

The Manitoba Co-operator

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STILL CRAZY!!!



A group of visitors were going over a large institution when they came across a man who was sitting on the ground and who had a hammer in his hand with which he kept hitting himself on the head. "Why are you doing that?" the visitors asked. "Because," he said, "it feels so good when I stop." The institution was a lunatic asylum. (This cartoon,—which we published in October, 1930—still appears to describe the world situation with fair accuracy)

Official organ of **MANITOBA CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE, LTD.**

COMPRISING

Manitoba Pool Elevators
Manitoba Co-operative Poultry Marketing Association
Manitoba Co-operative Dairies

Winnipeg District Milk Producers Association
Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company
Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers

Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale Society
Manitoba Co-operative Livestock Producers
The Co-operative Marketing Board

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NEWS and VIEWS

More coffee was destroyed than was drunk in the past year.

There were approximately 6,000,000 radio licenses issued in Great Britain in 1933.

The slums of East London are practically the same as they were forty-five years ago.

—The Bishop of London

Unless displaced workers can be and are relocated there is no social gain in the substitution of machine power for man power.

The people of Great Britain in 1932 spent \$1,162,500,000 on drink. The national debt could be paid off in 30 years at that rate of annual reduction.

The value of field crops in Manitoba in 1933 was \$33,363,000. For 1928 the value was \$113,400,000. In other words, for every dollar the farmer got for his field crops in 1928 he got 29 cents in 1933.

In Europe as a whole, excluding Russia, wheat acreage is now above pre-war level. The major importing countries, however, have not reached the pre-war level but this is offset by increases in the rest of Europe.

There has been only one great man in the banking world, Montagu Norman, of the Bank of England; and he has said the final bankers' word about the money problem. That word is 'I don't understand it.'

—George Bernard Shaw.

British retailers who are objecting to handling Canadian produce packed in boxes bearing the word "Co-operative" on the outside, have suggested that when Canadian co-operatives are shipping to England they should turn the side of the box on which "co-operative" is stamped, inside. Anyway, declared a speaker at a retailers' meeting, the Canadian co-operatives although they pack good stuff should understand that the English grocers do not like the word "co-operative."

Politics makes some strange bed-fellows, but they soon get used to the same "bunk."

The human brain is like a freight car—guaranteed to have a certain capacity, but often running empty.

—Locomotive Engineers' Journal.

It is stated as the result of a special investigation, that of the world's seventeen richest men—all billionaires—twelve laid the foundations of their fortunes in the manufacture of and traffic in munitions, armaments and warships.

The Italian Minister of Agriculture has announced that the wheat area sown to date is about 10 per cent. less than last year and he forecasts the total sown will be less than in 1933 and perhaps under 1932. The crop condition everywhere is affected by excessive rains, so that the 1934 crop will probably be insufficient to cover domestic requirements.

It does seem insane, doesn't it, that production has to be curtailed in order to eliminate the universal poverty caused by having produced too much. The men and women who are not thinking seriously over that terrible antinomy are beyond the reach of either hope or reason.

J. F. Booth, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, J. E. Latimer, Macdonald College, P.Q., and T. W. Grindley, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, have been appointed by the National Advisory Committee on Agricultural Services to formulate plans for the presentation of an agricultural outlook report for Canada.

According to information furnished the International Wheat Committee European crops will be about 40,000,000 bushels more than last year and the import demand will be less than that adopted in the Wheat Agreement, viz., 560 million bushels. The International Institute of Agriculture sets the import requirements at 525 million bushels.

Democracy has no more persistent or industrious foe than the money power.

—Lord Bryce.

Government financial aid to the sugar beet industry in Great Britain up to date exceeds \$187,000,000.

The government of Australia has decided to give financial assistance to farmers to an amount of \$125,000,000.

—Dom. Dept. of Agriculture.

Seven railroads in the United States which borrowed a total of \$57,780,500 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation have defaulted and most of them have gone into the hands of receivers.

The Italian co-operative associations are to be consolidated to prevent overlapping and they will take over a large number of municipal distributive institutions.

The Belgian government has announced that in future Australian tenders for the supply of meat for the army and public service will not be considered. This is because recently Australia closed the Australian market to Belgian window glass. What a world!

A decrease of more than 1,000,000 bushels was shown in Canadian wheat export clearances for the week ending Dec. 8 as compared with the previous week, and a decrease of more than 3,500,000 bushels as against the corresponding week of last year, according to a report issued by the Dominion bureau of statistics.

Orderly marketing through one channel is the next stage in economic evolution and is the inevitable result of the stage that preceded it. Competition produced an abundance, but it will require co-operation and control to get that abundance so distributed that it does not harm those who have brought that abundance about. In other words, by giving them control over the marketing of their products, governments are merely assuring farmers that they will receive adequate reward for the services they have rendered the state.

—The Primary Producer, So. Africa.

Around the Farming World

Holland

The Dutch Crisis Cattle Board, which was formed to deal with the depression caused by the decline of the foreign markets for Dutch dairy produce, announces the success of a plan which it evolved. It was decided that it was necessary to slaughter 200,000 dairy cattle in order to achieve the necessary restriction of output of dairy products. This would normally have meant an addition to the home meat market of 4,000 carcasses a week, or nearly 50 per cent. of Holland's total consumption of fresh meat. According to the traditional method of dealing with "surplus" foodstuffs this meat should have been destroyed. The Dutch Crisis Cattle Board had other ideas. A plan was formulated whereby the meat was made available to those unable to afford the full market price. Special vouchers have been distributed to those receiving unemployment benefit and welfare relief. By presenting these vouchers at a butcher's shop, the holder is able to purchase for less than 25 cents a can containing approximately 2¼ lbs. of meat. Care is, of course, taken to see that the vouchers are not used by those who can afford to pay the "economic" price for meat.

* * *

Under a scheme for the control of the Dutch grain trade, carried out with the collaboration of the government, all grain dealers are divided into four classes, exporters, C.I.F. agents, importers and brokers. Only the third class are allowed to import grain, and must enter into an undertaking to buy only through agents in the exporting countries on C.I.F. terms, and in minimum quantities varying from 100 to 1,000 tons, according to the type of grain and the country of origin. Importers must submit regular reports to the government on their purchase and sales of grain for consumption in Holland.

Germany

Germany and Holland have negotiated a tariff agreement which applies chiefly to the trade in agricultural commodities. The two governments have agreed to set up a joint committee for the promotion of their mutual inter-

ests in the milk and egg trade, while Holland has agreed to recognize that butter, cheese and eggs may not be imported into Germany without a license from the ministry of agriculture and food. Various tariff rates have been fixed and in order to ensure that Dutch bacon shall not be sold at prices prejudicial to German producers the Dutch government undertakes to concentrate the export trade in a single channel.

* * *

In view of the instability of milk prices and the unsteady condition of the market the German government has decided to establish a milk and egg monopoly, similar to that already existing in the fat trade. Private enterprise will not be excluded entirely from the trade, but the State will have an option on the products named. The monopoly will also apply to purchases from abroad, and will, consequently, enable the government to adjust imports to home production.

Australia

The Queensland (Australia) government has introduced a bill for the stabilization of the butter industry and the establishment of a Dairy Products Board. The object of the bill was stated by the Minister for Agriculture to be an extension of the system of pooling. The chief obstacle at present is the decision of the High Court that all state pools which interfere with inter-state trade are inconsistent with the federal constitution. The high court decision, however, is binding only on the states and not on the Australian Commonwealth. The Commonwealth government has, therefore, been requested to introduce legislation setting up marketing boards in each of the states for the control and marketing of primary produce. Negotiations have also been proceeding amongst the three principal dairying states (Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria) which have agreed to introduce legislation which would provide a common basis for action. All the states have agreed to the mode of operation of the Queensland dairy bill and the ultimate aim is to allocate quotas to the states in

respect of both domestic consumption and export.

* * *

Because of the low price received for exported eggs the Federal Egg Producers' Council of Australia is asking the Commonwealth government to pay a subsidy on all eggs exported by guaranteeing producers 25 cents a dozen on 15 lb. pack eggs, 24 cents on 14 lb. pack and 23 on 13¼ lb. pack less local handling charges. Legislation for the control of the egg marketing business is being considered by the Commonwealth government.

