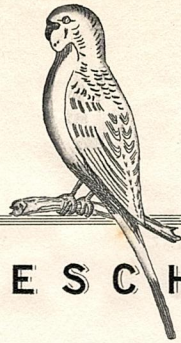


PEAS FOR PIGEONS



BIRD SEEDS



KNAUF & TESCH COMPANY

KAYTEE PIGEON FEEDS

PIGEON HEALTH GRIT

PIGEON FEED GRAINS

CHILTON, WIS.

May 1949

Gentlemen:

In the month of April business continued its slow but steady downward trek to a sounder basis than has existed since the war became the dominating influence on prices.

Output and demand are gradually being balanced, and the sellers market is giving way to one favoring the buyer.

Steel, automobiles and other items that were in short supply are now looking for outlets.

Some manufacturers are still hanging on, but their goods are being replaced by competitors anxious to keep operating without curtailing their working force too greatly.

There has been a healthy demand for grains, and strange though it may seem, in the face of ponderous supplies and excellent crop prospects, wheat and corn ended somewhat higher.

The spring field seed trade was excellent. Alfalfa, timothy and some of the clovers were in short supply, and most dealers cleaned up their stocks to the bare boards.

Electrical power output, which is a pretty good barometer of production is about 6% greater than last year, but freight car loadings are 11% lower.

Building permits are greater. It now costs less to erect homes and these must be provided for the great increase in population as well as for those who have doubled with others until it has finally become impracticable.

The most revolutionary proposal made to our lawmakers in a number of years is that of Secretary of Agriculture Brannan calling for the guarantee of farmers overall income, instead of as heretofore tying price supports to the parity formula.

In all our past history the American farmer has been the ideal of independent manhood and private initiative. He was sound in his philosophy of life, and if all other segments of society turned to socialism and communism, the American tiller of the soil could be depended upon as the balance wheel that would bring us back to sanity and safety.

Now comes the Secretary of Agriculture with the proposal to change all this, to let prices of farm products slide where they may to provide cheap food. The deficiency between cheap farm products and average wartime income would be made up out of the general tax fund.

If the plan is enacted it will transform the entire economy of the country in a day.

Small farmers would be guaranteed a maximum annual purchasing power of about \$26,000.00 and 98% of our farmers belong to this division. Their lives and operations would be directed and planned for them by the

Federal bureaucracy. They would be told how many acres to plant, and what.

The large farmers, the other 2%, would either liquidate themselves or transform themselves into co-operatives.

Our vaunted freedom, until now counted our greatest treasure, would disappear to be missed only when too late.

The first crop of wheat grown in Central Wisconsin that produced a surplus above the needs of the farmers was harvested in 1842. It was manufactured into flour at Neenah by Lloyd Jones.

That year under the supervision of Captain Peter Hotelling the "Manchester" the first steamboat to ply the waters of Lake Winnebago was built by the Brother-town Indians.

The government agent, James Newberry, offered to contract for 300 barrels of flour for delivery at Lake Poygan to the Menominee Indians at their ensuing October payment.

The great difficulty in the fulfillment of the contract was the lack of barrels. No barrels were to be had in the whole country for love or money.

It was suggested by Nathan Goodell, Astors agent at Green Bay, to take good stout sheeting and make sacks of it holding 98lbs. each. But here was the difficulty. The contract was to be for so many barrels of flour. And as sacks might be considered by the Government as a breach of contract, he hesitated to sign the contract.

Mr. Goodell told Mr. Jones that he would assume the risk, whereupon Jones entered into the contract.

The sheeting was procured from Astor's at Green Bay and the women of Neenah got busy making the sacks. They were sewn by hand, as that was before the advent of the sewing machine.

The Indians were delighted upon getting the flour in cloth sacks, for, they said, "every sack will make a shirt, and that it was just what was wanted".

From that time on flour has been packed in cloth sacks, and soon cloth sacks were used quite generally for that purpose.

The Lake Poygan incident was the precursor of a great industry, the manufacture of cloth sacks for flour and eventually for a great many other purposes. If wooden barrels were still used for flour there would not be trees enough in all the forests to provide them.

Be friendly and write us.

Sincerely yours,

William N. Knauf, President

KNAUF & TESCH COMPANY