HOW BANKERS CAN ENCOURAGE INCREASED PRODUCTION OF MEAT

Since hogs afford the quickest means of increasing our meat supply, continued and extended efforts of public-spirited bankers in furthering the organization of pig clubs by advancing to club members the money needed for the purchase of pure-bred sow pigs is doubly desirable at this time, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

Pig clubs have increased very rapidly during the past seven years the specialists point out. In 1910 there were 50 members in the United States; today the number exceeds 30,000, found principally in Arkansas, Alabama, California, North Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, Texas, Oregon, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Kentucky, Indiana and Massachusetts. These States contained 21,673 members last year, but pig clubs are being formed rapidly in other states. The demand for gilts and bred gilts by club members is unprecedented even at the high prices at which they are held.

Financial assistance to the pig club members has been the means of introducing pure-bred hogs in places where otherwise this might have been impossible, and has helped to build up the agriculture of the communities which the banks serve. These clubs stand not alone for greater pork production. By increasing the amount of live stock they encourage the production of much of the feed on the farm, and as their activities are coincident with or follow club work in the growing of corn and forage crops, they are part of a system that favors a sound diversity in agriculture and a rotation of crops that will maintain the fertility of the soil.

Two plans have been followed by bankers in providing the sow pigs necessary to enable the boys and girls to engage in pig club work. One method is the so-called promissory note plan. The banker makes individual contracts with the pig club members. In each case he agree to lend them a certain sum of money at 6 per cent interest for one year, or longer if necessary. The member agrees to keep up a membership in a pig club, to invest the loan under the direction of the county agent or county club representative, and to repay it at maturity out of the proceeds of the sale of the original stock or the increase. As security for the loan, the banker takes the member's promissory note. The member's parents consents to the contract, in writing, and agrees not to claim any right in the pigs purchased or their proceeds.

The other method is called the "endless chain" plan. This also involves individual contracts. The banker agrees to furnish a registered sow pig. The boy or girl agrees to join a pig club, obey its rules, care for the sow according to instructions, breed her at not less than eight months of age to a registered boar of the same breed, raise the litter according to the rules of the club, and deliver to the banker two choice gilts (not less than eight weeks old) from the first litter. The member agrees also to take out registration papers for all the first litter pigs not sold for immediate slaughter. When these agreements are met, the original sow and the remaining pigs become the member's property. If the member is unable to return two sow pigs out of the first litter the agreement continues until this is possible. If the original sow dies before farrowing a healthy litter the banker bears the loss. If the member does not fulfill all agreements, rights to the sow and her progeny are forfeited. The parent agrees to the contract, in writing, and acknowledges that the sow and increase shall belong to the boy or girl.

When the banker receives the two sow pigs from the member and puts them out with other boys or girls under the same agreement, the endless chain feature of the activities is set in motion. This plan may be varied in details to suit conditions. For instance, the banker may require the return of only one sow pig, and stipulate that the boy or girl must join a corn or peanut club, raise at least half an acre of green food, and exhibit the sow and her offspring at the county fair or live stock show.

Under similar arrangements boys have received calves to raise, and both boys and girls have received eggs of pure-bred chickens for hatching.

It is urged that bankers in the South who have taken apart in these projects heretofore continue their aid, and others, both in the North and South, take up the work, as it is a patriotic duty at this time to increase the nation's supply of food. County agents, state agricultural colleges and the Department of Agriculture will answer gladly any questions regarding details of these activities.

PLOW UP BEAUTIFUL CITY LAWNS FOR CROPS

By International News Service.

Venice, Cal., May 8.—Venice has sacrificed her municipal pride to combat high food prices. The city commissioners have ordered the beautiful lawn and gardens around the new city hall plowed up and planted to potatoes. In addition, all vacant property owned by the city is to be put under cultivation and Mayor Lewis has started a movement to have private individuals give their vacant land for garden purposes. The city of Venice will furnish the seed, high school students will cultivate the gardens and the fire department will irrigate them free of charge.

FARMER RELIGIOUS SECT ASKS WAR EXEMPTION

By International News Service.

