

# Department Of Agriculture Predicts Better Beef Markets

## FEWER FEEDERS MOVE TOWARD CORN BELT FARMS THIS SPRING

Probable Trend Of Other Markets Foretold; Advises Against Any Increase In Corn Acreage Or In Dairy Industry.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9.—Higher beef prices are predicted for 1925 by the United States department of agriculture. Receipts will be lighter, as indicated by the fourteen per cent reduction in the movement of stockers and feeders at all markets during the last six months of 1924. Meanwhile domestic demand is expected to be good due to healthy industrial conditions.

Little improvement is looked for in foreign beef trade under present circumstances, due to competition in European markets from cheap Argentine mutton.

A still further indication of a reduction in the number of feeding cattle is seen in the southwest range country. The division of crop and livestock estimates of the department of agriculture says that the movement of feeders between March 1 and June 30 from Texas and adjacent states will be about 862,000 head compared with 984,000 last year and 919,000 in 1923. The general impression is that the bulk of Texas cattle will leave the range for the stock yards and feedlots later this year, due to the poor share in which many came through the winter.

**Storage Stocks Shrink.**  
Although butter prices have been somewhat strengthened the country over by the large decrease in storage during the year, the department of agriculture is not advising any increase in the amount of dairying for 1925. Domestic consumption will probably continue to grow during the year as business conditions are expected to bolster dairy markets. There is a constant trend toward greater per capita consumption of butter and milk products, and it is likely that foreign demand will show any increase, however.

**Storage of eggs and frozen eggs** is small and favorable prices for eggs are anticipated. The department has had a demoralizing effect on live and dressed poultry markets. Although a small corn crop was produced this year and stocks on hand March 1 were lower than usual, the department of agriculture believes an ordinary crop in 1925 will supply all needs at moderate prices. Any increase in acreage would cause low prices, it is noted, which would be as good as in 1921, 1922 or 1923, it is said.

**Pork Market Strong.**  
Probably not more than 27,000,000 spring pigs will be produced in the corn belt as compared with 33,000,000 in 1924. The department of agriculture believes American demand will be fully as good in 1925 and that foreign trade in pork will be satisfactory. Although production costs will be high until the next crop year, breeding operations should not be based on present situations but on the prices it is believed will prevail when the hogs are sold.

**Pork stores** have decreased 3 per cent in the last year, storage of beef shows an increase of about 36 per cent, and storage of lamb is 108 per cent higher. Butter is 200 per cent higher while storage of eggs is about 84 per cent below last year's figure and frozen eggs about 41 per cent less.

**\$15,100 Guernsey** in limelight with record this time.

A world's Guernsey record in class BR has been made on Lona Mollie Cowan 91285, the cow that topped the Stout Disposal Sale at Hinsdale, Ill., last October at the sum of \$15,100. She was on test at the time and was sold to William H. Williams, Lyon mountain, New York, but completed her career at the home of the sale, the Chicago Cattle and Horse Exchange.

Her production for the year was 16,927 pounds milk and 5,023 pounds butter. She also carried her calf to weaning, in class I. Her lead over the former champion of the double letter class was 17,000 pounds.

Most of the record was made at the Lona Mollie Cowan sale, and the cow was sold to the buyer, who is now the active of getting and shipping to the sale in completion of her record. She was born in New York where she was bred by the Lona Mollie Cowan sale, New York.

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## VOTE SHOWS FARMER AGAINST BOND ISSUE

Farm Bureau's Referendum Reveals Eighty Per Cent Favor Gas Tax, Want It Split Three Ways.

DES MOINES, March 9.—(By Associated Press.) A referendum conducted among 80,000 members of the Iowa Farm Bureau federation revealed the members to be in one against the proposed road program entailing an \$85,000,000 bond issue, according to an announcement made today by the state office of the federation here.

The referendum was conducted by sending post cards with a list of questions to every member of the federation. In addition to the bond proposition the members were asked to give their opinions on other features of the highway issue.

Approximately 80 per cent of the members were favorable to a tax on gasoline and 65 per cent of those answering the questionnaire were in favor of a tax deduction for gasoline used in tractors and farming machines.