Denmark

A new proposal for the utilization of Denmark's surplus meat supplies is to manufacture meat extract, and a new factory for this purpose will be ready in the early months of 1934. Hitherto the surplus of livestock resulting from the restriction of the German market has been disposed of by slaughtering, the meat being especially treated and sold as chicken food. 22,160 head of cattle were destroyed in the later months of 1932, while in 1933 the number increased to 110,979.

* * *

Tea

Because the production of tea is getting ahead of consumption the tea planters of India, Ceylon and the Dutch East Indies are combining in a "drink more tea" campaign to be undertaken in those countries where the consumption of tea is low. The planters in Ceylon have been entrusted with the job of inducing the Canadian people to drink more tea. The money for the campaign is to come from a levy on production.

* * *

Cocoa

A considerable decline in the consumption of cocoa is anticipated as a result of the return to beer by the United States, and consequently the major producers of cocoa have met in conference and decided to reduce production during the coming year. Most of the world's cocoa is grown in British colonies and Brazil and the control is pretty well centralized.

* * *

Great Britain

A marketing scheme for potatoes has been drafted for Great Britain under the Agricultural Marketing Act. If approved by

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MANITOBA POOL ELEVATORS

P. F. BREDT, *President and Managing Director*

C. H. BURNELL, *Vice-President*

D. A. KANE, *Manager*

Directors. J. W. Baldwin, W. G. A. Gourlay, G. N. McConnell, W. J. Parker, W. E. Ring

T. J. MURRAY, K.C., *Solicitor*

F. W. RANSOM, *Secretary*

POOL ELEVATORS RELIEF FUND

Including the proceeds from the sale of grain, contributions to Manitoba Pool Elevator Relief Fund now amount to \$3,264.20. Of this, approximately \$2,800.00 has been distributed either in cash or in payments of orders for clothing. A complete and detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures of this fund will be given in due course.

In compliance with the resolution passed at the annual meeting, the funds were used for the purchase of clothing for farm women and children in the drought area.

In order to distribute the funds in as fair and equitable a manner as possible, voluntary committees were set up in districts throughout the drought area. These committees were made up mainly of women from such institutions as Ladies' Aids, Women's Institutes, Church Organizations and similar societies, and a representative of the local Pool Elevator Association.

The committees have given freely of their services and have devoted a good deal of time to driving around, making up the

orders and in distributing them to each of the families.

The committees have sent in a number of letters of thanks received from the grateful people in their districts.

Mrs. J. L. Stewart, secretary of the Goodlands Relief Committee, writes: "We have helped some 80 individuals, largely children, a number of whom, but for your generosity, would have been unable to attend school properly clad, if they attended at all."

Mr. Eric Dennison, secretary of the Broomhill Relief Committee, writes: "I believe it would be impossible to put into words the feeling of gratitude of those being assisted in this district towards the ones who have so generously donated toward this fund, and also to you at head office who have taken on the burden of trying to make an equitable distribution of this fund to the different committees."

A recipient from Dalny says: "We are at a loss for words to express our gratitude to you all who gave these donations." — Many similar expressions of thanks

came in from Tilston and Broomhill.

A widow with six children, who lost her home and everything in it by fire, writes: "I would love to be able to thank the Pool the right way as it (the parcel of clothes) has meant so much to me. I was nearly giving up hope of everything when you have opened up another door for me. We were making day and night shifts to keep warm. I have never had such nice bed clothes."

Contributions of cash and of grain which have been made to the Relief Fund since those appearing in the last issue of this paper are as follows:

Associations

Erickson (proceeds of social)	\$67.40
Jordan	50.00
Brunkild	25.00
Portage la Prairie	25.00
Foxwarren	50.00
Silver Plains	35.00
Bradwardine	63.91

Individuals

J. Fitzpatrick, Margaret, 5 bus. 1 Durum; A. Black, Margaret, 9 bus. 1 Nor.; F. J. Love, Ninga, 5 bus. 1 Durum; John Crawley, Clanwilliam, 5 bus. Ex. 3 CW 6-row Barley; F. L. Peskett, Gilbert Plains, \$5.00.

—F. W. R.

WHAT THE LOCALS ARE DOING

Our fieldman, Mr. Richmond, better known in his district of southern Manitoba as "Don," held five meetings in the Mather and Clearwater district in January. The picture machine was used and provided an added attraction and the meetings were well attended. At Cypress school, near Clearwater, they have a literary society through which the community carries on debates, literary studies and discussions of questions of general interest. This was their second meeting and over 100 were present on each occasion. At Clearwater the meeting was held under the auspices of the Pool Elevator Association. Besides

the pictures, there was some discussion on the Wheat Agreement. The District Director, Mr. W. E. Ring, was also present and spoke to an audience of over 110 people.

The meetings at Rock Lake school and at Sinkerville school in the vicinity of Mather on the two succeeding days, were held in connection with the Young People's Society at each centre. Not only were the pictures appreciated but the talk on the co-operative movement aroused much interest and discussion followed. There was an attendance of 145 at these two meetings.

One hundred and sixty people

attended the Mather meeting organized by the local Elevator Association. The kiddies got a great kick out of the pictures. They were 'let out of school' after the pictures and about 75 stayed for the discussion on co-operation which followed and many questions were asked.

This type of meeting is supplying a need in rural districts. The meetings provide an opportunity for instruction, good entertainment and for reaching those interested in the future of agriculture and the solution of its problems.

Material for Discussion

As a means of arousing interest, we suggested sending out material for discussion at local board meetings, and in order to know if we were on the right track we

asked locals to record in their minutes not only if the material was read but to state if it was what was required.

On January 6th we gave a broadcast on Debt Adjustment to which we have had 54 responses. Copies of the broadcast were sent to all the locals and 36 of them have stated in their minutes that it was read and discussed. Now, this is gratifying; first, because, being human, we appreciate a pat on the back, and secondly, and much more important, it stimulated interest, evident from the fact that it was discussed. Another feature about this response is that it shows the farmer is more concerned about the question of Debt Adjustment than any other.

Don't forget this, we in the office need stimulation just as much as the man in the country. I am asked, what kind of stimulation! I mean that which comes by word of mouth or in writing. About the only contact we have with the locals is through the minutes sent in by the secretary. Let us know your opinions as expressed at board meetings through your minutes. That will tend to keep us pulling even on the whiffle-tree.

F. W. R.

CRERAR ATTACKS POOL AT PORTAGE MEETING

Arguments for and against the World Wheat Agreement were presented at a meeting of the Portage la Prairie Recovery Association on the afternoon of February 9th, in the Municipal Hall, over 150 farmers and city people attending. The association is a group of citizens occupying positions of responsibility, mainly councillors of both the rural and city municipalities, who meet periodically to discuss problems of common interest.

Dr. H. C. Grant, Professor of Economics at the University of Manitoba, spoke in favor of the Agreement as an emergency measure to deal with the tremendous wheat surpluses which have depressed world wheat markets, his address being illustrated by charts showing how exporting countries had continued expanding production after European wheat production, disrupted by the World War, had gone back to pre-war figures with acreage yields above pre-war averages.

Hon. T. A. Crerar devoted a

brief portion of his address to criticism of the Wheat Agreement, but the major part of his talk was an attack upon the Canadian Wheat Pools. He said that "the principle on which the Wheat Pools were founded was fundamentally unsound." The Pools had "set out with the governing idea of exacting a price commensurate with the cost of production."

"The impression created in Europe by this attitude of the Pools," he said, "had a very decisive effect on the policy pursued by European countries." He had been in Europe in 1928 and came back impressed with the idea that there was a definite prejudice amongst importers—(grain merchants of course)—against the Canadian Wheat Pools. As proof of this he stated that European countries did not start their tariffs against wheat until 1925.

