began to receive buying orders from merchants and manufacturers in all important consuming countries. This world opinion as to the proper commercial value of cotton promptly asserted itself again to the confusion of those imbued with the American price conceptions described above."

Duthie Experimental Farm

An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for June 5 says: "A nephew of William Duthie, the famous Shorthorn breeder, has given the University of Aberdeen a sufficiently large sum of money to endow an experimental stock farm, which is to be known as the Duthie Experimental Farm. Hitherto, the experiment stations, both in this country and abroad, have accomplished nothing of note in the breeding of farm animals.

Excellent work has been done with rats and guinea pigs, but nothing whatever with domestic animals. It will be interesting, therefore, to watch the development of the Duthie Experimental Farm, endowed with funds furnished by a Scotch farmer."

Grain Marketing Investigation

The Northwestern Miller for June 3 says: "..... The Department of Agriculture investigation disclosed that recent wide fluctuations in Chicago May wheat were 'due primarily to heavy trading by a limited number of professional speculators,' and that their operations were facilitated 'by large participation on the part of the public.' Otherwise stated, it means that a few traders supplied the leadership necessary to falsify grain values and that the gambling public aided and abetted the enterprise. In view of this recent and official record, it seems unnecessary to seek further for a definition of manipulation. It is the action of any element, made up of few or many persons or interests, which misuses the machinery of a free market to set aside or overcome normal influences. No one at all familiar with grain markets can fail to recognize it or be unaware of how easily the present system lends itself to the purpose. It is this adaptability to misuse which is under criticism and which grain exchanges are called upon to correct."

Milk Grading in Britain

An editorial in The Field (London) for May 28 says: "Three charts hanging on the walls of the dairy exhibit at Wembley show the progress which graded milk has made in this country. Considering that this is only a post-war development, it must be regarded as fairly satisfactory that the annual production of the three classes--certified, Grade A (T.T.) and Grade A--now totals five million gallons. There are about 70 licensed producers of certified milk, mainly situated in the home counties and on the south and south-east coast. Certified milk, bottled on the farm and delivered to the consumer in the same bottles, must, we think, remain a luxury for the present. The license fee of 5 pounds exacted by the Ministry of Health and the heavy cost of veterinary inspection do not encourage its production. But there is no reason why the production of Grade A.(T.T) milk, also produced from cows that pass the tuberculin test but not bottled on the farm, should not expand rapidly to the benefit of both producer and consumer. At present there are some 70 producers, chiefly around Reading. One of them, Mr. W. Cumber, gives us the benefit of this experience this week. The dairy institute there has, of course, been the source of inspiration, and it has been found possible to build up a profitable demand in Reading for this clean milk from tuberculin tested cows. In addition to the above there are 90 odd producers of Grade A milk. Here cleanliness is the sole criterion. It may be more than a coincidence that a good proportion of these Grade A producers are to be found in Sussex and Essex, the two counties in which the movement in favor of farmers' milk depots has made most headway recently. It may be that the milk producers in these counties, being alive to the possibilities of clean milk production, are not satisfied to make a free gift to the distributive trade of the benefit of their exertions and so they have set up their

own marketing organization. The reason why the production of graded milk has not expanded more rapidly is not far to seek. The distributive trade has done little to encourage it--rather has it been frowned down--and the consumer has not yet learnt to discriminate --to most people milk is just milk. It is probable that the production would expand by leaps and bounds if it were generally known that producers of Grade A (T.T.) milk could count on getting an extra 3d. a gallon from the wholesaler. But until the United Dairies and the other distributors can see their way to openly declare,themselves in its favor progress will be slow. Their difficulty is obvious. Any encouragement given to clean milk from tuberculin tested cows would inevitably discredit the great bulk of their supplies. It is most convenient to pay a flat rate for all the milk--clean and indifferent, rich and poor-- coming into their London depots. Here it can be cleaned, standardized, homogenized, pasteurized, bottled and generally made safe for the consumer. But it is vain to think that this prepared product has the same attraction or virtue as clean milk in its natural state. Once it has been made quite clear that the production of really clean milk is a sound commercial proposition the dairy farmer will not be slow to undertake the trouble and expense of eliminating re-acting animals from his herd..... But it all means extra worry and expense, which must be paid for."

Rayon

A London dispatch to The Journal of Commerce for June 10 says: "The extraordinary growth of the artificial silk industry in recent years has been emphasized by the marked prominence into which it has sprung in consequence of the proposals of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to levy in the interests of the imperial revenue an excise duty on all artificial silk produced in this country, in addition to import duties on the foreign article and the manufactures thereof. At the present time Britain is the second largest producer in the world of artificial silk, the United States, where no less phenomenal progress has been made, being the first with an estimated annual production of 35 million pounds. Britain's output last year was between 24 and 25 million pounds, while that of Germany, next in order,was only slightly less..... As to the future, there appears to be an unlimited confidence that it will expand at a still greater rate. Young as the industry is it has already created other new industries. Artificial silk, or to give it its trade name 'Rayon' has made its way into every branch of the English textile trades, furnishing them with fresh scope, and entirely new range of activities. Provided that its price allows for its use for articles of popular consumption, its further enormous expansion is declared to be assured. Producers in other countries are realizing this and are striving to reduce costs by increasing production by leaps and bounds, and obviously they would stand to gain an added advantage over the English producer if he has to pay, as is proposed, an excise duty of three shillings on each pound of yarn produced in English factories....."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 10: Carman peaches started moving from Georgia, selling at $3.25 to $4.00 per six-basket carrier in eastern city markets and $3 f. o. b. Macon. California cantaloupes declined $2 to $3. Imperial Valley Salmon Tints brought $5 to $6 per standard 45 in eastern cities and $4 to $4.50 in the Middle West. New York sacked Round White potatoes mostly $1.35 to $1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Irish Cobblers from Virginia and the Carolinas ranged 75¢ to $1.75 lower per barrel closing at $3.75 to $5.25 in eastern consuming centers; $3.75 to $4.75 f. o. b. Tom Watson Watermelons, 22-30 pound average advanced $50 to $100 to $350 to $675 bulk per car f. o. b. Ocala. Texas and Mississippi tomatoes steady to firm at $1.40 to $1.90 per four-basket crate in distributing centers; $1.40 to $1.55 f. o. b.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.35 for the top and $11.70 to $12.25 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11.15; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $11; feeder steers $5.25 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $7.75 to $10.25; fat lambs $13.75 to $16.15; yearlings $10.75 to $14 and fat ewes $4 to $7.

Grain prices quoted June 10: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.66 to $1.83. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $2.02 to $2.03; Kansas City $1.78 to $1.85. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.75; St. Louis $1.68; Kansas City $1.64 to $1.84. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.08 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.15 to $1.16 1/2; Minneapolis $1.05 1/2 to $1.07 1/2. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.18 1/4 to $1.18 3/4; St. Louis $1.17 1/2 to $1.18; Kansas City $1.12 to $1.13. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.15 1/2 to $1.18; Minneapolis $1.09 1/2 to $1.10 1/2. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.16; Kansas City $1.10. No. 3 white oats Chicago 54 1/2 to 55 1/4¢; Minneapolis 49 1/4 to 49 1/2¢; St. Louis 56 to 56 1/2¢; Kansas City 55 1/2¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/2¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 10 points during the week, closing at 23.77¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 29 points closing at 22.80¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 10,	June 9,	June 10, 1924.
20 Industrials	126.75	127.21	90.53
20 R. R. stocks	96.98	97.15	83.44

(Wall St. Jour., June 11.)

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Vol. XVII, No. 62 Section 1 June 12, 1925.

RUBBER USERS TO ACT

An Akron, Ohio dispatch to the press to-day says: "Directors of the Rubber Association of America, representing the leading rubber companies on this continent, met at Akron June 11, at the call of W. O. Rutherford, to discuss the present crude rubber situation caused by the British rubber restriction act. Reports prior to the meeting were that drastic measures would be taken for relief of American consumers. Because of the British act, rubber company officials pointed out, crude rubber prices have advanced from 17 cents a pound to 78 cents within a year, and manufacturers are finding it difficult to operate. It would not be surprising if British rubber is left without a market, some of the officials declared. A proposal that inducements be made to the Netherlands to get what would insure a greater supply of crude rubber from Dutch possessions was among several scheduled for consideration."

COTTON SETTLEMENT

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch to the press of June 12 states that the Alabama Cotton Association has begun making final settlement on cotton handled during the year. The checks will total between $800,000 and $900,000, which will bring the total payments for the year to more than $9,000,000. Approximately 80,000 bales of cotton from all parts of the State were handled by the association during the year. Checks for final settlement are being made ready.

GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Indication was given June 11 in a statement from counsel for the Grain Marketing Company that the action of F. E. Schortemie Secretary of State of Indiana, in refusing June 10 to qualify the stock of the company for sale in Indiana would be taken to the courts."

POTATO TRUST REPORTED IN CANADA

An Ottawa dispatch to the press of June 12 states that a potato marketing combine in New Brunswick was reported to the House by Harry Hereford, registrar under the Combine Investigation act. He listed five potato dealers in the Province and the Munson Steamship Line of New York as members of the combination. The report alleged a combination control of the provincial exchange, control of export trade to Cuba, control of steamship service between St. John and Havana, and efforts to discouage the farmers cooperative movement. It also declared there was evidence of offers to employees of rival firms to obtain information and of interception of cable messages. The findings, submitted as an interim report, was put before the House by Minister of Labor Murdock.

Section 2

Cotton Report

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June 13 says: "The latest report of the United States Department of Agriculture on the world production of cotton in 1924 brings to the attention of cotton planters in this country some new and unfamiliar names of competitors. Figures show that the total world production last year amounted to 24,700,000 bales, or almost exactly one million bales more than the average of the five pre-war years. Obviously the shortage in production succeeding the war has been overcome. Cotton production in the United States last year, exclusive of linters, amounted to 13,619,000 bales. India came next with 5,069,-000 bales, followed by China with 2,179,000 and Egypt with 1,540,-000 bales. These four nations accounted for 22,407,000 bales of the total world's production, which is only a slight variation from the average of former years. The big surprise in the report is found in the new names of producing countries--Peru, Uganda, Chosen, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Mozambique, Tanganyika, Paraguay and Australia. None of these countries have yet become important factors in cotton production, but their increases in production indicate great possibilities..... There is nothing in the figures for American cotton planters to worry about as yet, but if they are wise they will keep their eyes on the cotton map of the world and govern their operations in accordance with what it reveals."

Crop Forecast

An editorial in The New York Times for June 11 says: "Coming in immediate sequence to a wheat crop from which our exports, because of the shortage in Canada and Europe, reached the largest total value on record, except for the first and last years of the war, the forecast of the Crop Reporting Board for the harvest of 1925 opens up varied conjecture. Remarking that present indications are for a yield smaller by 212,000,000 bushels than that of 1924, the board observes that requirements for home consumption do not greatly differ from the estimated production of 661,000,000 bushels. The inference would seem to be that, in the season following this year's harvest, the United States may cease to be a wheat exporter. The exports of more than 200,000,000 bushels to date from the crop of 1924 have added nearly $300,000,000 to the season's export trade, with $90,000,000 more if shipments in the form of flour are added. Evidently the change foreshadowed for the approaching grain-export season would be impressive. Predictions of our disappearance from the wheat-export trade because of harvest shortage have never been fulfilled. Even the Department of Agriculture's present forecast indicates a yield somewhat larger than that of 1916 or 1917; yet we managed in each of those years to send abroad not less than 134,000,000 bushels. The smallest American wheat crop in the past two decades was that of 1911, but we contrived to export 79,000,000 bushels of it and imported hardly any wheat from Canada. Nevertheless, the wheat-crop prospect is peculiarly interesting; not less so in that the possibility of further reduction in the yield will continue until harvest time..... One arises from the

fact that just before the season of 1924, with its foreign shortage, our Government bureaus and agricultural associations had been urging the farmers to reduce their crops voluntarily, in order to prevent unprofitable prices. Another is suggested by the fact that the past season's ill-distributed harvest resulted in abnormally large import of wheat by Europe at abnormally high prices, thereby deranging Europe's foreign trade position and throwing great difficulty in the way of restoring the value of Europe's foreign exchange rates. Behind these considerations stands the continued insistence by our more thoughtful economists that the problem of readjusting the international economic balance was not only likely to involve a change from the present 'export surplus' in our foreign trade to an 'import surplus', but that one of the factors in that change might be the eventual disappearance of the United States as a large-scale wheat exporter."

Crop Report

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 11 says: "Quite wisely the business community is studying the crop situation in this country with rather more than usual interest this year. It is widely realized that the course of our year's work and the results obtained from our labors will in more than ordinary degree be determined by the size and marketability of our agricultural output during the current season. Not a few observers have been inclined to find in the present outlook a good deal to encourage belief that ours will be a relatively full measure of propsperity. If analysis of the current crop situation goes no further than observation of the condition of most of our crops at the present moment there is ground for a substantial amount of such optimistic sentiment. Yet the fact is, and the truth can not be too plainly stated, that the only relatively certain conclusion to be drawn from the agricultural outlook at the moment is that the winter wheat crop will be very short..... Forecasts at this time of the year regarding the output of such staple crops as cotton, spring wheat and oats, corn and potatoes are always inevitably hazardous. This year they are peculiarly so. It is, of course, now definitely established that there is a substantial increase in the acreage devoted to spring wheat and that at the moment the condition of that crop is moderately good. The Government forecast of a crop of around 254,000,000 bushels of spring wheat is probably justified on the basis of the technical procedure customarily employed in arriving at such predictions. Cotton acreage is without much question somewhat larger than it was last year, and again assuming the accuracy of the formal methods employed in forecasting output a crop of from 14,000,000 to 16,000,000 bales was doubtless indicated on the basis of condition existing during the latter part of May. Yet it would be hazardous in the extreme to formulate policies and programs on the assumption that any such output of either crop will actually be realized. If it is ever safe to attempt to predict the future, it may be said with relative assurance that the probabilities strongly favor a very substantially lower yield in both cases than formal forecasts now

indicate..... Short crops generally would normally bring price advances which would, from the standpoint of the farmer, tend to offset the smaller amounts of products on hand for sale. How far such a development would go toward maintaining the purchasing power of the farmer it would be hard to say in advance. It is to be remembered that a smaller outturn, resulting in a lower yield per acre--particularly where cost of production has been enhanced by the necessity of substantial replantings, as has often been the case this year--is quite a different matter from a reduced output brought into being by curtailment of operations."

Land Prices

An editorial in The Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman for June 1 says: "The relation of taxes to land values promises to cause the farmer some worry in the not distant future. Every boost in the price of land has some influence on assessed values, which in turn adds to the burden of taxes. Unfortunately for the taxpayer the actual price of land is not based on the earning capacity of the farm. In addition to the real, or productive, value of the farm lands there is added also a speculative value maintained by the desire and ability of those who are not farmers to buy and hold land for a still higher speculative price. Hence the farmer finds himself with a farm assessed in part on a speculative value as determined by the outside speculator in land. If farm lands were bought, sold and owned only by actual farmers the speculative value would not exist. The price of land would automatically be fixed at what farmers as a whole could pay for land out of the proceeds of the farm business, and taxes would thus bear a fair relation to the productive ability of the farming industry. High land prices are of benefit to the farmer who actually sells his farm. They are of doubtful value to the man who intends to continue as a farmer on the farm. The tendency is now for land to rise slowly in price, with the prospect that it will be much higher in the years to come. If so, are higher prices to result in still higher assessed valuations and consequently higher taxes?"

Livestock Instruction

An editorial in Sioux City Live Stock Record for June 8 says: "..... It is not so long ago that we sat in a box at the ringside in the great International Livestock show, in Chicago.. More than one hundred head of baby beeves were in the ring. And working on them were probably a hundred boys from judging classes in livestock. It was a grand, an inspiring sight. It qualifies the boy for knowing how to pick good cattle. But it does not finish his qualification to go into the market without preliminary experience for buying and selling of livestock. 'What's the suggestion?' This question was asked of the head of a big packing house. 'Well,' came an answer. 'That is a wonderful training the boys are getting, but unless those boys are told that they are only getting a theory that must be used for further training, the time is not distant, unless there is a change in the drift of

regulatory measures, when a packing house will have to have a hundred buyers in order to buy 500 cattle per day.' And it is very likely that the same remark would apply in other lines of agricultural college training. The purpose of the college is splendid. But the boy should be trained and impressed that the day he gets his sheepskin he is only ready to go out and learn the actual practice and application of his education. And this, we believe, the average professor knows, but for some reason he fails to get this idea sufficiently impressed upon the young graduates."

Pigs in Ireland

A Dublin dispatch to the press of June 11 states that pigs, long known as one of the Emerald Isle's principal products, are becoming scarcer. Statistics gathered by the Free State Government show that last year the porcine population was only 937,814 against 1,147,905 in 1923. Extensive imports of bacon are shown, principally from America.

Roquefort Cheese Designation

A Paris dispatch to the press of June 10 states that the French Senate June 9 was the scene of a heated debate on the question whether Roquefort cheese should only be entitled to the name Roquefort when made from sheep's milk and ripened in the Roquefort caves. The pro-Roquefort senators' demand to that effect was challenged by the pro-Gruyere senators who argued that the departments producing Gruyere cheese had to pay an export tax of 15 per cent, while Roquefort paid no tax, and therefore that it was only just to allow the Gruyere departments to make "Roquefort" even from cows' milk as compensation. No decision was reached.

Seaboard Bank to Finance Cotton

The New York press of June 11 states that announcement of the details of the establishment of a credit by a Nation-wide banking syndicate headed by the Seaboard National Bank to finance the marketing of a large part of the cotton crop in about ten States is expected in about ten days. The financing will be done through a central agency, of which the Texas Farm Bureau Cotton Association is the nucleus. The credit may reach $40,000,000 and will be a revolving one.... Cooperative cotton associations experienced difficulty in marketing their product in an orderly manner until the bankers arranged the first credit. Under the agreement credits may be made available through acceptance by members of the banking group of drafts drawn by the cotton association. While a maximum will be set as to the amount that may be in operation at one time, this does not mean that this figure will represent one operation or that it will be the limit of the credit which will be extended.

Wool Sales

A Portland, Ore., dispatch to the press of June 10 states that while woolen mill interests report general improvement, wool producers still are unable to see any betterment in the situation as it relates to them. Buyers are offering 34 cents a pound for best fine fleece, but sellers seem unwilling to let go.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 11: North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes sold at $4 to $5.50 per barrel in city markets; $3.90 to $4.50 f. o. b. North Carolina points. East Shore Virginia stock jobbed at $5.50 to $6.50 in the East, with f. o. b. sales at $4.75 to $5.00 at Onley. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2 to $3 lower, ranging $3.25 to $5.00 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers. At El Centro, f. o. b. cash track price was 50¢ lower at $1.40 to $1.60. Six-basket carrier of Early Rose Peaches closed at a range of $3.50 to $4.50 in terminal markets; $2.75 to $3.25 f. o. b. Macon. Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average sold at a narrower range at $350 to $625 bulk per car f. o. b. Leesburg section. In city markets this stock sold mostly from $500 to $900 bulk per car and on a unit basis at 50¢ to $1.10.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.30 for the top and $11.70 to $12.20 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11.10; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $10.75; feeder steers $5.25 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $10; fat lambs $13.75 to $16.10; yearlings $10.75 to $14; fat ewes $4 to $7.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 43¢; Chicago 42 1/2¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Closing grain prices quoted June 11: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.66 1/2 to $1.83 1/2. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $2.01; Kansas City $1.80 to $1.85. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.69 1/2 to $1.71 5/8; St. Louis $1.66 1/2; Kansas City $1.58 to $1.72. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.07 to $1.08; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.14 1/2 to $1.14 3/4; Minneapolis $1.06 to $1.08. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.17 1/2 to $1.18 1/2; St. Louis $1.17 1/2; Kansas City $1.11. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.15 1/2 to $1.16 1/2; Minneapolis $1.11 to $1.12. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.14 1/2 to $1.15; Kansas City $1.08 1/2 to $1.09; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.14 3/4 to $1.15 1/2; No. 3 white oats Chicago 52 to 53 1/2¢; Minneapolis 49 3/4 to 50¢; St. Louis 55 1/2¢; Kansas City 54¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 64 points during the week, closing at 23.73¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 64 points, closing at 22.92¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 11,	June 10,	June 11, 1924.
20 Industrials	127.85	126.75	92.00
20 R. R. stocks	97.38	96.98	84.30

(Wall St. Jour., June 12.)

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Vol. XVII, No. 63 Section 1 June 13, 1925

ITALY'S GRAIN A Rome dispatch to the press to-day states that increase of Italy's grain output is the latest task undertaken by Premier Mussolini. This is one of Italy's major problems, and if it could be solved, the necessity for importing grain would be eliminated and one of the principal causes of the low value of the lire would be removed, declared the Fascist leader to-day. Mussolini announced he would become an agricultural expert, after receiving a group of agriculturists, who asked that provisions be made to increase Italian harvests."

INCOME TAX RATES A Montgomery (Ala.) dispatch to the press to-day states that prompt return to prewar income tax rates with a blanket normal of 2 per cent and a maximum surtax of 13 per cent was urged here tonight by Senator Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama, in an address before the State meeting of the Alabama Tax clubs. This surtax is approximately one-half of that proposed in the Mellon plan and one-third of the maximum in the present law, which was written by a coalition of Democrats and Republican insurgents.

COFFEE EXPORTS A Rio Janeiro dispatch to the press of June 12 states that for the first time in six months Brazil's exports of coffee to the United States are booming. A passenger steamship leaving Rio June 11 had 94,000 bags aboard, which shippers say is a record coffee cargo for a passenger boat. Shipments from all ports in the first ten days of this month totaled 477,000 bags, the majority going to the United States, as compared with 400,000 for May.

WHEAT SITUATION Clinton W. Gilbert, writing in the Philadelphia Public Ledger of June 13, says: "The short crop of wheat this year has probably killed agitation for....proposals of Government financing of surplus grain. And this is true in spite of the fact that President Coolidge's trip to the Northwest was followed by reports that the farmers out there were still found to be agitating for Government price-fixing of wheat.....This year there will be no wheat to export. There would be no opportunity for Government purchase of wheat for export.....The farmer will have less wheat to sell--about 200,000,000 bushels less--but he will receive a higher price per bushel than he got last year. Most of last year's crop left the farms at $1.05 a bushel. This year, with a smaller crop, the farmer will receive about $1.50 a bushel. In addition much wheat has been plowed in this spring and the land planted in corn....The economic situation of the farmer is going to turn this year more upon the corn crop, the price of corn, and the price of hogs fed upon corn, than on the wheat crop. And the corn crop is still too far from maturity for any prediction to be made upon it."

Section 2

Ayrshire Breeding Rate

A Springfield, Mass., dispatch to the press of June 11 says: "A decline in Ayrshire breeding rate, shown in the report of C. L. Burlingham, secretary of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association, submitted at the association's annual meeting at Springfield, June 10, was blamed to subnormal milk prices and the general low level of farm product values in regions where Ayrshires are most numerous. The association in fifty years has grown to a membership of 2,300 with branches in forty-three States, Canada, Hawaii, Porto Rico and Scotland.

Cotton Production

An Athens, Ga., dispatch to the Manufacturers Record of June 11 says: "Figures just compiled by the State College of Agriculture here, from a survey covering more than 600 farms in the coastal plains area of Georgia, show that even when cotton produces a bale to the acre it does not pay the farmer more than $1 an hour for the time he spends on it, and that where less than a bale to the acre is produced the returns are much less. A survey of 249 farms showed that 132.5 hours of man-labor were expended to produce an acre of cotton under present conditions. Sugar cane, the survey showed, demanded the most time per acre from the farmer, requiring 282.9 hours of work per acre to produce a crop, while wheat, oats and rye required the least labor, only 18.4 hours being devoted to them per acre... The number of mule-hours required per acre, the report shows, follows closely the number of man-hours required."

Milk Distribution

An editorial in The Idaho Farmer for May 28 says: "The other day an investigator spent one hour on the top floor of an apartment building in one of the cities of the Pacific Northwest with notebook in hand. During that hour six milkmen representing six different milk distributing concerns in that city delivered milk at apartment doors. And they delivered a total of only 14 quarts. Somebody was hiring those men. Somebody was paying taxes, interest and upkeep on six teams, six wagons and six bottling and processing plants.....The people who bought that milk were paying about twice as much for it as the dairyman who produced it received for it. Is that necessary? Could the milk distributing system be simplified? Could the total investment and total labor in distributing the milk of a large city be reduced to a point where the cost of processing, bottling and delivery could be cut 5, 10, 20 per cent? The milk producer is not making much money on his product as a rule. The consumers are paying all they can afford to pay. The way to improve the situation is to put the highest kind of efficiency possible into the system of distribution with a view to reducing the cost. The resultant saving might then be divided equitably between the producer and the user of the milk. Frankly, we believe that the present system of milk distribution in the big cities is clumsy, unsystematic and altogether too costly."

