

"If the city man expects to escape a further increase in the high cost of living, he will have to get behind the farmer and supply the money and credit required to produce the things needed to feed and clothe the world," said Mr. Moehlenpahl.

"At no time has the world been far removed from famine. But today conditions are grave. Indications are that the grain acreage this year in the corn belt will be smaller than for many years. The farm labor situation is acute throughout the country. Many farmers in the best sections of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Missouri, are seeding down their corn land to hay, because hay can be harvested and marketed with less labor than corn.

"Investigations made by the New York State Agricultural College, and the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates, shows that the number of persons on New York farms decreased 3 per cent between February 1, 1919, and the same date in 1920, while the number of hired men employed on the farms decreased 7 per cent during the same period. Percentages probably would be as large if not larger in the western states.

"And early reports indicate that crop conditions are below normal in many districts. Reports from the western district indicate that pasturage is in relatively bad condition, being only about 79% as compared with 85% last year. The southwest reports a decrease in acreage of winter wheat of at least <sup>1 million</sup> 100,000 acres as compared with 1919. In the irrigated sections of the west winter wheat is reported about 80 per cent of normal. In the St. Louis district much winter wheat has been killed by alternate freezing and thawing. In Oklahoma the condition of winter wheat is estimated at about 55 per cent of normal.

"The situation in Europe is not such as to warrant the expectation that there will be an early return to normal production of food crops. Any considerable shortage in any one section of the world will mean