Now the actual truth, as anyone who knows anything about the world wheat situation is fully aware of, is that wheat tariffs were imposed by several of the principal wheat importing countries many years ago, that only one principal importing country, and that country for purely domestic reasons, put a wheat tariff into force in 1925, and that it was not until the world wheat surplus began to accumulate in 1927-28 that European countries began to raise their wheat tariffs, while almost prohibitive tariffs and milling quotas were put into effect in 1930 and 1931 when floods of cheap wheat from overseas threatened the bankruptcy of European farmers.

It is amazing that a Westerner who has been a member of two Dominion Cabinets should make statements, whether through ignorance or prejudice, so widely at variance with the actual facts.

Practically all the governments of the world today have accepted the principle on which the Canadian Wheat Pools were founded, that the wheat producer should receive a price commensurate with the cost of production. The whole purpose of the Wheat Agreement is to ensure a remunerative price to the producer of wheat, and importing countries have agreed to reduce their tariffs and milling restrictions when the price of wheat goes up and stays up for a few months to a level

that will give the producer at least the cost of production.

Mr. J. I. McFarland, general manager of the Central Selling Agency, was present at the meeting and was asked to speak. He submitted figures supporting those presented by Dr. Grant, and maintained strongly that there were not markets available for the disposal of the quantity of wheat now being produced in the world. After some questions had been dealt with the meeting adjourned.

WORLD WHEAT PROSPECTS

The surplus of wheat available for export or carry-over in the United States, Canada, Argentina and Australia, together with United Kingdom port stocks and quantities afloat, is estimated by the U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics to have been about 175,000,000 bushels smaller on January 1 than it was a year earlier. In the exporting countries of the Danube Basin the surplus appears to be about 35,000,000 bushels larger than a year earlier, however. No satisfactory means of calculating the Russian exportable surplus is available. Russian exports to date have been but a little larger than last season though the 1933 Russian crop is estimated by official Russian sources to be the largest since the war.

The carry-over as at January 1, 1934, was as follows in millions of bushels, with corresponding figures for 1933 in brackets: United States, 319 (414); Canada, 262 (312); Argentina, 162 (151); Australia, 124 (161); in port and afloat, 40 (44); totals, 907 (1,082).

Shipments

From August 1, 1933, to January 22, 1934, world shipments of wheat amounted to 250 million bushels as compared with shipments of 288 million bushels for the corresponding period in 1932-33. During the first twenty-five weeks of the present crop year world shipments have averaged 10.0 million bushels per week as compared with 11.5 and 15.2 million bushels per week during the corresponding weeks of 1932-33 and 1931-32 respectively. The London Wheat Conference estimated world trade in wheat for 1933-34 at 560 million bushels.

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THE MANITOBA CO-OPERATOR

(Formerly *The Scoop Shovel*)

Representing the Agricultural Co-operative Movement
in Manitoba

Office: 8th Floor, Wheat Pool Building, Winnipeg.

Editor—J. T. HULL

THE GAMBLERS

There are people to whom mild fluctuation in dollars and francs and such things mean prosperity; why can't these people make a donation (to founding a hospital).

—Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin.

Stanley Baldwin says those who gamble on the money exchange should give some of their profits to charity. Would it not be more sensible for governments to deprive exchange speculators of their opportunities for profits?

—Winnipeg Free Press.

Hear, hear! We're right with The Free Press in that suggestion. Playing with "fluctuations in dollars and francs and such things," should be no way to achieve prosperity in a decent civilized community and it is just as reprehensible to achieve prosperity through fluctuations in the price of wheat or stocks as in money. Exchange speculators of any kind don't really add to the world's wealth, and so it would be a sensible thing to prevent them making profit by gambling on the efforts of those who are doing the real work of the world.

LET'S GET THIS WHEAT AGREEMENT STRAIGHT

The Wheat Agreement is now in the centre of the national forum and apparently like a lot more national questions it is going to be discussed with more heat than light. First and foremost the world wheat situation is entirely a question of fact, and the evidence in the case consists of carefully collected statistics, showing the production and the consumption of wheat. Experience tells us that in wheat as in everything else if more is produced than there is an effective demand for, the price will get out of line with the cost of production to the detriment of the producer, unless the producers are in a position to keep the excess off the market. The statistics of wheat demonstrate conclusively that more wheat has been produced in recent years than there is an effective demand for, and that the tendency throughout the world is to maintain an excess production. In these circumstances it is impossible to secure any steady upward trend in wheat prices and consequently the condition of our farmers cannot be substantially improved.

What has brought about this situation? The war. It is strange, but unhappily true, that as soon as the armistice was signed and the guns had ceased to roar, there was a rush to what somebody called "normalcy." In such a hurry was the world to get back to "business as usual" that people with money to burn—the profits of war conditions—subscribed for loans of all kinds, and while the loans lasted we had a period of what we fondly believed was prosperity. When the time came to repay the loans things started to happen, and the lesson of what happened is that the whole world cannot spend

four years in wholesale murder and destruction and at the end go ahead as if nothing had happened.

The agricultural nations of Europe, which before the war were, let us say, partners of ours in the job of feeding the world, found it impossible even to feed themselves. Their production of wheat fell, and Russia, which before the war had 25 per cent. of the world's trade in wheat, disappeared from the trade scene entirely. The United States, Australia, Argentina and Canada—especially Canada—stepped in to fill their places. And our wheat production and trade expanded until we had secured for ourselves about 37 per cent. of the world's trade in wheat.

The war ended and our old partners started to come back. They were in a badly battered shape and the come-back was not easy. At one time, under the auspices of the League of Nations, an effort was made to raise an international loan to help the distressed agricultural sections of Europe, but the scheme fell through. Tariff preferences in importing countries were also suggested, but the great wheat exporting countries seeing the markets they had secured put in jeopardy, protested and again the League failed.

Still the come-back went on, acreage under wheat increased, supply got away beyond normal demand, surpluses piled up, and then came the crash and the terrific menace to European agriculture of a flood of wheat at ruinous prices. The menace was met by tariffs, quotas, import restrictions, milling regulations—everything that the wit of statesmen could devise to prevent the overwhelming of the national agriculture by a deluge of cheap wheat.

They should have taken our good and cheap wheat, say some. That, of course, is the opinion of a seller who wants to persuade a buyer. The buyer said: "No, we are trying to rehabilitate our agriculture and we cannot allow it to be smothered and ruined a second time by your cheap wheat."

What was the alternative? There was but one that was feasible and that was to get together, and if at all possible, find a way to adjust wheat supply to wheat demand and reduce the burdensome surplus. There was nothing else that could be done, for, obviously, we could not in any morally conceivable way compel other people to take our wheat. The League of Nations again took the lead and the result was the International Wheat Conference and the Wheat Agreement.

The Conference was an effort on the part of twenty-two nations to solve the problem of wheat by concerted, co-operative action, and in such manner as to overcome the dread in importing nations of cutthroat competition and the dread in exporting nations of losing markets. The outcome was, of course, a compromise, the limitation of competition by the selling of export quotas; the encouragement of consumption so as to reduce the surplus and the adoption of means to raise prices so as to make protective tariffs unnecessary.

That, in essence, is the Wheat Agreement, and it surely must commend itself to all co-operators, even though it may involve some giving up on the part of Canadian producers of economic advantages which we fortuitously obtained as a result of the war. Can we really hope to hold a position gained in that way?

What Is the Alternative?

If the way provided in the Wheat Agreement is not the way to solve the wheat problem, what other ways are there?

Let our wheat surge up against the tariff walls of the buying countries, say some, until the force of its cheapness washes down the walls. A little over a year ago wheat at Fort William was 38 cents a bushel. Did we sell any more at 38 cents than we have sold at much higher prices? We did not. There is not a particle of evidence to show that if wheat were ten cents a bushel the importing countries would take any more of it. There is abundance of evidence—the Wheat Agreement is part of it—to show that we cannot force a lowering of tariff walls or an increase in importing by cheapening our wheat, but we can add immensely to the trouble and distress of our own producers by doing it.