Lumber Trend

The Associated Press of June 12 reports: "After a period of comparative quiet, the lumber industry has taken a decided upward trend. Figures for last week, compiled by the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association, show new business amounting to a 12 per cent increase over the week preceding, and 35 per cent over the corresponding week of 1924. New business has been proportionately larger than last year for several weeks, and the cumulative total since the first of the year exceeds that for the same period last year by a full week's production. "

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Farm Products June 12: California cantaloupes declined $3 to $3.50 in the East and sold $1 to $3 lower in the Middle West. South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes ranged $4.00 to $5.50 per barrel. New York and Northern sacked Round Whites $1.35 to $1.50 in distributing centers. Florida Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 pound average sold at $350 to $625 bulk per car f.o.b. Ocala.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.65 for the top and $12 to $12.50 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11; butcher cows and heifers $3.90 to $10.75; feeder steers $5.25 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $10; fat lambs $13.75 to $16.10; yearlings $10.75 to $14; fat ewes $4 to $7.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 3/4¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Grain prices quoted June 12: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.63 1/2 to $1.80 1/2; No.2 red winter St. Louis $2.02 to $2.03; Kansas City $1.80. No.2 hard winter St. Louis $1.66; Kansas City $1.61 to $1.78. No.2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.06 1/2 to $1.07; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $1.13 1/2 to $1.14 1/2; Minneapolis $1.05 1/2 to $1.07 1/2. No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.16 to $1.17; St. Louis $1.17; Kansas City $1.10 to $1.11. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.14 1/2 to $1.15 1/2; Minneapolis $1.10 1/2 to $1.11 1/2. No.2 white corn Chicago $1.13 1/2 to $1.14 1/4; St. Louis $1.14 to $1.14 1/2; Kansas City $1.08. No.3 white oats Chicago 51 to 53¢; Minneapolis 50 to 50 1/2¢; St. Louis 54 1/2 to 55¢; Kansas City 54¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 2 points closing at 23.75¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 5 points, closing at 22.87¢. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.).

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 12,	June 11,	June 12, 1923
20 Industrials	128.38	127.85	92.19
20 R.R. stocks	97.67	97.38	84.60

(Wall St. Jour., June 13.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 64 Section 1 June 15, 1925.

COOLIDGE DECLINES TO CUT SUGAR TARIFF

President Coolidge has declined to accept the majority report of the Tariff Commission recommending a reduction in the duty on sugar from 1.764 cents per pound to 1.2302 cents per pounds. The minority report, representing the conclusions of two of the five members considering the issue, favored a very slight reduction to 1.7616. Acting under the elastic section of the Fordney-McCumber Tariff law, the President after considering the two reports, received last July, and consulting additional information, refused to act, and yesterday he made public his reasons for deciding to postpone indefinitely action upon the Tariff Commission's recommendations. In his findings, the President states that when the inquiry was begun by the commission there appeared to be some reason why the rates should be reduced so that the consumer might obtain cheaper prices on sugar. Since that time, due to large production, the President points out, sugar prices have fallen almost to pre-war prices in marked contrast with the still high prevailing prices of other foods. (Press, June 15.)

CZECH GOES SLEEPLESS TO WIN AGRICULTURAL DEGREE

The Associated Press reports from State College, Pa., to-day: "Restricting himself to only two and three hours sleep each night in order to attain his ambition for a graduate degree in American scientific agriculture, Peter Dutko, a Czechoslovakian, who landed penniless in Philadelphia two years ago, will be rewarded for his sacrifice and the loss of twenty-six pounds in weight when he receives the degree of Master of Science in Animal Husbandry at the Pennsylvania State College commencement to-day. Unable to speak English, though master of five other languages, when he came to the United States, the thirty-year-old Czech resolved to teach himself the language. He worked in the anthracite mines in Mayfield until he saved enough money and could speak English well enough to enter Penn State. He entered last Fall as a graduate student, having enough credits as a graduate of an agricultural college in Czechoslovakia. Although at first he could hardly understand the lectures of his professors, he stuck to his task, worked until 3 and 4 o'clock every morning over his books and finished the year an honor student."

FARM ELECTRIFICATION

A San Francisco dispatch to the press of June 14 states that electrification of agriculture and the growth of electrical superpower will be two of the main subjects considered at the convention of the National Electric Light Association at San Francisco June 15-19 inclusive. Secretary Jardeine and Secretary Hoover will speak. Leading engineers will also discuss farm electrification and superpower.

Section 2

British Commodity Costs

The national expenditure of Great Britain on food, drink and tobacco is estimated to be in the neighborhood of 1,700,000,000 pounds by the Royal Commission of Food Prices, which was appointed in November last and has just completed a very elaborate report on prices of bread, flour, wheat and meat in Great Britain, according to advices received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British information service. This committee attributes the rise of prices in Great Britain to the fact that the value of gold has fallen about 40 per cent since 1913 owing to the substitution of paper money in European countries, an accumulation of gold in the United States and also an increase in bank deposits. They do not think that other explanations of the general rise in prices, such as the increased taxation, increased wages, transportation charges, trade disputes and increases of rent and rates are adequate. They feel that the recent rise in staple food prices is the reaction from a serious depression in agricultural prices in 1921-23. They find there is a wide dispersion of the profits in the turn over of retail food trade, and that the retail profit on turn over is highest in bread and confectionery. They do not find that those engaged in the production and distribution of food as a class are taking any undue advantage of the public.

Business and Agriculture

"I do believe that the farmer has been the most over-advised man on earth, and yet I do believe that business needs to interest itself in the agricultural problem. Sometimes I think business needs to be shown more about agriculture than the farmer needs to be shown about business, and I have been hopeful that the Chamber of Commerce of the United States would be able to interest itself in the solution of this problem. The farmer does not need credit half as much as he needs other things. In fact, it is a singular condition, but the average farmer in the West is borrowing his money at a very much cheaper rate than the rate paid out there by the most substantial business when borrowing money. The farmer in the West is solving some of his problems. In the States where there is the longest possible average haul, the problem, of course, is to get the products into the smaller compass, so that the relative freight rates will be reduced. One State out there has gone from less than thirteeen cheese factories to over fifty, in two years. They have increased the value of their dairy products in the neighborhood of 400 per cent. The situation in the West is more fundamentally sound right now than it has been at any time since the war. While business is at a low ebb, and while business men for obvious reasons are discouraged, there never has been a time since the war when the situation was so fundamentally sound, when the banks were in better shape, when credits were better and business enterprises were easier."
(Carl R. Gray, president, Union Pacific System, June 5.)

Cooperative Creameries in Wisconsin

An editorial in Farm Stock and Home for June 1 says: "Wisconsin dairymen are to be congratulated upon the action of more than 100 of their creameries last week in forming a marketing association. The 136 creameries whose boards already have signed the marketing agreement manufacture about 23,000,000 pounds, or 25 per cent of the State's annual production. The plan appears to be to proceed at once with the final steps in organization, the procuring of a warehouse and the placing of this 23,000,000 pounds upon the market under a brand still to be adopted. "

Distribution Problems

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for May 30 says: "..... Not only in the marketing of agricultural products is distribution a problem. Many of our prominent business men are beginning to realize that the big thing is not production but distribution. Perhaps the solution will be in decentralization. Large manufacturers are already establishing plants in various parts of the country to help cut distribution costs. In agriculture the tendency may be toward greater diversification so that the surrounding tillable lands will furnish as much as possible the food needed for the consuming public. Michigan has always been a diversified State and because of this it has been more fortunate than many of its sister States. But, we believe that experience, even in this State, is indicating that specialization and centralization do not pay except under the most favorable conditions."

Irish Linen Trade

A Dublin dispatch to the press of June 12 states that the plight of the linen industry in the North of Ireland is the cause of increasing anxiety to Sir James Craig's Government and all concerned with the welfare of Belfast and the surrounding towns. The industry has never been in a worse position than now and the prospect of its revival is exceedingly lean. The present position is a direct outcome of the war and particularly of the change which has come about in the condition of the American market. Prior to the war the United States provided the most profitable field for the Belfast linen manufacturers, but during the conflict this trade fell to small proportion and the most strenuous efforts to revive it have met with very poor success. The initial cause of the falling off was that the linen manufacturers were so busy in supplying the demands of the British War Office for linen for airplanes and other army requirements that they were no longer able to maintain their supplies for the American markets. Then when peace came they found that the market had been captured largely by substitute materials of America's own manufacture and that there no longer existed the old demand for Irish linen. Added to this the trade had been badly hit by European conditions and the general depression in world trade. The result is that the output of the Ulster mills is now no more than a fraction of its prewar proportions and that very many firms are in a most precarious position.

Moody on World Trade

The rehabilitation of Europe, the return of American foreign commerce to the basis of natural resources, the dawn of a new

era for the backward nations of South America, Africa and Asia, and the "reenthronement" of competition and culture throughout the world, are indicated by the expansion of our export trade, John Moody, president of Moody's Investors Service, of New York, said June 11, in an address before nearly 2,000 members of the National Association of Credit Men, at Washington, June 11. Mr. Moody asserted that once again the United States is exporting articles and products in which its natural resources and talents give it advantages over all other producers. "Under the terms of the Dawes plan," Mr. Moody asserted, "Germany has been readmitted to the family of nations, and her wealthy and unscarred industries are contributing to the earning power of peoples. Day by day Europe becomes better clothed, better fed, better housed, and better able to buy all of our products."

Rural Education in Denmark

"Each of the scattered Danish people's high schools is a little focus of national life, where the student is brought into contact with all that is most vital in his country's past and in her present. He has the opportunity of learning much at first hand from the leading men in different departments of Danish life, when they visit the high school to speak on those subjects of which they have special knowledge--electricity, bacon factories, Scandinavian drama, foreign travel, or what not. At the same time his bias towards life in the country is strengthened, for the high schools, alike in situation and in sympathies, are nearly all country schools, and as such have done much to stem the tide of emigration to the towns. For when the high school student goes home, he has had an experience which he wants to carry into his everyday life. He has learnt the value of comradeship; he helps to start a village club to be a centre of social life for the district. He has become interested in the history and literature of his country, and in social and economic questions; he helps to found a lecture and debating society where these subjects can be discussed. Every autumn, when the high schools are closed, many of the lecturers go out through the country to speak at meetings of these societies. Again, the high school student has learnt the value of a strong, well-trained, and healthy body; he starts a gymnastic association in his native village. He has become interested in scientific farming methods, he adopts them on his own farm, and keeps abreast of the latest development by studying a farmers' journal. He has learnt to work together with his fellows on the students' committee; he becomes in course of time a useful member of the committee of his local cooperative society, and in all his work he finds a good helper in his wife, or his sister, who has also been to a people's high school. The Danish State recognizes the worth of the high schools as a national asset, and assists them with grants, besides giving many scholarships to poorer students. But they are not State schools; they are usually owned by the headmasters or by share companies of local farmers; and, both in their origin and in their outlook, they are in a very real sense high schools of the people." (The Farmers' Gazette, May 30.)

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended June 12: Chicago hog prices ranged from 10¢ lower to 25¢ higher than a week ago, closing at $12.65 for the top and $12 to $12.50 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers 10 to 40¢ lower at $8.40 to $11; butcher cows and heifers 10 to 50¢ lower at $3.90 to $10.75; feeder steers steady to 25¢ lower at $5.25 to $8.25 and light and medium weight veal calves 75¢ to $1 lower at $7.50 to $10; fat lambs 50 to 60¢ higher at $13.75 to $16.10; yearlings 25¢ lower to 50¢ higher at $10.75 to $14; fat ewes 25¢ lower at $4 to $7.

California cantaloupes declined $3 to $3.50 in the east and sold $1 to $3 lower in the Middle West. General range on Imperial Valley Salmon Tints was $3.25 to $4.50 per standard 45 in consuming centers; $1.50 to $1.60 f. o. b. cash track. Georgia Early Rose peaches closed at $4 to $4.75 per six-basket carrier in city markets; $3 to $3.25 f. o. b. Macon. South Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes ranged $4 to $5.50 per barrel. North Carolina stock mostly $4.75 to $5.50, top of $6 in New York, $4.50 f. o. b. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average sold at $350 to $625 bulk per car f. o. b. Ocala.

Butter markets barely steady following unsettled feeling during week. Prices show slight declines. Production outlook lending to firmness. Into storage movement heavy.

Closing prices on 92 score: New York 42 3/4¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43 1/2¢.

Cheese markets not particularly active for the season. Prices some 4¢ or 5¢ higher than last year, and operators who usually store hesitate to assume risk at ruling levels. Wholesale prices on Wisconsin primary markets June 11: Single Daisies 22 3/4¢; Longhorns 22 3/4¢; Square Prints 23 3/4¢.

Grain market irregular. Wheat futures about 5 to 7¢ lower than week ago with favorable European and Canadian prospects. Cash wheat not following full decline in futures. Corn futures slightly lower with weakness in wheat. Oats futures moderately higher than week ago on claims crop damage.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 96 points during the week, closing at 23.75¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 104 points, closing at 22.87¢.

Hay prices quoted June 12: No. 1 timothy -- Boston $25; New York $25.50; Pittsburgh $21; Cincinnati $20; Chicago $23; St. Louis $24; Memphis $23.50. No. 1 alfalfa -- Kansas City $18; Omaha $16.50; Memphis $22.50. No. 1. prairie Kansas City $10; Omaha $11.75; Chicago $17; St. Louis $16.50; Minneapolis $15.

Feed prices quoted June 12 -- Minneapolis spring bran $28.50; spring middlings $32; 34 per cent linseed meal $44. Chicago glutten feed $34.80; yellow hominy feed $40.75. Memphis 36 per cent cottonseed meal $35.75. Sixty per cent digester feeding tankage at various shipping markets $50. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 65 Section 1 June 16, 1925.

THE SUGAR TARIFF The New York press to-day reports: "Officials of the United States Sugar Association said yesterday that efforts would be continued for a reduction in the tariff on sugar, despite the refusal of President Coolidge to proclaim a lower rate. Michael Doran, secretary of the association, said that the President had accepted the views of 'propagandists' for the beet sugar growers, who had been pleading for tariff protection for twenty-five years. He urged the publication of the reports of both factions in the Tariff Commission so that the public could judge of the issues at stake....."

An editorial in The New York Times to-day says: "President Coolidge has solved the problem of the tariff on sugar by letting it alone. When the Tariff Commission took up the question in 1923 the wholesale price of granulated sugar was 8.4 cents a pound. A month ago it was 4.27 cents. Nothing had been done, yet sugar had dropped nearly 50 per cent. So the president has decided to keep on doing nothing. The country is to be left to the ups and downs of sugar production, hoping that the supply will increase in accordance with the increasing demand. This is not an unfair summary of the reasons which Mr. Coolidge gives for refusing to act on the recommendation of the majority of the Tariff Commission that the duty on sugar be reduced one-half cent a pound....."

An editorial in The Philadelphia Ledger to-day says: "..... It is possible, but not certain, that reducing the sugar tariff $40,000,000 a year would reduce the annual American sugar bill by that amount. Even so the saving per capita would not amount to more than 35 to 40 cents yearly. The President declined to make the reduction. He will keep the tariff where it is, for the present at least. By so doing he protects the interests of cane-growers in Louisiana and Texas and of sugar-beet fields in a vast stretch of country reaching from Michigan and Indiana, out through Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, Montana, Colorado, Utah and the Pacific Coast. The differential on Cuban sugars and foreign raws has enabled these domestic producers to compete with the low-cost foreign field and mill labor. The great beet-sugar industry would not have been ruined by a half-cent cut, but it would have been crippled....."

An editorial in The Washington Post to-day says: ".....Aside from all political phases of the matter the President's elaborate and skillfully phrased decision can not fail to receive the approval of the majority of the people. He found in his exhaustive study of the subject that if the duty recommended by the majority members of the commission were adopted, it would leave from 20 to 40 per cent of the present domestic sugar acreage without the protection which the difference in the cost of production here and in Cuba requires. The President sees in the tendency toward consolidation and control of prices and distribution in many commodities, particularly foreign combinations, certain dangers to the consumer which can only be safeguarded, as he views it, by an assurance of competitive domestic supplies. Further, the executive is impressed by the close relation the sugar schedule bears to the entire agricultural situation because of the efforts of farmers all over the country to diversify their crops, efforts that have been encouraged by the administration as having an important bearing upon the solution of the agricultural problem....."

Section 2.

Australian Export Tax

The press of June 13 states that the Australian Government proposes to place an export tax on all butter and cheese shipments and to place all such exportations under a licensing system. The new regulations will become effective July 1. After that date no butter or cheese may be exported except as permitted under the Government licensing restrictions.

Australian Wool

A Melbourne dispatch to the press of June 13 states that Premier Bruce has made official denial of the report that the Australian Government had decided to introduce measures for the control of the wool industry.

Automobile Costs

A Montgomery, Ala., dispatch to the press of June 15 states that the average cost of owning and operating an automobile in Alabama is $675.40 per year, or more than $2 per day, according to F. W. Gist, agricultural statistician at Auburn. He estimated that the average car paid taxes of $12.13 and depreciated $250. The interest on the investment was $48, and the operating was $365.

New York Milk Supply

The charge that the milk supply of New York City in the main was adulterated was made June 14 by Harold G. Aron, chairman of the publicity committee of the Republican Advisory Committee of 130, who has previously made changes against the city Department of Health for alleged laxity in safeguarding the milk and cream that is brought into the city. Mr. Aron made public the results of laboratory tests of 163 samples of milk taken in various parts of Manhattan, the Bronx and Brooklyn. He asserted that the tests showed that 123 of these samples were below the legal standard and that the remaining forty were at or just above the minimum required. (N. Y. Times, June 15.)

Road Markings

An editorial in The Washington Post for June 16 says: "A highly commendable step toward greater convenience and safety for highway traffic is being taken in the holding of regional meetings of officials for the adoption of uniform systems of road markings on interstate roads--the form and color of warning signs which indicate crossings or sharp curves or steep grades just ahead, or anything which calls for special caution on the part of motorists. New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland have taken the matter up, as a compact group of States with many interstate highways. Other similar groups have hitherto done the same, or will do so. We may confidently assume that if such uniformity prevails on the interstate highways, it will be extended to the intrastate roads as well. No State should embarrass traffic by having two different systems of road marking within its boundaries. We may also assume that there will be correspondence of action among the various groups of States, conducing to national uniformity. Great highways have been created, extending across or nearly across the continent. Certainly on any such there should be uniformity of road signs, all the way from the

Atlantic to the Pacific. This ought to mean a like movement toward like uniformity in all the laws regulating the operation of vehicles...."

Rubber

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 13 says: "The directors of the Rubber Association of America have appointed a committee to investigate the possibilities of American investments in rubber growing in Dutch possessions. 'Negotiations with the Netherlands Government,' it is said, 'designed to break the virtual monopoly of the world's crude rubber supply by the British, are to be entered into at once.' Considering that the British, who own plantations in the Dutch colonies too, control about four-fifths of the plantation output and that it takes about ten years to develop a plantation to the point of profitable production, the British adherents of the Stevenson restriction scheme are probably not greatly alarmed by the threat that hangs over their heads. The rubber using industries of this country if they desire immediate relief from the high price situation must depend upon the so-called 'conservation practice' which the Rubber Association is reported to favor. Since it is quite clear that the initial impetus to the great price rises of recent months has been given by industrial buyers, reinforced by some speculative purchasers. The actual amount of crude rubber taken by manufacturers has indeed been steadily growing. The Rubber Growers' Association estimates that in 1924 470,000 tons of rubber were taken by manufacturers throughout the world, as compared with 430,000 tons for the preceding year and only 265,000 tons in 1921. The demand has continued to increase in intensity during the first half of the current year, while the statements of the various rubber and tire companies in the United States show a high degree of prosperity and rapidly expanding operations. Without holding any brief for the Stevenson restriction scheme, it ought to be recognized that there is a real justification for its existence and that its purpose was not to force rubber to heights at which consumption would be discouraged but to raise prices to a point at which production would be profitable for a majority of planters. Given the sudden revival of a feverish consumptive demand, rubber prices would have experienced a decided rise had there been no planters' combination....."

The Journal of Commerce for June 15 says: "The decision of the directors of the Rubber Association to start negotiations with the Government with a view of arranging terms for investment of American capital in the growing of rubber in the Dutch possessions following the refusal of the British to rescind or modify the Stevenson Restriction act is of negligible consequence as far as the immediate future is concerned, according to rubber manufacturers and jobbers. While the production of rubber on Dutch plantations doubled in the last three years, having supplied last year about 185,000 tons, out of a total world production of approximately 450,000 tons, the Dutch growers are not going to unduly increase their output so as to in any way injure their plantations. 'We are not going to bleed our plantations,' said one prominent Dutch rubber grower. It takes about seven years to grow rubber trees, and the present output is easily being disposed of,' he continued. With the Dutch rubber output

for the next year placed at 200,000 tons, a gain of about 15,000 tons from the previous year, it will still have very little effect on the market, it was stated. The shipments of Dutch rubber during the first three months of this year amounted to about 32,100 tons."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The New York Times for June 14 says: "At the close of 1924 it was estimated that with Federal aid 57,063 miles of highway had been planned in the forty-eight States and a great deal of the total mileage had been built. The cost was to be $1,070,000,000 approximately, of which the Federal Government's contribution would be $470,000,000. Nearly six months later these figures would have to be revised upward. Yesterday Secretary Jardine of the Department of Agriculture made at the opening of the Wendover cut-off at Salduro, Utah, an address which illuminated the subject of cooperative road building and its comparative cost. He did not touch upon the complaint of the big States that they are overtaxed for Federal aid to the minor States in the matter of highways, but perhaps he will take it up latter..... The Wendover cut-off will afford a direct route to San Francisco. Its completion suggested to Mr. Jardine an answer to those who say that blue ruin is coming because a billion dollars a year from Federal, State and local sources is spent on road building and maintenance: 'How many who give voice to this complaint realize that the American people pay each year more than $8,000,000,000 for the purchase, upkeep, and operation of motor vehicles? Or that the annual sales of new motor cars and trucks amount to more than double the billion-dollar expenditure for roads?' He declared that 'the entire cost of highway construction and upkeep is only about 10 per cent of the whole bill for highway transportation.' We can not escape that 10 per cent, he said. Mr. Jardine insisted that it would be a short-sighted policy to vest control of the interstate main roads in the counties. They would never be built at all but for cooperation between governmental agencies, and when completed maintenance could not be expected under local control. He finished with this judgment: 'If there is excessive taxation for highway improvement anywhere in this country, it is due more to the unwise attempt to finance high-type main roads with county revenues than to any other cause.'"

2 "Empty Churches," by Charles Josiah Galpin, is reviewed at length in The Washington Post for June 14, which says in part: "Doctor Galpin makes a scientific and sympathetic analysis of the forces which are emptying our churches and of the remedies which will fill them again. This work is wrought out of the author's own experience as a member of Home Missions councils, university professor of social economics, and official adviser to the United States Government on mattters concerning rural life and welfare..... This

book will interest any American, whether he be a minister or a Sunday golfer. The city dweller can not pass by on the other side, feeling this is no concern of his, for emigrants from these godless communities are constantly joining the march of those who move inevitabily toward the city. The book will be found readable and interesting."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 15: North Carolina Irish Cobblers ranged mostly $4.75 to $5.50 per barrel in eastern markets; $4.00 to $4.50 f. o. b. Elizabeth City. Georgia peaches steady to firm. Mississippi wrapped tomatoes No. 1's declined to a range of $1.25 to $1.65 per four-basket carrier; $1.35 to $1.50 f. o. b. Texas stock jobbed at $1.25 to $1.75. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average, ranged $350 to $775 bulk per car in leading markets; $250 to $600 f. o. b. Ocala. California cantaloupes declined sharply.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.80 for the top and $12 to $12.65 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.40 to $11; butcher cows and heifers $3.90 to $10.75; feeder steers $5.25 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $7.50 to $9.75; fat lambs $13.75 to $16; yearlings $10.50 to $14 and fat ewes $4 to $7.

Closing prices on 92 score butter; New York 43¢; Chicago 43¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 44¢.

