

The witness was duly sworn by the Chairman.

The Chairman. Are you connected with this school?

Mr. Gray. Yes, sir; I am the farmer.

The Chairman. How long have you been serving in that connection?

Mr. Gray. As farmer about eight years next spring.

The Chairman. What are your duties, and how are they defined?

Mr. Gray. My duties are to attend strictly to my own farm, as a rule, but I am required often times to go over on the other farm and help.

The Chairman. How many farms are there?

Mr. Gray. Two.

The Chairman. Where are they located with reference to this school?

Mr. Gray. The farm that I am ^{on} is just northeast of the school about three-quarters of a mile, and the other is just down here southeast of the school.

The Chairman. How many acres?

Mr. Gray. The campus takes up part of the farm. There is supposed to be 199 acres.

The Chairman. How many acres in the farm then exclusive of that?

Mr. Gray. 176 acres.

The Chairman. What is the character of the land?

Mr. Gray. It is limestone land. It is not very fertile; it has been farmed pretty hard.

The Chairman. Do you know how long it has been under cultivation, Mr. Gray?

Mr. Gray. Yes, sir; it has been under cultivation for a great many years.

The Chairman. How long have you had charge of it?

Mr. Gray. Eight years.

The Chairman. Do you do anything to build up the land?

Mr. Gray. We get very little barnyard manure, and we have to depend largely, almost altogether, on commercial fertilizer, and we do not get as much of that as we should have.

The Chairman. What crops did you grow last year?

Mr. Gray. We had corn, oats, potatoes —

The Chairman. How many acres of each, approximately?

Mr. Gray. Corn last year, we had 29 acres.

The Chairman. How much did you grow?

Mr. Gray. 1,567 bushels.

The Chairman. What was done with that corn?

Mr. Gray. That is all used here at the school. What has not been used is ^{down} ~~down~~ at the farm in the crib.

The Chairman. How is it used?

Mr. Gray. Fed to the horses and stock.

The Chairman. How many horses are there on the farm?

Mr. Gray. I have eight head of horses and mules on the farm.

The Chairman. How many acres of wheat did you have in?

Mr. Gray. I had 48 acres of wheat in last year.

The Chairman. How much of that did you grow?

Mr. Gray. I had 973 bushels.

The Chairman. What was done with that?

Mr. Gray. There was six hundred and some bushels of that sold, I kept 150 bushels for seed, and the rest of the 100⁵ that I did not use for seed was used for chicken feed, and the rest of that was used to pay the man that threshed the wheat. He

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took wheat for his pay.

The Chairman. How many acres of oats did you have?

Mr. Gray. We had 21 acres and a half last year.

The Chairman. How ~~many~~ ^{much} oats did you grow?

Mr. Gray. 710 bushels, I believe.

The Chairman. How much potatoes?

Mr. Gray. 1189 bushels.

Senator Lane. How many acres?

Mr. Gray. It was between 10 and 12 acres — about 11.

Senator Lane. And averaged 100 bushels to the acre?

Mr. Gray. Almost; yes, sir.

The Chairman. What kind do you grow?

Mr. Gray. Why, we grow Rural New Yorker.

The Chairman. What did you do with those potatoes?

Mr. Gray. They are all used up here at the school, with the exception that I have 120 bushels in my cellar at the farm for seed.

The Chairman. How many chickens have you?

Mr. Gray. I carry 90 on my quarterly report.

The Chairman. Is that the number you have?

Mr. Gray. I raised 195, I believe, and I killed 106 for Christmas.

The Chairman. That is for the pupils?

Mr. Gray. Yes, sir.

The Chairman. How do you cultivate the land under your control?

Mr. Gray. In regard to what do you mean?

The Chairman. By what labor?

Mr. Gray. It is all done by the boys here at the school.

The Chairman. How many are detailed for that purpose?

Mr. Gray. Well, quite often there is not enough detailed to do the work. It depends upon what I am doing. I had a great deal of trouble last summer here.

The Chairman. Do you have difficulty in getting enough help?

Mr. Gray. Yes, sir.

The Chairman. Your idea is, I suppose, to run a kind of demonstration farm there and show the boys how to farm?

Mr. Gray. That is what we are supposed to do.

The Chairman. Are you doing much in that line?

Mr. Gray. Well, we try to do all we can, but we are supposed to raise crops at the same time. We are supposed to teach the boys, but we cannot raise crops and teach the boys if we have to do the work ourselves. If we get plenty of help it makes all the difference in the world, but when we cannot get the help, and it is no use to go ~~to~~ to the superintendent —

Senator Lane. Why not go to the superintendent?

Mr. Gray. Well, if you go to him he says to go to the disciplinarians. Of course, I have been to the disciplinarian in the first place — the commandant, I suppose I should say.

Senator Lane. Do you mean to imply by that that the boys are put on the farm as a kind of punishment?

Mr. Gray. They certainly are. ^{If} The boys are good for anything he is allowed to go to the shops, but the boys we work with as a rule are boys that have failed in the country, and we get them and work with them on the farm. Just as soon as we report they are good, as a rule, they are taken away

from us.

The Chairman. Then, as a matter of fact, the management here is making no effort to really develop these boys into farmers, are they?

Mr. Gray. I cannot see that they are.

The Chairman. You do not understand, being in charge of that farm, that that is a part of the policy at all?

Mr. Gray. They take a boy away from you when he gets an interest in the work, and put in there boys who have made failures in the country, and it looks to me that it is in the nature of a penalty for a boy to have to go on the farm. And the better ones would reluctantly go there; they look at it that way too.

The Chairman. If you had a larger and proper detail you think you could give ^{some} ~~more~~ instructions to the boys that would encourage them to become farmers?

Mr. Gray. Now, I have been here for a good many years, and as a rule I do not have any trouble to get along with any of the boys as long as I have the number I ask for. But when you cannot get the number it creates a disturbance all around, if you try to get as much work out of a few boys as you would like to get done.

Senator Lane. How many do you think you ought to have?

Mr. Gray. In harvest time or time of that sort I ought to have down on my farm any where from 9 to 12 boys.

Senator Lane. How many acres have you?

Mr. Gray. 176 acres.

The Chairman. Now, in plowing time or seeding time, how many?

Mr. Gray. At times like that I generally like to have a boy for each plow. Oftentimes I take a plow myself. We have heretofore had only six head of horses.

Senator Lane. How many boys do you get?

Mr. Gray. Why, two, and three, and four in times of that kind.

Senator Lane. I mean in the time of seeding.

Mr. Gray. Seeding time $\frac{1}{2}$ is like that.

Senator Lane. What other help do you have?

Mr. Gray. There is no other help.

Senator Lane. Why do you just confine your attention to corn and wheat when this school has hundreds of students who need vegetables? Why don't you raise vegetables?

Mr. Gray. This farm down here always used to be a truck farm, and they had so much trouble getting anybody to do the work.

Senator Lane. What kind of work?

Mr. Gray. Hoeing. It takes considerable work. The man they had there did not seem to be able to manage it, so he cut it out and said he was going to raise the truck hereafter on this little tract down here.

Senator Lane. How much have you got in truck?

Mr. Gray. I suppose three or four acres ^{down} ~~down~~ here that they can truck.

Senator Lane. I mean how much do you truck?

Mr. Gray. There is no trucking done on the farms at all.

Senator Lane. Where do you get your garden stuff?

Mr. Gray. Right down here by the coal house.

Senator Lane. All off of three or four or five acres?

Mr. Gray. Yes, sir; outside of the potatoes.

Senator Lane. The potatoes, you raised how many bushels?

Mr. Gray. 1189 bushels.

Senator Lane. That is, ^{not} enough to do the school, is it?

Mr. Gray. No, sir.

Senator Lane. How many should you raise?

Mr. Gray. About 2,000 bushels.

Senator Lane. It would not do it, would it?

Mr. Gray. Yes, sir.

Senator Lane. How many people have you got here?

Mr. Gray. I would judge 800 or 900 pupils now. During the most part of the year there are many of the pupils out in the country.

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Senator Lane. Carrots, cabbage, onions — how many onions do ~~did~~ you raise a year?

Mr. Gray. That all comes under the florist over here.

Senator Lane. You do not raise any of them?

Mr. Gray. You could raise them. I suppose I could raise them.

Senator Lane. And parsnips? All good to eat?

Mr. Gray. Yes, sir.

Senator Lane. How did it use to be here five or six or seven years ago? Were you able to get more boys to help you?

Mr. Gray. Yes.

Senator Lane. When did you drop this into a sort of rut here?

Mr. Gray. That has always been done on that farm — not on that farm, but they used to have a farm at Middlesex.

Senator Lane. How deep can you plow your land?

Mr. Gray. Eight or nine inches.

Senator Lane. Do you disk?

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Mr. Gray. I have a double-action cutaway harrow.

Senator Lane. What is your worst pest in the way of weeds?

Mr. Gray. We have a little quack grass there, but that is just in spots. We have Canada thistle, and some years we have wild carrot.

Senator Lane. What do you do with Canada thistle?

Mr. Gray. We are getting rid of it. We keep it cut off. There are just a few patches.

Senator Lane. Is it increasing?

Mr. Gray. No; we do not aim to let it make much growth.

Senator Lane. How long does it take to kill it out that way?

Mr. Gray. I judge, a long time.

Senator Lane. 100 years?

Mr. Gray. I do not know anything about that, but we do not aim to let it do much harm.

Senator Lane. Are the other farmers here?

Mr. Gray. Yes.

Senator Lane. You keep about eight horses?

Mr. Gray. Four teams; yes, sir.

Senator Lane. What kind of plows do you use?

Mr. Gray. 12-inch Imperial, wide beam.

Senator Lane. What is your soil?

Mr. Gray. Limestone.

Senator Lane. Some clay in it?

Mr. Gray. Clay soil.

Senator Lane. When do you begin to work on it?

Mr. Gray. Sometimes in March.

Senator Lane. Do you fall sow, or spring?

Mr. Gray. Fall.

Senator Lane. Does ~~it~~ ^{much} winter kill ~~any~~ here?

Mr. Gray. No, sir.

TESTIMONY OF C. K. BALLARD. *Assistant Farmer.*

The witness was duly sworn by the Chairman.

The Chairman. You are the second farmer?

Mr. Ballard? Yes.

The Chairman. You have only been here a short time?

Mr. Ballard. Four months.

The Chairman. Where did you come from?

Mr. Ballard. I came from Colorado down here. My home is in western New York.

The Chairman. Have you had experience in work similar to that which you are now doing?

Mr. Ballard. yes, sir.

The Chairman. For how long?

Mr. Ballard. Practically all my life.

The Chairman. How many acres are ~~there~~ in the farm you have charge of?

Mr. Ballard. This campus cuts off some of it, but I believe there is about 85 acres.

The Chairman. How much did you have in actual cultivation this last year?

Mr. Ballard. Very little of it. The north side is in pasture. I should say about 75 to 80 acres.

The Chairman. How much of it is in actual cultivation?