Historic, Archive Document

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L.K. Ellsberry & Co.

GENESEO, ILLINOIS
NEVADA, IOWA
U.S.A.
FIFTEEN strains of Reid’s Yellow Dent were tested in one of our breeding plots last season. We figured the yields to a dry basis and found they varied from forty-seven bushels on the lowest yielding strain to seventy-two bushels per acre on the highest. We were further interested to learn that the highest strain average came from the composite sample of shelled seed corn out of a sack of last year’s Regular Stock seed. We had many almost perfect ears in the plot and put in the composite sample of shelled seed as a check. It out-yielded them all.

This simply demonstrates the fact that it is the strain more than the variety that determines the yield and that no one ear holds all the requisites for high production, but that shelled seed from high-producing strains give the most bushels. Our aim is to supply seed from the highest yielding strains of the best varieties.

1919—Best Season in Years

The season of 1919 was one of the best years we ever had. Practically all of the legitimate seed corn firms complained of slow sales last year owing to the general good quality of corn. But, fortunately for us, we sold a lot of seed and had a splendid year’s business. Our old customers, who order each year regardless of whether they have corn that will grow or not, the co-operation of County Farmer organizations and the good will of the County Advisors in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri helped us do it.

The Farm Advisors in the Mississippi Valley are a splendid bunch of red-blooded Americans. They have brains, they have punch and they are doing things. May we have more of them.

The problem before the American farmer today is to make the two ears of corn grow where only one grew before. Land advancing from $200 per acre to $400 and even $600 makes this a very necessary achievement.

Satisfied Customers

We have received hundreds of letters from our last year’s customers telling us of their good success. We would like to publish all of them, but space forbids, so we use only the few that first came in. We cannot express to you in words how we appreciate your loyal patronage. We feel that we owe our success to you and that we are doing good work or you would not stand by us.

We are connected with THE G. D. SUTTON CO. of Mason City, Ill., the largest exclusively seed corn firm in the world.

We have the three houses so that we may grow the proper varieties for the various sections of the corn belt. We grow every bushel of our seed under our personal supervision.

Send in your order today or, better still, come visit us and see just what we are doing.

L. K. ELLSBERRY & CO.  
Not Incorporated  
Nevada, Iowa

F. O. WITHROW, Resident Mgr.

L. K. ELLSBERRY & CO.  
Incorporated  
Geneseeo, Illinois

HOWARD WITHROW, Resident Mgr.
**Iowa Silvermine**

This is the highest yielding of the standard early white varieties. It is a popular corn all over the corn belt. Iowa and northern Illinois grow it because it matures early. The South grows it where they want corn to mature quickly, before the drought sets in. We have the very best strain of this famous corn. It seems to withstand dry weather—giving good yields where other medium early varieties are injured.

Silvermine is a deep grained corn, ears from nine to eleven inches—pure white and medium rough. Good leafy stalk, making it a splendid corn in hot climate where droughts are frequent.

We recommend this variety to every farmer in the corn belt who wants an early variety that will grow a heavy yield, as it is adapted to the corn belt and to all the Southern States. Silvermine can be grown over a wider territory than any other standard white variety. Matures in from ninety-five to one hundred and five days, according to soil, location and season.

*See Price List on Page 6. Shipped from Nevada and Geneseo.*

**Maitland, Mo., Oct. 18, 1919**

The corn I received from you last spring was all O. K. I think every grain grew. The Silver King I think is the best early hog corn I ever saw and it also yielded good. Don’t know just what it made as I hogg’d it down. I thought it would make 40 bushels. I turned hogs in about August 10th, and it would shell pretty good then.

Howard Kaufman

**Nevada, Iowa, Oct. 17, 1919**

In regard to the Western Plowman seed corn I got of you last spring will say that it more than pleased me. I believe every grain grew and is yielding 60 bushels to the acre of well matured corn. It is a very deep grain, uniform sized, ears of a beautiful golden yellow color. To those in need of good seed I will be pleased to recommend your company.