Let us encourage imports from the countries which buy our wheat, is also said. We as co-operators, are all for that. It cannot be laid at the door of any co-operator that he is tolerant of obstacles which prevent men being of service to each other the world over. The argument assumes, however, that our wheat is not bought because we are not buying. That isn't so. Our wheat is being bought in the quantities desired; it is not being bought in the quantities we would like to sell, and simply because people do not buy what they do not want. There is too much wheat in the hands of sellers.

The plain truth is there is no alternative to the Wheat Agreement except a blind competitive strife, and against that the gates of importing countries are tightly closed.

What is the great, the almost insoluble problem faced today by the League of Nations—disarmament? No—it is the insidious effects of economic strife in paving the way for war, for where men can make profit they will make it even though they have to invoke the instrument of war to get it. No league of nations, Kellogg Pacts or even disarmament will prevent nations from resorting to war when they believe some economic gain can be secured by it. Those who have not learned that from the events of the last ten years, and especially from the behavior of Japan, are beyond the reach of realism. And the only way to approach that problem is by making economic strife a companion outlaw of physical strife. The Wheat Agreement is an important move in that direction.

REGULATING AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

Acceding to a request of the British government the government of Canada has restricted the exports of live cattle to Great Britain for the first quarter of 1934 to the same quantity as for the corresponding period of 1933. The request was made by the British Government because of the low state of the domestic cattle market, and because under the Ottawa Agreement the British Government itself could not, without violating the agreement, so restrict the importation from Canada.

From a British agricultural paper we learn,

however, that requests have also been made for a reduction of Canadian exports to Great Britain of dairy produce, eggs and poultry. The object is to set quotas of exports from Canada for all these products, including hogs, in order to secure an efficient working of the marketing schemes set up under the Agricultural Marketing Act.

Quota agreements of this kind, however, are liable to work unjustly on the producer unless the total export flows through a controlled single channel. Without control of this kind producers might find themselves, as the quota was reached, facing an export embargo with an accompanying heavy fall in domestic prices. Exporters might take advantage of the low price and buy for the renewal of export and then make a killing.

The promised national marketing legislation will doubtless contain provisions to meet adequately this developing situation together with provision enabling provincial legislatures to adopt marketing legislation along the principal lines of the British Agricultural Marketing Act.

PUBLIC WELFARE IS BEFORE PROPERTY RIGHTS

In the December issue of *The Co-operator* we called attention to a significant decision by a Chicago judge regarding the law and contracts in which he punctured the currently received idea that there was something about a contract which placed it above public wellbeing.

Now, the ultimate legal authority in the United States, by a five to four decision, one of the most momentous in the whole history of the United States, has definitely and positively put public welfare ahead of contract rights.

The State of Minnesota passed a law forbidding foreclosures for a certain period. The law was challenged by a loan company, and the first Minnesota court held the law invalid. The State Supreme Court reversed the decision of the lower court and the loan company carried the case to the United States Supreme Court, where it again lost, and in losing listened to Chief Justice Evans state on behalf of himself and four of his colleagues, that public welfare outweighs private contracts, at least in a time of public emergency, and that it was the essence of good constitutional law that it should be adapted to the various crises in human affairs.

So, one of the world's great legal bodies makes it clear and definite that property rights do not, regardless of all consequences, come before, public welfare and that governments may when the conditions make it both right and expedient, suspend property rights and even, logically considered, annihilate them. The test is consequences from the standpoint of public welfare.

Strictly speaking, this always has been the common law, but it is well to have it laid down in such a manner by a duly constituted authority. We imagine that the decision will have its effect upon similar judicial bodies in other countries and unless there is a substantial advance in prices generally, giving greater capacity to pay debts, we may even see the decision become the foundation for a complete and universal readjustment of the relations between debtors and creditors.

I REMEMBER WHEN---

(Continued from last month)

Prairie Homes

The Horners didn't build with lumber. They went to a Doukhobor village, bought some unoccupied log and plaster buildings from the remaining members of the community, took them down, hauled them home and got the Doukhobors to re-erect them. The plaster, applied inside and out, was made from sub-soil clay, chaff, etc., mixed by Doukhobor women who paddled around in it bare-footed. The Horner boys each had a house and stable of this kind and there wasn't anything warmer anywhere. They didn't try to beat the homestead regulations like two chaps a few miles further north. Tom and Silas built a 10x10 shack on what they thought was the dividing line between the quarter sections, had their beds on opposite sides of the shack and claimed they were each sleeping on their own land. Their surveying was not accurate and they didn't agree long, and they separated. Then Tom found an Indian bride and we made a bee and built him a log shanty. A few homesteaders built homes with prairie sods, which were warm enough when new but not very durable.

Grubbing Willows

The land in that district is what the surveyors call park country — rolling prairie dotted with poplar and willow bluffs. And in the spring we all went to work with axes and grub hoes rooting out those willows. The prairie had been burnt over frequently and the willows hadn't much top, except in the sloughs, but oh what roots! And in the summer, talk about mosquitoes! We burnt grass in the cook stove with the lid off to drive them out of the shack, and as soon as we went outside a swarm as big as a house travelled along for company. Once in June it snowed all day. I stayed indoors and in the evening Byron Horner called to see me. His hands were stained red with dye from his sweater. He had been grubbing willows all day in the wet snow while I was enjoying a good loaf.

Slow But Sure

The Horners both started with

oxen. Byron is at least six feet tall and to see him walking over the prairie behind a yoke of long horns at two miles an hour was like watching a slow-motion movie. There were more oxen than horses among the homesteaders at that time, but one winter Byron returned to his home near Shawville, Quebec, and brought back a carload of horses in the spring, getting a six-horse team for himself and selling the rest to neighbors. He repeated this in later years, and no doubt made money at it. He had a habit of figuring out any business proposition pretty carefully, but the other man always got a square deal.

Forty-bushel wheat crops were common on the virgin soil, and it was not long before the good farmers among the crowd had money enough to buy horses and full outfits of machinery. About 1909 or 1910 the railroad from Prince Albert to Battleford was under construction. It passed right through the settlement, and everyone who could raise a couple of hundred dollars for a first payment bought one or two quarters of the odd numbered sections at \$10 and \$11 an acre. Byron was one of the first to extend his holdings, and I understand he owns more land now than he knows what to do with. The land company in Winnipeg didn't know where that line was located until practically all the land near the track was sold.

A Transformation

When I had finished my homestead duties in the fall of 1910 I went to Winnipeg to get a job for the winter and I haven't seen Blaine Lake since. In Saskatoon seven or eight years ago I met R. B. Horner and Scotty Johnson and learned that about half the original settlers of 1907 were still there, most of them having prospered and acquired more land. The rest had died, gone broke, got into trouble and skipped out or, like myself, had decided that they were more suited for city life.

I suppose if I went back to 44-6-W3 I shouldn't recognize the district. The winding prairie

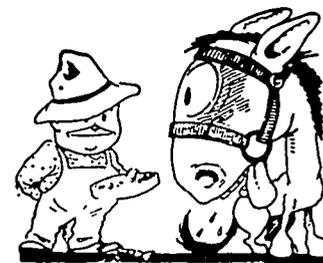
trails on which, not having a horse, I rode a bicycle (and frequently fell off it when I hit a badger hole) will be gone and replaced by gravelled highways. Instead of shacks and sod shanties, there are ten-roomed houses with electric lighting systems. Instead of a patch of breaking here and there, I should see almost the entire township under crop helping to produce the surplus that made an international wheat agreement necessary. And the lanky young chap who used to live in an old Doukhobor house and drive oxen, is now a Senator. He deserves it, and I wish him continued good fortune.

—J. W. W.

ELM CREEK "AT HOME"

More than 300 happy folks, old and young, attended the annual "At Home" of the Elm Creek U.F.M. local, on February 9. Robt. G. Love, president of the local, presided.

A feature of the evening was the "Old Time Fiddlers' Contest." The contestants were not all "old timers," however; husky young 25-year olds took part with the same zest as hoary heads of 70 winters. Heck McKee, Thos. "Scotty"



Nonsense—and
Horse Sense

Wood, Charlie Clark, Jimmy Wood, Robt. Love, Herb. Porter, Ewart Butler, Fred Tully and Bill George Kennedy exhibited their wares in dreamy waltz tunes and peppy jigs. The first four drew the nod from the judges. But the judges had a difficult selection to make from the uniformly fine renditions.