Grain prices quoted June 15: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56 1/2 to $1.71. No. 2 red winter Chicago $1.86 1/2; St. Louis $1.86 to $1.95; Kansas City $1.75 to $1.79. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.65 1/4 to $1.68; St. Louis $1.64 to $1.68; Kansas City $1.54 to $1.77. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.01 1/2 to $1.03 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.10 to $1.11; Minneapolis 99 1/2 to $1.01 1/2. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 to $1.15; St. Louis $1.10 to $1.12; Kansas City $1.05 to $1.06. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.12 to $1.12 1/2; Minneapolis $1.05 1/2 to $1.07 1/2. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.09 to $1.09 1/2; Kansas City $1.04; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.10 1/2 to $1.11 1/2. No. 3 white oats Chicago 49 1/4 to 50 1/4; Minneapolis 45 1/2 to 46¢; St. Louis 51 1/4 to 52¢; No. 2 white oats Kansas City 51¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 34 points, closing at 24.21¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 39 points, closing at 23.44¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 15,	June 13,	June 14, 1924.
20 Industrials	128.43	129.38	92.85
20 R. R. stocks	97.80	98.26	85.21

(Wall St. Jour., June 16.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 66 Section 1. June 17, 1925.

THE FLEXIBLE TARIFF

The press to-day says: "President Coolidge does not believe that there is any widespread demand for repeal of the flexible clause in the present tariff law which permits the President to change the tariff rates, not in excess of 50 per cent of the present schedule. There has been a report that there was dissatisfaction as the result of the President's action on the sugar schedule. The administration has not heard of any real opposition to this action, and the President is of the opinion that the next Congress will not disturb the flexible clause. The Tariff Commission has sent a report to the President on the proposal to increase the custom duty on cotton gloves. He has not acted upon it yet, and is not expected to do so before he leaves on his vacation next week."

THE PRESIDENT ON POWER DEVELOPMENT

The press to-day says: "President Coolidge's attitude on the Government going into business was defined June 16 during a discussion on the Colorado River project. It was made clear that the President was opposed to the Government entering the business of generating and selling power. The President thinks that Federal funds ought to be wisely spent for flood control, but feels that power developed by such projects ought to be private enterprises. He does not favor the Government going into ventures that are regarded as fields for private enterprise."

DEPARTMENTAL REORGANIZATION

In an editorial on the regrouping of Federal bureaus, The Outlook for June 17 says: ".....An illustration of these difficulties is to be found in Secretary Work's statement concerning Government agencies for administration of public lands. It might be considered that the Forest Service, which administers millions of acres of public lands, is included in the group of activities which Secretary Work expects to see transferred to his department. But, while administration of public lands is a function of the Forest Service, there is a question as to whether or not it is the fundamental function. The Outlook has believed that the primary function of the Forest Service is not administration of public lands, but the growing of a crop--forest trees--for orderly harvesting. That is, fundamentally, an agricultural function, and we have believed that the Forest Service should continue as a bureau of the Department of Agriculture. That conviction we still hold, but there are clearly conflicts if not duplications because of the division between the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior of the duties of public land administration. It is no easy matter, here or in other branches of the Government, to find just where the line of paramount function runs. Yet it is urgently necessary that the line be surveyed and the boundaries marked. There is now a closer approach to harmony than at any previous time recently between the heads of the various departments, and, working in harmony, they can solve most of these knotty problems."

Section 2.

British Agriculture

The Field (London) for June 4 says: "The Minister of Agriculture has been receiving plenty of suggestions during the past few weeks in response to the invitations issued to representative organizations when he abandoned the proposal to hold an English agricultural conference. Most of them are useful suggestions, but we doubt if they are quite what the Government is looking for in its search for a policy which will bring land back to the plough. There is no getting round the uncomfortable truth that the Nation can only have the agriculture it is prepared to pay for. If the electorate were to decide that a highly productive and well-populated countryside was essential to the welfare of the Nation and were prepared to invest national funds in this cause, then the transfer of a million acres back to the plough would not be a difficult matter. In the meantime the farmer will continue to consult only his own pocket. Apart from this the Government has before it material upon which to base quite a useful--if not a sensational--agricultural policy that would find a large measure of support. It is not likely that any comprehensive land legislation will be put before Parliament until next year, but the Ministry of Agriculture will have its hands full in the meantime if anything effective is to be done then. Those responsible for the National Farmers' Union memorandum have not been able to keep it quite free from the begruntled tone which the general public has come to associate with farmers. Really the more enterprising of those engaged in farming have not done so badly during the past year when the position in other great industries is considered. But the National Farmers' Union's memorandum is, on the whole, a useful one. Research and education are, of course, accepted by all interests as essential to the future prosperity of the industry. As regards credit facilities it is well that attention should be drawn to the present shortage of working capital in the industry and the need for credit facilities at a moderate rate of interest to help tenants who desire, or may be forced, to become the owners of their holdings. It is urged that the borrower should be given direct access to cheap credit..... The Union does, we are glad to see, indorse the suggestion of the Tribunal of Investigation that the State should conduct experiments as to the economic possibilities of arable stock farming in this country as a means of securing the maintenance of the tilled area. The establishment of demonstration farms in different parts of the country might do much to spread the lessons of science. One such farm might usefully serve a group of counties, but it would have to be run as a commercial proposition and not merely as a series of experimental plots."

Farmer "Friends"

The Journal of Commerce for June 16 says: "Attempts at what is euphoniously termed 'mobilization of the views' of farmers upon important public questions is being made, according to current dispatches by the American Farm Bureau Federation. For this purpose a 'questionnaire' has been prepared and is being forwarded to rural producers, presumably to obtain the views held in such communities on

national issues..... It does not require one to rise from the dead to tell us that American Farm Bureau Federation is here making vigorous endeavor to accumulate political ammunition with which to support certain programs that its officers and managers think the farmer wants, ought to want or may be induced to want..... He by training and experience is not particularly fitted to formulate wise national policies with regard to such questions as the tariff, taxation, banking and immigration. Normally he is an individualist and does not work closely and effectively with his fellows to see to it that he obtains his deserts at Washington. But when all is said and done it is a serious question whether he fares worse at the hands of his enemies or his soi-disant friends. He needs leadership, but leadership of a far superior and more far-seeing type than that which is being afforded by the American Farm Bureau Federation. What the agricultural industry in this country really needs is a group of leaders in which it reposes confidence and which will explain carefully to the farmer that his interests demand not a reduction in certain tariff duties, accompanied by increases in others, but a general revision of the whole law that would bring practically all rates materially downward....."

Peanut Owners Enjoined — An Associated Press dispatch from Norfolk, Va., June 16 states that by consent of the Government and counsel for the National Peanut Growers and Shellers' Association, a plea was entered in Federal district court there yesterday, enjoining the association from carrying on certain practices which the Government charged were a violation of the Sherman anti-trust act.

Phosphate Rock in Florida — An editorial in The American Fertilizer for June 13 says: "The United States has a practical interest in the doings of the whole world--the theorists to the contrary notwithstanding. The prosperity of a certain section of Florida depended in a measure on the export of phosphate rock. Important discoveries of rock were made in northern Africa. The world war prevented the prompt development of the deposit, but the French owners finally built a railroad, and began to ship rock in quantity. A corresponding depression affected the Florida industry. Now an uprising of wild tribes of natives, known as the Riff revolt, has stopped work at the Moroccan mines, and the export demand for Florida rock is improving. If the revolt continues for some time, or if the natives should drive the French out of Morocco, which is not likely to occur, there would be a real boom in phosphate rock mining in Florida."

"Stabilized" Markets — Sioux City Live Stock Record for June 13 says: "Half of those who are engaged in howling for a 'stabilized' market don't really want it. Producers, being human, would like to see the market for anything they sell 'stabilized' on a high level. Consumers, being equally human, would like to see the market for anything they buy 'stabilized' on a low level. So it is a dead certainty that neither side wants a stabilized market if it is on the other fellow's level, and only a part of them want it on any level. If those who

are doing the howling really knew what a stabilized market means it is doubtful whether we would hear any more about it, says the National Stockman and Farmer. Stability in prices, in any open market, can come only with the stability in conditions of all sorts. That may be desirable but it is impossible as long as nature and men are as they are, and they can not change from inconstancy to constancy. There is only one chance to stabilize, and that is to control. Nobody wants anybody to control, no interest or class wants any other interest or class to control, in fact, control is impossible, as it should be. Therefore we are going to have unstable markets just as long as conditions are changing and with their shifts the ideas of men are shifting. So we might as well quit worrying about 'stabilization' and trust to the influences which nature, human nature included, and modern business methods have devised to equalize so far as that is possible. If we go on worrying about it and monkeying with things we shall lose that priceless thing, the open market, which has done and is doing more for the people than any other one thing. The open market will cure itself of instability quicker than all the remedies devised by all the doctors of economics can cure it."

Sugar Price

A New York dispatch to the press of June 16 states that Arbuckle Brothers announced June 14, an advance of 10 points in the price of refined granulated sugar, making the new quotation 5.60 cents a pound.

Sugar Tariff

In an editorial on the sugar tariff, The Journal of Commerce for June 16 says: ".....A great deal more interesting than the decision, which had been foreseen, are the reasons given for making it. The President takes exception to the methods of determining production costs for purposes of comparison and tariff revision, pointing out that it is possible to get widely differing results on the basis of the same data by different methods of interpretation. The President does not, of course, mention that his objection applies not only to sugar but to all other abortive attempts to determine comparative production costs. He does, however, indicate a repugnance to methods of averaging production costs which would have certain high cost growers incompletely protected..... There is another assumption in the Presidential message not entirely borne out by the facts. It is that the farmers and the laborers in the beet sugar fields will share with the factory owners the advantages of protection. Those who are cognizant of the conditions under which the cheap labor of whole families, Mexicans and others, are utilized in the beet sugar fields may question the advantage which American labor has over the native and imported labor used in Cuba cane fields. The latter are said to be well paid by comparison even with American standards. The competition of Cuban cane sugars with American beet sugar is, indeed, rather a comparison of lands than of labor. As for the farmers whose interests are at stake, various organizations have publicly charged that the benefits of protection do not accrue to them under their contracts with the factories. Unless we had some device for guaranteeing minimum farm prices for sugar beets along with

a grant of protection to the industry, there is no way of knowing to what extent the farmer benefits by import duties. All we can know with certainty is that the consumer pays."

Wool Buying

A Fort Worth dispatch to the press of June 16 states that wool buying has been resumed in Texas. The first sale reported since contracting ended in December was 80,000 pounds, taken by buyers for Draper & Co., of Boston, at San Angelo last week. The price is understood to have been slightly under 50 cents per pound. Forty per cent of the 1925 spring wool crop in Texas was contracted for at an average price of 50 cents. The peak of the contracting price was 60 cents.

A Portland, Ore., dispatch says that the sale of wool in the Pacific Northwest is almost negligible. Producers and buyers are far apart in their ideas of price, the spread being about 5 cents a pound. Producers in Oregon, Washington and Idaho are believing that the improving tone of the market in the Atlantic Coast States will be reflected in higher prices for clips later in the season.

Wool Statistics

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 16 says: "Lack of dependable statistics on wool production, consumption, imports, exports and stocks has always been a source of annoyance and confusion to the industry, to say nothing of the heavy losses as a result of ignorance. If the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome will collect and publish world wool figures a much needed service to both buyer and seller will be the result. Something of the kind should have been done longago. It seems almost necessary in matters of this kind that an unsafe structure should collapse, with serious injury, before these common sense methods are adopted. This was certainly the case in the wool trade. On December 1, 1924, wool had declined to a point recalling inflated war prices. Speculative opinion talked of famine. Manufacturers were scared into buying at prices that they had well considered prohibitive. They were actually contracting for wool on the sheep's back six months before shearing. Then the situation changed. Within a month mills were finding it difficult to sell goods manufactured from high priced wool and enforced curtailment became countrywide..... A conservative market for wool could be developed with trustworthy statistics. Unlike cotton, which can be radically changed from month to month by weather fluctuations, wool production really requires about two years to move between extremes. With information from ten leading countries, handling approximately 85 per cent of the world's wool, buyers are not likely to purchase blindly on false famine rumors..... The establishment of figures of production which everyone can trust should go far toward stabilizing the woolen industry."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 16: Irish Cobbler potatoes from Virginia and the Carolinas closed mostly around $4.50 to $5.00 per barrel in city markets; $4.00 to $4.25 f. o. b. Elizabeth City, N. C., and $4.50 to $4.75 f. o. b. Onley, Va. Mississippi tomatoes sold at $1.30 to $1.65 per four-basket carrier in consuming centers; $1.30 to $1.35 f. o. b. Crystal Springs. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes mostly $3.00 to $3.50 per standard 45, top of $4.00 in Baltimore. Georgia Early Rose and Carman peaches brought $3.00 to $4.00 per six-basket carrier in terminal markets. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, 22-30 pound average, sold in the Leesburg section at $225 to $540. bulk per car f. o. b.

Chicago hog prices closed at $12.90 for the top; bulk of sales $12.20 to $12.75; medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $10.75; feeder steers $5.25 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8 to $10.25; fat lambs $13.75 to $16; yearlings $10.50 to $14; fat ewes $4 to $7.

Grain prices quoted June 16: No. 1. red winter Chicago $1.85; No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.75 to $1.78. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.63 to $1.64 1/2; St. Louis $1.64. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.09 1/2; Minneapolis 99¢ to $1.01; No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.11 3/4 to $1.13; St. Louis $1.02 1/2; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.10 1/2 to $1.12 1/4; Minneapolis $1.05 to $1.06; No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.09; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.10 to $1.10 1/2; No. 3 white oats Chicago 49 1/4 to 50 1/4¢; Minneapolis 44 3/8 to 44 7/8¢; St. Louis 52 to 52 1/4¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 31 points, closing at 24.52¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 27 points, closing at 23.71¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 16,	June 15,	June 16, 1924.
20 Industrials	129.66	128.43	93.80
20 R. R. stocks	98.09	97.80	85.01

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 67 Section 1 June 18, 1925.

DUVEL ON LIVERMORE REPORT

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago to-day says: "Commenting upon published reports that Jesse L. Livermore of New York had sold vast amounts of grain futures short, J. W. P. Duvel of the United States Department of Agriculture declared June 17 that 'the story has all the earmarks of a yarn put out with the purpose of influencing the market. Personally, I think some one was trying to mislead the buyers by making it appear that Mr. Livermore might be short 5,000,000 or perhaps 50,000,000 bushels last spring,' Mr. Duvel added. 'But what he did last spring makes no difference now. I do not know whether he traded in this amount of futures, but it makes no difference whether he did or not. It could not influence the present market.'"

DAIRYMEN OPEN CONVENTION

A New York dispatch to the press to-day states that over 12,000 dairymen came to New York yesterday and 300 more are expected to-day for the annual meeting of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Associations which began this morning. The meeting promises to be the largest gathering of dairy farmers ever assembled in New York. George W. Slocum, president of the organization, will be one of the principal speakers at the opening session. He will announce in his report that New York milk consumers at present enjoy the highest percentage of guaranteed non-adulterated milk that the city has ever known. Asked yesterday to comment on the charge recently made by Harold G. Aron, chairman of the publicity committee of the Republican Advisory Committee of 150, that the milk supply of New York City in the main was adulterated, Mr. Slocum characterized the statement as "city political football."

HOOVER ON ELECTRIC REGULATION

A San Francisco dispatch to the press to-day states that Secretary Hoover, of the Department of Commerce, holds that there is no need to have Federal regulation of the electric power industry. He so informed members of the National Electric Light Association, in convention at San Francisco, in a speech June 17, in which he declared that, in the nation-wide sense, our State legislatures have been equal to their task of protecting the public and that State Public Service Commissions are doing their jobs well; likewise, democracy is demonstrating its ability to retain mastership in its own house. The report says the address was well received by the delegates and was construed as another indication that the National Government does not propose to interfere with State activities of any sort unless it is absolutely necessary for the country as a whole.

Section 2.

British Farm Labor and Education

An editorial in Country Life (London) for June 6 says: "Farmers and educationists are apt to be at loggerheads, and must be until they come to an arrangement regarding the education of the ordinary farm hand. How woefully they at present misunderstand one another appeared in the address given by the Minister of Agriculture himself to the Kent Education Committee last week. 'There are many misunderstandings,' said Lord Eustace Percy, 'between farmers and teachers. They arise almost invariably from the fact that the farmer thinks that a really well educated youth is too good for the farm'. If a farmer is asked why he fights shy of such a boy, his answer is very different from this. His complaint is not that the boy knows much, but that he knows too little. He may have plenty to say about subsoils, flora, pruning and local history, but he is utterly unfitted to handle a plough, to hedge, or undertake a career of toil. The educationist argues that the better a man is educated the better ploughman he will be..... The education provided by the County Education Committees is a fine thing. It was impossible to go round the Kent Committee's exhibition at the Bath and West Show without being enormously impressed by the enthusiasm of the staff and the success of their efforts. Besides handicrafts for the boys, and baby-work, housewifery and cooking for the girls, a most attractive series of instructions, grouped under the name 'Local Surveys,' arouses the interest of pupils in their immediate surroundings. Botany, nature study, gardening, elementary geology, fruit-growing and local history are among the subjects learnt between twelve and fourteen years of age. Each school has its own garden, and there is no doubt that this branch of school work is of real value..... But the crying need of the land is for sound laboring men of the old class, who know their job perfectly and will produce increase by patient toil. In no other way can Nature be made to yield her gifts..... The other alternative, and the most hopeful, was recommended by Lord Eustace Percy, namely, the organization of central schools. The principal of these is to convert in each group of parishes one of the elementary schools into a central school where the more promising lads and those who wish to specialize in some branch of rural craft can do so during the last three years of the elementary course..... The Minister pointed out the necessity for its being in a village, and not a town. In such a rural central school the boys can receive a far more practical teaching than is possible ordinarily..... Farmers can allow students to work in their farms and orchards, they can give talks and the results of their experience, and arrange for their local experts--the ploughman, the hedger, the thatcher, and the like--to take what amount to apprentices. In these latter crafts, especially, the demand for young men is very great; the supply at present nil. Central schools would be by far the cheapest (and to the rate-paying farmer cheapness is an imperative consideration), and most practically effective method of fitting the youth of the countryside..... to take up agricultural work of the kind that is most urgently needed."

Canada Lifts Cattle Ban

The press of June 17 states that the Canadian import restrictions on cattle, sheep, swine and goats from all States except California, Nevada and Arizona have been removed by order of the Department of Agriculture, dated June 10, says telegraphic advices to the Department of Commerce from Trade Commissioner L. W. Meakins at Ottawa.

Canadian Rural Credits

An Ottawa dispatch to the press of June 17 states that the Government's rural credits bill, under preparation by Acting Minister of Finance Robb, will provide for advances of up to $10,000,000 to the provinces for distribution on long term loans to farmers. The loans will be secured to the Dominion by provincial bonds deposited with the Treasury.

Grain Marketing Company

The Journal of Commerce for June 12 says: "The Grain Marketing Co., it was intimated to-day, must either raise $4,000,000 by July 28 or it will have to unscramble its big elevator interests. This intimation was made by a man largely interested in its affairs and active in its management, but who refused to permit his name to be mentioned. The company was incorporated under the laws of Illinois about a year ago, with $26,000,000 capital, of which $4,000,000 is preferred stock, $1,000,000 of stock valued at $25 a share and 1,000,000 shares at $1 a share. It began operations August 1, 1924, with the combined interests of the Armour Grain Co., the J. Rosenbaum Corporation and Rosenbaum Brothers. It has handled an immense volume of grain, having elevators at all the leading markets, and has done a large cash grain and speculation business. The company has not been permitted to sell its stock in Illinois and Indiana and a report from Lincoln, Neb., to-day said it had voluntarily withdrawn from stock selling operation in that State, where it had asked for a permit to sell $750,000 worth of stock. When the company began business August 1, 1924, there was $4,000,000 put up by George E. Marcy, president of the Armour Grain Co., E. F. and E. S. Rosenbaum and E. L. Glaser. Their money is said to be due July 28, when the option of the farming interest expires."

Taxation

"Basing taxation on the earning capacity of a farm, or a factory, will not in our opinion reduce the tax burden. Furthermore, if you base the tax rate of a farm on the earning power of that farm, what kind of a market value are you going to put on that farm when you take a notion to sell it? If the prospective buyer has sense enough to run a farm, he will base his bid on the earning power of that farm..... We fail to see that it is going to make any difference whether a tax rate is fixed on earning power, or selling price, of a farm, or any other business, unless there is, first and foremost, a reduction in the amount of revenue from taxation needed for the operation of Government." (Sioux City Live Stock Record, June 9.)

Tobacco Conference

The press of June 17 states that the American Tobacco Company, the Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain, the tobacco cooperative associations and large individual producers of tobacco

will be invited to a conference in Washington with members of the Federal Trade Commission to be held June 25. Copies of a tentative report upon the Trade Commission's investigation under the terms of the Ernst-Norris resolution, adopted by the Senate just prior to the adjournment of Congress, have been furnished each of these. The various interests will be given an opportunity to make such suggestions concerning this document as they may desire to present, following which a final report will be drafted for presentation to President Coolidge. Copies of the tentative report will not be given general public distribution at this time and the coming conference will be a private affair.... The resolution calls for the making of a report by the commission to the President on or before July 1.

Wheat Market In an editorial review of the department's June 1 wheat forecast, The New York World for June 14 says: ".....Wheat prices have been declining in the Chicago market since the Government's report came out. The reasons for this apparently paradoxical fall of price in the face of short supply are evident to everybody except the farmer..... The home price of wheat refuses to respond to the shortage because the world's market refuses to respond. The world's market fails to respond because the American shortage promises to be made up by a heavy surplus yield in Canada alone, to say nothing of other sources of world market supply. The situation is just the reverse of last year's. Then our own crop was large and prices were nevertheless high. And they were high because the Canadian among other outside wheat crops was short, and the world's market was consequently high."

Wool Figures Asked The press of June 17 states that western wool growers are proposing to petition Congress when it convenes in December for legislation which will make it compulsory upon all dealers and manufacturers handling and consuming wool to report upon their activities to the Bureau of the Census. It was learned at Washington that the National Wool Growers Association, of Salt Lake City, Utah, and the California Wool Growers Association, of San Francisco, among others, are particularly interested in the proposal.

Wool Sales The press of June 14 says: "Some buying of domestic wool clips from growers' associations has taken place lately, but the prices paid have not been made public. There is, however, no general purchasing in quantity here or abroad. Everything is apparently waiting for the resumption of the auction sales next month in Australia and at London, when a line on prices may be had. With anything like a free market, most persons are inclined to believe that there will be further recessions. There may be a test of the ability of holders, many of them speculators, to stand out against lower prices."

Section 3.

Department of Agriculture

H. J. Waters, writing on Government crop reporting in The Weekly Kansas City Star for June 10 says: ".....It is con-
1 ceivable that keeping the public ignorant of the farmer's plantings, prospects and harvests and limiting the distribution of this knowledge to the farmers themselves might be of some advantage to the man on the farm. But such benefits would be temporary, and in the end might be positively injurious to the producer. Overproduction creates a bad situation; overproduction that goes undiscovered until the product reaches the market is disastrous. Besides, in what way could the farmer get this information regarding his neighbor's plantings, prospects and harvests while keeping that same information from consumers and dealers? Drive the Government out of the business of collecting and disseminating crop news and we instantly deprive farmers and consumers of any basis on which to form a judgment of the value of food materials. In the meantine, speculators would go on gathering their own information just as they do now. It would be a merry time these speculators would have, buying the products of the farmer and selling them to the consumer with both the farmer and consumer totally ignorant of the supply. Farmers are not sufficiently organized to collect and disseminate this knowledge themselves and for their exclusive use. Consumers are as lacking in organization as farmers. Present market fluctuations are violent and unwarranted, but they are tame compared with what they would be if the sellers and buyers were ignorant and only speculators were informed regarding supplies. It was to correct exactly this situation that the Government was set to collecting and disseminating information regarding farm conditions. The Government is the only unselfish agency, the only one which represents equally all interests, the only agency that has no reason for coloring the real facts. And what harm can the promulgation of real facts do? Dissemination of this information does not change the situation in the slightest degree. But it does help to stabilize the market on the basis of the real supply. This much is certain: Crop reports and estimates of livestock and grain and hay production will continue to be made and disseminated. The only question left for us to decide is whether these estimates and forecasts shall be made by disinterested and impartial agencies such as the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture, and the facts as found have wide and immediate publicity, or shall the estimates be made by those who can profit most by their use and be distributed only to those making such selfish use of the information? Any farmer who feels that the State or Government is prying unduly into his affairs, and that the Department of Agriculture should 'shut up' as bidden by the potato growers to do, should reflect on this fact."