M. H. Toms

**Savannah, Mo., Oct. 20, 1919**

I got a good stand of both the Kelley and Reid. I believe it will average 55 or 70 bushels to the acre. I took 15 ears of the Kelley to the County Fair and also took 100 ears of the Kelley and got first prize on both, as the fair was held August 18-23, most of the corn was not matured enough. The corn is as good as I ever raised. While we had too much rain in early summer, I hogg’d most of the Kelley corn down, and cannot say exactly what it made. It might have made a little more than that. The Reid’s Dent I haven’t picked yet, but it is doing fine.

Ernest Zahnd

**Morris, Ill., Oct. 23, 1919**

I believe every kernel of your seed grew, but as I have not husked it yet, cannot say how it will turn out. I believe it will yield fifty bushels per acre all right.

Albert L. Fisher
E originated the scheme of picking corn in sacks early in the fall and hanging each ear on a wire hanger on a big scale. Many farmers had done this in a small way, but we started with a 5,000-bushel capacity and now have 20,000-bushel capacity in our three plants. This is a very expensive proposition, but it gives ideal seed. The shrinkage is great, the labor cost is high, so that it is necessary to charge 50 cents a bushel more for this seed. We have our hangers full of this Early Picked seed. One room, 36 by 50 feet, with 10-foot hangers, another room 8 by 130 feet, with 10-foot hangers, another room 20 by 36 feet, with 9-foot hangers, another room 40 by 50 feet, with 10-foot hangers, and still another room 36 by 70 feet, with 10-foot hangers. Is not that some capacity? And we believe it a good thing for the farmer. While we guarantee our Regular Stock just as strongly as the Early Picked, yet we have to admit that the Early Picked is ideal.

Remember each ear is hand-butted and tipped and then shelled and graded for the edge-drop planter. We have a limited amount of seed grown in 1918 that is extra good. We will sell this at same price as new seed as long as it lasts. If you care for this seed mention it when you order.
Improved Reid's Yellow Dent

We think this the best strain of Reid’s Yellow Dent grown today. It is reasonably early and is an immense yielder. We have tested this corn out in same field with a dozen different strains of Reid and found it out-yielded them all. It is a great corn. Good big ear, lemon color, medium shank, good stalk, does not blow down easily like so many strains of Reid, cob red and medium size. Medium early, out of the way of frost, in from ninety-five to one hundred and ten days, according to location, soil and season. It's a world-beater.

Reid's Yellow Dent originated sixteen miles from Mason City, Ill. We have increased the yield very materially over the original.

There is more Reid corn grown than any other one variety. It has taken more premiums at corn shows than all other varieties combined. We have worked on this variety in our breeding plots for twenty years. We have bred for yield rather than for show. The slightly rough to medium smooth has proven to be the best yielder.

Send us your order for our high-yielding Improved Reid—it will make you money.

See Price List on Page 6. Shipped from Genesee or Nevada.

Lathrop, Mo., Oct. 17, 1919
Seed was all O.K. I got a fine stand. I think I will want more seed in the spring.

John M. Robinett
Granger, Iowa, Oct. 31, 1919
The seed corn was fine. I have as nice corn as I ever raised.

Geo. F. Geneser
Waukee, Iowa, Oct. 17, 1919
The corn purchased of you last spring proved out good. It was an early yellow corn which I planted very early on an old hog pasture, and it surely did fine. I turned hogs in it Sept. 1st, and at that time it was all dented and past harm from frost.

Oscar H. Copeland
Lacona, Iowa, Oct. 20, 1919
Your corn was fine. Increased my yield from 10 to 12 bushels to the acre. I am glad I ordered Plowman and Silvermine corn of your firm.

J. L. Sockriter

Sullivan, Ill., Oct., 1919
I sent to your Seed House last spring for ten bushels of seed, eight of Reid’s Yellow Dent and two of White Dent. I am more than pleased with the results. Got 100% stand and have just begun cribbing. Corn will average sixty bushels to acre. My landlord says it is the best corn ever raised on the farm.