E. S. Russenholt, of the Manitoba Co-operative Conference, was on hand with his cartoons, humorous stories and French-Canadian poems. Following the fiddlers' contest, he threw out a challenge to young and old, picturing how the life of each rural community might be rebuilt... if our resources are developed in a "teamed up," co-operative plan.

A good supper put all hands in fettle for the dance. All in all, it was a good night (ending about 3 a.m.). The funds of the local benefitted, we are told, some \$90.

Consumer Co-operation

Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale. Head Office: 316 McIntyre Bldg., Winnipeg

100% CO-OPERATIVE

Delegates from the Consumers' Co-ops. locals met on January 17 and 18, in the seventh annual meeting of their Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale. W. F. Popple was nominated to the chair; H. Hindson to the secretary's job. The President's Report (summarized in our last issue) inspired confidence and hope.

The Directors' Report

The Directors' Report, presented by W. J. Pollock, pointed out that—amid deplorable conditions—our organization has progressed, and is stronger than ever before.

Sales of petroleum products have been cut—but our Co-ops have got their full share. Our business (combined) is attracting major supply companies. "Quality" is the deciding factor—always. Last spring promised record twine sales. But drought and "hoppers" cut amounts required by all locals. However, many new neighborhoods bought through your Wholesale, and with a little more effort, volume will be greater than ever.

Coal sales are close to last year. Your Wholesale listed 19 kinds of coal. Some companies tried to detour your Central Buying Agency—and get direct to individual locals. Individual buying can only wreck our purpose of a combined volume to get the best deal for all. We can succeed—if the entrance to every local is through the door of their Co-op. Wholesale.

A full stock of plowshares will be available for 1934—also paint, metal products, culverts, roofing, fencing, salt, etc. Flour sales have not expanded—because of lack of storage, more grist mills and smaller purchases.

C. A. Henderson reported, that, by co-operating with Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company, Co-op trucks are insured at "Service at Cost" rates—with lower costs as more locals co-operate.

All possible assistance is given locals in getting new

customers. An effort was made to refloat the Croll local. (Launched in the wrong spot, it had run onto the rocks of too much credit, faulty management, etc.). But the time was not ripe. The equipment was sold and, as assets exceeded liabilities, shareholders should eventually get back every dollar invested. Co-operative sentiment in this community is strong. An efficient local, operating at a natural centre (like Boissevain) could render a wide neighborhood increasing service.

Birtle Doing Well

Birtle local (since last spring ably managed for your Wholesale by Mr. Venables) met equipment and depreciation payments—and earned a small net surplus.

The field man's work is contacting locals. Problems can be met by exchange of ideas and methods. Your Wholesale is a clearing house for these—as well as a central buying agency.

Support has been good—but not "100% Co-operation." Some locals let the others down by buying direct. (Thoughtless, perhaps, rather than disloyal). But your Wholesale depends on co-operation of locals—just as locals depend on individual loyalty.

Our Movement Must Grow

We must expand. We can't stand still. Sub-stations offer an opportunity for expansion at small cost, with minimum risk—when the agent is bonded and supervised as to credit, etc. Cartwright and Neepawa locals opened up-to-date filling stations this year.

The Auditors' Report

The Auditors' Report discloses material gains—but no yardstick can gauge the other advantages of



Who Carries the Load?

"100% Co-operation", in improving our community life.

The Auditors' Report, submitted by W. J. Macdonald, recorded substantial earnings, reduced expenses—and a healthy operating surplus for the year. Total current assets are practically double current liabilities. Your Wholesale is stronger, financially, than ever before.

Farm Implements and Financing

The handling of farm implements was thoroughly discussed. Hamiota, Minto and Moline locals reported success in this line, and recommended that all locals take it up. The step into farm machinery seems to be a natural development for the near future.

Discussion of local financing brought many suggestions. Brandon local applies surpluses to paying up 5 shares per member—paying out any balance in merchandise. Hamiota local applies non-members' earnings to payments on shares for them—thus building up membership. At Neepawa, dividends are held until next harvest—for the purchase of supplies. Members at Grandview find customers' loan and deposit accounts useful.

The necessity of Wholesale and locals concentrating on specified goods—batteries, tires, implements, etc.—was stressed repeatedly. The Board was instructed to proceed in this direction.

The distribution of surplus—3/4 of 1% patronage dividend on purchases of affiliated locals and 5% interest on paid-up capital—was endorsed. The election of Directors saw the 1933 Board returned for 1934—with H. A. Fogel, of Brandon, and H. S. Coulter, of Neepawa, as the next two in line.

Education the Need

Time and again, in reports and discussion, the need for education and exchange of information was emphasized. Ways and means were discussed for getting "The Manitoba Co-operator" (official magazine of the co-operative movement in Manitoba) to every member of every Co-op.

A resolution called for "the further extension of co-operation in any and every legitimate way possible." Another moved the annual meetings to June.

Co-op. Poultry Marketing

A Message from Manitoba Egg and Poultry Pool

Head Office: 402 Lombard Bldg., Main St., Winnipeg

YOUR POOL EGG STATIONS

A fair volume of eggs have come into our Winnipeg branch during the past month. Local receipts of fresh eggs in Winnipeg were lighter than usual during the winter season. Recently they have increased. Our Winnipeg branch is handling a good share of the eggs marketed by country shippers.

Brandon Egg Station Open March 5

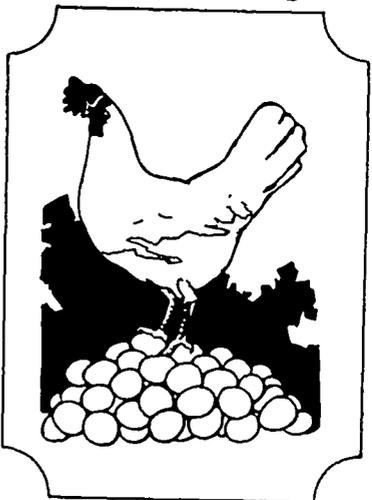
Egg production will be much heavier, we expect, by the end of this month. Our six Pool egg stations will be operating by the middle of March—if at all possible. The Brandon egg station will be opened first—on March 5. The date has not been definitely set for the opening of Pool egg stations at Lauder, Carman, Dauphin and Neepawa. It is expected, however, that these branches will all be in operation by March 19. Our Winnipeg branch, at 85 Lombard Ave., is open throughout the year, of course.

New Egg Regulations

The Dominion Government Egg Standards have recently been revised. The new regulation is now effective in the grading and sale of eggs. Your organization has graded eggs in accordance with the new standards since February. Our eggs will be so graded from now on.

The new definition of grades does not make much change in the grading as to quality. The grade "A" replaces the grade "Extras," the quality requirements being much the same as formerly in Extras. Grade "B" is similar to the previous grade "Firsts" and grade "C" is similar to the grade "Seconds."

The changes are mainly in weights. There are now three weights in which each grade may be classified. For instance, grade "A" includes: "A Large," "A Medium," and "A Pullet." It is not necessary



that we use all weights in each of the grades "A" and "B". For example, it is only during a certain period of the year that we find sufficient pullet eggs to grade that weight. Also, it is unlikely that the grade "B Large" will be used—except when candling and selling eggs out of storage.

Storage and Fresh Eggs

Under the new regulations the same grades and grade names apply whether or not eggs have been held in storage. Eggs which have been held under artificial refrigeration, however, must afterwards be sold as grade "B," or the appropriate grade lower than "B."

Fresh eggs received from shippers during our spring and summer season will be candled and graded as follows: Grade "A" Large, Grade "A" Medium, Grade "B" Medium, Grade "C" Cracked.

Grade "A" Eggs

The Dominion Government Egg Regulations define grades as follows:

Grade "A"—Clean eggs, sound in shell.

Candling definition: Yolk outline indistinct; yolk shadow reasonably small and round in shape, maintaining position in central part of egg; yolk shall float freely around egg on twirling; mottled yolks, visible germ spots not allowed; air cells less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in depth. Floating air cells not allowed.