Hutchinson, Kan., May 8.—Several hundred Mennonites in Reno and adjoining counties have appealed to Senators Charles Curtis and W. H. Thompson to protect them against military service in keeping with their religious beliefs. They attest their loyalty to the government and ask to be allowed to show their patriotism by raising crops and in other peaceful pursuits.

The Mennonites are a sect of people who do not believe in worldly show of vanities. Non-resistance is one of their chief doctrines.

Since the foundation of the sect they have opposed military service. They went to Russia at the invitation of Empress Catherine in their early existence on the promise of military exemption. There they founded a big farming settlement, but left the country when the exemption from military service was repealed.

They have made the sections where they have settled in this part of Kansas one of the richest farming areas of the country, and it is expected that their religious convictions will be regarded.

NEGRO LOITERERS ARRESTED

In a raid on the Mutual Improvement Social Club, 3701 Annunciation street, a negro organization, ten negroes were arrested Monday afternoon by Patrolmen Kuoferle and Kertz of the seventh precinct station on charges of loitering and disturbing the peace. Complaint was made by persons living in the neighborhood that the blacks were in the habit of congregating there and making noise.

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CREPE GOWN WITH TUNIC

This is an afternoon gown to provoke a sigh of longing in every woman's heart. It is made of crepe meteor and georgette and has a long, gracefully draped tunic, plaited in at the waistline. In the bodice the side bodies and sleeves are of georgette, with an emplacement at the back and front of crepe meteor and suspenders of this material. Rounded tabs at each side merely suggest pockets but really serve to display a handsome pattern in silk embroidery, introducing beads in the design.

HOW MUCH GRAIN —GOES INTO BOOZE

Washington, May 8.—That the administration is seriously considering the curtailment of the use of grains in the manufacture of liquors was forecasted when official figures showing amount of grains used in the distilling industry were made public by a high government official. These figures, prepared after a week's compilation of reports in the internal revenue office show that 107,781,415 bushels of grain were used in the manufacture of beer and distilled spirits in the United States last year.

Up to a week ago, according to a high official, the liquor interests exerted so much influence in the internal revenue office that the government itself did not know just how much grain was used in the liquor business. The revenue office has contended that it would be a breach of official etiquette to compile figures showing the relative components of the distilled and fermented products.

According to the official returns from the internal revenue office, in the year ending June 30, 1916, 52,639,973 bushels of barley were used in the manufacture of beer and 1,078,262 bushels used in the manufacture of distilled spirits, 17,573,531 bushels of corn used in beer and 32,069,512 bushels used in distilled liquors.

In the manufacture of beer 2,351,000 bushels of rice, 51,931,621 pounds of grape sugar, 2,742,851 pounds of glucose and barley meal, malt extract, salt, moss and isinglass to the extent of 21,756,979 pounds were used in the manufacture of distilled spirits. Besides the malt and corn already enumerated there was used 3,116,612 bushels of rye, 9,897 bushels of oats, 3,373 bushels of wheat and 153,142,232 gallons of molasses.

INDIANA CELEBRATES LAFAYETTE DAY

By International News Service.

Indianapolis, Ind., May 8.—Throughout the Hoosier State yesterday the French tri-color floated proudly at the side of Old Glory. In executive proclamations yesterday was celebrated as Lafayette Day in recognition of the heroism of the Marquis de Lafayette in our Revolutionary period and of the heroism of France of to-day. Governor Goodrich in his proclamation asked the citizens of the state to make the day one of self-denial and give liberally to the organizations for the relief of fighting France and French orphans.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL MADE GOOD EARNINGS LAST YEAR

The gross income of the Illinois Central railroad was 100 per cent greater in 1916 than in 1915, according to Edward R. Ferry, New Orleans general agent, who has received an official copy from the company's home office. Operating and other expenses, however, have increased much. The net income in 1916 was $15,868,282.75 as compared with $7,909,930.26, an increase of $7,958,-342.49. Operating expense in 1916 was increased $3,823,207.82.