Frank Nichols

Indiana, Iowa, Oct. 18, 1919
The seed corn was 100%. I planted it the latter part of May and never got any better stand in the world. I think my corn will make 70 bu. to the acre. I am glad that I sent to the L. K. Ellisberry Co. for my seed corn. I think it paid me big for doing so.

J. A. Beltz
Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 22, 1919
Your Silver King planted June 12, at same time as the college strain of Early Reids, proved to be 10 days earlier, but it is not quite such a heavy yielder. You have good seed corn.

Walls' Farmer

Lacon, Ill., Oct. 23, 1919
The Western Plowman corn which we got of you last spring is the best all-round corn we have ever tried. While we were struck with a very long drouth, this corn made more than a heavy yielding white corn did on the same ground last year. We recommend Western Plowman corn to anyone looking for a heavy yielding, medium early corn.

A. Raquet & Son

Atkinson, Ill., Oct. 23, 1919
The corn I received from you last year was very satisfactory. I had a fine stand and expect about a sixty bushel yield. Will use more of your seed next year.

James E. Clark

Improved Reid’s Yellow Dent
Price List for 1920

Below are the prices on all varieties listed in this catalogue.

One ear ......................................................... 50 cents postpaid
One peck ....................................................... $1.50
One half bushel .............................................. 2.50
One bushel to any amount ................................ per bushel sacks free 4.50
Ear corn, in bushel crates ................................ per bushel 5.00
Picked in a Sack—dried on a Rack ....................... per bushel, shelled 5.00
Picked in a Sack—dried on a Rack ....................... per bushel, in ear 5.50

No order for less than one bushel accepted in ear.

Parcel Post

Have your shipments of one bushel or less sent by Parcel Post and have the corn delivered at your door. The rates are as follows:

One peck shelled corn ................ First and Second Zone 18c .... Third Zone 33c
One half bushel shelled corn .......... First and Second Zone 33c .... Third Zone 62c
One bushel shelled corn ............... First and Second Zone 62c .... Third Zone $1.21

We can reach most of Illinois and Iowa in First and Second zones.

Often the rate is cheaper than freight or express.

Always include the Parcel Post postage in your order or we will have to send corn C. O. D., which makes an additional charge of 10 cents. We accept stamps on orders of $1.00 or less.

Write Name and Address Plainly on Order Blank

Terms—Cash with Each Order

Order today—can ship now or later as you wish. All shelled seed butted and tipped and graded for edge-drop planter.

Guarantee

We guarantee our corn to be pure bred and as free from foreign pollination as possible, perfectly matured, and of highest germinating powers, and we guarantee it to go out in first-class condition, as we carefully examine each ear. If any seed is received from us which is not satisfactory in every respect, it may be returned at our expense and money will be refunded. All corn may be kept ten days and tested in any manner and, if for any reason it is not satisfactory, it may be returned and money refunded; under no circumstances will we refund any money or receive corn back that has been kept longer than ten days. We can’t and won’t be responsible for corn in a thousand different hands for longer than ten days. If it is good, then it is up to the customer to keep it good. We will not be responsible for a crop, either. There are many reasons for crop failure. We guarantee the seed to be good; that is all we can do. WE DO NOT GUARANTEE ANY CORN TO MATURE AT A CERTAIN TIME, as the season and location changes the time of maturing to such a great extent. We give you our best judgment as to time of maturing, also letters from our customers.

What Our Bankers Say

To Whom It May Concern:

We are personally acquainted with the members of the firm of L. K. Ellsberry & Co. and know them to be responsible and reliable men who are striving to supply their customers with high quality seed corn. We believe they will sustain every statement they make in their seed catalog.