2 In a review of Dr. Marlatt's article on "Plants and Plant Pests," in The Atlantic Monthly for June, The New York Herald-Tribune for June 11 says: ".... Chairman Marlatt makes a great point of the indorsement of Quarantine 37 by a special committee at a general conference for its discussion and appraisal in Washington in 1922.

This committee was selected by Secretary Wallace with the advice of the Horticultural Board. It was hand picked. Mr. Marlatt deceives himself that dissatisfaction with his board's methods is confined to a small circle of 'propagandists.' The whole country is interested in the anomaly of a little bureau with a special microscopic function throttling an important branch of commerce. Congress also should be interested and, above all, Secretary Jardine, who has full authority over the Horticulture Board."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 17: Chicago hog prices closed at $13. for the top and $12.20 to $12.85 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.35 to $11.25; butcher cows and heifers $3.75 to $10.75; feeder steers $5.25 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.50 to $10.50; fat lambs $14 to $16.25; yearlings $10.50 to $14 and fat ewes $4 to $7.50.

North Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at $4.25 to $5.00 per barrel in city markets; $3.75 to $4.00 f. o. b. Elizabeth City. California cantaloupes generally lower in city markets but higher at shipping point. Imperial Valley Salmon Tints mostly $3.00 to $3.75 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers; $2.00 to $2.50 f. o. b. El Centro. Texas and Mississippi tomatoes, fours, sold at $1.25 to $1.50 in leading markets. Georgia Carman peaches in six-basket carriers and bushel baskets ranged mostly $3.25 to $4.00 in terminal markets and $2 to $2.65 f. o. b. Macon. Tom Watson watermelons declined $150 to $175. in the Leesburg section of Florida to a range of $200 to $500 bulk per car f. o. b. and in city markets weakened to $450 to $700.

Grain prices quoted June 17: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.60 to $1.73 1/2. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.75 to $1.77; Kansas City $1.70 to $1.76. No. 2 hard winter St. Louis $1.65; Kansas City $1.52 to $1.71. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.03 to $1.05 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.11 1/4; Minneapolis $1.05 1/2 to $1.07 1/2. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 1/2 to $1.15; St. Louis $1.12 to $1.13; Kansas City $1.07 to $1.07 1/2. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.12 to $1.14 1/2; Minneapolis $1.09 1/2 to $1.10 1/2. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.11 to $1.11 1/2; Kansas City $1.04 1/2 to $1.05 1/2. No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.11 1/2. No. 3 white oats Chicago 49 1/2 to 50 1/2¢; Minneapolis 47 to 47 1/2¢; St. Louis 52 3/4 to 53¢; Kansas City 51¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/2¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston Office closed account holiday "Bunker Hill Day."

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 31 points, closing at 24.21¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 32 points, closing at 23.39¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 17,	June 16,	June 17,1924.
20 Industrials	129.80	129.66	93.57
20 R. R. stocks	98.14	98.09	84.68

(Wall St. Jour., June 18.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 68 Section 1. June 19, 1925.

THE GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "The fate of the Grain Marketing Company, it was said last night, depends on the outcome of the directors meeting scheduled to be held to-day at the merger organization's headquarters. Raising $4,000,000, the initial payment on $17,000,000 worth of the vendors' properties, by July 28 is the task of the officials of the Farmer Cooperative Company, a combination of the Armour and Rosenbaum terminal elevator interests. If the money has not been raised by to-day and the directors meet according to plans, men close to the affairs of the company predict that steps will be taken leading to the dissolution of the merger."

DAIRYMEN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION

The New York Times to-day states that 2,000 dairy farmers attended the annual meeting of the Dairymen's League Cooperative Association in New York yesterday, with several hundred woman delegates and members. This is the first meeting of the association in which women have taken an active part. A discussion of women's part in the cooperative market movement was started early in the day by Mrs. Ruby Green Smith, secretary of the New York State Federation of Home Bureaus. Mrs. Smith predicted that in the near future the country roadsides would be lined with cooperative stands, particularly milk bars, replacing the present "hot dog stands."

Francis H. Sisson, vice president of the Guaranty Trust Company, who said he had spent the first thirty years of his life on a farm, was the principal speaker. He emphasized the importance of the recent development of producers' cooperative marketing associations and declared that this system of marketing was the great hope of the dairy business of the future. "There is much in common between the men of the country and the city," he said. "Yet for years they have been working very far apart and with little knowledge of each other's conditions and problems. There is a mutual dependency, and because we want to promote and develop closer and more friendly relations, the directors of the league decided this year to hold the annual meeting right at the heart of our greatest market."

George W. Slocum, president of the league, was chairman of the meeting. In his report, Mr. Slocum stated that New York City alone consumed more than 3,000,000 quarts of milk a day. Four hundred railroad cars, he said, were needed to transport the milk there daily from the 40,000 farms located in six States. "It is estimated", said Mr. Slocum, "that during the last year New York City had to feed seven and a half million people. This includes more than 6,000,000 residents in the five boroughs of the city and about a million commuters and visitors."

Section 2.

Cotton

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 18 says: "At the present market prices cotton in the middle of June is selling, roughly, at about seven cents a pound under the quotations of a year ago, with a statistical position rather curiously parallel. So far as the new crop is concerned, May and June promises are notoriously untrustworthy, although they are given a liberal importance by the trade. One certainty is an almost nominal carryover on July 31, which appears to be ignored, to judge from the relative cheapness of the staple as compared with 1924. From the season's supply of 15,100,000 bales, roughly, 13,120,000 bales have been taken for consumption, leaving rather under 2,000,000 bales on hand. These figures include exports to date but not mill consumption, for the first half of June, which estimate is not yet available. Last year the total supply of cotton was smaller, being around 12,400,000 bales, but the remainder for the needs up to the end of the crop year was about the same. It follows that the reason for the present disparity in price is to be sought in the growing crop. Cotton conditions are flattering, but the market seems to ignore a situation which will become sufficiently obvious in the next few weeks. Throughout July and August the plant enters its critical period and tests the promises of June. This season insufficient rains throughout the winter and early spring have left the subsoil without adequate moisture as a reserve for a protracted dry spell. Copious rains, most judiciously distributed, would be needed and are, it need hardly be said, somewhat unusual near midsummer. If they were too copious there is always the weevil trouble close around the corner. A generally wet summer means heavy infestation. As the crop approaches its gradual stage it can be seen, therefore, that much depends upon rain and sunshine in just the right proportions. This is an ideal condition which only the most temerarious speculator would gamble upon. There is at least the assurance of an end--season shortage which would seem to make cotton at present levels look intrinsically cheap. Cotton at going prices seems to have discounted about the maximum hope for this year's yield, but to have made inadequate provision for the chapter of accidents."

Hoover on Agriculture

Theodore M. Knappen reports the result of an interview with Secretary Hoover on economic conditions in The Magazine of Wall Street for June 20. Mr. Knappen says: ".....As I understand him Hoover thinks that a major part of our chronic economic ailment is due to the fact that American agriculture is to a considerable extent on a free trade basis, because it has exportable surpluses. The price of these surpluses (and even of the whole cost) is determined in all years of 'peaks' in production by the price that the poorest and lowliest wheat raisers of the burnt plains of India or the dreary steppes of starving Russia accept. 'About 60 per cent of the commerce and industry of the United States,' he says, 'is directly from the production of our farms. It is obvious, therefore, that the commercial community has vital self-interest in the development of agriculture entirely aside from the desire of every good citizen for the progress and stability of the whole Nation. Likewise as Secretary of Commerce and a citizen, I am as deeply interested in the success of agriculture and the welfare of the farmer as in the prosperity of any branch of commerce, industry, or finance.' Admitting that it is hard and dreary business to think, Hoover then goes on to suggest that it may be advisable

for the Nation to think long enough about the agricultural problem to develop what he is fond of calling a 'long-view policy'. He sees no hope for stability for agriculture or for the general business world so long as the farmer's route is one of ups and downs, with the downs often determined for a whole crop or group of crops by the competition for a small part of the total market of anemic Hindoo ryots or starving Russian moujiks. So, he says in effect, let us think out and see whether we can not eliminate the low-standard foreigner from agricultural price-making for the United States..... Briefly stated, the Hoover idea here is to set our farmers to growing what we now import on the acreage that is now devoted to growing exportable surpluses of other crops. Grow flaxseed, produce wool, make sugar and automatically turn off the wheat exports. . . . In other words, get and keep the American farmer wholly within the American standards and the American market, except for such crops as he can make the world price for. Proper tariffs will quickly accomplish this end, and its realization will put the farmer on a higher level of returns all around because our rapidly growing population is nearing the point when it can absorb all the products of the easily cultivable lands and make remunerative the cultivation of our marginal lands. 'If we allow our national policy to drift,' he explains, 'so that we have this dependence upon imports for certain essential products, and at the same time a dependence upon exports for disposing of other products of our farms, we shall be involved in a constant drain for enormous military expenditures to protect both our necessary imports of foods and to prevent export embargoes against our farmers.' In effect: Use your heads or prepare to fight for food and markets for food; and continue to live in an unstable business world, because you will not stabilize the foundation -- agriculture....."

Rail Rates The Magazine of Wall Street for June 20 says: "The Interstate Commerce Commission is on the horns of a dilemma in regard to the railroad rate situation in the Northwest. Shippers are urging reduction of rates whereas the railroads have presented petitions for increases. The administration has largely been responsible for sponsoring the number of rate reductions made on agricultural products during the past year by the Interstate Commerce Commission but this body is now evidently averse toward taking any further action along this line. On the other hand, it is not clear that they will grant the petitions of the railroads for higher rates. It will probably be suggested to the carriers in the territory that they continue to make progress along the lines of operating economies and trust to an increase in traffic to bring up their profits. The situation thus seems to have resolved itself into a form of stale-mate."

St. Lawrence Waterway An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June 20 says: "Midwest farmers who have been agitating for years for the St. Lawrence Waterways project may yet live to see ocean steamships loading with grain at the ports of Duluth and Chicago. Progress is being made, but

it is the slow, painful progress of international diplomacy. Agitation for a deep waterway up the St. Lawrence began about seventy-five years ago. In the 90's it was the subject of Congressional resolutions and the calling of an international convention. Then interest died down until 1919, since which time agitation has been constant, backed by all the national farm organizations. Now the governments of Washington and Ottawa have agreed on a preliminary program and a joint board of engineers has been appointed to report by the end of April, 1926. The main subject of contention has been the diversion of water into the Chicago Drainage Canal. This is a question Canadians are very touchy about and they want it thoroughly investigated. When the American commissioners suggested that the diversion of water at Niagara Falls be also included in the investigations the suggestion met with a cool reception. Canada is already diverting almost twice as much water for power uses at that point as are the plants on the American side. This difficulty of the diversion of water will come up again after the engineers report before the joint commission that will be entrusted with drawing up a treaty between this country and Canada..... Once the work gets under way it might conceivably be completed in five years, but more likely it would be ten before boats would be loaded with wheat at Duluth direct for Liverpool. Some day, of course, the project will be completed. It is an international necessity. The people of the West in both countries need an outlet to the open sea and the people of the East need the power for thier industries. It is inconceivable that a great waterway leading to the heart of a continent and a source of power equivalent to 60,000,000 tons of coal a year should lie idle forever....."

Wheat Speculation. In an editorial on wheat speculation, The Journal of Commerce for June 18 says: "..... No attempt is here being made to justify what went on in the wheat pit at Chicago or much that goes on there more or less regularly. Let there be no misunderstanding on that score. The trouble with the attitude of Government officials in this matter is simply that it is warped well out of alignment with the real needs of the situation, that it is based upon the mistaken notion that in some manner the farmer was seriously hurt by the events which took the water out of wheat prices and that it apparently fails to take into consideration the fact that no such operations on the short side of the market would have been possible had not values been marked up beyond all reason by previous operations on the part of the same class of speculators that are so heartily condemned for selling wheat contracts short when the market was ripe for action of this sort..... There is plenty of room for reform in the wheat futures market, just as there is need for a good deal of change in some of our other speculative practices. Just how needed improvement is to be effected it would not be altogether easy to say, but at least a beginning could be made by dropping all hypocrisy about the subject."

Wool Statistics An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 18 says: "The movement to make it compulsory for dealers and manufacturers handling and consuming wool to report their activities to the Bureau of the Census

is a logical sequence to the market disturbances that have occurred during recent months. Unquestionably the lack of any adequate statistical service has enhanced the mad price fluctuations and given much wider scope to speculative activities of all sorts. Discussion of the possibility of establishing a futures market for raw wool that would offer hedging facilities to the manufacturer has also been rife of late. This movement further emphasizes the need for more complete and reliable statistical services, without which organized trading in futures could do no good and would certainly be productive of an infinite amount of harm. There is no gainsaying the fact that a partial information service such as we now have in the United States, based on the voluntary cooperation of manufacturers, is not a good index of changes in business activity and in consumptive demand for raw wool. Since the leading interest in the industry refuses to report on wool consumption it is clear than any comprehensive program must involve a general requirement. This is a pity, but experience indicates that it is the only alternative to peaceful persuasion which fails to convince noncooperators."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 18: Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes closed at $3.50 to $4 per standard 45 in consuming centers and $2.50 to $2.75 f. o. b. El Centro.

Tom Watson watermelons from Florida sold $150 lower f. o. b. Ocala at $200 to $475 bulk per car for 22-30 lb. average stock. Georgia Carman peaches weakened slightly in terminal markets, bringing $3 to $4.25 per six-basket carrier. North Carolina Irish Cobbler potatoes closed at 50¢ to $1 lower in eastern cities at $4.25 to $5 per barrel and 75¢ lower at Elizabeth City at $3.75 f. o. b. Mississippi tomatoes wrapped fours sold at $1.25 to $1.65 in leading markets and $1.15 to $1.25 f. o. b., with Texas stock selling on the same price level. South Carolina sixes $3.50 to $4.50 in the East.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 41 3/4 to 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43¢.

Grain prices quoted June 18: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.59 to $1.75. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.76 to $1.77; Kansas City $1.70 to $1.75. No. 3 red winter Chicago $1.75. No. 2 hard winter St. Louis $1.60 to $1.62; Kansas City $1.53 to $1.68. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.12 to $1.12 3/4; Minneapolis $1.03 to $1.05. No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.13 1/2 to $1.15 1/4; St. Louis $1.12; Kansas City $1.08 1/2 to $1.09. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.12 1/2 to $1.13 1/4; Minneapolis $1.07 to $1.08; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.12 1/2 to $1.13 1/4; Kansas City $1.05. No. 3 white oats Chicago 49 1/2 to 51¢; Minneapolis 46 1/8 to 46 5/8¢; St. Louis 50 1/2 to 52¢; Kansas City 50¢.

Chicago hog prices closed at $13.10 for the top and $12.50 to $13. for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.50; butcher cows and heifers $3.85 to $11; feeder steers $5.25 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.50 to $10.50; fat lambs $14 to $16.25; yearlings $10.50 to $14; fat ewes $4 to $7.50.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 72 points during the week, closing at 24.45¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 76 points, closing at 23.68¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ. - x -

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 69 Section 1 June 20, 1925.

THE GRAIN MARKETING COMPANY

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day states that three offers of financial aid to tide over the Grain Marketing Company were reliably reported to be before the directors. The company has only until July 28, under its contract, to repurchase from five old-line grain operators, whose properties were leased by the company, $4,000,000 worth of Grain Marketing Company stock. Reports that dissolution of the company would be considered were discounted by directors and officers, although it was admitted that very little stock of the new company had been sold and it was explained that promotion of the stock "was just getting started." The offers to finance the corporation provide that the party offering the aid pay the $4,000,000 to the operators, and that the Grain Marketing Company repay at interest, said in one case to be fixed at 5 per cent, as soon as enabled to do so by the disposal of stock. The names of persons offering to advance the money were withheld.

ST. PAUL RECEIVERS ASK RATE INCREASE

A New York dispatch to the press to-day says: "Asserting that a freight rate increase was needed by the northwestern railroads, receivers for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, in a statement issued June 19, advocated that the proceeds of such an increase be segregated, pooled and distributed among all carriers to their showing of deficits below the accepted fair return on investments..... Distribution of an increase in this manner, the St. Paul receivers declared, would seemingly be far more beneficial to the western carriers as a whole than a larger increase not thus segregated and distributed in accordance with carrier needs....."

SPANISH OIL DECREE

The press of June 19 states that by a recent decree the export tax on olive oil, provided the oil is of Spanish registry and is shipped in containers bearing clearly a national trade mark, was lifted, effective June 1, according to advices received June 18 from Madrid. Olive oil exported in containers without these marks will pay the regular export trade provided for by the customs tariff. This decree further provides for the limitation of the importation of oleaginous seeds to 40,000 tons, of which 23,400 tons may be brought in between June 1 and December of this year. These needs may only be imported for duly accredited manufacturers of seed oil and are to be pro-rated among them in accordance with their individual production under the supervision of the director general of customs."

Section 2

Canadian Cattle Tariff

The press of June 19 states that the United States Tariff Commission has accepted the report of its investigators on the cattle industry of the United States and Canada. This is an informative study made under the general powers of the commission, and copies of the report will be made available to those interested upon its being printed. There has been a great deal of misunderstanding as to the effect of Canadian imports upon United States production of stocker and feeder cattle. Numerous inquiries were addressed to the commission and some months ago it was decided that there was sufficient interest in the matter to warrant the study which has just been completed. It is understood from outside sources that it shows that the protection afforded in the McCumber-Fordney tariff law is adequate, particularly with respect to fat cattle and beef.

Railroad Rates

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 18 says: "Some optimists in financial circles are expressing the view that at some time in the not far distant future the logic of events will force Government authority to permit railroad companies in the West to charge higher rates for their services. There is a distinct tendency in certain quarters to turn attention from the technical details of the reorganization plan designed to place the St. Paul Railroad upon a sound financial basis to the more general but equally important question whether a new and chastened St. Paul Railroad system is to be given a reasonable chance to make a moderate living. Yet in political circles there is as little evidence as ever that recalcitrant and shortsighted agrarian interests have lost any of their power. What our farm organizations are likely to say, when and if the Interstate Commerce Commission gives serious consideration to the proposal that rates upon agricultural products be raised above their present levels, may easily be divined. It is unfortunate that there is so little real understanding of the transporation situation beyond the Mississippi River. Most of the farmers of that region care little about the underlying facts, but on the contrary content themselves with effort to obtain concession after concession in the matter of railroad charges. Others are all too ready to accept the easy assumption that the righting of the situation is simply one of finding some feasible means of increasing rates, and that despite the fact that competition from ships operating through the Panama Canal is burdensome even at present rates, and notwithstanding that a good many of the carrier companies in question must do all that they can to encourage and to stimulate agricultural and other development of the country through which they run if they are to reach a position of assured and regular earnings. In some quarters a disposition is apparent to consider the general outlook as unpromising and in consequence merely one from which to withdraw at opportune moments. Now the transporation situation in the western part of this country is not by any means hopeless, but the way out is not afforded by so simple a method as increasing charges to shippers. The plight

of these companies, and their difficulties are real enough, arises in large part from somewhat the same set of circumstances that have broug trouble to the agricultural industry, and relief of a permanent and adequate nature is to be sought in about the same manner in the one case as in the other."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 19: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.25 for the top and $12.50 to $13.10 for the bulk; medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.65; butcher cows and heifers $4 to $11; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.75 to $10.50; yearlings $10.50 to $14; fat ewes $4 to $7.50.

California cantaloupes ranged from $2.75 to $3.25 per standard 45 f. o. b. El Centro. Georgia Carman peaches closed at $2 to $2.25 per six basket carrier at Macon. Hileys sold at $2.75 to $3 f. o. b. Macon, and a few cities quoted this stock at $3.25 to $4.50. Mississippi wrapped tomatoes sold at $1.25 to $1.65 per four basket crate in terminal markets; $1.25 f. o. b. Crystal Springs. Florida Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 lb. average sold f. o. b. Ocala at $200 to $475 bulk per car. New potatoes declined sharply. At North Carolina shipping points Irish Cobblers ranged $3.40 to $3.75 per bbl. and in eastern cities $4 to $5.

Grain prices quoted June 19: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.60 to $1.77. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.79 to $1.80; Kansas City $1.70 to $1.75. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.62 1/2 to $1.62 3/4; St. Louis $1.63; Kansas City $1.54 to $1.75. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.04 to $1.04 1/2; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.11 to $1.11 1/2; Minneapolis $1.03 to $1.04. No. 2 white corn Kansas City $1.04 1/2; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.11 1/2 to $1.12 1/4. No. 3 white oats Chicago 49 to 50 1/2¢; Minneapolis 46 7/8 to 47 1/8¢; St. Louis 50 1/2 to 51¢.

Closing prices 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43¢.

Closing prices on Wisconsin primary cheese markets June 18: Twins 22 1/4¢; Daisies 22 1/2¢; Double Daisies 22¢; Longhorns 22¢; Square Prints 22 3/4¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 26 points, closing at 24.19¢ per lb.; New York July future contracts declined 30 points, closing at 23.38¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 19,	June 18,	June 19, 1924.
20 Industrials	129.26	128.88	93.79
20 R. R. stocks	88.27	97.58	85.13

(Wall St. Jour., June 20.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 70 Section 1. June 22, 1925.

GRAIN CLEARING HOUSE

A Chicago dispatch to the press to-day says: "Acting upon the suggestions of Secretary of Agriculture Jardine, officials of the Chicago Board of Trade are considering plans for a new clearing house. A committee, of which former President J. P. Griffin of the Chicago Board of Trade is Chairman, has the work in hand. A modern clearing house that will facilitate the handling of the large volume of business will, it is claimed, give the Board of Trade officials power to correct any undue market manipulations, inflations or undue price swings. It will save extensive margining of trades as under the old system, give the clearing house members the use of their money, instead of being forced to hold it in banks for the protection of their trades, and bring a larger spreading trade between Chicago and other markets....."

TARIFF LAW CHANGE PROBABLE

The press to-day states that recommendations for a revision of the present tariff law as it affects the Tariff Commission probably will be made in the commission's report to Congress early in December. Experience with the law has demonstrated to members of the commission that improvements can be made, especially with respect to its flexible provisions. The principle of flexibility, however, would not be disturbed. One of the most important changes suggested is the adoption of a new method of determining adjustments in the duty on imported articles. At present, this duty is based on the difference between the costs of production in this and foreign countries.

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONVENTION

A Brussels dispatch to the press to-day says: "Knowledge, understanding and sympathy are the necessary foundations of all international good-will, and on only such foundation can be built an economic structure through the development of business cooperation that will mean much for the welfare of the citizens of every country, declared Willis H. Booth, of New York, president of International Chamber of Commerce, at the opening of its third Congress at Brussels, June 21, which was attended by....representatives from thirty-six countries. The American delegation is made up of 200 leading business men." Mr. Booth said, further: "Free trade in foreign exchanges is not entirely accomplished but is making rapid advancement. Countries which have not yet balanced their budgets are making strenuous efforts to do so. Trade is gradually adjusting itself to the new frontiers, and export and import licenses have been in a large degree abandoned. Production has increased, and the world export and import trade is at least 80 per cent of prewar volume. Capital, both local and foreign, is taking courage and the flow of loans and credit is gradually becoming easier. Gold is moving back to Europe. Commercial treaties are rapidly being negotiated between all nations, so that business intercourse is growing closer each day."

Section 2

British Farm Girls For Canada

A Winnipeg dispatch to the press of June 19 states that Emily Pinder, a graduate of the experimental farm of Leeds University, is in Winnipeg to begin a year's study of Canadian agricultural methods, with a view to creating, on her return to the British Isles, a movement to western Canada of English farm girls. "Girls on farms in all parts of England are intensely interested in Canada. They are seeking an outlet for their energies and would migrate to the Dominion in large numbers if only encouraged," Miss Pinder asserted. Many of these young women, she declared, had sufficient funds to start farms of their own and would prove a valuable asset to the western country.

Chamber of Commerce Secretaries

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for June 13 says: "The modern secretary of the chamber of commerce in the small cities of the Southwest has become the right-hand man of the county agent in the development of the agricultural resources of the country. The up-to-date, wide-awake secretary has his visions of a larger and better city with a steady increase in the number of industries with their hundreds of well-paid workmen, but he does not spend his time in dreaming of tall stacks belching forth smoke to pollute the atmosphere..... He is no longer trying to build from the top down, but is laying a foundation for future betterment of the city by helping build prosperity into the surrounding territory. He is thinking more in terms of the 'cow, sow and the hen' on every farm in his territory than he is of industries with uncertain futures. The secretary of a chamber of commerce does not necessarily have to be versed in all branches of agriculture, but he should have a general knowledge of rural problems and the heart and the will to cooperate with rural people in all their undertakings. The secretary who succeeds in interesting the business men in his city in rural development has accomplished something worth doing. Fortunately, business men have learned that there can be no real substantial prosperity in the city unless the rural districts are prosperous. This accounts for chamber of commerce activities in the development of the agricultural resources of the country. Thus far business men have gone more than half way in their effort to meet farmers on even terms. Many farmers have been somewhat shy and suspicious of the new order of things, but as we make progress more farmers will learn that back of this new interest there is a sincere desire to be of real service."

