

FARM LEGISLATION PROPOSALS OUTLINED

MAIN POINTS IN PROGRAM

What Is Aimed at in Various Bills Championed by Several Groups Seeking to Aid Farmer

Main points in the agricultural legislative programs as they are advocated by various groups that are seeking to improve the agricultural situation by giving farmers a fair share of the national income, were outlined recently by Dr. Henry C. Taylor of the Institute for Research in Land Economics of Northwestern university in an address before the annual meeting of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation at St. Paul. These were as follows:

A revision of the national land policy looking toward the withdrawal of submarginal lands from agricultural use and the postponement of the bringing of new lands into use through reclamation until such lands are needed.

Development of Facilities The development of facilities which will aid in moving surplus populations from places where they are not needed and placing them in occupations where they can earn a satisfactory living. Just now this means aiding the cityward movement. In other times and conditions it might mean aiding movement in the other direction.

A judicious and selected downward revision of the tariff on manufactured products with a view to reducing the general price level of things farmers buy. The alternative is to make the tariff effective on farm products of which a surplus is produced in order to neutralize in a measure the effect of the tariff on manufactures and restores the purchasing power of farm products to its pre-war level.

The development of facilities for handling climatic surpluses, surpluses due to high yields over which farmers have little or no control. The purpose is to even out the supply through a period of years by carrying over the surpluses from years when yields are high to meet the shortage during years when yields are low. Such a step is in the interest of both producer and consumer.

Stabilization of Currency The stabilization of the currency in order to avoid the losses due to inflation and deflation. It is believed that a government which enforces the fulfillment of contracts involving the payment of money after the lapse of time should not change the significance of the contract by changing the value of money, but should maintain the equity of the contract by stabilizing the currency. This will not retrieve the losses farmers have sustained in the depression, but will help to avoid similar losses in the future.

A provision for refunding the accumulated indebtedness of farmers during the last seven years. Since much of this indebtedness of farmers during the last 7 years is the result of forces over which farmers have had little or no control and of conditions in a large measure brought about by government activities during and since the war, the government should find some means of refunding the farmers' indebtedness on a favorable interest basis that will enable them gradually to pay off their debts instead of continuing to accumulate indebtedness until foreclosure wipes out the account.

A readjustment of the tax burden, which may or may not be needed, with adequate readjustment of income.

LINCOLN ONCE CALLED HANDSOME, SAYS REPORT

Botany Curator at Field Museum Explains Process in Detail

Abraham Lincoln was called handsome at least once in his life, it is disclosed by a search of records by Professor Sumner of the University of Wisconsin, who has unearthed a speech delivered by Lincoln at the Wisconsin state fair at Milwaukee on September 30, 1859.

At the time of the speech a newspaper writer reporting the event said, according to Farm & Fireside, which publishes the documents, that Lincoln "looked like a man made for vading in deep water."

"The women say he is homely," continued the writer, "but I say he is handsome. He looks like an open hearted, honest man grown sharp in fighting knaves. He appears very much like Henry Clay without the light complexion and fiery enthusiasm. His address was short, sweet Lincolnian. It did not please everybody, I suppose and therefore it was something positive and good."

SAN FRANCISCO CAR LINES HAVE DEFICIT

San Francisco's municipal five-cent trolley line, which operates only in the more thickly settled sections of the city, lost \$240,228 during the year ended June 30, 1927, according to a report just made. The loss during the previous year was \$256,685, and the deficit since December 28, 1912, amounts to \$1,885,000, city figures show.

SHOWS DECREASE IN STATE CROP VALUE

FIGURES FOR PAST YEAR

Survey Shows Falling Off of About Ten Million Dollars From 1926; How Distributed

The gross farm value of the principal Illinois crops produced during 1927 totals \$363,000,000, a decrease of approximately \$10,000,000 from the 1926 gross valuation for the same crops, according to the annual crop summary of the Department of Agriculture. This is a decrease of approximately three per cent for the year.

Winter wheat, rye, potatoes, broom-corn and fruits, with a combined decrease of about \$20,000,000 for the year, are the main crops contributing to the slump in the total valuation of Illinois crops for the year.

Spring wheat, barley and clover seed show a combined total valuation of about \$10,000,000 higher than a year ago.

