

# BOOSTER CLUB IN CAMPAIGN FOR POTATOS

**RESULTS ARE ENCOURAGING—  
MEETING WILL PROBABLY BE  
CALLED SOON TO SELECT VA-  
RIETY AND TO SECURE SEED**

The Binford Booster club is engaged in a campaign to encourage farmers in this community to raise potatoes, and thus far the responses to letters sent out by the club have been gratifying. Word has also been received from the Agricultural college, proffering aid in this movement, and it is probable that a meeting will be called soon when it is expected to have experts here to give advice on potato raising.

The following letter from J. P. Ramsey, Bryan township farmer, contains some good timely information on the potato question:

Binford, N. D., April 7, 1921.  
Binford Booster Club,

Executive Committee:-

Yes, I am going to plant some potatoes.

Regardless of whether there is a market in Binford or not. I have two reasons for this, as follows: I have come to the conclusion that summer fallowing is a farce. In the first place we have to use more horse power to do it and it follows we have to use more feed. Summer-fallowing has to be continually disked and this takes 4 to 5 horse power, cultivating potatoes or corn takes only two horse-power. It is without question better for the land as it enriches the soil which is also true of summer fallowing, but we must remember that summer fallowing does not raise a crop. I have yet to see summer fallowing clean the land from wild oats and mustard as potatoes do. Potatoes are even a better crop for enriching the soil than corn.

In 1918, which was considered a record year for wheat, I had four acres of potatoes. I took my seed out for five acres, and the living for 12 in the family, yes and they are Sognings at that, about 25 bushels froze for me from lack of sufficient covering. I sold these potatoes at 60 cents and realized \$105.00 cash or about the same as the wheat. But in figuring the seed, living, and what froze, it was a bigger money-making crop at 60 cents than wheat at \$2.06. Besides my land was absolutely clean and in good shape to raise a 25-bushel wheat crop.

If any one doubts this, come out this summer and I will point out every potato patch I have had since on the place and I will leave you to be your own judge.

I do not know just how much I am going to put in, but it will be from 5 to 10 acres, besides the corn I will plant.

Yours respectfully,

J. P. Ramsey.