Foreign Born Americans

More than one-half the $1\frac{1}{4}$ million Scandinavians in the United States are grouped in the half dozen States represented by the great audience addressed by President Coolidge at the Norse-American Centennial celebration at St. Paul a few days ago. The latest population figures of the United States, says the Trade Record of The National City Bank of New York, show the number of natives of the Scandinavian countries residing in the United States in 1920, the latest official figures, at 1,178,596, of which number 625,580 were natives of Sweden, 363,862 of Norway, and 189,154 of Denmark. Out

of this grand total of 1,178,596 Scandinavians in the United States in 1920, the census reports show 219,209, living in Minnesota, 53,285 in North Dakota, 31,369 in South Dakota, 83,749 in Wisconsin, 57,857 in Iowa and 150,460 in Illinois..... Not only have the Scandinavians sought out a section in the very center of the country, offering conditions similar to those to which they were accustomed, but this is true to perhaps a lesser degree of the other groups of people. Of the 1½ million Germans in the United States in 1920 over 200,000 were in the State of Illinois; 151,000 in Wisconsin; 100,000 in Minnesota, and the Dakotas; and 120,000 in Pennsylvania. To the Poles, coming from the northern section of Europe, the mining and manufacturing sections of this country offer special attractions, for out of 1,140,000 Poles in the United States in 1920 178,000 were in Pennsylvania, 162,000 in Illinois, 103,000 in Michigan, about 150,000 in the New England states, and 247,000 in New York State. Of the 1,400,000 Russians in the country in 1920 the mining and manufacturing states had absorbed a large proportion, Pennsylvania 161,000, Illinois 117,000, New England 147,000, and New York State 529,000. The cities seem especially attractive to the natives of Ireland, for of the 1,037,000 natives of Ireland
in 1920 in this country 284,000 were in New York State, 183,000 in Massachusetts, and 121,000 in Pennsylvania..... The official records show the total number of immigrants entering the country in the past one hundred years at about 37 millions, while the total number of "foreign-born whites" in the United States in 1920 was stated at 13,712,754, of whom 2,786,112 were in New York, 1,387,850 in Pennsylvania 1,206,951 in Illinois, 1,077,534 in Massachusetts, 726,635 in Michigan and 681,662 in California. Of the 13,712,754 "foreign-born whites" in the United States in 1920, 11,914,617 were natives of Europe, and 73,824 natives of Asia.

Raisin Trade and Australia

The significance of Australia's expanding raisin crop to growers in the United States is discussed in a review of the industry by the National Bank of Commerce, just issued. The bank finds that the expansion of the industry in Australia, resulting from the desire to settle returning soldiers on the land, has injected a new factor into international trade in raisins just at a time when American growers have been seeking an outlet for increased crops. It is pointed out that while by far the greater part of the United States production is consumed within the country, still there is a substantial export business. "Total outturn of raisins in 1924 is estimated at 350,000,000 pounds, compared with 380,000,000 in 1923 and 470,000,000 in 1922," says the survey. "Reports indicate that sales of cured raisins during October, November and December, normally the months of heaviest marketings, consisted mainly of old-crop fruit. Record sales in the early part of 1925 are reported, but the tendency of the price to weaken gradually is indication of the pressure of supplies upon the market."

Rubber Exchange to Open

The press of June 20 states that the rubber exchange of New York, Inc., which will be in operation early next fall, will tend to stabilize prices and broaden the market, according to F. R. Henderson, head of the Crude Rubber Company. Mr. Henderson obtained a charter from Albany to establish a trading center in New York for crude rubber. It is hoped that the establishment of the exchange will eliminate the fluctuations which have been common in the recent scramble for rubber.

St. Lawrence Waterway

The Canadian aspect of the St. Lawrence waterway project is given by R. E. Freeman in The Nineteenth Century for June in part as follows: "..... There are some important points that must be settled before the work can be undertaken. There is the question of power rights to be decided. Before that part of the proposals relative to power development can be carried out, some agreement must be reached between the Dominion Government and the Province of Ontario. Any excess of water above that which is needed for navigation in the St. Lawrence is under the control of the Ontario Legislature. The latter is not disposed at the present time to countenance the giving up of Ontario power rights to any private interests in the United States, though that country affords the best market for the sale of electrical energy. What is to be the distribution of the construction and maintenance costs between the United States and Canada? This is another point to be settled. Many Americans claim that the United States will be paying for Canadian public works calculated to draw trade from their own cities. Many Canadians take the position that most of the ships using the proposed waterway will be owned by American companies, and that therefore the bulk of the profits from the improvements will go to the United States. By such arguments each side tries to show why the other should bear the lion's share of the cost. The Joint Commission suggested that the expenses should be apportioned according to the benefit accruing from the waterway to the respective countries. How this benefit is to be measured is one of the unsolved problems of the projected undertaking. Other problems have arisen such as the diversion of water through the drainage canal at Chicago the alleged necessity of increasing the low water flow in the lakes, and the severity of the ice situation in the winter. But the obstacles to be surmounted are not chiefly those of an engineering nature. The competent engineers who advised the Joint Commission have pronounced the scheme practicable from that point of view. The chief impediments are economic and political. The unfortunate experience of Canada with railway development has made her cautious about the construction of public works beyond the economic requirements of the country. Undoubtedly the opening of a new and efficient water route means the diversion of traffic from the railroads. This is not as serious for the United States as it is for Canada. The American lines are pretty well congested with traffic, especially at crop moving time; but in Canada railways are suffering from a lack of business. Should the

waterway cut into the traffic which the railways now have, the people of the country will probably be compelled to carry the heavy burden of railway deficits longer than would otherwise have been necessary. Except for those who have money invested in private power undertakings in Quebec, the possibility of great power development in connection with the St. Lawrence project is a feature that meets with universal approval.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

For the week ended June 19: Chicago hog prices ranged from 50 to 60¢ higher than a week ago, closing at $13.25 for the top and $12.50 to $13.10 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers 10¢ to 65¢ higher at $8.50 to $11.65; butcher cows and heifers steady to 25¢ higher at $4 to $11; feeder steers steady to 20¢ higher at $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves 50¢ to $1.25 higher at $8.75 to $10.50. Fat lambs 15 to 25¢ higher; yearlings weak to 25¢ lower at $10,50 to $14 and fat ewes steady to 50¢ higher at $4 to $7.50.

California cantaloupes advanced $1 to $1.45 to a range of $2.75 to $3.25 per standard 45 f. o. b. El Centro. Georgia Carman peaches declined 75¢ f. o. b., closing at $2 to $2.25 per six-basket carrier at Macon. City Markets reflected the shipping point decline, this variety ranging mostly $2.75 to $4.00. Mississippi wrapped tomatoes sold 15 to 25¢ higher at $1.25 to $1.65 per four-basket crate in terminal markets; $1.25 f. o. b. Crystal Springs. Florida Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 pound average sold $150 lower f. o. b. Ocala at $200 to $475 bulk per car. New Potatoes declined sharply. At North Carolina shipping points Irish Cobblers ranged $3.40 to $3.75 per barrel and in eastern cities $4.00 to $5.00. Oklahoma and Arkansas Bliss Triumphs down 65 to 75¢ on the Chicago carlot market to $2 to $2.35 per 100 pound sack.

Butter markets somewhat erratic during the week, but steady at the close. Principal interest is in storing activities and dealers' opinions differ regarding sale price levels for storage purposes. Production conditions reported more favorable. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 42¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43¢.

Cheese market weakened and prices declined of about 1¢ occurred on Wisconsin Cheese Boards which met Friday June 12. Wholesale prices on Wisconsin primary markets June 18, 1925: Twins 22 1/4¢; Single Daisies 22 1/2¢; Double Daisies 22¢; Longhorns 22¢; Square Prints 22 3/4¢.

Grain market continuing downward trend. Wheat futures recovering from low point on slightly less favorable European news and fears rust damage in United States and Canada. Export demand quiet but cash wheat practically steady on more active milling demand. First cars new wheat received Wichita and Kansas City at unusually early date. Corn futures down on improved crop condition with private report suggesting increased acreage and heavier crop. Oats prices off on improved crop conditions and increased commercial stocks. (Prepared by Bu. Of Agri. Econ.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 71 Section 1 June 23, 1925.

THE PRESIDENT ON THE BUDGET

A reduction of $490,000,000 in the annual tax bill of the American people was revealed last night by President Coolidge as the program the administration will recommend to Congress in December. The President's statement, made at the semiannual business meeting of executive officers of the Government, was the first official announcement by himself or Secretary Mellon as to the extent of tax reduction to be advocated. All other estimates have been personal or unofficial by Senators and Representatives. The administration program will be predicated, Mr. Coolidge announced, on an estimated surplus of $200,000,000 in the Treasury on June 30, the close of the current fiscal year--and of $290,000,000 for the ensuing fiscal year. To attain that end it will be necessary, the President said, for the Executive branches of the Government to so prepare their budgets that the aggregate of appropriations for all purposes, including the postal service and the debt retirement sinking fund, shall not exceed $3,375,000,000, a reduction in the budget of approximately $125,000,000.

The President served notice on all the administrative agencies of the Government that the budget for all purposes, except the postal service, would be $3,080,000,000. The amount to be applied on fixed debt charges will be $1,315,000,000. Mr. Coolidge called on the Executive arm of the Government for further reductions in the clerical force and for economies all down the line in administrative effort. He said he wished to avoid the false economy of an undermanned service, but he stressed again and again that the task ahead was one of duty to 115,000,000 Americans, and especially 17,000,000 taxpayers. The President warned that the time was approaching when a limit would be reached in the reduction of Federal expenses, not alone because of the normal expansion of governmental activities, incident to the progress of the Nation, but because the Federal organization has "strayed far afield from its legitimate business." It has trespassed where it had no business to do so, and the cure lies in the hands of the American people themselves, he argued, reiterating some parts of his Memorial Day address on State responsibilities and the menace of the subsidies to States. (Press, June 23.)

WASHINGTON MEAT SUPPLY

An editorial in The Washington Post to-day says: "The people of Washington are greatly disturbed by the statement of the Department of Agriculture that this city is included in those which are classed as 'outstanding examples where sanitary methods are lacking in the retailing of meat.' This sweeping assertion is denied by Health Officer Fowler, who states that close inspections are made and that local meat-selling conditions are satisfactory. Now that the charge has been made, the public will not be satisfied unless there is a thorough investigation or the charge withdrawn..... This question should be settled at once, in an authoritative manner, so the public may be assured that its meat supply is protected from contamination by all the safeguards of the law."

Section 2.

Ely and Northwestern University

Glenn Griswold, Chicago correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, in the June 22 issue says: "When a college professor finds a new job, the event is seldom of importance as news. It is particularly unimportant as business news. Yet the announcement of yesterday that Dr. Richard T. Ely had quit Wisconsin University and gone to Northwestern not only marks a great loss for the northern school and a great gain for the Chicago institution, but it is an economic event of world importance. Few if any will dispute the assertion that Doctor Ely is the foremost authority of the day in the field of land economics. Already his work has made a deep impression on our social and economic history. He is 71 years of age, yet vigorous and sturdy. Granted another ten years, it is not improbable that the world will quote him longer than any economist who has preceded him. Doctor Ely brings to Northwestern University the complete organization and personnel of the Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities, which he founded at the University of Wisconsin and which has brought scholars in economics and sociology from around the world to work and study at Madison. The institute, in affiliation with Northwestern University, will be enlarged and its scope expanded. It will undertake the scientific solution of an amazing list of economic problems on which the institute has been working in laboratory fashion....."

Farm Equipment Financing

An editorial in Farm Implement News for June 11 says: "We wonder whether the country bankers are doing their duty this year in the matter of financing farmers' purchases of needed farm equipment. We do not say they are not, but in all probability many of them have taken a too conservative attitude. This is indicated by reports from dealers who say they could have sold more machines of various kinds to responsible farmers had they been able to arrange for discounting notes at the banks. Doubtless the trouble in some cases lies in the fact that the buyers want longer time than the banks are willing to give. That is to say, the credits, if accepted by the dealers, would put the maturity of the paper too far off to be satisfactory to the bankers. In the cases to which we refer the dealers are not asking the bankers to lend the money direct to the farmers. They do not tell the farmers that their terms are cash and that in order to buy they (the farmers) must borrow the money from a bank or other source. They are willing to extend the credit asked provided somebody will help them carry the paper. They ask nothing except a chance to discount the notes after they have endorsed them. This would give the banker two-name paper..... Thus is emphasized the need of greater facilities for financing retail farm machine sales. The time seems to be ripe for the organization of financing companies making a specialty of farm equipment business. In California, as we reported some months ago, there is a dealers' cooperative financing company composed of implement, hardware and motor dealers, and according to all accounts it is functioning with success. We are not prepared to say that the same plan could be put through successfully everywhere, but it would

seem that something could be done for the farm machine business as it has been done for automobiles and other less essential stuff."

Food Prices

The retail food index issued by the United States Department of Labor through the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that there was an increase of about one-half of one per cent in the retail cost of food in May, 1925, as compared with April, 1925. The index number (1913 = 100.0) was 150.8 in April, and 151.6 in May. For the year ended May 15 prices increased about 7.5 per cent. Between April 15 and May 15 fourteen food articles on which the bureau obtained reports advanced in price from one-half of 1 per cent to 26 per cent. Sixteen articles declined in cost from one-half of 1 per cent to 4 per cent, and thirteen articles remained stationary in price. During the period the retail cost of food advanced in thirty-five cities, the greatest increase being 3 per cent, in Salt Lake City. In sixteen cities prices declined, as much as 2 per cent in Mobile and New Orleans.

Fox Breeding School

The press of June 22 states that the Rusch School of Fox Breeding, plans for which were announced last May by its founder, Louis E. Rusch, of Washington, D. C., president of the American Fox Institute, opened June 22 on a seventy-five acre ranch at North East, Pa., about ten miles from Erie. According to Mr. Rusch, fox-breeding has become a scientific and an economic problem. The industry in the United States already amounts to $20,000,000, he said.

Goat Production

An editorial in Pacific Rural Press for June 6 says: ".....The Breeder's Gazette has never gone in for lapdog styles in livestock, adhering rather to mastodon sizes, but its editor has this to say about goats: 'Within a decade the production of goats in this country will be on a large scale. Goat dairies will be common. We appear to be repeating much of continental Europe's history in the evolution of our agriculture. We are depending more and more upon smaller food-yielding units, like goats, poultry and rabbits. There is no doubt that the dairy cow produces more food per acre than the beef cow; that the goat has similar advantages over the dairy cow; that poultry is still more efficient in per-acre production; and that if land becomes too valuable and too scarce greater efficiency from a given plot of soil may be obtained by putting man on a diet of all-vegetables direct, rather than eating them second hand in the form of animal food. Meanwhile the goat looks forward to a real place in the sun of popularity."

Motor Transportation and Commercial Aviation

In his address at the opening session of the Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce, Willis H. Booth drew particular attention to motor transportation and commercial aviation. Enlarged means of transportation, he said, were going to have most important economic effects, particularly in the increase of national wealth. Motor transport must be looked upon as the complement of the older agencies of the railroad and the waterway. He believed that these agencies need not be competitive, but, under proper

conditions, cooperative. Commercial aviation, he asserted, by its very nature was a question for international study. International agreements were necessary before it could function. The economic fundamentals involved had a bearing particularly on two objectives--first, the linking up of all air mail lines along the great trade routes into coordinated operation; the second, the urgent necessity of obtaining an international civil air code and completing the work already done in the domain of public air law. (Press, June 22.)

Private Cotton Reports

A New Orleans dispatch to the press of June 22 states that the few private condition reports issued for the midmonth suggest some loss in condition during the first half of June when, under ordinary circumstances, an improvement in condition should be shown. That the high temperatures which have prevailed in the Southwest have retarded the proper growth of the crop there is little reason to doubt. Higher summer temperatures would not be so serious had the vast western territory stored away the customary amount of subsoil moisture.

A second report stated that while the reaction at the end of the week in the cotton market did not amount to very much there was no denying that the possibility of the Government showing a big increase in acreage planted has been creating considerable bearish sentiment among traders. This may be checked or augmented by the character of the many private reports that will precede the bureau report on July 2.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Southern Ruralist for June 15 says: "For weeks now so-called cotton authorities up and down the country have been issuing statements about the acreage that has been planted and that would eventually be planted in cotton this year; in other words, intentions to plant reports. The range of guesses has run all the way from an increase of from four to six per cent in total acres, somewhere between forty-three and forty-four million acres all told. Lately some have even dared--at least one New York concern--to forecast the yield for the year, putting it at something around 14,900,000 bales! We notice also that during the past month or so the price of cotton has had some rather violent ups and downs, and what we can't explain to ourselves at all is why Messrs. Fenner and Beane, Theodore Price, J. Scottowe Wannamaker, Senator Harris, and Congressman Rankin of Mississippi, aren't cussing out the whole face of the universe as they did a year or so ago when the Government issued intentions to plant reports that did actually have back of them unbiased, authoritative information. They blamed the Government in no uncertain language for depressing the price of spot cotton; said its intentions to plant reports were wholly to blame and that they should be prohibited by law, and forthwith they wrote a law and got Congress to pass it. And now the cotton grower is the only one among the growers of important farm crops in this country that did not have intentions to plant information from his Government early enough to help him decide how best to parcel out his land between crops for the

present year. As the situation stands, the best we can do is to take what these private concerns say, and if the Government intentions to plant reports put the price down, then it follows that these private reports are to blame for some of our late troubles. Of course, they may have their effect in the gambler's market and they may also have their effect to a degree in the spot market, but the farmer must understand that whether the figures of these private concerns are ever published or not that they are passed around among those interested. They do not even wait to do that by letter, they do it by wire--indeed, private wire. So whether these private intentions to plant reports were ever published or not they would have their effect. Such reports may be accurate and they may be very inaccurate.We have seen some that were ridiculously inaccurate...."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 22: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.40 for the top and $12.60 to $13.35 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.75; butcher cows and heifers $5.75 to $11.25; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $8.75 to $10.50; fat lambs $13.75 to $16.25; yearlings $10.50 to $14; fat ewes $4 to $7.75.

Grain prices quoted June 22: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.57 to $1.74. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.81 to $1.84; Kansas City $1.68 to $1.72. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.61 to $1.62; St. Louis $1.60; Kansas City $1.50 to $1.74. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City 99¢ to $1. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.05 to $1.06 1/4; Minneapolis 97 1/2 to 98 1/2¢. No. 2 yellow corn St. Louis $1.06 1/2 to $1.07; Kansas City $1.02 to $1.03. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.06 to $1.08; Minneapolis $1.00 1/2 to $1.01 1/2. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.05 to $1.06; Kansas City $1.00; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.06 to $1.08. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 1/4 to 48¢; Minneapolis 41 1/4 to 41 3/4¢; St. Louis 49 to 49 1/2¢; Kansas City 49¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/2¢; Chicago 42 3/4¢; Philadelphia 43 1/2¢; Boston 43¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 10 points, closing at 24.21¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 18 points, closing at 23.32¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 22,	June 20,	June 22, 1924.
20 Industrials	128.25	129.16	92.65
20 R. R. stocks	97.77	98.33	84.66

(Wall St. Jour., June 23.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XVII, No. 72 Section 1 June 24, 1925.

RUST ELIMINATION DISCOVERY

An Atlantic City dispatch to the press to-day states that methods to virtually stop corrosion of iron and steel, a source of waste which costs the United States $300,000,000 a year, have been discovered by a committee of research engineers, according to a report made at Atlantic City, June 23, during the twenty-eighth annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials. The reports, presented by J. H. Gibboney of Roanoke, Va., said that, following experimentation extending over the last nine years, engineers of the society had found that iron and steel were almost rustless when a small amount of copper was mixed with them. The committee announced that with these experiments upon raw iron and steel practically finished, it was starting an extensive research program to determine the proper coating to place upon iron and steel products, preventing rust in that way also. An important effect of the discovery of such a coating, it was pointed out, will be the tremendous saving to farmers who are large users of galvanized fencing.

MILK'S FOOD VALUE QUESTIONED

The press of June 24 states that the value of milk as a food for adults was questioned by Dr. John P. Sutherland, former dean of the Boston University of Medicine, in an address yesterday at the eighty-first annual meeting of the American Institute of Homeopathy at New York. Medical science, which for ages has regarded milk as "the perfect food," is changing its mind, said Dr. Sutherland. He offered the opinion that the question, if properly studied, may lead science to a more comprehensive idea of the kinds of food which produce brainy and muscular men. In questioning the value of milk as a food for adult consumption, Dr. Sutherland declared that "given a more appropriate food the mental power of the race could be materially improved." Here is Nature's conception of milk, as explained by Dr. Sutherland: Milk was intended to serve as a food only during infancy. Milk of one species was not intended to be used by other species except when very closely related. Milk was not intended to serve as food for the adult of the species.....

AUSTRALIAN WOOL GROWERS PLAN ORGANIZATION

A Melbourne dispatch to the press of June 24 states that at a meeting of wool growers at Melbourne June 23, Sir John Michael Higgis proposed the formation of an association, with capital of 50,000,000 pounds, half of which will be in wool certificates and half in one pound shares. He said that the wool growers should voluntarily form the association in order to give more stability to values. The association would acquire the clips by appraisement and would realize upon the growers' product by proper technical and collective methods of marketing. All receipts would be distributed as payment for wool. The meeting decided the wool growers' organization should have an opportunity to fully discuss the proposal.

Section 2

Agriculture in the Irish Parliament

An editorial in The Farmers' Gazette (Dublin) for June 13 says: "...The two main features of Deputy Hogan's speech were the stress which he laid upon the importance of the small farmer in the economic structure, and the confirmed opinion that only by education, organization, and close attention to work can Irish farming hope to reach the same standard of efficiency as exists in other countries. The speeches of other deputies dealt with a variety of matters relating to agriculture, and, as one speaker confessed, these ranged from China to Peru. Still, much common sense was talked, with here and there just a little ill-balanced opinion. Some of the views expressed in the way of improvement were that more attention should be given to the education of boys afterwards to become farmers, that the cinema might be usefully employed as a means of spreading information and demonstrating better stock, that not more tillage, but a higher method of handling crops and breeding livestock, is needed, that more stall feeding is desirable, since this is the basis of all good tillage, that the value of lime is overlooked in many countries, and farmers should be encouraged to use it more widely, through the help of a part contribution from State funds, that if the graziers were done away with the effect would be to reduce employment for the small farmers and to restrict the cattle industry to the mere raising of stores, and so imperil any possible chance of having sufficient beef cattle to support a dead meat industry. Finally, the advocacy of the Minister that farmers should grow sufficient wheat to meet their own household requirements was met by the objection that nobody now would eat the flour ground from Irish-grown wheat, since it has been found that the latter will not produce saleable flour. On the livestock side the subject of better transit facilities from fairs and markets was referred to, and the inferior condition in which Irish cattle are landed at cross-Channel markets, in comparison with Canadian beasts, was put down to the rough handling in loading cattle into railway wagons and again in the second removal from wagon to ship..... The demand that demonstration farms should be arranged for in each county was supported, with some expressed misgivings regarding the value of the present work being done by the county instructors."

Cotton Payments in Georgia

An Atlanta dispatch to the press of June 23 states that final payments aggregating $2,159,000 have been mailed to members of the Georgia Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association from headquarters at Atlanta. This sum marks the last payment due members on their 1924 cotton crop and brings the total to more than $12,000,000.

Crop Situatiom

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 23 says: "That part of the business community that keeps closely and intelligently in touch with the crop prospect--as all careful observers are doing with unusual interest this year--have been

encouraged during the past few weeks by one or two factors of real improvement in the outlook. One of these is the fact that the continued absence of unduly heavy rains and the presence of much clear sunshine in the eastern cotton belt have played considerable havoc with the boll weevil..... At the end of May, as this newspaper pointed out, the spring wheat crop was in a fairly good but essentially precariius condition. Lack of adequate reserve supply of ground moisture was exposing the crop to hazards from drouth, even of an ordinary variety. There is not much warrant for the supposition that subsequent rains have by any means fully removed this danger, but precipitation has apparently been sufficient to keep the crop currently in a good condition and, of course, as time passes less and less opportunity for serious drouth remains for the simple reason that the crop is steadily approaching maturity. The situation in respect of the other major crops is perhaps not so clear as in the cases already mentioned, but there is no reason to suppose that the outlook is worse than it was a month ago. As a matter of fact, it is probably appreciably better, with the exception of winter wheat. Not only for the farmers concerned but for the rank and file of the producers and distributers of the Nation generally this is distinctly good news. In a good deal more than the usual degree the general state of business in this country during the next years will depend upon the size and the marketability of the crops. If we are, in fact, favored with a good crop of cotton throughout most of the cotton belt and are able to produce at least moderately good grain crops throughout most of the West we ought to be able to count fairly surely upon a year of stable business at a substantial rate of activity and with moderate profits."