KEEP THE GARDEN SOIL STIRRED

The importance of thorough and continuous cultivation in the home vegetable garden is pointed out in a new Farmers' Bulletin of the United States Department of Agriculture, No. 818, "The Small Vegetable Garden." After the seeds have sprouted or after the plants have been set in their permanent location, continued cultivation becomes necessary.

The gardener should never permit the surface of the soil to become baked or even to form an appreciable crust. Constant stirring with hand tools or a wheel cultivator should be practiced between the rows and about the plants. Such a stirring permits the air to penetrate the soil, whose presence facilitates chemical action and bacterial activity, destroys weeds which otherwise would utilize large amounts of plant food, and, finally, conserves the moisture supply. The rake is perhaps the gardener's most valuable tool in cultivating. This can be passed backward and forward over the ground until it is in an open, mellow condition. When vegetables grow closely in the rows it often will be necessary to supplement the cultivation by hand weeding. Small implements are made for this purpose, and may be used in some cases to pull up weeds to be chased cheaply. It is well also to, in some cases, to pull up weeds by hand, especially where they grow closely about the stalks of the garden plants.

Just as the gardener should be careful in early spring not to dig the ground when the soil is too moist, so he should be careful later in the season not to cultivate too soon after rains. The stirring of very muddy soil "puddles" it into a compact cement-like mass in which the plant food is securely locked. The garden will require attention, however, as soon as the excess moisture from a rain has subsided or partially evaporated. Unless the ground is stirred at this time a crust will form, almost inevitably. Such a crust, besides restricting the plants, prevents the access of air and also facilitates the loss of moisture through evaporation.

When, during prolonged dry spells, the plants give evidence of suffering because of the lack of moisture, water must, if possible, be supplied artificially. Where a supply of piped water is at hand, perhaps the most usual method of irrigation is by sprinkling with a hose. If sprinkling is practiced it should be done late in the afternoon. If is not sufficient merely to dampen the surface; a thorough wetting should be given. A more satisfactory and more economical method of irrigation, however, is to open small furrows between the rows of growing plants and to supply water in these ditches from a hose or pipe. Several hours after the water has soaked in the dry earth should be drawn back into place.

INVOLVED IN SPY SCHEME

New York, May 8.—Charles F. Hastings, a newspaper man who was involved in the scheme of Albert C. Sandey, a German agent, to send spies to England to furnish information to the German government, pleaded guilty to the Federal indictment against him and was sentenced to a year and a day in the United States penitentiary at Atlanta. Hastings was arrested in Holland.

IN A PLACE OF RETIREMENT

Chicago, May 8.—Heinrich Orthman, the lowly German laborer with the ability to write like a college professor, has been effectually disposed of for the remainder of the war. State Department officials announced. Orthman, who was arrested in Aurora, is said to have been active in propaganda work. He also is charged with stabbing a national guardsman.

WOMEN TAKE ALL OFFICES

Valley Center, Kas., May 8.—Miss Alice Frances, recently elected mayor here, and her female council have carried out their expressed determination to put the town completely under petticoat rule. Saturday Mrs. William Goodrich was appointed town marshal and Mrs. George Bright street commissioner. This leaves no man in the employ of the town. The women are waking up the place. Clean streets and alleys, enforcement of all ordinances and the observance of Sunday laws have come under the new order.

THE PREVAILING MISDEMEANOR

Charles Brown, 722 Perdido street, was arrested at Iberville and Bourbon streets by Corporal John Mahen on a charge of violating the law prohibiting the faking of bets on race horses. Police say he had in his possession sheets bearing names of horses, a chart and $78, which are being held as evidence.

COTTON SUITS FOR OUTINGS

Just by way of variety, here is an outing suit made of a heavy cotton material in two plain colors. There are many others, in which gay stripes, curious figures and big checkerboard patterns are combined with a plain color or with white. But this one bespeaks good service by taking few chances with color.

Last year similar suits were called "breakfast suits," and the year before "garden suits." Having proved their worth, they reappear as "outing suits." As all their names fit them well, their story may be briefly told by saying that they are ideal for morning or outing wear.