FARMERS NATIONAL BANK, By J. A. Bradley, Cashier, Geneseo, Ill.
FIRST NATIONAL BANK, By Chas. M. Morton, Cashier, Geneseo, Ill.
PEOPLES SAVINGS BANK, By H. G. Van Orsdel, Cashier, Nevada, Ia.
Use This Side if You Want Seed Corn from Geneseo, Illinois

L. K. ELLSBERRY & CO., Geneseo, Ill., U.S.A.

Gentlemen—Please ship by ___________________________ About ___________________________
the Seed Corn listed below. I enclose ___________________________ Dollars

Name ___________________________ Amount Enclosed
Post Office _______________________
Freight Station ___________________ State ________________________
County __________________________ R. F. D.

REGULAR STOCK
...........................................................................................................................................................................
(Sh.) bu. Imp. Reid's Y. D. at $4.50
(Sh.) bu. Western Plowman at $4.50
(Sh.) bu. Learning at $4.50
(Sh.) bu. No. 9 Early Yellow at $4.50
(Sh.) bu. Silvermine at $4.50
(Sh.) bu. Silver King at $4.50

(Ear) bu. Imp. Reid's Y. D. at $5.00
(Ear) bu. Western Plowman at $5.00
(Ear) bu. Learning at $5.00
(Ear) bu. No. 9 Early Yellow at $5.00
(Ear) bu. Silvermine at $5.00
(Ear) bu. Silver King at $5.00

PICKED IN SACK, DRIED ON RACK
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(Sh.) bu. Imp. Reid's Y. D. at $5.00
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Total Amount $ ______________________ Total Amount $ ______________________

Please Give Us Names of a Few Farmers Who Might Want Seed Corn

(OVER)
Use This Side if You Want Seed Corn from Nevada, Iowa

L. R. ELLSBERRY & CO., Nevada, Iowa
NOT INCORPORATED

Gentlemen—Please ship by About the Seed Corn listed below. I enclose Dollars

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Please Give Us Names of a Few Farmers Who Might Want Seed Corn

(OVER)
**Western Plowman**

**WESTERN PLOWMAN** is the wonder corn of northern and north central Illinois. It was originated about twenty years ago by Mr. William Green and Mr. William Webb of Will County, Illinois. Mr. Webb changed the name of his strain, but Mr. Green continued to breed WESTERN PLOWMAN until he moved to Iowa, when he turned his breeding plot seed over to the Soil Improvement Association of DeKalb County and it is from them that we secured our start of this valuable variety.

"This splendid variety of yellow corn has averaged from 3.7 bushels to 19 bushels more per acre than any other variety for a six-year average on the 40-acre field conducted by the Illinois Experiment Station just south of the city limits of DeKalb."

It matures earlier than the average corn grown in this latitude. Shells out with a very high percentage of grain and is one of the coming corns of the latitude.

We have the pure strain. We sack picked a large quantity.

*See Price List on Page 6. Shipped from Geneseo and Nevada.*

**Kelly Corn (Early Dent)**

Wm. Kelly moved to Story County, Iowa, in 1856 and came from Indiana. He was one of the pioneers and big corn raisers of this part of the state. He used to drive over to a mill in Marshall County to get his grain ground and was always on the lookout for some extra quality seed corn. He saw corn near Marietta in 1866 which he liked and got a few ears which he brought home and planted in a small plot. This was the start of what has become the most popular corn in Story County.

Mr. Kelly kept a small seed plot for years and in it he bred for yield and maturity. That was before the days of a score card and the looks was not the essential thing with Mr. Kelly. He wanted his corn to get ripe and to give him big yields.

This corn will mature earlier than Reid's Yellow Dent and will give a big yield. Several fields around Nevada made better than 80 bushels this year and it is not an uncommon thing for Kelly corn to yield even higher. The corn is not a show corn at all. It has a light yellow color, does not run even like the Reid. The grain is a good strong-looking grain. Not awfully deep, but this corn shells out in fine shape. The ears taper a little and it is an easy corn to husk. Stalks a fair height, but this corn is grown for grain production and not for ensilage.

*See Price List on Page 6. Shipped from Nevada only.*
Our Capacity

We have a plant at Geneseo, Henry County, Illinois. Another one at Nevada, Story County, Iowa. And we are affiliated with The G. D. Sutton Co. of Mason City, Mason County, Illinois.