Czecho-Slovakian Tax

The Czecho-Slovak Government has placed a turnover on imported wheat and flour, according to a dispatch of June 22. The tax on wheat flour is 11 crowns per 100 kilos and on wheat is 2.50 crowns per 100 kilos. These taxes will be collected by the customs authorities at time of clearance. There is no import duty on wheat flour under the present prices of such products.

Freight Rates and Agriculture

"Freight and Agricultural Products" is the title of a lengthy article by Henry R. Trumbrower in The Journal of Political Economy (University of Chicago) for June. The author says in part: "There is a tendency for prices to be fixed by the costs of the most efficient producers. In the long run, price is fixed at the point of lowest cost, but at any given moment the producer whose costs are the highest and whose product is still needed to meet the market demends, determines market price. These economic laws operate in agriculture just the same as in manufacturing or in commerce, but their effect can not be as readily observed, and a great many more serious complications enter. Agricultural products are for the most part annual crops; the raising of livestock extends over even a longer period. These adjustments are therefore less readily and easily made. It is a serious and difficult problem in many cases to shift from one type of production to another. It may be that the least

efficient producers will continue adding to the supply when their costs have been beyond their returns for a considerable period of time. It may take them some time to find it out, and in the meantime they are living off past accumulated capital, their own or that of someone else. As indicated above, the agricultural producer will sooner or later reach a point where it will be profitable for him to increase his yield, where additional applications of capital and labor to a given area of land will result in larger yields but of smaller relative amounts. When the proportionate yield begins to fall off, the point of diminishing returns--or increasing costs--has been reached. Under such conditions the producer will be less able to shift the burden of increased freight charges to the consumer than in cases where the cost is constant or even diminishing. In general it may be said that less of the increased freight charge will be borne by the consumer when the demand is more elastic than the supply, than when the supply is more elastic than the demand. It must be appreciated, therefore, how many elements are involved and how great their complications and ramifications are, in making a study of this problem of the shifting of increased freight rates on agricultural products. Although it may be shown that the consumer bears the total freight charge, an upward movement of freight rates may have very serious indirect effects upon a country's system of agricultural production over a definite period of time."

Kansas Wheat Train

The press of June 23 states that a special train to be known as the "Opportunity Special", piloted by Miss Veda Watson, "wheat queen", and carrying ten agricultural specialists from Kansas State Agricultural College, will stop long enough in forty-two Kansas towns during the last twelve days of July to emphasize five salient points essential for profitable production of quality wheat. The opportunity train, which will traverse thirty-five of the principal wheat-producing counties in the State of Kansas between July 20 and Aug. 1, will be elaborately equipped and manned by the highest specialized group of wheat-producing experts. J. Frank Jarrell, manager of the agricultural development department of the Santa Fe Railroad, estimates that between 40,000 and 50,000 persons will attend the series of meetings. In addition to three carloads of exhibits dealing with every step in wheat production, from seed selection to marketing, the special will carry a lecture car equipped with a public address system and a motion picture machine.

Reclamation Discussed by Secretary Work

A Cheyenne, Wyo., dispatch to the press of June 23 says: "A new program in reclamation should be adopted by the Government, Secretary Work declared in an address at Cheyenne June 22, and no new projects should be undertaken until an enduring policy is established, he added. Responsibility for the success of Federal reclamation, he said, lies first with the people in communities and States directly affected; second, with the Reclamation Service, and finally with Congress. 'If Federal reclamation is to be regarded as a source for obtaining Government money to be spent locally, instead of first aid to settling a permanent community, it will fail as it already has in some instances,' he continued. 'The Department of Interior stands

between the new farming communities and Congress. Without help from the farmer we can not interest the latter. He expressed the hope that the next Congress would pass legislation requiring States to assume part of the financial risk and responsibility for every new project undertaken within their borders."

Sheep Raising An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 22 says: "Of all the industries of the United States is there one we have less cause to be proud of than that of sheep-raising? South Africa, whose high veldt is of so poor a soil that it can hardly sustain a sheep to the acre, is nevertheless a large exporter of merino wool. We have still the great open spaces and yet we import two-fifths of the wool we consume. With some honorable exceptions our sheep raisers seem unable to make up their minds whether to raise wool or mutton, with the consequence that they raise an inferior variety of each. The benighted poverty of the information they are willing to furnish on the condition of their own trade has been a matter of comment in these columns. Our Agricultural Department does its best, but it has the industry against it, and our manufacturers seem little less shortsighted than the raisers of wool. And yet the industry is highly profitable elsewhere. Sheep can withstand a wide range of climate and will eat many varieties of vegetation which other animals will not touch. In process of time they can regenerate farm lands that have run down. A flock of sheep on poverty-stricken soil will, in time, make it arable. In Britain and France, where intensive culture is needed to feed large populations, there is still room for thousands of acres with carefully selected flocks, the Welsh and South Down varieties for their food superiority and many of the others for the excellence of their wool. The humiliating fact to us is that these countries take the business seriously while we are inclined to regard the sheep as a side product. It is true that our climate lacks the natural advantage of Yorkshire or Saxony in the weaving of woolen cloth. But most of our handicaps are our own. Although our wool growers are protected by a punishing tariff, we only raise three hundred million pounds of the five hundred million pounds we consume. What seems to be needed is the capital necessary to secure the highest grades of wool-bearing sheep with the adoption of all available experience in choosing those best adapted to environment. Just as the stringy, tasteless stuff called mutton--New York's supply seems to come from anywhere except Vermont--is not fit to be compared with the chilled New Zealand or Australian product, so also is there no sense in breeding sheep of the scrub variety where the pedigree animal would produce six times the quantity, or at least, in its quality, wool of six times the value. The trouble with our sheep industry is that we have never tried to do the thing well, except as concerns a few breeders, and they are rather in the regions east of Lake Champlain than in the wide open West, which would make fewer appeals to Congress if it kept its eyes wide open and closed its mouth. There is a great opportunity waiting for somebody, but, like other opportunities in a field of world-wide competition, it requires capital, intelligence, perseverance and the humility to learn from the experience of others."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 23: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.70; bulk of sales $12.75 to $13.60; medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $11.85; butcher cows and heifers $4.25 to $11.50; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.25 to $11; fat lambs $14 to $16.50; yearlings $10.25 to $14.25; fat ewes $4 to $7.75.

North Carolina potatoes mostly $4 to $4.50 in the East and $3.50 to $3.75 f. o. b. Jobbing sales of Virginia Irish Cobblers were at $4 to $5 per barrel in leading markets; $4.15 to $4.25 f. o. b. East Shore points. Mississippi wrapped tomatoes $1.25 to $1.75 per four-basket carrier in consuming centers; $1.35 to $1.40 f. o. b. Florida Tom Watson watermelons, averaging 24-30 pounds, ranged $350 to $650 bulk per car in distributing centers. Georgia Hiley peaches mostly $3 to $4 per six-basket carrier in leading markets; $2 to $2.50 f. o. b. Macon. Salmon Tint cantaloupes from the Imperial Valley of California generally $4 to $4.25 per standard 45 in terminal markets; $3 f. o. b. El Centro.

Grain prices quoted June 23: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.59 to $1.76. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.88; No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.63 to $1.64 1/2; St. Louis $1.59 to $1.60; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.08; Minneapolis 98 to 99¢. No. 2 yellow corn St. Louis $1.09; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.08 to $1.08 1/4; Minneapolis $1.01 to $1.02; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.07 1/2 to $1.08 1/4; No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1.07 1/2 to $1.08. No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 to 48 1/2¢; Minneapolis 44 3/8 to 44 7/8¢; St. Louis 49¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets up 4 points, closing at 24.25¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 12 points, closing at 23.44¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 23,	June 22,	June 23,1924.
20 Industrials	127.17	128.25	92.65
20 R. R. stocks	97.50	97.77	84.66

(Wall St. Jour., June 24.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 73 Section 1. June 25, 1925.

WASHINGTON MEAT SUPPLY

An editorial in The Washington Post to-day says: "There is no gainsaying the fact that a most uneasy and nervous feeling has been generated in the minds of the citizens by the charge, emanating from the Department of Agriculture, that ..... the conditions surrounding its (meat) sale, are, at least in some cases, insanitary in the extreme..... For the moment, it is less a matter of urgency whether the laws of the District relating to foodstuffs are inadequate, although that question will, at the proper time, become of major importance. What is vital now is to see that whatever laws there are shall be strictly enforced in the interest of the public health. The citizens are not concerned in the controversy between the District health officer and the Department of Agriculture, except in so far as the matters in dispute affect the well-being and even the lives of themselves and their families, but, to that extent, their concern is deep, pressing, and instant..... The important thing for the public is to know where the truth lies..."

RUSSIAN COTTON PURCHASE

The New York Times to-day says: "The All-Russian Textile Syndicate, which for the last year and a half has been probably the largest individual purchaser of American cotton as a single agency, has just completed its purchases of the present crop on credits supplied by American banks, it is stated. The total so purchased this season amounts to an expenditure by the Russian cotton mills through the syndicate of $36,340,000. This sum covers the purchase of 243,698 bales of the American staple from the 1924-25 crop and the cost of the cotton as well as insurance and freight to Murmansk, the Russian port on the Arctic, whither all such shipments have been directed. The $36,340,000 spent for American cotton in the last season compares with similar expenditures in the preceding season of $31,457,000....."

MILK COST

Economy in operation and standardization of equipment for milk dealers will eventually lessen the cost of milk for the consumer, according to a statement made yesterday by C. Oscar Ewing of Louisville, Ky., president of the International Association of Milk Dealers, the Eastern District of which is holding a two-day conference at New York. Mr. Ewing pointed out that the association is composed of 300 milk firms. (Press, June 25.)

FOREIGN TRADE

A Seattle dispatch to the press of June 25 states that while the foreign trade of the United States last year passed all previous records in volume, this year gives promise of exceeding it, James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation, told the National Foreign Trade convention at Seattle, June 24.

Section 2

Cotton Consumption The total world's mill consumption of cotton for the half year ending January 31, 1925 was 11,168 thousand actual bales, regardless of weight. This compares with consumption of 10,015 thousand bales in the previous half year, and 10,415 thousand bales in the corresponding half year ending January 31, 1924, according to advices received by the Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British information service. On January 31 the mills of the world had on hand 3,959 thousand bales as against 3,574 thousand on and at the end of the previous half year and 4,088 on January 31, 1924. It is estimated that on January 31, 1925 the total number of spinning spindles throughout the world was 159,904 thousand, an increase from 158,773 thousand on July 31, 1924.

Cotton Payments in North Carolina A Raleigh, N. C., dispatch to the press of June 24 states that the North Carolina Cotton Growers' Cooperative Association has sent checks to all of its 38,000 members covering the final settlement and distribution of the 1924 crop. The total amount distributed was $1,685,000. The price netted to the grower was $22.60 per 100 pounds for middling cotton. Final settlement comes this year about a month earlier than last year, the association speeding up its payments so that the farmers might have the use of the money in the production of another crop. The association continues to grow slowly.

Dawes Plan A Brussels dispatch to the press of June 24 says: "Germany can pay her reparations obligations only through a lowered standard of living, longer working hours and greater production, Sir Josiah Stamp, British economist and coauthor of the Dawes plan, told the International Chamber of Commerce at its June 23 meeting at Brussels. Sir Josiah expressed grave doubts of the continued successful working of the Dawes plan. He declared the time had come for serious study of the situation. The chief difficulties, he said, were the labor problem involved in the production of goods for reparations and the ruinous competition resulting from import of goods in receiving countries without exports to offset them. Sir Josiah presented a detailed report prepared by himself and other experts on the economic effects of the Dawes plan. The report indicated the belief of the experts, that within three years it would be seen that Germany could no longer execute the provisions of the Dawes plan, and that some other method of payments would become necessary....."

Farm Profits An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 24 says: "Farming last year was on the average a distinctly profitable business. Such at least is a fair inference to be drawn from the results recently obtained by the Department of Agriculture in a study of costs of production on a very substantial 'sample' of operating farms throughout the country and the selling prices obtained by these farmers for their products. The figures presented by the department show, for instance, an average profit of 21¢ per bushel on wheat, 28¢ a bushel on corn and 5¢ a pound on cotton. These margins of gain

are all the more encouraging by reason of the fact that 'costs' as computed by the Department of Agriculture 'include charges for labor of the farmer and his family, and a charge for the use of the land on cash rental basis, so that where cost just equaled the price received the farmer was paid for his time and his investment.' If these statistics present a fairly typical picture of the results obtained by the farmers of the country last year there is certainly not very much ground for the sort of complaint that is still being heard in rural districts about the poverty of the farmer and about the alleged unprofitableness of agricultural operations. Naturally all farmers did not do as well as the 'average' farmer. No doubt there were a number of causes in which losses were sustained, just as there are always manufacturers and merchants who are not making money. But it is equally clear that a good many farmers profited much more substantially than did the average or typical farmer. Figures as those already quoted reveal a good reason for the sustained demand in rural districts for a number of products, a demand that has done a great deal to keep business in this country generally in a moderately prosperous condition for a good while past. Of course, it is as yet too early to know with any degree of certainty what the fortune of the farmer will be during the current season, but to date the indication is, outside of certain sections of the Southwest and with a partial exception of winter wheat districts, that this year will be at least as good as last season, so far as the volume of output is concerned."

Fruit and Vegetable Production and Distribution

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June 27 says: "The commercial production of fruits and vegetables has increased four times over within the past twenty-five years. Railway shipments of these commodities have more than doubled in the past ten years alone. It is a remarkable demonstration of specialized development, which does not extend to farming generally though it is common enough in industry. As the Nation entered upon the era of large-scale production, Fall River and Lowell came to specialize on fabrics, Brockton on shoes, Pittsburgh on steel, Cincinnati on machine tools and Grand Rapids on furniture. Each was influenced by managerial skill and enterprise along a particular line, a trained labor supply, financial encouragement, transportation facilities and favorable natural conditions. Somewhat the same forces have helped to bring about the specialization in fruit and vegetable production. Given favorable conditions of soil and climate and a few enterprising and successful pioneers and the rest followed naturally. The advantages are many. When a community is engaged in the large-scale production of, say early vegetables, as in various Florida, Texas and Carolina localities, a trained labor supply collects, a knowledge of marketing and production practices accumulates, organized effort in buying and marketing becomes possible; suitable financial provisions are built up; buyers and commission agents are attracted, and shipping, refrigeration and inspection facilities become available. The isolated grower generally lacks some of these advantages. It is a question now whether the rate of increased production should be maintained.

Distribution facilities have not kept pace, and market gluts are frequent and extreme. Commercial fruit and vegetable growing is now a finely geared production machine, with various localities supplying the market at closely timed intervals. That fact should serve as a 'Stop, Look and Listen' sign to other communities planning to get into specialized production along these lines. They might easily cause a disastrous jam, with losses to themselves and other farmers already established in the business."

Government Economy

An editorial in The New York Times for June 24 says: "....Economy in the Federal service was always applauded as an abstract thing, but now it is praised as a matter of practical achievement. General Lord gave examples of the way in which, under pressure from the administration, something like an enthusiasm for saving has been developed in the departments. It is a matter of pride for the head of an office if he can work out a reorganization by which the services of a number of clerks can be dispensed with, or can reduce the cost of lighting and heating. The days have passed when a candidate for the office of Pension Commissioner cried out 'God help the surplus!' if he ever got his hands on it. Now there is universal pleasure in seeing the surplus swollen through rigid economies. This is because people see that in no other way can their taxes be reduced. They do not want their Government to be pinching or parsimonious, but they do like lower taxes. That is the goal, as President Coolidge pointed out, upon which the Government keeps its eyes steadily fixed. Its motto is economy as a means of saving for the taxpayers. And it is because the President has succeeded in getting this idea into the public mind that he has made the whole process popular. ....."

Potash Agreement

A new agreement has been negotiated between the representatives of the German potash syndicate and the French State and private potash industries, according to semi-official reports. This new agreement, which is to last two years, is considerably more comprehensive than any past arrangements and introduces a complete regulation of sales in all export markets. The Bankers Trust Company of New York is advised in this connection by its French information service that under the terms of the new convention France guarantees that the Alsatian potash industry during the coming two years will not enlarge the scope of its production with a view to renewed competition. No new mines will be opened and the number of pits being worked in the mines at the present time will not be increased. In compensation for this concession, Germany guarantees the maintenance of uniform prices which will be established in common accord with the Alsatian industry. The distribution of the world market between the two industries will be made on a proportion of 30% to the Alsatian mines and 70% for Germany. Each industry however will keep its home market for itself. This clause leaves room for some expansion of the Alsatian industry as, at the present time, the German market absorbs 7 1/2 million quintals of potash while the French market last year only consumed somewhat over 750,000 quintals. The

consequence of this new agreement, it is expected, will be a general increase in the price of potash on the world market which, at the present time, is below Germany's internal prices.

Tariff Revision

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 23 says: "Concerning the discussion that is now going on at Washington with respect to revision of the tariff, it may be said at once, first, that satisfactory conditions can not in the nature of the case be procured by a process that singles out the administrative features of the existing law for change leaving present rates untouched; second, that the whole law, both its rates and its administrative provisions, is badly enough in need of a thorough overhauling and, third, that nevertheless it would be better to leave the statute as it is than to attempt to patch it up here and there, permitting interested groups to write into the law additional 'jokers' and other provisions that in the end will turn out to have effects different and often diametrically opposite from those that unsuspecting persons expect of them. A long drawn out tariff controversy is too unsettling and generally hurtful to business to be worth while unless there is good reason for believing that substantially helpful results can in the end be obtained. There is strong ground for doubt that Congress has reached the point where it is either willing or able to give this subject the constructive study and treatment that it deserves. Uncertainty is increased rather than lessened by the fact that advocates of tariff reform are confining their attack to the administrative features of the Forney-McCumber Act, for their mere determination to leave the question of rates untouched appears to indicate an unwillingness to face the situation squarely and in an intellectually honest manner....."

Tobacco Growers to Unite in Pennsylvania

A Lancaster, Pa., dispatch to the press of June 24 states that a charter for the Pennsylvania Tobacco Growers' Cooperative Association has been applied for. The undertaking involves about 7,500 growers of Lancaster, York, Chester, Lebanon, Berks and Dauphin Counties. The contract will be continuous and will carry a yearly withdrawal clause. The option is given the signer to withdraw if 75 per cent of the acreage is not signed in time to handle the 1925 crop.

Wireless in Schools

Wireless apparatus in public schools, for the use of parents' and citizens' associations, will be permitted by the New South Wales Minister for Education, successful experiments having been completed. It is expected that such a course will bring isolated country centers into touch with Sydney, and the country schools will thus become, especially in the evenings, important social centers. (N. Y. Times, June 21.)

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 24: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.65 for the top and $12.80 to $13.60 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.75 to $12; butcher cows and heifers $4.25 to $11.75; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.25 to $11.25; fat lambs $14.25 to $16.85; yearlings $10.25 to $14.50; fat ewes $4 to $7.75.

Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes $4 to $5 per barrel in eastern markets, top of $5.50 in Pittsburgh; $4.25 to $4.50 f. o. b. East Shore points. Mississippi wrapped tomatoes held steady to firm at $1.25 to $1.65 per four basket crate in consuming centers. Florida Tom Watson watermelons 24-30 pound average weakened to $400 to $600 bulk per car in leading markets. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes, standards 45's closed at $4 to $4.50 in consuming centers; $3 f. o. b. El Centro. Peach prices declining. Georiga Hileys sold 50¢ to 75¢ lower f. o. b. Macon, bringing $1.75 to $2 per six basket carrier and bushel basket.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42 1/4¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43¢.

Grain prices quoted June 24: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.59 to $1.76. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.90; Kansas City (new) $1.65. No. 2 hard winter Chicago $1.63 1/2 to $1.64 3/4¢; St. Louis $1.62; Kansas City $1.57 to $1.68. No. 3 mixed corn Chicago $1.06 to $1.06 1/4; Minneapolis 96 to 98¢; No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City $1.00 1/2 to $1.01 1/2. No. 2 yellow corn Kansas City $1.04 1/2; St. Louis $1.09. No. 3 yellow corn Chicago $1.06 1/4 to $1.07 1/4; Minneapolis $1 to $1.01. No. 2 white corn St. Louis $1. 06 1/2; Kansas City $1.01 1/2; No. 3 white corn Chicago $1.06 1/2 to $1.07; No. 3 white oats Chicago 47 1/2 to 48 1/4¢; Minneapolis 44 1/8 to 44 3/8¢; St. Louis 49 to 49 1/2¢; No. 2 white oats Kansas City 50¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 6 points, closing at 24.19¢ per lb. New York July future contracts declined 4 points, closing at 23.40¢. (Prepared by the Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 24,	June 23,	June 24,1924.
20 Industrials	127.80	127.17	93.13
20 R. R. stocks	98.06	97.50	84.94

(Wall St. Jour., June 25.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVII, No. 74 Section 1 June 26, 1925.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONFERENCE

A Brussels dispatch to the press of June 26 says: "Two Americans played stellar roles at yesterday's plenary session of the International Chamber of Commerce. They were John W. O'Leary, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, and S.Parker Gilbert, Agent General for reparation payments. The aim of each was to dispel the gloom and doubt which gathered in the early days of the congress and reached their climax in Sir Josiah Stamp's doleful predictions of difficulties looming ahead for the Dawes plan. Mr. O'Leary's speech went even further and carried a warning to European nations that all talk regarding waiving of the interallied debts in order to lessen their difficulties was futile, as American business men were firmly decided that they could not have confidence in nations which did not fulfill their international obligations. Mr. O'Leary drew no line of demarcation between Germany and the allied nations, and held out the prospect of investments in those countries which obeyed the spirit of modern business, with its inevitable improvement of commercial, political and social conditions everywhere.

"Mr. Gilbert's address, which was applauded warmly, consisted of a resume of what the Dawes plan already had done and assurances that there was no reason to doubt its continued success. In fact, Mr. Gilbert intimated there was every reason to believe that the schedules of payment fixed by the Dawes experts might be found to be far lower than necessary, and the difficulties feared by doubting Thomases might suddently vanish when actually reached."

FARM IMPLEMENT CASES DISMISSED

The press to-day says: "The partisan alignment of the Federal Trade Commission appeared again yesterday with the formal dismissal of proceedings against twelve farm implement concerns in which conspiracy was charged. Commissioners Nugent and Thompson, comprising the minority faction of the commission dissented. Dismissal of the proceedings was made known in a brief statement, on which the commissioners would not enlarge. There were indications, however, that a statement would be forthcoming shortly from the minority members. It was learned that the cases did not come under the commission's new stipulation policy by which respondents may agree not to repeat the acts complained against and escape prosecution, but that the commission conducted an investigation and, in the opinion of the majority, found there was no case."

WOOL SALES RESUMED

A Melbourne dispatch to the press of June 26 states that the Australian Wool Growers' Council and the National Council of Wool Brokers of Australia have decided to resume wool sales July 13. During July 120,000 bales of wool will be offered and a like amount in August. It is hoped that the monthly sales, if started in that way, will be continued.

Section 2

Dawes Plan

The Philadelphia Ledger for June 25 says: "Sir Josiah Stamp cast a pall over the International Chambers of Commerce meeting in Brussels by throwing gloomy economic reflections on the Dawes reparations plan. Lest the American representatives escape the general sadness of the occasion, he linked with reparations the payment of war debts to the United States. The burden of the British financier's dirge was taken from an ancient and honorable economic ballad. It tells about the impossibility of one nation paying another excepting through goods and services. The refrain has something to say about neighbors supporting themselves by taking in each other's washing. The economic reasoning of Sir Josiah brings him to the conclusion that all tariff walls must be leveled in order that the passage of goods and services from paying to recipient nations may not be hindered. If leveling tariff walls injures or destroys the recipient nations' industries, then those nations must choose between the two benefits: payments or flourishing industries. He says they can not have both....Financiers of at least the ability of Sir Josiah Stamp worked out those policies. Capable financiers and economists will be engaged in putting them into practice. They will be able to handle the factors involved and to forge their policies in accordance with the facts as they appear. They have no intention whatever of ruining their respective nations in the process. It is therefore difficult to share the feelings of Britain's gloomy financier. Some Americans may sympathize with him, but few will share his sorrow."

