

ILLINOIS FARMERS ARE OPTIMISTIC

Realize Demand for Food From Foreign Countries Will Continue

Bloomington, Ill.—Illinois farmers are facing the reconstruction period optimistically. They realize that the demand for food by foreign countries will continue for at least another year, while that from Germany will be an added strain upon the source of production. This is being anticipated by an increased acreage of winter wheat. This grain brought such profitable returns last season that it has been planted to a greater extent in this State this fall than ever before, reducing the acreage of corn correspondingly.

The year now wanting has been a trying one for the Illinois agriculturist, due to the scarcity of help. In a way, the shortage has been an education, as in no other manner could the farmers have been convinced that they could do so much work alone. The single man farm may be an unexpected development of the great struggle, now over. Never before in the history of this State did the farmer accept so much inexperienced help. Women, boys and girls, business men from the cities and other aids, took the place of the sturdy youth or experienced farm hand who responded to the call of the colors.

With the corn harvesting season nearly over, the average Illinois farmer is commencing to take stock and compiling the results of the year. That he should produce such a huge crop in the face of serious handicaps of man-power scarcity is a perpetual surprise, not only to the farmer but all others who have noted the contribution of such a large number of men to the army and navy from this state. There is universal wonderment that such a tremendous output of oats, wheat and corn could be recorded in the face of the labor shortage.

Reconstruction days will be marked by greater appreciation of the women and girls who have so patriotically ploughed, cultivated and reaped, doing work ordinarily reserved for the men. They will doubtless receive their reward in the support of community enterprise of an educational and instructive character. There will be nothing too good for the farmers' boys when they come from the war, and it is predicted that the parents will not be backward when it comes to a reward.

Neighborhood activities instead of neighborhood stagnation, will be the keynote of reconstruction among the progressive farmers following the war, and leaders in agricultural education are planning to press the advantage.

Scouts Hear Snappy Address by Dr. Hampton

at school of instruction, at Troop 16, in charge of Second Class Scout Frank Foose, is a great success. Two of the pupils, Essig and Delaney, passed the Tenderfoot Tests, last Friday, after the meeting in the most creditable manner. Every bit of instruction they had got in the school, not a particle from any officer. The saving in time is considerable. The school is in session in the reading room every Friday from 1:45 to 7:30.

enjoyed every minute of the time that Private Bucher talked to us last week. He told some mighty interesting things—for instance—of the round table of King Arthur and his knights, of King David, of the awful toll that the war has taken here, of the work of the aero squadron, and lastly of the welcome they received when the Mauritania moved up New York harbor. A friend of Private Bucher, Mr. Hampton, a former first class Scout of a big uptown troop gave us a snappy five-minute talk. When our guests had gone, we devoted some time to the Merit system and supplies. Then after some games, we closed promptly at nine, with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Dr. C. H. Phillips, father of our own Assistant Scoutmaster, Samuel E. Phillips, of the A. E. F., told us that in his last letter he told us of being right on the front line until the very minute the armistice went into effect. We're anxious to have him back and hear his story. Talk about your leads—we'll have one then. No meeting to-night—Christmas vacation. SCRIBE, BROWN

FACTS ABOUT FOOD AND LIVING WAGES

Early in the world war, and again when the United States stepped in, food prices increased faster than wages.

Railroad investigation brought out the information that the cost of living from the end of 1915 to the spring of this year had risen forty to forty-three per cent.

In December, 1917, after three years of war and rising prices, 51 per cent. of all railroad employees were getting \$75 a month or under.

In granting its wage increases, the government increased the lowest most and the highest wages practically not at all.

In an investigation into the wages of railroad employees in the United States it was found that the top workmen were receiving \$250 a month, or even more.

The increased cost of living from December, 1914 to March, 1918, was found to have been nearly 87 per cent. in Baltimore.

The average pay of 11,000 clerks in railroad offices was found by investigation to have been \$56.77 a month; 270,000 section hands averaged \$50.21 a month. Those receiving from \$150 to \$250 a month numbered only 60,000, or three per cent. of the total employees.

The shipbuilding investigation found by detailed studies that about 45 per cent. of the workman's family budget went for food, and that rent increased much less than the cost of food, from 10 to 30 per cent. depending on locality.

MANY INVALIDED YANKS RETURN Washington, Dec. 27.—During the week ended December 20, 7,485 wounded and sick soldiers were landed in the United States from the American expeditionary forces. The surgeon general's report to-day shows that 5,828 were landed at New York and 1,640 at Newport News.

"The Live Store"

"Always Reliable"

January Clothing Reductions Begins Tomorrow, Saturday

This will be good news to those who have been waiting for our "Clothing Reductions." We have been asked repeatedly during the past two weeks when we would reduce our clothing, so we know what's coming in the way of "big business."

"Every Suit and Overcoat"

In our entire stock is included in this greatest of all January Reductions. At no time since we have been in business has a reduced price meant more to the customer than it does this year and now the opportunity presents itself to you with money savings that cannot be equalled anywhere.

There's a difference in clothing also cut prices and oft times it's very misleading to the customer. You go into the average store and when you price the "suit or overcoat" you like you are informed by the salesman that that particular suit isn't reduced. Our way is altogether different, and when you come here you are positively sure that you will get the "suit" or "overcoat" you choose from our immense stock, at reduced prices.

That's why this "Live Store" always has such an overwhelming response. The people know our methods and have learned that it pays to wait for us. There are no accumulations of odds or ends at DOUTRICH'S and you can come here tomorrow and select any of our high-grade suits

Hart Schaffner & Marx Kuppenheimer & Society Brand Clothes



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A great many merchants have tried to console themselves with offering "cheap" clothes, but the price never worried us in the least. We knew that if we bought good clothes we would make better friends with our thousands of customers who always take our word and have confidence in this Live Store because they know we sell dependable merchandise. Here are the most attractive prices for the same good quality merchandise that you've seen for a long while, and we'll have a busy time in this "Live Store" tomorrow.

All \$20.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$16.50	All \$38.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$31.50
All \$25.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$21.50	All \$40.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$32.50
All \$30.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$24.50	All \$45.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$37.50
All \$35.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$28.50	All \$50.00	"Suits" and "Overcoats" ..	\$42.50

All Boys' Suits and Overcoats Reduced

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All Boys' Suits and Overcoats Reduced