The vote in favor of an equal distribution of the gasoline tax revenue to primary secondary and township roads was 10 to one and more than 65 per cent of those voting were of the opinion that the gas tax should replace an equal amount of property tax.

Only about 16 per cent of the voters were favorable to the transfer of the primary road system to the jurisdiction of the state highway commission.

The returns virtually are identical to the attitude taken by the farm federation at its recent convention here.

The federation announced it would place the referendum returns in the hands of the state legislators.

## EXPECT BIG CORN CANNING SEASON

Special To The Gazette.  
AMES, March 9.—Iowa and Nebraska canners are looking ahead for a big corn canning season which will compensate in good measure for the small production of 1924. That is the opinion of all of the men of the industry attending the sixth annual canners' short course at Iowa State college, conducted in co-operation with the Iowa Nebraska Canners' association.

They expect, too, that the output of canned corn from these states will be of better quality than ever before, because the plants are better equipped and better managed.

**Learn Better Methods.**  
In the six years of short courses on canning the industry has benefited up closely with science and gained more complete mastery of the problem of putting up tens of millions of cans of corn and tomatoes every year and insuring that practically every can is clean, wholesome, appetizing food. This year's short course at Ames, like the others preceding it, have been devoted to the business and technical phases of the industry and something like 100 men have been in attendance.

In Iowa the canning industry has grown rapidly in the last five years and the state now has fifty modern establishments, all packing corn, but some of them also packing tomatoes or other vegetables. One of them, at Roland, in Story county, has for two or three seasons been packing peas, and the pack of this crop in 1924 was of unusually fine quality.

**Big Industry in Iowa.**  
In a normal year in Iowa the canneries of the state put out from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 cases of corn and about 2,000,000 cases of other crops. That means from 36,000,000 to 48,000,000 cans of corn alone. It puts into the pockets of many thousands of farmers of the state money from a profitable cash crop.

This great output of corn has steadily improved in quality in the last five years and it now holds a high place in the market. It is sold mainly through the midwest, southwest and far west. The state of California is one of the largest single consumers of Iowa pack corn.

**MADISON CLUB MEETS AT SERBOUSEK HOME.**  
CENTER JUNCTION, March 9.—The Double H girls' club of North Madison township, Jones county, met with Leone Serbousek Saturday. Roll call was answered with enthusiasm by everyone in furnishing "my room."

After the usual business meeting Elizabeth Young and Lorna Livingstone demonstrated floor finishes and Glen McDonald and Leone Serbousek demonstrated home dyeing. There was music with the social hour in charge of Dorothy McDonald and Dorothy Hale.

**Could Do It.**  
There are more women than men on the eastern states. If they organize they can do it all out of office.

**COOLIDGE ASKS ABOUT SEED.**  
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9.—President Coolidge is expected to ask the department of agriculture for a report on the seed situation in the United States.

**How Many Hours** a Day Pumping Water.  
Just figure the time now spent in pumping and carrying water and consider that all of this could be saved by the use of a Delco-Light water system. You would be free to devote your time to more important work. Ask us for details regarding the Delco-Light water system that you should have.

**DEPENDABLE DELCO-LIGHT PRODUCTS.**  
THE ELECTRIC EQUIPMENT CO.  
128 First Avenue E.  
Phone 1021.

**BARGAINS** in CHECK PROTECTORS!  
We made a special purchase of about fifty new and used machines among which are such well-known makes as TODD PROTECTOGRAPH and F & I CHECK-WRITERS. We're going to sell them at bargain prices.

**\$298 to \$2375** (Values to \$80.00)  
This stock will move quickly at these prices. If you need a check protector, here is your opportunity to pick one up at a bargain. Better come in Tuesday—Wednesday may be too late!