Valuation of Corn The gross total valuation for corn, oats and tame hay shows little change from that of 1926. Corn, as usual, leads all other crops with the total farm value of \$118,000,000. Tame hay ranks second with a valuation of \$58,000,000; oats third at \$4,000,000, and winter wheat fourth with a total farm value of \$37,000,000 for the season.

The 1927 season has been fairly favorable for the livestock industry, but with a few outstanding exceptions, such as hay, this has not been a favorable season for farm crops. Generally speaking the unfavorable conditions have had a tendency to out-weigh the favorable factors in the Illinois agricultural situation during the last two years. In many ways the two seasons have been quite similar, in that the livestock industry has continued to represent the strength in the agricultural situation, while both seasons have been adverse to favorable production and quality of most crops.

Total Acreage Cropped The total acreage cropped in 1927 was about two per cent less than in unfavorable season. Reduced acreage in 1926, due to the adversely late and late of corn and oats was offset to quite an extent by the increased acreage of tame hay, spring wheat, barley, soy beans and cow peas.

Hay production has been the most abundant in years, and stands out as the best crop in the state. All other major crops ranged from fair, to poor. Corn, although below the average yield and quality, was a better crop than earlier expected throughout the state. Record breaking warm weather in late September and early October, not only saved a large part of the corn crop, but favored other late crops.

The raising of alfalfa is rapidly increasing in Illinois. With 136,000 acres devoted to this crop in 1923, this was increased to 234,000 in 1927. The present spring wheat acreage of 210,000 acres also represents a sharp increase of 100,000 acres over that sown five years ago.

It is also interesting to note that the Illinois commercial fruit and truck crop industry is expanding into an important industry, with the value of annual shipments usually amounting to over \$3,000,000. This does not include local and roadside sales, which are of considerable importance.

Fall conditions have been favorable for catching up with farm work and securing crops. The fall plowed acreage is well above the average. Conditions have been generally favorable for fall wheat on a heavily increased acreage which approaches war time proportions.

TEA EXPERTS CHOSEN TO SUBMIT STANDARDS

An official board of tea experts has been chosen by Secretary of Agriculture Jardine to prepare and submit standard samples of tea, so that the purity, quality and fitness of the imports may pass government inspection. Four o'clock tea is popular among the dilettante, and even buds have taken up the sport of tea fights—so the government must intervene.

NEW SPRAY FOR ROSE BUSHES IS EFFECTIVE

Claimed That It Prevents Some of the Ills Which Affect These Shrubs

Rose bushes are susceptible to a most disastrous disease known as "rose canker," when this affliction sets in, the little shoots grow out of the main stem just a little way and then die back. Plant doctors usually prescribe a spray for this malady of a plant medicine known as semesan. After this treatment the rose bushes begin to convalesce and in due course of time they are healthy and blooming again.

Foresighted farmer often give vegetable seeds a preventive tonic. Some times, just to see whether the treatment does them any real good, seeds that have taken the medicine are planted in one place and seeds that haven't are planted in another and then developments are watched. Almost always, the ones that have been dosed up with a plant's ideal of cod-liver oil yield from one-fifth to one-third more vegetables.

FARM WOMAN PACKS 30 TONS OF WATER

Travels 14 Miles in Year and Carries Big Burden to Fill Bucket

"Thirty tons of water dragged 125 miles in buckets in one year." That brings a picture of back-aching drudgery hardly compatible with this modern age, but that is the load carried by a farm woman as shown by a nationwide survey reported in the current issue of Universal Farmer, by Geneva M. Banc, home economics specialist at Ohio State university.

That example, of course, was cited as the most extreme, but the survey found that the shortest total distance traveled by a farm woman to keep the bucket filled for one year was fourteen miles and the smallest amount of water was thirty tons, when running water was not provided in the farm house.

COLUMBIA PHARMACY COURSE THREE YEARS

For graduation in the College of Pharmacy, Columbia University, completion of three years work will be required hereafter. Students will not be accepted for a two-year course. The optional four-year course has been strengthened, and the bachelor of science degree will be awarded for its completion.

Congress can provide the best flood relief by damming the flood of oratory.—Indianapolis News.

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