Combined, we have over 50,000 square feet of floor space, and are THE LARGEST SEED CORN FIRM IN THE WORLD.

Mr. F. O. Withrow is in charge of the plant at Nevada, Iowa, and Mr. H. H. Withrow manages the plant at Geneseo, Ill., while Mr. Ellsberry and Mr. Sutton are both busy at the immense plant at Mason City, Ill.

We look after every detail ourselves. We do not trust things to other men. We are personally responsible. It is our only business and we see to it that every order has the most careful attention. We have room and store about 100,000 bushels of selected corn in the fall. From this our seed is very carefully selected—ear by ear. It is slow, expensive work, but it makes high quality seed, that grows strong, matures early and yields big.

It Pays to Use High-Bred, High-Yielding Seed

Ears selected from the highest yielding rows in “Ear to Row” plats. These ears, planted in competition in “Ear to Row” plats the next season, and this kept up for years, surely will develop the best there is in a strain of corn. We have done this for twenty years, so that we feel that we can claim to have bred corn for high yields. We have had to “back track” by getting corn so large it wouldn’t mature. But the varieties we have now will mature and grow the maximum amount of corn. We also have worked to eliminate barren stalks. Our varieties are as free from this evil as is possible at this time. We hope to overcome this entirely. The State University and United States Department of Agriculture are getting a lot of data on this evil, which, we hope, will show us how to eliminate it.
How We Grow and Take Care of Our Seed Corn

We grow all of our seed corn under our personal supervision. We select the best soil and make contracts with the best farmers to grow seed corn for us. It takes several thousand acres of land to grow our corn, as we practice the four-year rotation, so only about one third of the land is in corn.

We do all our own breeding on isolated plots of from two to five acres. Seed for our general fields is selected from these plots.

All seed for every acre of corn grown for us is selected by us and gotten ready for the planter so that we know exactly what it is.

We always put out double the acreage we will need so that we have a range of two to five miles around our seed houses. Should one section be injured, we have other territory to draw from. This gives us a big advantage over firms who have to grow their seed in one neighborhood.

Our soil is a sandy loam—the best soil for maturing seed corn.

Our Mr. Ellsberry is Secretary of the Illinois Corn Breeders Association and personally attends to the breeding plots. We mention this to show you that we are recognized corn breeders.

Our tests seem to prove that a medium smooth or, rather, only slightly rough types are better yielders than the rough types. We have placed the slightly rough dented, or what we call medium smooth type, in competition with the rough types in same plot and, in husking each row separately, found the smoother corn out-yielded the rough 30 to 60 pounds in rows 96 hills long.

A good seed bed is absolutely essential in growing a big corn crop. If you have good soil a good seed bed, then plant the highest yielding corn and you are bound to get big returns unless the season is all against you. Good insurance against a corn crop failure is to buy your High Yielding seed of the corn breeders who are equipped to take care of it properly. You thus eliminate the hazard of a poor stand and barren stalks.

Changing seed is a big help in the yield. Seed from our sandy loam gives extra good returns on clay or black soil.
Black Hawk County Yellow Dent

B LACK Hawk County Yellow Dent is a strain of Reid which has been developed and grown in Black Hawk County, Iowa, for a number of years. We secured our seed through the College at Ames and through kindness of the Agricultural Advisor of Black Hawk County. In writing about this variety, Prof. Hughes recommended it very highly for north central Iowa because of its yielding qualities and the fact that it matures much sooner than the ordinary Reid's Yellow Dent.

All our stock of this corn was picked early and is strong germinating seed. This is high-bred corn and is considered by authorities to be one of the best corns in the state.

See Price List on Page 6. Shipped from Nevada only.

Each Ear Examined and Butted and Tipped by Hand

We are very careful in getting our seed out. Each one of our men works at a table by himself — he examines each ear and uses a jack knife and a cob in the old-fashioned way. We tip and butt our corn by hand — we do not do it by machinery. We will not get out poorer seed in order to save money on labor. Our ear corn is examined one ear at a time, and several grains taken out and examined with a knife. Our shelled seed is examined in the same way and then butted and tipped by hand. We do not butt and tip by machinery, but by hand, so that bad corn may be detected more easily. Send your order today. All seed graded for edge-drop planter.