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110 Third Avenue—Phone 524

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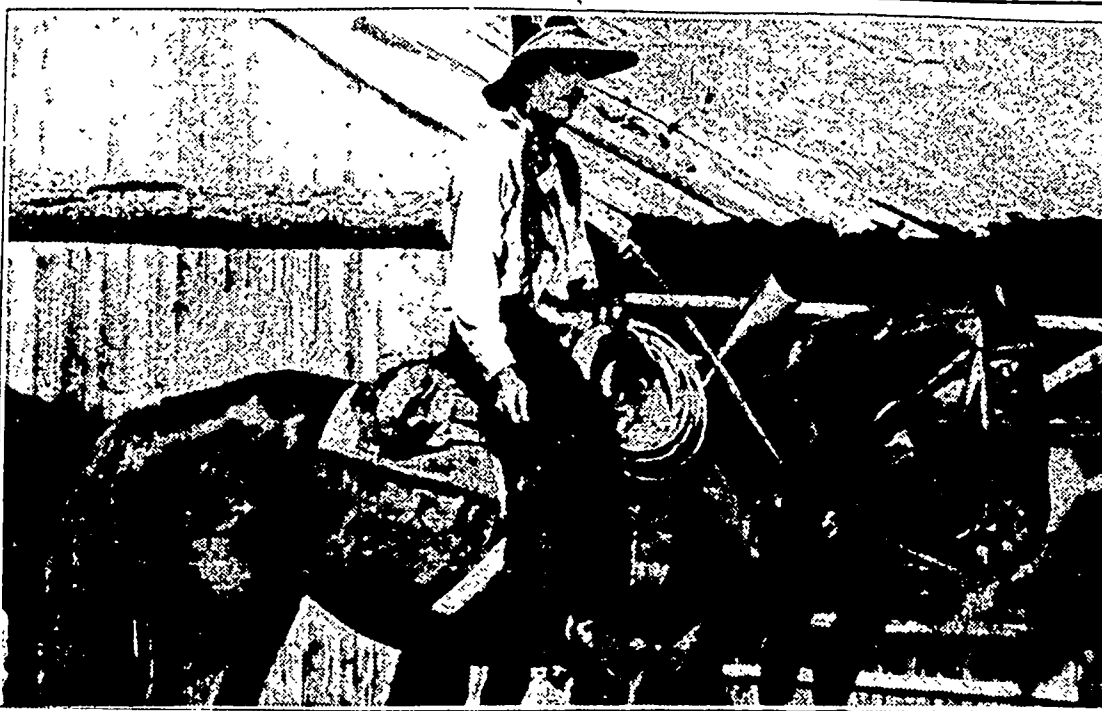
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## FROM COW PUNCHER TO MEMBER OF CABINET



William M. Jardine, the new secretary of agriculture in President Coolidge's cabinet, as he appeared when herding cattle in the Big Hole basin of Montana in his earlier days. His varied career took him to the presidency of Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kans., and then to the leadership of the national farm department.

## MANCHESTER MAN MAKES BIG FARM OUT OF 25 ACRE PATCH

In the following story in the last issue of "The Farm Journal," H. V. Warner, Iowa soils specialist who has written many stories about farms in the northeastern part of the state, tells how a Delaware county farmer was converted to alfalfa and changed his forty acres of land into a much more profitable tract.

On a badly soiled and much bleached page of an old note book I find this entry "April, 1921, D. B. Fierstine, Manchester, Ia.,—lime crusher—alfalfa pioneer—lime makes difference between crop and no crop—small farm—dairy cows and hogs."

The county agent, Bob Cohns, had taken me out to a farm whose owner had pioneered alfalfa in Delaware county. Fierstine was one of the first men in the county to make alfalfa a going proposition, and his fields have been the best kind of demonstrations in getting our people to know the value of alfalfa, and to learn how it can be grown," Bob told me.

"Hence our visit to his farm and the entry in my field book at that time, nearly four years ago."

"Recently, on an alfalfa tour of the county we stopped at Fierstine's and again my notes read 'Farm—Fierstine, Manchester, Ia.—twenty acres alfalfa—dairy cows, hogs and horses—farming twenty to twenty-five acres—neighbors buying limestone and seeding alfalfa.' About the same as had been hastily jotted down three, or four years before."