Farmer Control of Cooperatives

An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for June 19 says: "How can we reconcile democratic control in all our cooperatives with the degree of centralization needed for efficient administration? This is the perpetual question that meets every effort to organize farmers in a business way. The advocates of centralization tell us rather scornfully that if there were separate cooperatives to handle credit, insurance, buying and the marketing of different commodities and if every farmer was expected to attend local meetings of each and participate intelligently in the control of each, the farmer would have no time to farm. His entire efforts and time would be devoted to understanding the affairs of the different companies with which he was allied. This is a real criticism. It can be met, not by abandoning local organization and farmer control, but by recognizing that effective organizations that can stand alone must be built around a very few major interests. In a typical corn belt community, the average farmer should belong to his local elevator, to his local shipping association and to his local social and educational organization. To try to herd him into many more associations would probably be waste effort. His membership in the minor associations would only be nominal and the running of the association would be in the hands of the manager and an interested few....."

Fur Trapping Laws

The New York Times of June 24 states that David C. Mills, general director of the National Association of the Fur Industry, has prepared an article for the American Game Protective Association entitled "Conservation of Fur Bearers." He says that it sometimes happens that what is one man's conservation is another man's poison. The annual catch of fur bearers in the United States was roughly estimated at about $25,000,000 twenty-five years ago. It is now estimated at $60,000,000, with quantities fairly well maintained, on the whole, because of the impetus given to trapping

by the higher returns to the trapper. The writer points out that certain species in some districts have been thoroughly trapped out, or at least reduced to a point at which they are commercially unimportant. Mr. Mills believes that the future of the commercial supply of some of the fur-bearing species in all districts is problematical. He says that while this condition presents no very serious problem as yet to the manufacturer or importer, who can draw upon the fur supply of the whole world and also supplement it by the use of certain selected sheep, goat and pony skins, it is extremely important to all those in the industry who specialize in American raw fur. "The problem presents itself in several forms," says the writer. "First, in some States there is an utter lack of laws protecting any fur bearers and in other States only certain species are protected. Second, we find that in many States where protective laws exist they have been framed with little regard to breeding seasons or seasons in which the furs have commercial value. Third, we find laws so drafted as to be incapable of enforcement in some cases, while in others they are practically useless because they attempt too much...Fourth, we find laws attempting to place the burden of law enforcement upon the dealer, regardless of the fact that the dealer does not enter the picture until the law has been broken beyond hope of repair and equally regardless of other laws covering the relations of and buyer and seller which, in these cases, absolutely tie the hands of the receiving house. Finally we find ourselves confronted with the problem of relative values of the animals we seek to conserve and the birds or animals upon which such animals prey, or, in the case of the beaver, the value of the beaver skin as compared to the damage he does to the lumber interests....The fur trade has too much at stake to permit the commercial extermination of species even in such an excellent cause as the conservation of wild life. We will throw all the influence we can command into the cause of conservation, but it must include conservation of fur-bearers....."

Machine Investment

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June 27 says: "An impression prevails that machinery represents a much larger share of the total farm investment than a few years back. The recently published report of an investigation of farm tenure and investment by the Nebraska College of Agriculture throws some interesting light on the matter. It discloses little change between 1860 and the present in the relative share of the farm investment represented by machinery. Where machinery stood for one dollar out of every twenty-five of the farm investment in 1860, including implements and automobiles it now stands for one out of every twenty-seven. This notwithstanding the fact that the present-day machinery on the farms investigated was seventeen times greater in value than the average in 1860. Other items in the farm investment have increased in value more rapidly than machinery--land and improvements particularly. These, it was revealed, had increased twentyfold since 1860 and represent eighty-eight out of every one hundred dollars of farm investment. The largest part of this is due to the increased value of land per acre, though an increase in the size of farms also had something to do with it. Probably the situation that was popularly believed to exist will be the case in the next few years. Land values, after their recent setback, will not increase at their former rate, whereas the larger acreages being farmed will require more machinery. This will be a sounder economical arrangement."

Taxation

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 25 says: "The Department of Agriculture has made a discovery. It has found out that local taxes are frequently devoted to purposes that benefit whole States, although the burdon is placed upon resident farmers. School and road taxes are cited as especially pertinent illustrations of the inequalities of our State tax systems which often place the heaviest impositions upon communities least able to bear them. The evils complained of are of long standing, but they are not essentially a rural problem any more than they are an urban problem. The difficulties of proper apportionment of tax burdens, when the tax units are small, arbitrary subdivisions are evident to all. Poor rural counties and poor rural school districts are unequally taxed and inadequately provided with roads and schools in States which make little or no provision to meet educational and transport needs from State resources. On the other hand, rich farming counties and opulent school districts may carry the burden very lightly. The same situation prevails in towns and cities. Some assume their tax burdens easily. In others there is overtaxation. Extension of the principle of State subsidies to localities generally means that the town contributes to the country, and frequently it implies a heavier contribution than is consonant with strict justice to the city taxpayer. Admitting the need for reforms in our decentralized systems of local taxation, it is very desirable to avoid a jump to the opposite extreme of too severe centralization of State revenues and expenditures. Districts which lose all care for local expenditures by being transferred to the class of the heavily subsidized, may be as great a menace to public welfare as undertaxed districts."

Tobacco Company Ruling

The press of June 25 says: "Representatives of the American Tobacco Company, the Imperial Tobacco Company, of England, and of the various tobacco cooperative associations of the United States will participate in a conference with the members of the Federal Trade Commission, at which will be considered a draft of a report to be submitted to President Coolidge upon the tobacco situation....The report is to be made in response to a resolution of the Senate calling for an investigation of allegations that these two companies have practically divided the tobacco production of the United States between them, wiping out competition in the buying and and operating generally against the cooperatives. The resolution demands that a final report with the conclusions of the commission be made to the President on July 1."

Utah Desert Survey

The Great Salt Lake Desert in Utah, covering many square miles and one of the largest areas included in the public domain of the United States remaining unsurveyed, is to be explored by the Government. Plans are under way by two bureaus of the Interior Department to invade this desert waste and conduct official surveys. The Geological Bureau is planning to make extensive investigations of the saline deposits in the entire area. Tracts of land found containing valuable salts will be designated and classified. The General Land Office through its Government surveyors will undertake the running over of the entire desert of the Salt Lake Base Line, First Standard Parallels North and South, the Third Guide Meridian West and such other controlling lines of the public land survey system as are deemed necessary. (Press, June 24.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The World's Work for July says: "The Secretary of Agriculture had hardly sat down in his Cabinet chair before he was confronted with the very troublesome problem of what to do about Dr.Marlatt and his Federal Horticultural Board. This board was given power by Congress to supervise the importation of plants and seeds into this country in order to prevent contagious plant diseases coming in. The contagious diseases have terrified the doctor and his board so that he has tended more and more to restrict importations. In fact, he intimated that exclusion was his ultimate goal. In the meanwhile a great protest has arisen from the horticultural trade and from such sources as the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard, the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden--institutions whose staffs are quite as scientific and quite as devoted to the public interest as are Dr. Marlatt and the Horticultural Board. So the Secretary of Agriculture has been confronted with the unpleasant duty of deciding a highly technical question, one on which the authorities do not agree. There was a very similar case in his department some years ago. Dr. Harvey W. Wiley was the head of the administration of the Pure Food Act. He was as much stirred up over the adulteration of foods as Dr. Marlatt is over the dangers of contagious plant diseases. Dr. Wiley's rules and regulations were upsetting the channels of business and the customs and convenience of the people, just as are Dr. Marlatt's activities now. In that case all kinds of charges were bandied back and forth and the controversy became so important that the President--then Theodore Roosevelt--took a hand in it and settled it. He appointed what was known as the Remsen Board--a consulting board of distinguished chemists not in the Government service. This board acted as a board of review for Dr. Wiley's decisions. As soon as that was done the question was solved. If that precedent were followed, the Secretary of Agriculture would appoint an outside board to review the work of the present board, which is made up of members of the Department of Agriculture. One board to watch another seems a useless duplication. And yet there is justification for it. A board made up of Government officials can never remain in the same state of mind as those outside. The temptation to use governmental power to direct other people is almost irresistible. This phenomenon of bureaucracy is recognized all over the world. It is extremely difficult for men long exposed to the fascination of the use of governmental power to remain moderate and wise in its use... While the public protest against Dr. Marlatt's policy is large and vigorous there is happily in this case none of the bitterness that attached to the Wiley case. Those who most vigorously question Dr.Marlatt's policy credit him with full sincereity and devotion to the public interest, and he has not charged any of his opponents with anything worse than the somewhat common desire to protect their business or the scientific researches they are engaged in, for the most important of his opponents have no greater pecuniary stake in the matter than Dr.Marlatt has."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 25: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.65 for the top and $12.85 to $13.55 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.75 to $12; butcher cows and heifers $4.35 to $12; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.25 to $11.25; fat lambs $14.75 to $17; yearlings $10.25 to $14.75; fat ewes $4.25 to $8.

Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes ranged $4.25 to $5.50 per barrel in leading markets; $4.50 to $4.75 f.o.b. East Shore points. Mississippi and Texas fours tomatoes advanced 10 to 25¢ to a range of $1.50 to $1.90 in consuming centers. Watermelon prices declining. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons averaging 22-30 pounds, ranged $100 to $350 lower at $300 to $470, bulk per car in terminal markets; $160 to $375 f.o.b. Valdosta, Ga. California cantaloupes were selling 25¢ to 75¢ higher than a week ago. Jobbing sales of Imperial Valley Salmon Tints were at $3.75 to $4.25 per standard 45 and f.o.b. sales were $2.65 to $3.00 at El Centro. Georgia Hiley peaches 50¢ lower f.o.b. at $1.75 to $2 per six basket carriers and bushel basket at Macon.

Grain prices quoted June 25: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56 to $1.74. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.94; Kansas City $1.60 to $1.66. No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.58 3/4; Kansas City $1.51 1/2 to $1.60 1/2; No.1 hard winter St. Louis $1.58. No.2 mixed corn Kansas City 97 to 97 1/2¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $1.02 3/4 to $1.03 1/2; Minneapolis 96 to 97¢. No. 2 yellow corn St. Louis $1.06 1/2 to $1.07 1/2: Kansas City $1.01. No.3 yellow corn Chicago $1.03 to $1.04; Minneapolis $1.00 to $1.01. No.2 white corn St. Louis $1.04 to $1.04 1/2; Kansas City 97 3/4 to 98 1/4¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 45 1/2 to 47 1/4¢; Minneapolis 42 5/8 to 42 7/8¢; St. Louis 48¢; No.2 white oats Kansas City 48 3/4¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 42¢; Chicago 42¢; Philadelphia 43¢; Boston 43¢.

Midling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets down 10 points, closing at 24.09¢ per lb. New York July future contracts down 15 points, closing at 23.25¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	June 25,	June 24,	June 25, 1924
	20 Industrials	128.28	127.80	93.67
	20 R.R. stocks	98.04	98.06	86.05

(Wall St. Jour., June 26.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XVII, No. 75 . Section 1 June 27, 1925.

GRAIN CLEARING HOUSE

A Michigan City, Ind., dispatch to the press to-day says: "A new modern clearing house may be set up in the grain exchange in the near future in an attempt to reduce price swings, President F. L. Carey, of the Chicago Board of Trade, told the Indiana Grain Dealers' Convention June 26. The clearing house, he said, was suggested by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine in a recent conference. Mr. Carey said that the department and the exchange were working in close cooperation, and that a study was being made under the guidance of the department of means to prevent price swings."

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONFERENCE

A dispatch from Brussels to the press to-day says: "The efforts of the 270 American delegates to the congress of the International Chamber of Commerce bore fruit at the final session yesterday when the congress passed resolutions declaring that the interallied debts must be settled and affirming the belief of the congress that the Dawes plan is workable. In addition, the congress ratified unanimously a resolution based upon a report submitted by Fred Kent, of the Bankers' Trust Company, providing for a new effort to level trade barriers and promote international commerce, and, above all, pointing the way for the Reparations Transfer Committee to effect the transfer under the Dawes plan without disturbing the world's exchange markets..... Other resolutions adopted provide for fixing the date of Easter, after collaborating with the League of Nations, as the first essential calendar reform; the creation of commissions to coordinate international aerial transport and telephones, and to improve railroad and sea transport by providing through tickets with sea and land coupons; to study a means of taxing motortrucks and to remove the present unfair competition with railroads, which all are contributing to the upkeep of highways; to present a score of technical resolutions covering improvements in shipping regulations,methods of protecting industrial copyrights, designs, labels, etc....."

THE PRESIDENT OPPOSES TARIFF CUT

A Swampscott, Mass., dispatch to the New York Times to-day says: "President Coolidge, in his first press conference at the summer White House, June 26, repulsed the suggestion of Sir Josiah Stamp before the congress of the International Chamber of Commerce in Brussels that the United States in common with other nations should curtail production and lower tariff walls to enable Germany to pay reparations. In the most vigorous language he has used in discussing this international question, Mr. Coolidge's position was set forth unmistakably. His attitude is that the people of the United States would not undertake a plan or be a party to one that would result in making this country pay the reparations or cancel the debts owing to it....."

Section 2.

Florida County Fruit Shipments

C. W. Stewart, secretary of the Sumter County Chamber of Commerce, Bushnell, Fla., has compiled data showing the railroad record of fruit and vegetable shipments from Sumter county in 1924. Last year this county shipped 2,334 carloads of fruits and vegetables, including 325 cars of beans, 245 cars of cucumbers, 759 cars of cabbage, 321 cars of tomatoes, 228 cars of citrus fruits, 371 cars of melons and 85 cars of mixed crops. In the last two years this one Florida county has produced and shipped 4,886 carloads of fruits and vegetables. While the area of Sumter County is 599 square miles, only 48 square miles are under cultivation at present. (Manufacturers Record, June 25.)

Foreign Trade

A Seattle dispatch to the press of June 26 states that speaking on "American Banking and World Rehabilitation," Henry M. Robinson of the First National Bank of Los Angeles, June 25 declared before the National Foreign Trade Convention that the imposition of conditions upon foreign borrowers, in order to protect our own nationals engaged in production and manufacturing, is, under normal conditions, "an unwise course." From the practical business standpoint, he said, the free movement of credits outweighs other disadvantages. He urged, however, that bankers take into consideration the fact that loans should be made with a view to their effect on the business life of the country. "To the extent that American loans made abroad are sound and not excessive," he said, "and to the extent that the making of such loans has reduced interest rates and made possible borrowing therefore impossible, the pressure to sell, irrespective of price, has been relieved, and to some degree at least competitive pressure has been reduced." Mr. Robinson said he expected to see a more serious effect on competitive conditions in world trade when the normal annuity to be paid by Germany is reached by the end of the fifth year of the Dawes plan. The amount of reparations collected in Germany to be deposited in the Reichsbank for the credit of the Allies then will be about $625,000,000 a year. "When this amount is collected and placed to the credit of the Allies, unless Germany has made unlooked for expansions of exports over imports, the pressure of the desire to realize on these credits will result in many types of ingenious schemes for such realization," he added.

Lake State Lands

Sioux City Daily Live Stock Record for June 23 says: "The Detroit News is worrying because a third of the land in the three lake states, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, is idle. 'The proper utilization of this land requires the best thought of our land economists, our State and Federal agriculturists and foresters and taxation experts,' it declares. And it wants to know whether we are to witness the fruition of some plan, some method that will put these idle acres to work, producing some crop, the revenue from which will contribute its share to the cost of running our State and county affairs, says the Chicago Drovers Journal. When will city doctors of agriculture learn that idle

land always has been and always will be brought under production when it is profitable to do so, and not before? Some day that land will be under the plow, or most of it will be. But that day isn't here yet. It is economic law and not theory that will fix the date."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 26: Chicago hog prices closed at $13.65 for the top and $12.75 to $13.60 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.75 to $12; butcher cows and heifers $4.35 to $12; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves $9.50 to $11.50; fat lambs $14.75 to $17.10; yearlings $10.25 to $14.75; fat ewes $4.25 to $8.

Virginia Irish Cobblers advanced 60¢ to 75¢ at East Shore points to a range of $4.50 to $4.75 per barrel f. o. b. and in eastern cities were jobbing 25¢ to 50¢ higher at $4.50 to $5.50. Prices of California Salmon Tint cantaloupes dropped 50¢ to $1 f. o. b. El Centro to $2.25 per standard 45. Hiley peaches 25¢ to 40¢ lower at Macon, Ga., closing at $1.75 to $2 per bushel basket and six basket carrier f. o. b. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 pound average ranged $150 to $300 lower at $300 to $450 bulk per car in distributing centers; $210 to $400 f. o. b. Valdosta, Ga. Tomatoes tending upward. Mississippi wrapped fours jobbing at $1.25 to $1.60 with Tennessee stock $1.60 to $2.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 31¢; Chicago 41 to 41 1/4¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted June 26: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.56 1/2 to $1.74 1/2. No. 2 red winter St. Louis $1.95; Kansas City $1.65 to $1.66. No. 2 hard winter St. Louis $1.55. No. 2 mixed corn Chicago $1.04 1/4 to $1.05 1/2; Kansas City 98 to 99¢; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 97 to 98¢; No. 2 yellow corn Chicago $1.05 1/2 to $1.06 1/2; St. Louis $1.07 1/2 to $1.08; Kansas City $1.03. No. 3 yellow corn Minneapolis $1.02 to $1.03. No. 2 white corn Chicago $1.05 1/2; St. Louis $1.04; Kansas City 99 to 99 1/2¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 45 to 46 3/4¢; Minneapolis 42 3/4 to 43¢; St. Louis 47 1/2 to 48¢; Kansas City 46 1/2 to 47¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 37 points during the week, closing at 24.46¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 47 points, closing at 23.72¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads	Average closing price	June 26,	June 25,	June 26, 1924.
	20 Industrials	129.17	128.28	94.71
	20 R. R. stocks	98.41	98.04	86.41

(Wall St. Jour., June 27.)

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol.XVII, No. 76 Section 1 June 29, 1925

THE PRESIDENT AND TAX REDUCTION

A Swampscott, Mass., dispatch to the press of June 28 says: "Estimates based upon the latest returns from the June 15 tax payments, received by President Coolidge June 27 from the Treasury officials, indicate that the surplus for the fiscal year ending next Tuesday will run nearer $250,000,000 than the $200,000,000 estimated in previous figures furnished to him and used in his speech before the business organization of the Government last Monday. President Coolidge now feels confident that if the expenditures of the Government are kept down to the lowest figures consistent with efficiency, and the next Congress revises the postal rates to overcome the present deficiency, he can make good his desire to bring about a $400,000,000 tax reduction in the next Congress....."

A Washington report of June 29 states that the Federal Government will complete the fiscal year Tuesday with a surplus in excess of $245,000,000, nearly $50,000,000 greater than any previous estimate and more than twice as large as was calculated when the year began.

HEALTH MEN DEFEND MILK AS FOOD

The New York Times to-day says: "The excellence of milk as a food was affirmed yesterday by many health experts in answer to statements made by Dr. John P. Sutherland, former dean of the Boston Medical University School of Medicine, who, in an address last week before the American Institute of Homeopathy, raised doubt whether milk should be generally used for human consumption. Announcement of their opinions was made by the Producers' and Consumers' Organizing Committee which aims at consolidation of the food distributors' agencies in the metropolitan area....Among the experts from whom opinions on Professor Sutherland's address were obtained by the committee were : Dr. Charles E. North, secretary of the National Commission on Milk Standards, who organized and directed the study of pasteurization carried on under the auspices of the United States Public Health Service; Dr. William H. Park, Director of the Research Laboratories of the New York Health Department; Graham Lusk, Professor of Food and Chemistry at the Cornell University Medical College; Dr. S. Josephine Baker, former Chief of the Division of Child Hygiene of the New Health Department, and Dr. Walter Lester Carr, Secretary of the Milk Commission of the New York County Medical Society....."

WOOL CONTROL SCHEME

A London dispatch to the press to-day says: "Strong opposition in trade and financial circles has developed to the suggested Australian scheme for the stabilization of wool prices. Financial circles object on the ground that artificial prices are bad for any industry. Trade circles regard it as yet another attempt to squeeze the last penny out of wool manufacturers. The Australian Wool Realization Association in England was brought to an end in order that wool might more quickly reach an economic basis. Now that prices have come down with a run and the wool trade has recovered, this fresh attempt to devise a scheme for the sole benefit of the wool growers has aroused the strongest sort of opposition....."

Section 2

British Agricultural Policy

An editorial in The Estate Magazine (London) for June says: "The memorandum on agricultural policy just issued by the National Farmers' Union is a perfectly frank and notable pronouncement. It does not claim that farmers should settle the agricultural policy of the Nation, but it does suggest that the Nation should say what is expected of the farmer in the matter of home production of food. If it be the will of the Nation that farming shall be conducted upon ordinary business lines the industry will continue to adapt its enterprise accordingly. If, on the other hand, the Nation demands from the industry results which are in themselves uneconomic and is prepared to foot the bill, farmers will be willing to consider such proposals, but before becoming parties to a bargain on these lines they would require to be satisfied that the history of Part 1, of the Agriculture act (1920) was not likely to be repeated. Farmers believe that they have good grounds for their view that the treatment accorded to them by successive Governments falls short of fair play. There are no safeguards for home production, while foreign food-exporting countries and the Dominions have openly assisted their primary producers by bounties, subventions, and in other ways in the exportation, transportation, and marketing of their exportable surpluses. They complain that an Imperial Economic Conference, appointed to make recommendations in respect to the grant of 1,000,000 pounds a year to foster the marketing of Empire produce in Great Britain, while it gives representation to the Irish Free State, shuts out the producers of Great Britain, who must content themselves with 'helping as taxpayers to undermine their own industry by assisting their own competitors.'"

Cotton in Australia

It is estimated that the cotton yield in Queensland will be between 10,000 and 14,000 bales. A total of 5,031 bales has been ginned and 4,122 bales have been shipped. Tenders have been received for 1,108 bales for use in Australian industries. Shareholders have authorized the directors of the British Australian Cotton Association Ltd. to enter into an agreement with the Queensland Council of Agriculture to grant an option to purchase the association's physical assets in Queensland by an association to be formed under provisions of the Primary Producers Cooperative act of 1923. The option will have a currency of two years. This proposal, which originated out of an agitation among Queensland growers to establish ginneries, will give growers control of the ginneries already established by the British Australian Cotton Growers' Association. (N.Y. Office of Australian Commission.)

Cotton for Russia

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for June 26 says: "The All Russian Textile Syndicate reports purchases of cotton during the present year to the amount of $36,300,000, which represents an increase in volume of about 30 per cent over the preceding year. The rise in shipments is cited by the local buying syndicate as proof that the Russian textile industry is reviving because the peasant is purchasing more freely. Recent news from Russia, although emanating chiefly from interested governmental sources, appears to confirm the view that there has been a general and fairly pronounced increase in productive activity. This industrial improvement fortunately does not seem to have been accompanied by any disturbing inflationary practices which might have given an artificial and unsound stimulus to trade and industry. The revival of peasant demand has, however, been contemporaneous with a very pronounced trend away from Communist

policies following a period of reaction. Land in Russia is now leased for rent; men may be hired to work on the land, and they may work beyond the customary eight-hour day. In other words, a movement toward peasant capitalism appears to be in full swing as a consequence of the unsatisfactory outcome of attempts at subdivision along too severely Communistic lines, with too little land and sometimes no capital for working it in many individual cases. If the new policy is sustained and good crops can be had for a series of years, a lasting economic renascence would seem possible, based upon the only practicable foundation, namely, the economic power of the Russian agricultural masses."

Dairymen to Meet

The ninth annual meeting of the National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation will be held in Philadelphia November 23, 24, and 25. This announcement was made June 29 by Charles W. Holman, national secretary. The Federation has accepted the invitation of the Inter-State Milk Producers' Association of Philadelphia to hold its annual meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting of that association. Representatives of leading cooperative associations of the United States will attend the meeting and several internationally known authorities will address the sessions. The present membership of the federation consists of approximately 300,000 active dairy farmers directly affiliated with the twenty-eight regional associations extending from New England across the Dairy Belt to the Pacific Coast. These associations do an aggregate business of approximately $400,000,000. They are divided into twenty-four regional fluid milk associations; two State-wide cooperative cfeamery associations; one Federation of Cooperative Cheese Producers operating in two States, and one State-wide association dealing with the manufacturing of milk and the production of butter.