ITALIAN FEST TO BE NOTABLE EVENT

A meeting of all those interested in the coming open air festival to be given by the Italian Red Cross and all Italian societies of the city for the benefit of June 3 for the aid of Italy's wounded soldiers, will be held this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Italian consulate in Baronne street. All who desire to take part are urged especially to attend.

Plans for the event have progressed far enough to insure all who attend entertainment and pleasure that will fully repay them; besides the consciousness of aiding a worthy cause.

An interesting feature will be the model tournament, with knights jousting a la the days of the crusades and story book fame. The colors and shield will be those of the ancient Italian cities and will form the basis of the tournament. The ladies of the court will be selected from the leading families of the city and will be decorated and Miss Savoy Story has charge of having cars for the most artistic. Ice cream, cakes, candy, cool drinks and sandwiches will be served, while there will be a restaurant on the grounds. Amusements will be furnished for old and young.

Proceeds of the festival will be used to aid the wounded soldiers of Italy. Fans, flowers, dolls and perfumery will be sold and fortune tellers will be there.

An automobile parade, the cars decorated in the colors of the Allies, will be held and a prize given the most beautifully decorated car. Persons wishing to enter the parade can do so by application to any of the officials in charge of the entertainment. Giuseppe Gentilie has donated an American flag to be given away at the fair by Miss Story, assisted by a number of girls.

JUDGE OWED $20 POKER DEBT

Prisoner Tried to Collect it to Pay Ten Dollar Fine

Denver, May 8.—When Marshal Charles Ellis shot Charles Skeett's pedigreed bulldog, the owner proceeded to black the cop's eye. Saturday he was tried in police court on the charge of assaulting an officer.

"You are fined $10," Judge W. L. Terrill told him.

"Well, judge, I think now would be a good time for you to pay me that $20 you borrowed of me in a poker game. You know I have asked you for it several times and you haven't paid me yet."

The judge registered indignation, but failed to deny he owed the twenty—and didn't pay.

DEATH OF N. O. MANUFACTURER

Herman G. Busch, proprietor of the Busch Box Factory, who died at his home, 417 South White street, Sunday morning was buried Tuesday afternoon. Rev. A. H. Backer, pastor of the First Evangelical Church officiated. Interment was made in Greenwood cemetery.

WAR TIME EXTINGUISHES THE LIGHTS ON THE GREAT WHITE WAY

By GOTHAM KNICKERBOCKER.

New York, May 8.—Not since the invention of the electric light has Broadway seen nights like these. Step up that little street at 2 a. m. any morning and if you have just got back to town and haven't kept in touch with the way things are going here you will get an awful shock.

Where life once reigned at its sprightliest all is now a war grayness. In a few gilded palaces devoted to booze, food and the display of shapely legs a wartime meal may be purchased at that hour. But a bottle of soy water is as difficult to procure as a bottle of beer on New Years Eve when the "Champagne Only" signs are hung.

Indeed, most of the big restaurants and cabarets are closed and locked and barred, as they look at 2 a. m. Even the humble erstwhile "night" saloon, where the hard-working printer, squeezed his last for the woes of his craft, is stockily padlocked. An acuity has been reached which would be impossible to parallel alone. Patriotism does it. The great restaurateurs have taken the lead and given the word first Max C. Mitchell's wartime closing order must be obeyed.

So Broadway has been rearranging its day's schedule. It rises earlier and goes to bed earlier. The after-the-theatre shows have all been set forward. The Century Grove on the Century Roof and the Zeigfeld Midnight Frolic, on top the New York Theatre, inaugural 11:30 p. m. is seen as the crowds from the theatres start to seek them and close at 1 a. m.

Justine Johnstone's Little Club on the Forty-fifth Street Theatre roof starts at 11 and closes early. Dorothina of Montmartre, who used to start her famous contortions at 1 a. m., now consents to writhe at 11.

At all the celebrated restaurants the sale of drinks stops at 1 o'clock sharp. Food and drink purchased before that hour may be consumed up to 1:30, at which time the lights go out incredibly.