And the brief fragments of sentences tell the story except for its important details. Fierstine had started to crush limestone and apply it to the land of his forty-acre farm. Clover had been only partially successful, the soil was acid and he decided that soil-building was the first step in making his forty-acre farm, half of which was in permanent pasture, pay.

"There was no question but that his soil needed liming. The test told the story. A long wagon haul over bad roads was a serious obstacle to shipping in ground limestone to lime his fields. Out-croppings of lime rock on his farm and on other farms in the near vicinity were investigated and found to be of high quality. Then came the crusher, a

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## SAYS LEGUMES ARE IOWA'S GREAT NEED

AMES, March 9.—The United States census tells what is the biggest soil problem in Iowa, says Harry Warner, well known soils specialist in the extension service. Of each 100 acres of improved farm land in the state, there are in leguminous crops, such as alfalfa, clovers and clover-timothy mixtures, only seven and one-half acres.

In other words, each acre of land is in leguminous crops only one year out of fourteen. If Iowa's soil fertility is to be preserved, twenty-five acres out of every 100 should be in legumes, Warner says.

"Instead of a four or five-year rotation in which we have leguminous crops on twenty or twenty-five per cent of the land," he says, "the state is in a whole has a fourteen-year rotation with clover only on seven and one-half per cent of the land. Iowa's rich soil will not continue to produce good crops unless fertility is built up by leguminous crops."

According to the census figures, Adair, Cass, Madison, Ringgold, Union and Wayne counties have less than three per cent of their improved farm lands in legumes. No county in the state has the desirable twenty-five per cent of improved farm land in legumes.

Allamakee, Clayton, Dubuque and Jefferson counties have more than fifteen out of every 100 acres of improved farm land in legumes. Jackson is one of the leading dairy counties of the state, with dairy and topography making the production of clover both necessary and profitable.

"Ordinarily he keeps six milk cows, his work horses, and a good sized flock of chickens, and raises 100 pigs for market. There are many 120 acre farms that can not boast of so much stock as Fierstine keeps on these forty acres."

"The secret of this large amount of stock on so small an acreage is no secret at all. It is alfalfa. Four and five acre crops of this valuable forage crop have converted the Fierstine place from a forty-acre 'patch' to a 120 acre livestock farm, so far as the marketable products are concerned."

"The growing of so much leguminous hay has had its effect not only on the money income of the farm but on the fertility income—that valuable and less tangible measure of return which too often is a negative rather than a positive quantity. Fierstine has a reserve fund of soil fertility that will be converted into crops and yields."

**BUREAU AFTER THIEVES.**  
RED OAK, March 9.—The Montgomery county farm bureau board of directors has offered \$100 as a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of hog and chicken thieves.

**Crushed His Own Line.**  
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## ORGANIZE PIG CLUB AT WILLIAMSBURG

Daily Farm News For Farm Folk

Edited by C. P. STREETER

WILLIAMSBURG, March 9.—A sow and litter club is under way here with the backing of the Ad club of this city. So far ten boys and girls have signed up for membership, have bought their purebred sows and are ready to raise spring litters.

H. A. Dunlap is the chief promoter of the club. For those youngsters who want to raise Spotted Poland Chinas, which breed Mr. Dunlap has, he has offered to arrange payment for the sow by any one of three methods—cash, a note or a return of a part of the pig crop. If the litter is

large, Mr. Dunlap will take two gilts back, otherwise only one. Arrangements have been made with other breeders to make the same offer on other kinds of hogs.

It is believed that with the strong hog market and encouraging outlook for future prices the pig club will be a popular undertaking.

THE CLASSIFIED section has more opportunities than you can shake a stick at.

Accept this informal invitation to be present.

THIS review will bring to the larger women, a most comprehensive showing of Spring's slenderizing mules.

Spring selections can be made at this time from stocks that are absolutely NEW. Morning selections are suggested.

Accept this informal invitation to be present.

will begin on Wednesday of this week. Exceptionally heavy crepes and other fine weaves in plain colors and fancies will be shown.

The NEW Spring Prints will be generously represented. It will be the Silk Classic of the Spring season. Plan to be here.

—Denecke's, First Floor.

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