Weight: Eggs to be graded and marked grade "A" shall weigh individually at the rate of 24 oz. and up to the dozen. The word "Large" may be used in conjunction with eggs of this weight. Eggs meeting the requirements of grade "A," with the exception of weight, but which weigh individually at the rate of 22 to 24 oz. to the dozen may be graded and marked as grade "A" Medium. Eggs meeting the requirements of grade "A," with the exception of

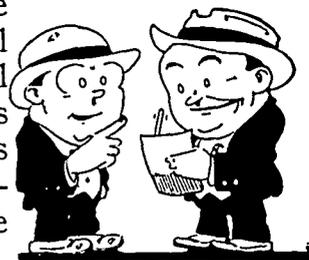
weight, but which weigh individually at the rate of 18 to 22 oz. to the dozen may be graded and marked as grade "A" Pullets.

Grade "B" Eggs

Grade B—Reasonably clean eggs, sound in shell.

Candling definition: Yolk outline may be slightly visible and yolk shadow slightly oblong, but not definitely enlarged or flattened; yolk shall not rise completely to uppermost end of egg; yolk shall float freely around eggs on twirling; extremely mottled yolks or definitely pronounced germ spots are not allowed; air cells less than $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in depth; floating air cells not allowed.

Weight: Eggs weighing individually at the rate of less than 22 oz. to the dozen shall not be graded into this grade. Eggs weighing individually at the rate of 24 oz. and up to the



Tell Your Members

dozen may be known as grade "B" Large. Eggs weighing individually at the rate of 22 to 24 oz. to the dozen may be known as grade "B" Medium.

Grade "C" Eggs

Grade "C" takes in all eggs, including Cracks and dirty or soiled eggs, not permitted to be graded into grades "A" and "B" but which are unfit for human consumption. Such eggs, weighing individually at the rate of less than 22 oz. to the dozen may be graded into this grade. Cracked eggs shall be packed separately and the containers branded as such.

MAKE YOUR PAPER WORK FOR YOU

Do you want to buy poultry breeding stock? Or have you some to sell? Tell 22,000 other farm families about it—in "The Manitoba Co-operator." Classified Ads. are only 3c per word.

Annual Meeting

By the time this "Co-operator" is in the hands of our members, the twelfth annual meeting of your organization will be completed. The delegates will be back home—to face the problems of producing and marketing another crop of poultry.

Every delegate in attendance at the annual meeting is bound, by mutual agreement, to hold meet-

ings in their respective districts, as soon as convenient, and to make a full report to their local members of all that transpired at the annual meeting. Every delegate gets a copy of all reports and statements, and will be mailed a copy of the minutes of the annual meeting.

The development of our Co-operative depends upon our members getting full and correct information. This is up to the delegates. Our organization will grow—in size, strength and usefulness—if delegates do their work well.

HELPING TO BRING BACK PROSPERITY

To the Editor:

From time to time during the last year or two, irrepressible politicians, bank heads, railway heads and others who think they are in a position to know, have been telling us that prosperity is just around the corner but up to very lately farmers have been unmoved by such declarations. Recently there have been definite signs that prosperity has been actually peeking around the so called corner. In talking to a farmer friend about the rise in hog prices, cattle outlook improving, wool prices away up from last year making the sheep men feel good, we came to the conclusion that farm prospects were on the mend, but, said my friend, just you watch when prosperity is definitely around the corner, the bankers and financial men will clap on another one per cent. and smack it back again.

That, of course, was rather hard on our banker friends who will undoubtedly say prosperity is here and they helped it along. Perhaps they did, but I venture to say they did not do one quarter as much to bring it about as their stenographers have done. Take the price of wool, for instance; it has gone up more than any other farm product. The bankers had nothing to do with that. For years back, silk has been the main article of ladies' wear but now the fashion has changed and wool is coming into its own, which is as it should be in a country with such a rigorous climate for the better part of the year. Why buy silk from Japan and supply her with plenty of money to buy armaments to dominate the Chinese when later on the two may get together and lick the rest of the

world. We need warm clothing, we can grow the wool at home, then why buy something from a foreign country that can only be worn in summer and even then the mosquitos make the ladies hide their silk stockinged legs whereas wool is a protection from the blood-thirsty little rascals. British stocking manufacturers are advising the ladies to wear two pairs of stockings in order to keep them warm. Why do that when one pair of woollen ones will do the trick with half the bother? The movie queens set the fashions but if they had to make their pictures in Manitoba in January, we would not be able to see them for nice warm woolies. The very low price of wool the last few years has been a boon to those who kept a small flock. They took their wool to Little Britain and had it made into blankets, socks, yarn and everything else made of wool that they needed. If the price had been good they very likely would have sold it and spent the money on something they needed less. Now they can sell the wool at a fair price and buy what they like with the money knowing that their future comfort is assured. The wool on the market was of small value but the blankets are just as warm as if the wool had cost ten times the price.

Wool is essential to our comfort and farmers would do well to keep a few sheep to supply their own needs and if we can believe some of the successful sheep men,

they have done much to help out the family exchequer all through the depression. The rise in price is an encouraging feature of the business and if the ladies go in for woollen clothing instead of silk, they will be more comfortable, they will encourage a hitherto languishing branch of farm activity, farmers will have more money to spend, the office boss will raise the salaries of his employees and take on new ones to care for the increased business. If we all work together for the common good, prosperity will get 'round the corner and into the open in spite of every kind of obstacle. Let the wool growers lead the procession by selling all their wool to their own company, The Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers' Association. Let us smother the Co-op manager, W. W. Thompson of Regina, with enough wool to make him hunt up new markets. As the Dutchman says: "Let us all put our shoulders to the wheel and pull."

FARMER TOM.

TAYLOR'S CHICKS
 Our Chicks from Taylor's pass all tests, We now get Profits from their nests.

	100	200	400
Leghorns	\$7.75	\$15.00	\$29.00
Barred Rocks	8.75	17.00	33.00
Wyandottes, Reds	9.75	19.00	37.00

Send deposit Now to Book your Order.
 Taylor's Pure-bred-to-Lay Chicks make Profit.

January Limerick Winners
 1st—100 Chicks, D. J. Cathers Headingly
 2nd—50 Chicks, G. S. Fraser, Viscount,
 3rd—25 Chicks, V. Fredbjornson, Amaranth, Man.

Send February Limericks Now.
ALEX TAYLOR HATCHERY LTD.
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Ever since the first years of confederation, The Royal Bank has been a constructive factor in the development of Canadian industry and trade. Today, in its established strength and experience, the Bank is a stabilizing force in Canada's national life.

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Co-operative Dairying

A Message from Manitoba Co-operative Dairies

PRIZE WINNERS

Congratulations are extended to the winners at the recent Manitoba Dairy Convention in the competition for high quality cream. With 100 entries it is no small honor to be within the first twenty — in a competition where all samples were of exceedingly high standard. Of the first twenty, at least ten are our shippers or shareholders.



No Light Thing

Beer and Butter

A dairy publication recently contained the following item of news:

"Since the United States has abandoned prohibition there has been a marked decrease in the demand for dairy products. The demand in Wisconsin, the largest dairy state, shows a decline of 5 per cent. Sales of ice cream declined 10 to 25 per cent. Distributors of chocolate milk report that the demand for their product had been cut as much as 30 per cent."

Gilbert Plains Creamery

Receipts at the plant leased by our Co-op Dairies at Gilbert Plains are improving. As yet, cream received here is forwarded to Dauphin for churning. Until a greater volume is available, this is most economical. Meanwhile, wood and ice have been provided for the summer's operations.

Building at Chatfield

Progress towards completing our plant at Chatfield has been somewhat slow. Mr. Harry Hawkins, who was largely supervising the work, had the misfortune to fall, breaking a rib. It was considered wise to allow operations to stand still until his recovery. He is now back on the job. The building is practically completed — engine, boiler and other machinery installed. The churning room is being painted. As soon as this is completed, churn and vats will be put into place. It is expected that the plant will be ready for receiving cream about

March. The new plant will serve the entire area between the lakes.