Federal Finances

An editorial in The New York Times of June 26 says: "In his address at Seattle on Wednesday, Mr. James A. Farrell in discussing the general outlook for our foreign commerce gave as a final reason for confidence in the future the fact that 'the whole world is growing.' Certainly the revenues of the United States and the Treasury surplus keep on growing. The estimates for even the present fiscal year, which ends June 30, have had continually to be revised upward. Last December the 1925 surplus was placed by Secretary Mellon at a little less than $70,000,000. Later the figure was raised from time to time, until President Coolidge was able to announce before he left Washington that it will in the end prove to be nearer $200,000,000. At the same time the Treasury officials and the Director of the Bureau of the Budget gave out an estimate of the surplus a year from now, which they place at fully $300,000,000. This, it will be noted, is after allowing for the reduction of income taxes payable this year on the returns for 1924. The existence of this great surplus does not lull the administration into a feeling of complacency, or into bidding the country eat, drink and be merry. It is not acting on that fatuous saying of a would-be statesman of an earlier day: 'A surplus is easier to handle than a deficit.' A large surplus lays large and serious duties upon the Government. The public debt must be wisely reduced. That has been done by successive Secretaries of the Treasury, and Mr. Mellon has directed his financing to redemption of debt, to a virtual refunding of parts of it at a lower rate of interest, and to arranging the short-time and maturing obligations of the Government so that they will not be due for payment except at convenient periods. But

the prime use of surplus funds is to cut down taxation proved needless by the very existence of a large surplus. Treasury officials are already in consultation with members of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives in preparing a bill for the benefit of the taxpayers... Unreasonably high taxes result in unexpectedly low returns. Meanwhile they hamper business and increase the cost of living ."

Industrial Revolution in Agriculture

An editorial in Wallace's Farmer for June 19 says: "Economists of some rank think they see the day approaching when the industrial revolution will overwhelm agriculture as we know it to-day. They see the family farm as a match for the old handicraft system of the towns, and feel that it, too, is bound to be succeeded by the corporation farm. They point to the great ranches of South America, where beef cattle are turned out almost as efficiently as washing machines from a factory in Iowa. They point to great wheat ranches in our West and in Canada, where the technique of management is that of a great industrial corporation. These corporations, they say, can produce food products at a lesser cost than our family farms. And as a consequence, our family farms are doomed to disappear just as the craftsman disappeared before the factory. The fact that the average size of our farms is increasing is used to back up this argument. This may be in the future. We are happy to think that the change is not likely to come in our own time. The farmer of to-day is an individual; we do not want to see him a cog in a machine...There is a way out, of course, So far, farmers have pretty generally accepted urban and industrial civilization as a model. They have tried to make the farming business and farm life as near like city business and city life as possible. This is the wrong road, and the road hardly any farmer consciously would wish to take, once he saw where it led. We can, if we will, build up a rural civilization with distinctive features of its own....We must learn that the machinery of modern civilization, the methods of modern civilization, must be servants rather than masters, that men are not to worship them as gods, but to use them as tools whose only value is to add to the happiness of human lives."

Production Control

An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for June 19 says: "....Laws regulating the relationship of individuals to one another can be enforced but it is quite another matter to enforce a law which will direct the activities of persons engaged in farming or any other occupation. We can not conceive of legislation directing the farmers of this country in the planting of crops and determining just how many acres they shall plant to each one, just how many hogs shall be grown, and how many hens shall be permitted to lay eggs, or what calves shall be raised for milking purposes and those that shall be used for veal. Even if we did have such laws they would not control production. We would still have the rainfall, the insects, and other elements to contend with. If a farmer were told to plant twenty acres of corn or ten acres of wheat, to raise five heifer calves or 100 pullets, and he did not want to raise these crops or animals in that proportion, would he do it? If he did, would he care for all these crops as they should be cared for? If he desired to milk twenty cows and he were legislated to milk but ten but could dispose of all of the milk of twenty with a profit to himself, would he follow the instructions to milk ten cows? Who would see to it that he followed these instructions? What an army of men it would take to enforce a law of this character! It is going too far in legislation when the Government begins to send its representatives to the farm homes to tell the farmer just what

to plant, how much to plant, and how to operate the other activities of the farm and home. The Nation is doomed that adopts any such legislation. It would be taking a backward step as we can see little difference between the Government directing the operations of the farmers and the old feudal system....."

Rubber Shipments — World rubber shipments for the first third of 1925 amounted to 146,555 tons, of which amount 135,487 tons were plantation rubber and 11,068 tons wild rubber. In the corresponding period there were 154,200 tons retained for consumption, of which 117,501 tons were retained by the United States. Under the restriction policy in force the revised standard production for 1925, according to advices received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British information service totals 326,000 tons:- 260,000 from British Malaya and 66,000 tons from Ceylon. An additional 15,000 tons will be allowed to be exported under "special allowance". The estimate of the world's requirements for rubber in 1925 is 503,500 tons, and it is assumed that of this amount 38,812 tons will have to be met out of stocks, the balance coming from new production. From the first of May of this year the exports permitted amount to 65 % of the "standard production," a 10 % quarterly increase is allowed, should the price of rubber average 1s 6d per pound or over. The present rate of consumption is estimated to require an export permit of 80 %. The highest price of plantation rubber in the four months was 1s 9 1/2d and the lowest 1s 4 5/8d, or an average of 1s 7 1/8d, comparing with an average of 1s 1 1/8d for 1924.

Tires from Corn — An editorial in Farm Implement News for June 18 says: "Implement dealers who attended the latest convention of the Wisconsin association were told by J. R. Howard, first president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, that more than 150 articles of commerce are now made from corn. He also stated that a synthetic rubber suitable for automobile tires has been made from corn and the only reason the manufacture of corn tires had not been undertaken on a commercial scale was that the cost thus far is greater than the cost of genuine rubber tires. He added that corn tires would be more durable than rubber tires. We recalled these statements when we read what Secretary Hoover had to say recently in regard to the supply of rubber. Great Britain now controls about 75 per cent of the rubber supply of the world, while the United States, on account of the enormous number of automobiles and motor trucks in use here, consumes about 70 per cent of all rubber produced....We hope Mr. Howard's information is correct. If it is the Government will do well to turn its attention to the possibility of utilizing corn for tire production."

Wool Situation — The New York Times of June 28 says: "Pending the resumption of the foreign auction sales of wool not much is transpiring in this field, although the interest continues unabated. The first of the sales is scheduled for London, to begin a week from Tuesday, and the prices then obtained will afford the first indication of the trend of the market....The present intention is to offer 120,000 bales during July and a similar quantity the month following."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended June 26: Chicago hog prices ranged from 25 to 50¢ higher than a week ago, closing at $13.65 for the top and $12.75 to $13.60 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers 25 to 75¢ higher at $8.75 to $12; butcher cows and heifers 25¢ to $1 higher at $4.35 to $12; feeder steers at $5.40 to $8.25; light and medium weight veal calves 75¢ to $1 higher at $9.50 to $11.50; fat lambs 75¢ to 85¢ higher at $14.75 to $17.10; yearlings steady to 75¢ higher at $10.25 to $14.75; fat ewes 25 to 50¢ higher at $4.25 to $8.

New potatoes mostly higher. Virginia Irish Cobblers advanced 60¢ to 75¢ at East Shore points to a range of $4.50 to $4.75 per barrel f.o.b. and in eastern cities were jobbing 25¢ to 50¢ higher at $4.50 to $5.50. Prices of California Salmon Tint cantaloupes dropped 50¢ to $1 f.o.b. El Centro to $2.25 per standard 45. Hiley peaches 25¢ to 40¢ lower at Macon, Ga. closing at $1.75 to $2 per bushel basket and six basket carrier f.o.b. Florida and Georgia Tom Watson watermelons 22-30 pound average range $150 to $300 lower at $300 to $450 bulk per car in distributing centers; $210 to $400 f.o.b. Valdosta, Ga. Tomatoes tending upward. Mississippi wrapped fours jobbing at $1.25 to $1.60 with Tennessee stock $1.60 to $2. Grain market irregularly lower. Corn prices about 6 to 7 cents lower than week ago on big improvement in crop condition. Oats down on improved conditions, large receipts, and weakness in corn. Wheat futures 2 to 5 cents lower than week ago on continued favorable reports foreign countries and lessened fears rust damage. Export demand slack but mills absorbing good quality offerings.

Butter markets featured by rather erratic movements during the week ending June 26, with heavier supplies and nervousness regarding prevailing prices as a storing level the controlling factors. Beneficial rains in producing sections have made conditions more favorable there. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 41¢; Chicago 41 1/8¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Cheese markets have been unsettled for some weeks and further weakness developed on the Wisconsin Cheese Boards on June 19, where declines of 1/2¢ were effective. Wholesale prices on Wisconsin primary markets June 25: Twins 21 1/2¢; Single Daisies 22¢; Longhorns 22¢; Square Prints 23¢.

Hay market continues upward trend. Interior markets very firm although California markets and Boston barely steady. Timothy firm with higher prices. Alfalfa and prairie steady to firm. Quoted June 26: No.1 timothy Boston $24.75; New York $25.50; Pittsburgh $22; Cincinnati $23.25; Chicago $26; St. Louis $26.50; Memphis $27. No.1 alfalfa - Kansas City $18; Omaha $16.50; Memphis $25. No.1 prairie - Kansas City $11; Omaha $12; Chicago $18; St. Louis $16.50; Minneapolis $17.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 27 points during the week, closing at 24.46¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 34 points, closing at 23.72¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 27,	June 26,	June 27, 1924
20 Industrials	129.73	129.17	95.33
20 R.R. stocks	98.57	98.41	86.22

(Wall St. Jour., June 29.)

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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol.XVII, No. 77 Section 1 June 30, 1925.

GOVERNORS ASKED TO HELP TAX REDUCTION

A Poland Springs, Me., dispatch to the press to-day says: "The need of a Nation-wide nonpolitical organization to conduct a campaign of retrenchment in State, county and municipal expenditures, similar to the program now being carried out by the Federal Government, was stressed June 29 by Brig. Gen. Herbert M. Lord, Director of the Bureau of the Budget, in an address before the seventeenth annual conference of State Governors in session at Poland Springs. 'As a result of this economy campaign, in which we have been, still are and will continue to be engaged, we can point to the Federal Government as an example of courageous retrenchment,' General Lord said. 'While public expenditures, taxation and indebtedness of the small divisions of the Government in this country have been mounting higher and higher in a most dangerous and alarming degree, the Federal Government has set an example of reduction in spending, reduction in taxation and reduction in indebtedness that can be followed with profit by our States, counties, cities and towns.....'"

CHAIRMAN GREEN ON THE TARIFF

An editorial in to-day's Washington Post says: "William R.Green, of Iowa, chairman of the House ways and means committee, in an authorized statement makes it clear that he is in thorough accord with President Coolidge on the inadvisability of operning up the tariff question in the coming session of the Sixty-ninth Congress. Chairman Smoot, of the Senate finance committee, has made his position known, and the attitude of these three statesmen more responsible than anybody else for the Government's policy with respect to the tariff, ought to be a sufficient warning to those who are willing to stabilize Europe at the expense of the United States. Chairman Green recently returned from an extended tour of Europe, during which he carefully studied economic conditions in the countries he visited, and with particular reference to tax and tariff questions. He is more firmly convinced now than ever before that it would be disastrous to the people of the United States for Congress to make any change looking to a reduction in rates of duty. His observations abroad have shown him that if tariff concessions are given, American producers will be confronted with an influx of products from low cost-producing countries....."

GOVERNMENT RESERVATION IN VIRGINIA URGED

A Charlottesville, Va., dispatch to the press of June 30 states that leaders in the movement to establish a national park in the Blue Ridge region of Virginia met June 29 at the University of Virginia, effected a Statewide organization and selected a representative board to handle the campaign to raise $2,000,000 to purchase the 426,000 acres in the proposed reserve. The report of the joint committee on plan of procedure, unanimously adopted, recommended that a corporation be formed without capital stock to receive monies or donations of land in the area to be transferred to the Government for park purposes.

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Section 2

Alaskan Deer Conservation

An editorial in Hunter-Trader-Trapper--July, 1925, says: "In the early part of February telegrams were received by the Biological Survey from game wardens and from chambers of commerce at Juneau and other towns of southeastern Alaska, stating that an unusually heavy snowfall had made it impossible for the deer to obtain food and had driven them down to the beaches on the coastal island, where they were forced to feed on kelp and were starving. Urgent requests were made for help. Unfortunately, none of the funds of the Biological Survey were legally available to use for such a purpose. Appreciating the interest taken in perpetuating our wild life by various conservation organizations, an appeal was made to them for help to meet this situation. As a consequence, the National Association of Audubon Societies, the Conservation Committee of the Camp-Fire Club of America, the American Game Protection Association, and the American Humane Association, all very promptly and generously contributed a total of $2,319 which was immediately sent to a bank in Juneau to the credit of the Biological Survey game warden in charge at that point, to be utilized in purchasing and distributing hay and to hire men to chop down trees to supply forage for the starving deer. A survey of the situation was made and relief measures at once organized. In this work the Government was represented by the Biological Survey, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Fisheries, while the Alaskans themselves made local contributions of work and funds. The reports received to date have been encouraging and it is hoped that the danger which threatened to nearly or quite wipe out the Sitka deer, which are peculiar to southeastern Alaska, has been successfully met and overcome. The prompt response of the conservation organizations in the eastern United States in meeting this danger to Alaska's game is a fine proof of the practical value of their interest in wild life. The outcome of this service should serve as a bond of fellowship between the Alaskans and conservationists of the United States, who have for years taken a very active and friendly interest in the maintenance of Alaska's great resources in wild life."

Cooperative Marketing in Ontario

An editorial in Ontario Farmer (Toronto) for June 27 says: "The financial statement of the Ontario Turnip Growers' Co-Operative Limited, which was passed by that organization at its annual meeting in Galt, on June 18th, presented some eye-opening figures on the cost of merchandising farm products. The terrific spread between the producer's selling prices and the consumer's buying price has always been difficult to understand--in fact, impossible to understand without access to a tabulation of the various items entering into such spread.....In the report of the annual meeting, which appears on another page of this issue, it will be noted that the average price received by growers was 12 cents per bushel. This apparent discrepancy is accounted for by the fact that an amount sufficient to make up the extra half cent per bushel is available to the association on August 1, 1925, but could not be included in the auditor's figures. At first glance it would appear that the management must have been guilty of gross inefficiency in the matter of selling turnips, or that there was a 'nigger in the woodpile' somewhere. But the figures presented in the Trading Account showed that the great percentage of this total cost of selling was absolutely beyond the control of the management." The editorial presents a detailed tabulation showing the distribution of $369,608.07 in costs incident to a sale of turnips totaling $473,411.27, leaving a profit of $103,803.20 as the sum for distribution to the growers.

Crop Insurance

Sioux City Live Stock Record for June 25 says: "For years the experts employed by our great insurance companies have been at work on the problem of crop insurance. Thus far they have not succeeded in solving it, though a few have made some costly experiments with it. One company lost $1,700,000 in a single year in one of these experiments, says the National Stockman and Farmer. All this does not signify that there is no solution. By such experiments all problems of this kind are worked out, and some day the farmer may be able to cover such risks as nature imposes on him in his particular territory. The proposition that the Federal Government establish a system of crop insurance is unsound from every standpoint. It is evident that such insurance must be cafried out on a regional and not a national basis if it is to be equitable. It is clear enough, also, that private enterprise can do almost anything cheaper and better than the Government can do it. Cooperative crop insurance has been proposed on the assumption that it can succeed as cooperative fire insurance does in many localities. But even a little reflection will show that a larger unit is necessary in crop insurance than in cooperative fire insurance, for a limited area subject to the same weather conditions may suffer a disaster that would ruin any logical enterprise. Probably we should leave the experimenting in this problem where it now is, with those companies which have the means to carry it on."

Electricity on the Farm

The New York Times of June 27 says: "Tests of national importance in the farm electrification field are being carried on by the Commonwealth Power Corporation, and, according to B. C. Cobb, vice president of the company, the matter of rural electric service is to-day a problem of foremost significance which is being solved by such intensive study as he reports. 'Having passed beyond the urban confines of electric service and developed a standard solution of suburban electrification, the next area to which this industry must address itself is the farm,' Mr. Cobb said. 'Whether the farm can be properly served at such rates as will compensate the companies for cost of extensions and at the same time have rates low enough to justify the farmer in using electricity, remains to be seen. To this end, the Consumers Power Company, the Michigan subsidiary of the Commonwealth Power Corporation has just completed a rural experimental line for practical research into this problem. This electric line is one of the first in the country built exclusively for this purpose--in a selected territory and designed for specific tests. After a survey of rural areas, a district near Parma, Mich., was selected. The line, recently completed, extends six miles and serves twenty-six representative farms of varying sizes, as well as two schools, one being of the newer modern design with electric equipment, and a rural church.'...."

Forestry School in Australia

The Government of the Commonwealth of Australia has decided to establish a school of forestry in the territory of the Federal Capital. The Federal Government will bear the cost of buildings, maintenance and the salaries of the teaching staff. Subsistence will be borne by students or by the State Governments nominating students. An expert adviser has been commissioned by the Commonwealth Government to investigate the forestry position. At present 42.18 per cent of Australian lumber requirements is met by imports. The area under forests in Australia is given as 69,054,000 acres, but the area of commercial forests is estimated at 24,500,000 acres. Imported lumber is practically all soft woods of the pine family. In 1923-24 the imports of dressed and undressed lumber, including logs, totalled 441,637,176 super feet, of which the United States

supplied 234,401,735 and Canada 58,088,707 super feet respectively. During the past two years Scandinavian softwoods have been slowly and surely regaining the position held in Australian markets in the pre-war period. (N.Y. Office of Australian Commission.)

Motor Transport

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for June 27, says: "At the present rate of output he would be a bold man who announced the saturation point in motor cars. To-day there are close on 19,000,000 motor vehicles using our streets and highways. One thing that might bring about a saturation point would be congestion as a result of clumsy laws and ordinances still more clumsily administered....There is no parallel in the railroad, which moves as rapidly as possible on what it knows to be a clear track. The truth is that the laws are antiquated and that they should be remodeled to make forty miles an hour or more an allowable speed in given conditions, but to extend to the regulators of traffic the power to enforce a true test, not that of speed, but of safety. Traffic policemen say that the inexperienced and untested driver is as dangerous at a slow speed as a high one and actually more dangerous in congested traffic....Motor regulations are like the overwhelming majority of our other laws, more honored in the breach than the observance. It is uneconomic to spend up to $50,000 a mile (almost first-class railroad cost) on building highways, only to discard the advantage of high but safe speed. The way to get a car off the road is to let it get to its destination as soon as possible. Our speed regulations are out of date and our safety regulations do not intelligently take advantage of the experience of the police who regulate the traffic."

Rubber Situation

A London dispatch to the press of June 29 says: "In reply to questions, the Government has made it quite clear that it will not interfere with the rubber restriction scheme. The rubber trade thinks that what it regards as misguided agitation to smash the scheme will now cease entirely. Manufacturers are now blamed for the present position. It is believed that if they had not neglected the safety device which was inserted into the scheme for their benefit there would have been at least 20,000 more tons of rubber available to-day....New points in the general rubber situation are that the 1925 crop is not giving expected yield, that Chinese unrest may spread to other parts of the East, and interfere with shipping and therefore with exports of rubber, and that with the automatic increase in the export allowance there is likely to be a large extra demand for labor on the Malay plantations which it will be impossible to supply. Such conditions will make the current price of about two shillings per pound for 1926 rubber look none too high."

Sugar in Australia

The official estimate of the 1925 sugar crop in Australia is recorded as 468,000 tons in Queensland and 31,000 tons in New South Wales. Local needs are computed at 294,000 tons, leaving 205,000 tons for export. (.N.Y. Office of Australian Commission.)

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

1 Sioux City Live Stock Record for June 26 says: "In this campaign of the Department of Agriculture in the matter of getting the country right on the questions of meat, it is not understood that there is any intention of prohibiting the sale of meats cut from the carcasses of poor to half fat animals. But it is the intent to stop the sale of inferior meats at prime meat prices. There is no intent to stop the sale of 'dog meat,' nor is there intent to stop the consumer from buying these cheap priced meats if he so elects. But it is the intent, as it is understood, to prohibit misrepresentation in the sale of meats across the retail counter--to stop the retailer from putting common cow beef on his counter and representing it to be corn fed steer beef. If that kind of business is being done, there is not a doubt that it is, the campaign should not stop with prohibition of such misrepresentation--the stoppage should stop only when the men who make the misrepresentations are inside the walls of penitentiaries, and sentenced for life. And we suspect that a campaign pushed to this climax would make an awful, gaping void down Main Street. It is hardly presumable that any of the packers who are under Government supervision and inspection are attempting to sell number 2 cow carcass for fat steer beef--and it occurs to us that if the Department of Agriculture can straighten out the retailers and restaurants down Main Street the final result will be to the advantage of both producer and consumer. If the Department of Agriculture can't win its campaign, then....let us have the clean-up of the meat business turned over to the War Department with its loaded guns."

2 An editorial in The Northwestern Miller for June 24 says: "Further and tremendously convincing evidence of the desire of the Government to promote the prosperity of American industry is furnished by the organization of a special grain and flour section within the Department of Commerce. The new section, in charge of Theodore D. Hammatt, is to operate as a part of the foodstuffs division, directed by E. G. Montgomery, which, in turn, is under general supervision of Julius Klein, director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. It has the added advantage of the personal interest of Secretary Hoover, who is desirous that the newly created section shall become an active agency in the promotion of American trade in grain and flour abroad....For the present the grain and flour section will devote itself principally to such helpful activities as are made possible through its contacts with the machinery and facilities of both the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture. These departments, under direction of Secretaries Hoover and Jardine, are now in full accord, and it is certain that, with complete cooperation and with the facilities of both departments available to the grain and flour section, it will be able to render valuable service to the milling industry and the grain trade. It is unhappily true that such service as the Government has on previous occasions sought to render to milling has not been inspiring. With the practical good sense which characterizes the present administration, and especially with such sound men as Secretary Hoover and Secretary Jardine in charge, much more is to be expected from the present plans for helpful cooperation. The circumstance that Sydney Anderson, president of the Millers' National Federation, has his office in Washington, where direct contact is possible, adds to this premise."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products June 29: Georgia Hiley peaches ranged generally $1 to $2 lower, sixes and bushel basket closing at $2 to $3.25 in consuming centers; $1.50 to $2 f.o.b. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes declined sharply at shipping points to $1.50 to $1.60 per standard 45 or about half last weeks price. Virginia Irish Cobbler potatoes brought $4.50 to $5.25 per barrel in eastern cities and $4.50 to $4.65 f.o.b. East Shore points. Georgia Tom Watson watermelons $50 lower f.o.b. Valdosta than a week ago at $225 to $350 bulk per car for 22-30 pound average stock. Arrivals from Georgia and Florida in leading markets weakened at $280 to $450 bulk per car and 30¢ to 50¢ on a unit basis.

Chicago hog prices closed at $13.75 for the top and $12.90 to $13.70 for the bulk. Medium and good beef steers $8.50 to $12.15; butcher cows and heifers $4.15 to $12; feeder steers $5.40 to $8.25 and light and medium weight veal calves $9 to $11; fat lambs $14.50 to $16.85; yearlings $10.25 to $14.50; fat ewes $4.25 to $8.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 41 1/4¢; Chicago 40 3/4 to 41¢; Philadelphia 42¢; Boston 42¢.

Grain prices quoted June 29: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis $1.48 to $1.66. No.2 red winter St. Louis $1.80 to $1.86. No.1 hard winter St. Louis $1.50; No.2 hard winter Chicago $1.49 to $1.51 1/2. No.2 mixed corn Chicago $1.01; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 92 1/2 to 93 1/2¢; No.2 yellow corn Chicago $1.01 1/4 to $1.02 1/2; Minneapolis 97 1/2 to 98¢; St. Louis $1.03 1/2 to $1.04. No.3 white corn St. Louis $1.01 to $1.01 1/2. No.3 white oats Chicago 42 1/2 45 1/4¢; Minneapolis 40 1/8 to 40 3/8¢; St. Louis 45 1/2 to 46¢.

Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets advanced 13 points, closing at 24.71¢ per lb. New York July future contracts advanced 18 points, closing at 24.04¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

Industrials and Railroads

Average closing price	June 29,	June 27,	June 28, 1924
20 Industrials	129.23	129.73	95.50
20 R.R. stocks	97.80	98.57	86.11

(Wall St. Jour., June 30.)