Our Complete Drying System

We begin picking in the fields very early, long before corn will do to crib. This Picked-in-a-Sack, Dried-on-a-Rack seed is hauled to seed house and each ear hung on a wire hanger and very little heat is required to dry it. Our regular stock of corn is husked and hauled direct to the seed houses where it is sorted and placed in drying vaults with slatted floors and air shafts running along floor and every few feet vertically through the corn. Large hot-air furnaces discharge heat through big pipes directly under the corn, but not in it. This dry, warm air percolates through the corn and passes out through ventilators in the roof. This assures high germination as the moisture is reduced to 12% and none of the corn is exposed to freezing weather. This is the only safe way to handle seed corn and be assured of strong vitality. We hand-butt and tip all seed before shelling and grading.

Clarks, Neb., Oct. 16, 1919

I received your letter, as you can see, and will answer it at once as I am interested along the line of better yields.

The corn I got from you did very well, the Western Plowman in particular. I believe half of it is as good as the seed you sent me. It came up good and stood the drought good, tasseled early and also matured early. It was out of the way of the frost by the middle of September and it is good solid corn.

Chas. Hoffer

Fairfield, Neb., Oct. 17, 1919

The seed corn was perfectly all right and if I need seed next spring, I'll surely know where to send. It seemed like every grain that I planted came up and grew fine, and my field was the envy of the neighbors until the dry weather set in. Cannot say what the yield would have been if it had been seasonable, but like a great many others in this part of the country, I had to cut up most of my corn for fodder.

Edward B. Martin
For several years we have been experimenting to secure an early yellow which would give a large yield and yet mature early. We believe we have finally secured such a corn in the Sutton’s No. 9 (Early Yellow). This corn is a slowly tapering ear of medium length; kernels very deep, and a deep yellow or golden color. A rough dent corn with sixteen to twenty rows and wide space between rows. The cob is very small, and with the deep kernels, this makes the highest shelling percentage of any corn we know. In our experiments this corn has shown remarkably good yields and will mature in ninety-five to one hundred days.

See Price List on Page 6. Shipped from Geneseo only.

Where We Are Located

We have two seed corn plants: one at Geneseo, Henry County, Ill.; the other at Nevada, Story County, Iowa. Geneseo, Ill., is on the main line of the Rock Island, and Nevada is on the main line of the North Western, and St. Paul and Kansas City Division of the Rock Island.

The soil at each place is about the same; it is rich, sandy loam. It does two things: it makes big yields and it matures corn early.

Geneseo is about thirty miles east of Rock Island, Ill. Nevada is about eight miles east of Ames, Iowa. Order early. There will be a big demand for good seed this spring.

We Pay Your Expenses to Visit Us

We will pay railroad fare and all other expenses to anyone not farther away than fifty miles who comes to us and purchases fifty bushels of seed corn, either ear or shelled, or we will pay all his expenses if he comes and doesn’t buy and finds that we have misrepresented our corn or method of keeping it. Several neighbors can club together and send some responsible man who can personally see just what we have and how we keep it. If you live farther from us than fifty miles, we will pay that part of expenses on same conditions as above.

Holt, Mo., Oct. 18, 1919
Will say I had very good results from your seed corn.
Frank Nicholson

Atkinson, Ill., Oct. 22, 1919
The seed corn you shipped me sure did fine, and I sure had a good stand.
Irven Broadbent

Hallam, Neb., Oct. 22, 1919
I am very glad to recommend your seed corn to anyone who wants good, reliable seed.
Steve J. Smith

Mineral, Ill., Oct. 22, 1919
The seed corn bought of you in 1919, was good, strong seed. Had a fair yield for this season.
G. B. Bryan
1. Shelling and grading.