Markets, Imports, Etc.

During the past month markets have been quite strong. Storage holdings on February 1st were reported to be some 2,000,000 lbs. less than on February 1st last year. Production has been well maintained in the West. There has been some falling off in other parts of Canada.

It looks, at present, as though Canada will need to import some butter for her own requirements of the next two or three months. At the moment, it is reported that approximately 10,000 boxes of New Zealand's are approaching Canada from England. With our present duty arrangements, butter coming through this channel probably will not menace present prices very much — unless, through over-zeal, our imports should become too heavy. New Zealand butter coming from England is subject to an 8 cents per pound duty.

Canadian Production

In the early part of 1933, creamery butter production in Canada was less than in the previous year. During the summer months there was a decided increase, while the

last three months of the year again showed a decrease.

Reported production for the entire year is 215,917,000 pounds, an increase of 1,900,000 pounds over 1932. On the other hand, it is estimated that the production of cheese showed a decrease

It PAYS to Clip Horses

Clipped horses do more work, easier to groom, sweat less so rest better—no wet, long hair to cause chills at night—less illness. **It pays to clip horses in the Spring.**

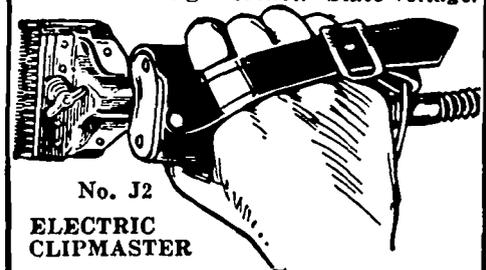
Stewart No. 1 Hand-operated clipping machine.. \$15.00



Strong, simple, stays sharp, easy-running, lasts for years.

Get machines shown above and below from dealer, or write factory direct.

CLIPMASTER — The world's fastest electric clipping machine. Illustration shows complete machine. Extremely light in weight (only 3 lbs.). Ball-bearing tension so plates stay sharp longer. Works from light socket. State voltage.



No. J2

ELECTRIC CLIPMASTER

110-120 volt universal motor J2 \$27.50

Flexible Shaft Company Limited

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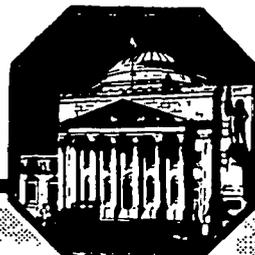
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conservative management,
the guiding principle . . . for 116 years.

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Established 1817

TOTAL ASSETS IN EXCESS OF \$750,000,000

HEAD OFFICE



MONTREAL

Co-op Livestock Marketing

Manitoba Co-operative Livestock Producers, Ltd.
Canadian Livestock Co-operative, Ltd.

SOME HOME TRUTHS

Today a "restored agriculture" is being discussed—both by farmers and by townfolk whose living depends upon the ability of the farmer to purchase goods and services for them.

In our own field, a common complaint is that the cost of transportation and marketing has not declined in keeping with the decline in the prices of livestock. By inference, this fact is held to indicate that herein lies the chief cause of our trouble.

Your Co-op Has Done Things

The position of our own co-operative organization calls for no apologies. Long before there was any public clamor for reductions in marketing costs we were busy on the job of cutting costs to the absolute minimum within our own business. Not content with that, last year we encouraged an investigation into the marketing costs by a special committee of the Manitoba Legislature, and to this committee we submitted an exhaustive brief on the whole subject. In this brief we recommended substantial all round reductions in marketing costs to meet the need of the farmer in the time of his distress.

Having thus cleared ourselves of any possible charge that we were concerned only in the success of our business institution—or that we are unmindful of the interests of the producer—we point out that the marketing cost of live animals on the public markets of Canada is a very insignificant item in the spread between the producer and the ultimate consumer. We are certain that these marketing costs are being stressed out of all proportion to their importance in the picture, and that the fundamental problem is being lost sight of.

Co-operation Is the Solution

Private ownership of the processing and distributing services which lie between the farmer on the land and the consumer in the city are absorbing most of the price paid by the meat buying public. We can only remind our readers that there is no permanent solution for this problem, apart from the co-operative ownership and control of these services which today lie between the marketing institutions we ourselves have built up in Western Canada and the consuming public.

Unfair levies, wasteful duplication of services, and a stolid indifference toward the interest (both of the primary producer of livestock and the ultimate consumer) are characteristic of the competitive system. The remedy for these evils is in our own hand. How long are we going to endure them?

More Stock in January

Shipments of livestock to the St. Boniface market during January, 1934, were some 250 cars over the same period in 1933. The five high firms on the market during January handled:

1st—Can Co-op	214 cars	—20 %
2nd	176 "	—16.35%
3rd	144 "	—13.38%
4th	138 "	—12.8 %
5th	118 "	—10.9 %

Finish at the Top

The quality of the cattle coming forward has been somewhat disappointing. Considerable quantities of cattle show signs of being fed grain for a short period—but not carrying sufficient flesh to sell at top prices. We have persistently urged producers to finish cattle before marketing. We repeat this recommendation. Our opinion is that the market for cattle will continue steady to strong. In every



case where feed is available, therefore, finish cattle before shipping.

Bringing Home the Bacon

In the hog division the price reached the high level at 9 cents for bacons on this market. As 9 cents was slightly out of line with Old Country prices, our market slipped somewhat. Reports indicate that the Old Country market should remain steady to strong—at a level which will pay our producers from 8 to 8½ cents on the St. Boniface market.

Reports from country points indicate a substantial increase in the breeding of hogs. The outlook is for steady to strong hog prices. It is not our intention, then, to discourage increased hog production. But without any definite plan, we wonder whether producers may experience once more a slump in prices when they have increased their production.

The quota under the Ottawa Agreement provides for a substantial increase in the export of hog products. But in case production increases 50 per cent. over the 1933 level within the next eighteen months, the Canadian producer may find his market restricted and, inevitably, decidedly lower prices for hog products.

A big share of the livestock shipped to the St. Boniface market has been purchased outright in the country. Late last year, country buyers were inactive. The producer could leave his stock on the farm or ship it with the co-operative shipper.

As soon as prices improved the buyer became active. It is just as sound for the producer to ship his stock direct to the market in a co-operative way when prices are stronger as when prices are low. We recommend once more—strongly—that producers ship "100% co-operative."

Build up Your Own Paper

Tell our advertisers: "I saw your ad. in The Manitoba Co-operator."

When you want to sell, buy or trade anything, tell 22,000 Manitoba farm families about it. . . .

. . . . through our classified ads., at three cents per word.

MILLAR, MACDONALD & CO.Chartered Accountants
Winnipeg

Auditors to:

Manitoba Pool Elevators
Manitoba Poultry Pool
Canadian Poultry Pool
Manitoba Co-operative Livestock
Canadian Livestock Co-operative
Manitoba Co-operative Wholesale
Consumers' Oil Co-operatives.**AROUND FARMING WORLD**

(From Page 3)

parliament potato producers will be registered and the scheme submitted to a vote of registered producers. If two-thirds of the voters representing two-thirds of the produce approve the scheme will come into force for the whole of the country. This will probably be followed by the establishment of a domestic quota and import quotas.

South Africa

The dairy industry of Natal, South Africa, is asking for legislation covering a scheme for co-operative control of the whole dairy industry of the province, including fluid milk.

**A COVETED HONOR
WON BY MANITOBAN**

Another popular assumption has been shattered by a doughty champion from the West. While public opinion has identified Eastern Canada more or less as the hub of floral plant breeding in the Dominion, the winning of a highly-prized and signal honor by a Manitoban at the world's great horticultural centre, the Royal Horticultural Society of London, England, has once more directed attention to the long list of champions emanating from Western Canada. A coveted honor, the Cory cup, has been awarded to Mr. F. L. Skinner, Dropmore, Manitoba, for breeding a new variety of lily which he has named the Maxwell. The cup is awarded to the originator of the best new hardy plant of garden origin shown to the society during the year. The Maxwell lily was exhibited last July in London, and the presentation of the cup will be made with due ceremony at the next annual meeting of the society on 20th February.