Cabaret life, which has only been in full force since it started last New Years Eve and for a period in 1915 after the Lusitania was sunk, is now put several inoffending coal-less students of high birth hors de combat has followed the way of the rest.

Heavy scene of club battles in August, 1913, when Major Gayner declared local shows did not begin to get under way until midnight and patrons usually retailing drinks after the hour for drinks was past.

FROM MR. HART'S LIBRARY

One of the features of the Greek [illegible] held in the parlors of the Young Men's Christian association was the reading in Greek of a [illegible] of "The Christmas Carol," three books of the [illegible] in that language from the library of Mr. W. O. Hart, vice-president of the association. Mr. Hart, who is one of the great Dickens collectors in the country, has Dickens stories in almost every language, and "The Christmas Carol" in fac-simile of Dickens' manuscript. A typewritten copy in silk, a copy in raised letters for the blind and a copy in shorthand characters.

REPOSE IN DANGEROUS PLACES

Mose Christian, 35, negro, 1037 Seventh street, rested his weary bones Monday night by sitting on the neutral ground at Dryades and Erato streets as a car approached, and Eugene Quaxraux, 72, white, 8517 Leake avenue, a few minutes later laid himself down near the Illinois Central tracks at Leake avenue and Joliet street to sleep. At the Charity Hospital yesterday it was reported that neither was seriously hurt.

ROBBED THE GAS METER

Mrs. G. W. Donald, 511 Carondelet street, has reported to the police that some time Sunday night her gas meter was tampered with and about $100 taken from it.

SEEK PSUEDO SALVATIONIST

Police are looking for a man who has been obtaining merchandise and other goods on credit, representing himself to have been sent by the Salvation Army. Monday he tried to obtain fifty pounds of white lead at the Pittsburg Plate Glass Company's store, Girod and Common streets. Michael Jacobs, manager of the store, however, became suspicious and telephoned for the police. Before officers arrived the man left.

FACE EPOCH OF SHINY NOSES.

Paris, May 8.—The new regulations prohibiting the diversion of foodstuffs for other than as rations are causing a tremendous stir among Parisiennes, because they prevent the manufactures of face powder from rice. French women face an epoch of shiny noses, since the importations of luxuries is prohibited, and the existing stocks are slight.

INVENTED LIQUID FIRE.

Germans Beat Him out of Royalties, Saggan Said.

Atlantic City, N. J., May 8.—Paul Saggan, [illegible] inventor of the [illegible] was [illegible] by the Germans before the war, it was today from [illegible]. He was known as an [illegible] specialist. He was born in Germany and came to the United States about five years ago.

Investigation recently showed Saggan had become embittered against the kaiser and German war council because of broken promises. He said he gave his "liquid fire" patent to Germany with an understanding that he was to receive huge royalties. When the war was declared by the United States he was about to start [illegible] against Germany.

Saggan, it is said, had recently been [illegible] with other [illegible] records, which [illegible] to the United States.

LIQUOR MEN PROTEST WARTIME REFERENDUM

By International News Service.

Madison, Wis., May 8.—Brewery and saloon interests throughout this state have petitioned the state legislature to defer action on the Evjue prohibition referendum bill until after the war. The bill provides for a state-wide referendum on the liquor question. It is argued by the petitioners that in time of war a referendum would not reflect the personal sentiment of the state.

RECORD COLD FOR MAY

Another record for May weather was established in New Orleans Saturday when the thermometer registered forty-one degrees, one degree lower than record reached Saturday and Sunday. The forecast for Wednesday is fair with rising temperature.

MAY INVESTIGATE HOMES TO PREVENT NEEDLESS WASTE

Washington, May 8.—Authority to send the government to reach into the home of every American citizen and punish preventable waste of food, will be sought of Congress by the Department of Agriculture.

This authority is incorporated in supplementary food legislation which has been prepared by the department.

Needless waste of large slices of bread, spare cups of milk and other table necessities is one thing the department is determined to stamp out.

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