2. Men at separate tables working out seed corn. Each ear examined. All done by hand.

3. One of four sorting tables where corn from fields is rough sorted. Can handle 100 loads per day at this time.

4. Seed corn passing from sorting tables to drying vaults.

5. Ready to ship to you.

Nevada, Iowa, Oct. 17, 1919
The Reid and Silvermine seed I bought from you was very satisfactory. It came up good and strong, is fully matured and is making a heavy yield. I appreciate your method of doing business and think you will be a great benefit to the farmers of this locality, as they are assured of a good quality of seed at all times.

H. Crouch

Modale, Iowa, Oct. 16, 1919
The Kelly corn I got of you is making around 50 bushels per acre. Would have made more had it not been so dry about the time it began to shoot.

Jacob Bock

Parkville, Mo., Oct. 26, 1919
In answer to your letter I have to say that the seed that I bought from you last spring was very good. I got a fine stand, but as the season was not very favorable did not make a very good yield; it was too dry. My crop only made between thirty-five and forty bushels per acre.

I will be on the market for more seed corn next spring, as mine is not fit to plant. I bought the Silver King, Reid and Western Plowman of you.

B. F. Lawler
Improved Learning

This is a big yielder and in our judgment the best ensilage corn grown. We are selling thousands of bushels of this famous corn to the dairy farmers of New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. It grows a good big ear of a rich orange yellow. Rather tapering ear, good big shank and heavy stalk and foliage. The fodder contains a large per cent of sugar, making it ideal for ensilage.

This corn is also a big yielder where grown for the market. One of the best standard yellow varieties and is popular with Illinois corn-growers owing to its high-yielding qualities. It matures in from one hundred to one hundred and twenty days, according to soil, location and season. Shipped from Geneseo, Ill., only.

Rensselaer Co., N. Y., Oct., 1919
We had five hundred bushels of your Improved Learning corn last year and will want eight hundred next year. This is pretty good proof that your corn is satisfactory.
H. W. Gordinier & Sons Co.
Youngstown, Ill., Oct. 14, 1919
Last year I bought some Learning corn of you. I planted about 60 acres and wish to tell you that I believe it the best corn on the market.
Leo J. Shawler

See Price List on Page 6.

Lawson, Mo., Oct. 18, 1919
As to the Reid and Kelly seed corn bought of you, will say that I am much pleased with it. The crops look like a yield of 50 to 60 bushels per acre.
A. J. Watkins

Milford, Neb. Oct. 17, 1919
The corn I bought from you grew good, about 95 per cent, but it was too dry here this summer. This corn is making about 30 bushels so that is good for dry weather. I got Reid seed of you.
John Wyman
Our Seed Houses

Our seed houses are built to store and dry seed corn in and for no other purpose. They are scientifically constructed. Many men come to visit us and say: "I had no idea you went to so much pains."

We give our entire attention to seed corn. It is not a side line, but is our main line. If there is any way we can better our buildings we do it. Our idea is to give every ear of corn plenty of air to dry at and the same time keep it from cold freezing weather.

Then, of course, we must be fitted to test it all carefully, to grade it so it will give an even stand, and have things so arranged that the labor cost per bushel will be low enough for us to sell the seed at a reasonable price.

We sell Sure Stand Seed Corn. It must satisfy you or there is no trade. You are the judge. Our corn must be all we say it is, and more, or we don't want you to keep it. Some firms advertise they "aim to please." We not only "aim to please," but we do please. Read the testimonials and send your order early.

A Bushel in a Crate Costs Us More Than a Bushel in a Sack

Many customers ask us why we charge more for ear corn. Crates cost us 40 cents per bushel. Then we give seventy pounds of ear and it overruns so that the overrun pays for the shelling. Then the ear corn must be handled by hand in storing, to keep the ears from battering. The shelled is butted and tipped anyway and the shelled seed can be handled in drags. We guarantee our shelled to be equally as good as our ear by offering to sell any man two bushels or one hundred bushels, half ear and half shelled. If he gets a better stand with the ear, a better quality or type, or more bushels per acre than he does with the shelled, we will return his money at husking time. That is the confidence we have in our shelled seed.