—Dept. of Agriculture

**WORLD WHEAT
PROSPECTS**

(From Page 5)

With 250 million bushels exported to date, a balance of 310 million bushels remains to be cleared during the remaining 27 weeks of the present cereal year.

The new crops of the Argentine and Australia are commencing to move into international trade. Argentine production is estimated at 256 million bushels and Australian production at 160 million bushels. The combined production in 1933 in the two countries is smaller than a year ago, the decrease in the yield of the Australian crop more than offsetting increased production in the Argentine.

Revised estimates of wheat production in Europe in 1933 justify earlier estimates, and indicate an exceptionally large crop. European production (excluding Russia) is now estimated at 1,683 million bushels as compared with 1,481 million bushels harvested in 1932. Information as to the condition of the 1934 European wheat crop is not very definite at the present time. It appears, however, that conditions in Italy are inclined to be unfavorable, and that a reduced acreage has been sown for harvest next year.

Russia's Large Crop

According to official estimates of the U.S.S.R., the grain crop for 1933 was the largest recorded in Russian history. There was only a small increase in acreage above 1932, but the yield was much larger. The wheat crop was one-third larger than that of 1932, reaching 1,019,000,000 bushels, which is only about seven million bushels short of the record wheat crop of the United States. Broomhall's estimate of the Russian crop is much smaller—960,000,000 bushels. The Russian crop of 1932-33 was about 754,000,000.

In spite of harvesting a larger crop in 1933 than in 1932, the United Kingdom has continued to import more wheat during the present crop year than during 1932-33. Increased stocks of imported wheat and flour are reported in the United Kingdom.

The final estimate of the 1933 Canadian wheat crop was issued on January 19, and showed an estimated production of 270 million bushels as compared with 443 million bushels in 1932.

(Turn to Page 15)

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Positive battery plates, each39
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32-volt automatic air compressor	95 00
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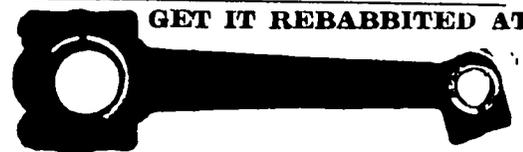
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Grain Elevators, for sale at reduced prices with reasonable terms. Write for description also Harrow Carts at \$7.50. F. N. McDonald & Co., 156 Princess St. Winnipeg, Man.

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BE SURE TO GET FULL PRICE FOR your Old Gold Jewellery, Gold Teeth, etc. Send parcel and receive cash. We pay, per ounce, for 9 karat \$6 00; 10 karat, \$7 00; 14 karat, \$10.00; 18 karat, \$13.00 Satisfaction guaranteed, or parcel returned prepaid. Provincial Refiners, Dept. 24, 33 Appleton, Toronto.

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ANTHONY OATS, GOVERNMENT GRAD- ed. No. 1 and No. 2 seed. Gopher Oats; Government Grade, No. 1 45c. bushel, sacks extra 20c. each. L. R. Ryan Fox-warren Manitoba.

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Say you saw it in "The Co-operator"

WESTERN RYE GRASS, GOVERNMENT Graded; No. 1, no couch; Grazier variety, 2½c; Mecca, 3c.; either railway. Dash Bros., Kipling, Sask

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Say you saw it in "The Co-operator"

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DON'T BUY GARDEN SEEDS YET—WAIT for my announcement in next "Co-operator". If you want some to sow early such as celery or anything else send me 10 cents for three packets. There is no necessity for paying fancy prices which include cost of expensive catalogues. John Hiscock, Baldur,

WORLD WHEAT

(From Page 14)

From August 1, 1933, to January 12, 1934, a total of 165 million bushels of wheat has been marketed in the prairie provinces as compared with 281 million bushels for the same period in the preceding year. On January 19, a total of 235 million bushels of Canadian wheat was in store in Canada and the United States as compared with 229 million bushels on the same date last year.

During the first five months of the present crop year exports of Canadian wheat and wheat flour have amounted to 104 million bushels as compared with 151 million bushels for the same period in 1932-33.

Preliminary reports from 12 countries which include about 40 per cent. of the wheat area of the northern hemisphere, outside Russia and China, indicate a slight

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reduction of wheat sowings for the 1934 crop. In the United States prospects are for a small crop of winter wheat due to a combination of reduced acreage and poor condition of the crop. A winter wheat crop of 435,000,000 bushels is to be expected on the acreage seeded to winter wheat if the relationship between December 1 condition and abandonment and yields corresponds to that of past years.

EDUCATIONAL

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RED RIVER JIG OR TAPATOE, 35c. Dance instructions, 10c. Orchestration, 75c. A. Mulligan, 485 McDermot, Winnipeg

USED CORRESPONDENCE COURSES ON all subjects. Educator Service, Laurier, Manitoba.

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Say you saw it in "The Co-operator"

WHEN COWS OR MARES DON'T "catch" use STIKS-EM just before service. Results or your money back. Proven remedy. 85c per cow; \$2.35 for four, postpaid. Haines Holstein Farms, Carman, Manitoba.

ENGLISH COLLIE PUPS, HEELERS; males, \$3.00; females, \$1.00. Gordon Anderson, Lenore, Manitoba.

MACHINERY WANTED

12-INCH 2-BOTTOM OLIVER PLOUGH; 6-horse duck-foot cultivator; 20-run drill; wagon and box; 4-horse team harness; 6-section harrow; 2-horse hay rack; 7-foot binder; mower with 5-ft. cutting blade; 2 steel trucks and straw racks. Must be in good shape and cheap for cash. What offers? Leeder's Ltd., 1375 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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When you want to sell or buy horses, poultry, cordwood, feed, cattle, hogs, honey, farms, machinery, etc. . . . tell your neighbors in your own paper, "The Manitoba Co-operator." Some of the other 22,000 farm families who read your paper may need what you have to sell—or may want to sell what you need.

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Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada

THE report of the Company for 1933 is one of consistent and constructive progress. Its achievements enhance the impressive record of public service it has rendered during the sixty-three years of its existence.

In 1933, as in the preceding three years, people generally experienced exceptional anxiety, the result of incomes being either impaired or entirely cut off. At such a time the un-failing aid and security of life insurance proved of very great value.

In this service the Sun Life Company bore a worthy share. During the year it paid out (exclusive of policy loans) nearly \$100,000,000 to policyholders and beneficiaries. Similarly, during the four years of depression it has paid out over \$380,000,000.

Notwithstanding these substantial payments, the Company, during the same four-year period, increased its assets by \$55,000,000—its insurances in force by over \$307,000,000.

Sixty-third Annual Report—1933

ASSURANCES IN FORCE, December 31, 1933 \$2,770,453,871

This large amount, the accumulating estates of nearly a million Sun Life policyholders, will become payable to them or their dependents during this generation—a stabilizing factor of great social and economic value.

NEW ASSURANCES PAID FOR 216,567,441

INCOME 152,235,821

DISBURSEMENTS 127,505,801

EXCESS OF INCOME OVER DISBURSEMENTS 24,730,020

PAYMENTS TO POLICYHOLDERS AND BENEFICIARIES

During the year 1933 97,457,059

Since Organization 800,170,033

ASSETS 624,146,035

Bonds: government, municipal, public utility and others; stocks; preferred and common; loans on mortgages; real estate; loans on Company policies; cash in banks, and other assets.

LIABILITIES 609,965,832

Almost nine-tenths of this sum represents the policy reserve—the amount set aside to guarantee all policy payments as they become due.

PAID-UP CAPITAL (\$2,000,000) and balance at credit of shareholders' account \$3,342,547

RESERVE for depreciation—in mortgages and real estate 4,885,904

SURPLUS 5,951,752

\$14,180,203

The valuation of bonds and stocks has been made on the basis prescribed for all companies by the Insurance Department of the Dominion of Canada and in conformity with the basis authorized by the Departments of Insurance of the various provinces of Canada.

Policy liabilities have been valued by the full net level premium method, a standard more exacting than required under the stringent provisions of the Dominion Insurance Act.

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada