

OPPOSES FURTHER LAND RECLAMATION

SAYS DAMAGE TO FARMERS

Magazine Writers Urge Against Plan Because Already Too Much Land Under Cultivation, Claim

"Reclamation of waste land by the government is vastly damaging to the American farmer and its immediate cessation would be the greatest help the government could render," declares Jared Van Wageningen, Jr., of Lawyersville, N. Y., descendant of pioneers who have farmed the same land in New York state since colonial days.

"This is one of the things so transparently simple that it does not require far-seeing statesmanship to see it," he says in an article in Farm and Fireside. "I cannot think of anything funnier than the fact that we wrestle at Washington on the one hand, with the problem of marketing an unwieldy surplus and at the same time continue our efforts to bring water onto arid lands. Whatever else we do, we can at least adopt the policy of holding all efforts at reclamation in abeyance and discouraging all new agricultural adventures.

"The farmer's troubles are simply this: There are so many farmers and so many agricultural acres that food is being produced in quantities greater than can be sold at a remunerative price. You may violate the laws of the Republic and, with a smart lawyer get out of it. You may violate the laws of God and if you repent you will be forgiven. But if you break the principles of economic law there is no power in earth or heaven that can save you.

"Therefore the present farm problem cannot be solved by legislation of the type that has been proposed. And I cannot escape the conviction that even in the bleeding corn belt the farmer would not be so vocal were not his anguish stimulated by divers talented gentlemen whose anxiety is concerned first of all with what will happen on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

"I am not afraid that the next congress will do little for the farmer, but that it will do too much."

BUSY SEXTONS

Tips, rumors and hunches dig the graves of millions of easy-go dollars every year.—American Magazine.

HAPPY DUNCES

The great worry of a man who is even thirty per cent clever is that he always expected to prove it.—American Magazine.

McCRAREN FAMILY AMONG OLD SETTLERS

(Continued from page one)
 en down because most of the farm was sold for subdivision and was no longer needed. The frame house is now the home of his son, Thomas J. In 1900 Thomas McCraren Sr. built a brick house a little west of the frame house and lived there until the time of his death. It has since been the home of his daughters, Misses Elizabeth and Maria, and they now reside there.

Thomas McCraren Sr. died on Aug. 5, 1905, at the age of 83 years, and was buried in St. Mary's cemetery, Highland Park, Ill.

Anna McCraren died Jan. 21, 1882. Adeline married Richard D. Lahey of Wadsworth, Ill. They had one daughter, Mary Eva, and one son, Richard Earl. Mary Eva married Dr. Leo C. Hogle and they have one daughter. Mrs. Hogle has been a teacher for many years in the Chicago public schools. Mrs. Adeline Lahey now resides in her home on Deerfield road, Highland Park.

Richard Earl Lahey entered the army Sept. 19, 1917, at Camp Grant, and was assigned to Co. D, 342nd Reg., 86th Div.

Transferred to Co. H, 130th Infantry, Reg., 33rd Div., Camp Logan, Tex.

Major General George Bell Jr., commanding the Div. Brigadier General Henry R. Hill commanding the 65th Infantry Brigade. Composed of the 129th and 130th Reg. until he was killed at Eclimontains.

Brigadier General Edward L. King then taking over the command, of the Brigade. Served overseas with the 130th. Colonel John V. Clinkin commanding the Reg., on all three sectors on the western front. British, French and American. On the 1st of Nov., 10 days before the Armistice was signed he was transferred to the 33rd Military Police Co., 33rd Div., went up into the Army of Occupation and was stationed at Diekirch, Luxemborg. He was mustered out on the 5th of June, 1919, at Camp Grant, Ill.

Richard Earl Lahey married Mary Howe of Lake Forest, Ill., and they have one son, Thomas Earl. They now reside on Deerfield road, Highland Park.

Thomas J. McCraren Jr. was a fireman on the Fargo division of the C. M. & St. P. railroad for many years. Getting tired of the cold winters of the north he decided to go south, and went to Tennessee, and was engineer for many years on the Knoxville and Eastern Tennessee railroad. Then as his father was in declining years he came home to relieve him of farm duties and has since made his home in the old homestead on Deerfield road. Thomas McCraren Jr. married Elizabeth Ellen Fowler of Montivideo, Minn. They had eight children, Ellen F., John, James, Bernard, Joseph, Betty, Mary and Helen. Betty died at seven years

of age, Mary and Helen in infancy. Ellen Francis married John Traut of Grays Lake, Ill.

Mrs. Traut has taught in the Lake county schools for several years. She is now engaged in teaching the Ivanhoe school, one of Lake county's prominent standard schools.

The McCraren family sold the right of way to the C. & N. W. railroad, also to the C. N. S. & M. railroad.

In 1924 they sold a number of acres for a subdivision called Sunset Woods. In 1925 they sold 120 acres to George E. Simmons for a subdivision.

This subdivision is near Briergate station on the North Shore electric line. A few years ago this tract of land which was the McCraren farm, was all taken into the City of Highland Park. Maria McCraren has the Indian arrow heads picked up on the farm by her father. Large ones which were used to kill deer and small ones for birds and other wild game. Also the belt he wore in the Civil war. His naturalization papers when he became a citizen of the United States in 1860, also.

Two government deeds signed by James K. Polk, president of the United States, and his army discharge paper from the Civil war.

Thomas McCraren the Civil war veteran with the Boys in Blue in 1861 fought that this "Nation might live." Years passed and then his grandson, Richard Earl Lahey, left this same farm in 1917 for the world war to go overseas with the boys in khaki for world democracy.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE FIGURES FOR ILLINOIS

The Department of Commerce announces that, according to the returns received, there were 82,529 marriages performed in Illinois during the year 1926, as compared with 79,964 in 1925, representing an increase of 2,565, or 3.2 per cent.

During the year 1926 there were 14,125 divorces granted in the state, as compared with 13,822 in 1925, representing an increase of 303, or 2.2 per cent. There were 294 marriages annulled in 1926, this being the first

year for which statistics of annulments have been collected.

The estimated population of the state of Illinois on July 1, 1926, was 7,203,000, and on July 1, 1925, 7,092,000. On the basis of these estimates,

the number of marriages per 1,000 of the population was 11.5 in 1926, as against 11.3 in 1925; and the number of divorces per 1,000 of the population was 1.96 in 1926, as against 1.95 in 1925.



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