Unless a customer grades his ear corn, he will get a more even stand from the shelled seed, and a uniform stand is what makes big yields.

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Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 18, 1919
We planted June 11. It is sound and will yield about 50 bushels. Iowa 119 from the College will possibly yield just a little more than the Silver King planted at the same time, but is 8 to 10 days later. We are very well satisfied with your seed.

H. A. Wallace

Weston, Mo., Oct. 18, 1919
Your seed corn came up well. I am pleased with the results. It will make 50 bushels per acre and the weather was dry so that cut the yield. A number of my neighbors have gotten their seed from me so I can praise the Silver King seed corn as being fine.

W. T. Eskridge

Oregon, Mo., Oct. 19, 1919
The corn I got of you did very good. It is making 56 bu. to the acre. When it was in early ear stage several men that saw it, thought it would make 80 bu., but dry weather set it and cut it short.

W. N. Fenerbacher

Tampico, Ill., Oct. 22, 1919
The Western Plowman seed corn which you shipped to me last spring was good as to germination and was very satisfactory. While we have not harvested the crop as yet I should say it is a good crop. I am well pleased.

Ralph Brown

Utica, Neb., Oct. 20, 1919
I was well pleased with the corn and would have had a good crop if we had had favorable weather. What I have got matured well. I ordered Kelly corn of you.

L. C. Wolf

Malcolm, Neb., Oct. 18, 1919
I was well pleased with the Silvermine seed corn I received from you. I got a good stand and my corn is fully matured.

Chas. N. Perry

Lathrop, Mo., Oct. 21, 1919
Your seed corn was O. K. in every respect and I think I will again place an order with you in the spring.
I was well pleased with both the Silver King and the Silver Mine.

J. D. Smith

Platte City, Mo., Oct. 18, 1919
Being very much interested in good corn and the advancement of corn yield, and hoping that I may be of some aid to you, I take pleasure in making this report.

The Kelly corn was planted about the first of May on ground that had been broken from wheat stubble last fall. It received cultivation five times, the last time being about the middle of July. I believe it stood the drought better than most of the corn in this vicinity on account of its being more advanced than the rest. The stalks are large and tough so it stood up well. The ears, while slender, are long and well filled and even more solid than any yellow corn I ever saw. I have gathered only a small part of my crop, but I believe the entire field will yield sixty bushels an acre.

R. O. Larkin

Plainfield, Ill., Oct. 23, 1919
Have a perfect stand of this corn, but have not gathered it yet. Would judge it will yield from eight to ten bushels to the acre more than corn from my best home-grown seed in the same field.

Dell M. Brown

Nevada, Iowa, Oct. 18, 1919
I appreciate the way you have done business with me. I have used your seed corn the past three years and I can say to the public I have found you on the square in every way. I have raised the Kelly corn.

W. R. McKee

Clarksville, Iowa, Oct., 1919
The seed corn we got of you was all right. It all grew. Where it had a good chance it will make about 75 bu. to an acre.

W. H. Crowin
Silver King

Hardy Type of Silver King

The earliest White Corn proper to grow in the state of Iowa. We have hardy Silver King; it is not the show type, but is the hardy type. It yielded sixty-five bushels for us this year, and has been known to yield over 100 bushels. It is the corn which is being grown so successfully in Minnesota and northern Iowa. We believe it is a mighty good corn to grow in central Iowa and will increase our acreage of it next season. It does not grow as large an ear as many of the yellow varieties, but it grows a lot of them.

It was the first corn we shucked this season; we do not expect it to last long.

Our Mason City, Ill. plant has a capacity of sixty thousand bushels of corn and is modern in every detail.

Our Geneseo, Ill. plant is another proof of our superior equipment. We dry our corn slowly and test it very carefully.

Scientifically built to handle nothing but seed corn, our Nevada, Ia. plant is a model of efficiency.

From a small beginning we have grown to be the largest seed corn firm in the World. Sutton's Corn Grows.