BEETS OR WHEAT?

A Harrisville Farmer Figures That the Profit is With the First.

HARRISVILLE, Utah,
February 6, 1895.

Editor Deseret News:

I see on page 577 of your WEEKLY issue of above date, I am reported as saying five thousand millions of dollars; it should read five hundred millions of dollars; and the line below it reads "Pitiesday Intelectuesy" should read "Pitiesday industries."

I hope the readers of the News will pardon me for again referring to this sugar question; but in reading Mr. Jones's correspondence on page 581 in your WEEKLY issue of above date, which makes such a remarkably good showing, I was constrained to think the best rather seems little if any bounty to stimulate him to make the horticultural part a success; for when he can realize over $15 per acre for lucerne, lakes, etc., I should think it only humanity to consider it solely should go to the lucerne in the plant, for I am inclined to believe if one is not content with the returns he receives, he would most certainly have some far congenial if he can find a place where dollars are hard to a cipher about without a conscience, as he intimates has been the case for years past, and if the public was in a fair position to appreciate it without resource he would turn the public and issue appreciation of his efforts to increase work for the industries.

I wish to compare notes with my friend on seven acres of wheat I raised last year:

OUTLAY.

Clearing and fencing, $10.00 per acre	$70.00
Seed, two bushels, 75 cents per bushel	1.50
Spring	2.00
Cultivating, seven times, $1.00 per acre	7.00
Harvesting seven acres, six days to 20 per day	6.00
Binding	4.00
Cutting wood on fencing	1.00
Rents of tools and use	1.00
Cutting for stacking	1.00
Threshing, by night	4.00
Hauling, and marketing, two hauls and team 10 days	8.00
Threshing, about 400 bbl.	4.00
Sacks, 2 sacks per bbl.	2.00
Sewing 2 sacks, two stitches, 10 cents per sack	1.00
Total cost threshing, 12 bushels 12 pounds	4.00
Paid for this season, two years	4.00
Difference, seven years, at 6 per cent, with water taxes on the land	14.00
Allowing wheat 12 per cent without water-outlay expense	$61.00

REVENUE.

12 bushels of wheat at 75 cents per bushel	$9.00
Loss	$52.00

I have the straw and chaff to offset this loss and for land rent; while my friend would have $107.142 from seven acres of beets for land rent and straw. He almost persuades me to be a Christian and go to beet raising instead of wheat raising. He is very considerate of his neighbors, let us enter into a contract with the sugar company to pay them $6 per hundred for sugar and get $5 per ton for beets; but he does not say who takes the sugar for all the beets furnished the factory. Allowing they take all sugar at 6 cents per pound with lease at $5 per ton, let us see whether we would like to see the factory on these terms. We will take the Nebraska factory for a standard of costs of sugar in 1892 produced from a ton of beets.

Beets, one ton	$ 5 00
Cutting	1 00
Lime	50
Carbonate	1 00
Acid	1 00
Lightly	50
Oil and grease	25
Bags	25
Mechanical fine bags	2
Mechanical fine lime	1
Contingent expense	1
Commission on sales	2
Interest	25
Freight of material	50
Statistics say one ton of factory making a cwt. of its results with money and interest	1 00
Total	$13 00
Average yield of sugar per ton, at cents, 10 lbs. at 6 per lb.	$ 6 00
Loss on each ton of beets	$ 7 00

Now, I am not posted on the cost of reducing a ton of sugar beets to sugar at the Utah factory. But the yield I believe is about 155 pounds of sugar per ton of beets.

As stated in my last communication, I favor a company or house on all sugar produced at home until a permanency of success could be established in running the factory at full blast. But it would appear that such a house should go to the inventor in the place as well as the best raiser, so that a stimulus be given the sugar enterprise and not let it collapse. For it appears to me that it would be better for the great and good government to pay a bonus of $125,000,000 per year and have our full supply of sugar raised here, than it would be to send $125,000,000 to a foreign land, for its cost is annually taken from American channels of trade and presented to foreign nations. The money taken could be in silver, and thus place us in a position to invite the foreign goldites to come to our home. There is nothing that is needed for our comfort and consumption but can be produced in this good and choice land of liberty in which we have political freedom. But we make sure we have financial freedom so long as foreign goldites dictate the terms of our circulating medium.

I omitted to say that my yield of wheat was an average for the county; for I took an inventory last fall from sixty-three job threshers, yielding 15,211 bushels of wheat from 2,000 acres, an average of a little over seven acres to each job, and one farmer who had in thirty acres of this wheat only got ten bushels to his share. So it would appear, and all experience in California and Nebraska has gone to show, that not having at 15 cents an acre delivered at the factory is better than wheat fetching at 75 cents per bushel, providing the delivery of beets did not cost more than 6 cents per ton.

I wish to submit your humbugging while I refer to a very praiseworthy communion that found on page 577 of your DESERET WEEKLY issue of February 9th, where the writer makes some notable suggestions, and that part which refers to making molasses from beets which cannot be used for sugar will certainly be excellent food, but if the business could be made in the neighborhood where the beets were raised, I would save hauling, and a goodness of back raisers could combine to get the necessary separator for this purpose. But if the beets have to go to the factory to be hauled, then by all means combine a molasses factory with one sugar factory, for molasses is a great saving of sugar in a large family.

I have not raised sugar cane for some years in last year, when I planted a small piece which made one good load. I either lost cutting it down for fodder, for it was no thicker than my finger (all judge my surprise when the thicker land was it made fifteen gallons of molasses. I shall try it on a larger scale this year, for the good it gives cattle, horses, hogs, chickens or ducks.

Yours, P. L.

TOO MUCH COODLING.

Facts Thrown at the Heads of Thoroughbred Poultry Breeders.

When anybody, and especially a breeder of thoroughbred fowls, sees Fanny Field in Farm Poultry, can doubt the Sunnyside hen—says that she never did and never will pay for any up on the farm or anywhere else, and that an farmer who is surprised at a farmer anyway will keep anything but the very best, laughed at thoroughbred poultry—it makes me sad near through, and I generally throw some hot, hot, and spicy at the heads of the thoroughbred breeders. Today I have some new facts for those who think that no common hen doesn't pay. For the last seven months, Sept. 1st, I put my common hens (about half of them laying, and some of them 3 years old) in 1894, from eggs which will frequently produced at the rate of 70 to 80. From the 1st to the eleventh of the month there came, then, and again