

# HOW AMERICA CAN FEED ITS ALLIES

Important Message to People From Herbert C. Hoover, Administrator.

## WORLD SUPPLIES ESTIMATED

Increased Production, Elimination of Waste and Careful Control of Food Exports Form the Solution of This War Problem.

Washington, Aug. 20.—What the people of the United States not only can but must do in the matter of food production and use in order to help win the war is set forth in detail in a statement issued today by Food Administrator Herbert C. Hoover. If we fail to do our part in this respect, he says, the people of the allies cannot be maintained at war, for their soldiers cannot fight without food.

The normal imports of wheat and other cereals by France, Italy, the United Kingdom and Belgium, and the estimates of the 1917 crop in those countries compared to the normal production are given by Mr. Hoover in tabulated form, and the conclusion is drawn that in order to provide normal consumption it will be necessary for them to import in the next 12 months 577,000,000 bushels of wheat and 674,000,000 bushels of other cereals. If the crops of the United States and Canada all mature safely, North America will have an apparent surplus of 208,000,000 bushels of wheat and 950,000,000 bushels of other cereals. The allies, therefore, must use other cereals than wheat for mixing in their war bread, and the people of America must reduce their consumption of wheat flour from five to four pounds per week per person.

**Decrease in Food Animals.**  
A careful estimate of the world's food animal position shows a total net decrease of 115,005,000, and this will be greater as the war goes on. As the increase of herds and flocks takes years, we must reduce the consumption, eliminate waste and carefully control meat exports.  
Our home dairy products supplies are decreasing, while our population is increasing, and we must ship increasing amounts of such products to our allies. Consequently this industry must be stimulated, and home users must save the wastes in milk and butter. Much the same may be said in the case of sugar.

Mr. Hoover urges a greater consumption of fish and sea foods, in which our coasts and lakes are enormously rich. The products of the land, he reminds us, are conserved by the eating of those of the sea.

**Our Duty.**  
In conclusion the food administrator says:

I have endeavored to show in previous articles that the world is short of food; that Europe is confronted with the grim specter of starvation unless from our abundance and our waste we keep the wolf from the door. Not only must we have a proper use of our food supply in order that we may furnish our allies with the sheaves with which they may fight our battles, but it is an act of humanity towards fellow men, women and children.

By the diversion of millions of men from production to war, by the occupation of land by armies, by the isolation of markets, by belligerent lines, and by the destruction of shipping by submarines, not only has the home production of our allies fallen by over 500,000,000 bushels of grain, but they are thrown upon us for a much larger proportion of their normal imports formerly obtained from other markets.

They have reduced consumption at every point, but men in the trenches, men in the shops, and the millions of women placed at physical labor require more food than during peace times, and the incidence of their saving and any shortage which they may suffer, falls first upon women and children. If this privation becomes too great, their peoples cannot be maintained constant in the war, and we will be left alone to fight the battle of democracy with Germany.

The problem of food conservation is one of many complexions. We cannot, and we do not wish, with our free institutions and our large resources of food, to imitate Europe in its policed rationing, but we must voluntarily and intelligently assume the responsibility before us as one in which everyone has a direct and inescapable interest. We must increase our export of foods to the allies, and in the circumstances of our shipping situation, these exports must be of the most concentrated foods. These are wheat, flour, beef, pork and dairy products. We have other foods in great abundance which we can use instead of these commodities, and we can prevent wastes in a thousand directions. We must guard the drainage of exports from the United States, that we retain a proper supply for our own country, and we must adopt such measures as will ameliorate, so far as may be, the price conditions of our less fortunate. We might so drain the supplies from the country to Europe as by the high prices that would follow to force our people to shorten their consumption. This operation of "normal economic forces" would starve that element of the community to whom we owe the most protection. We must try to impose the burden equally upon all.

There is no royal road to food conservation. We can only accomplish this by the voluntary action of our whole people, each element in proportion to its means. It is a matter of quality of burden; a matter of minute saving and substitution at every point in the 20,000,000 kitchens, on the 20,000,000 dinner tables and in the 2,000,000 manufacturing, wholesale and retail establishments of the country. The task is thus in its essence the daily individual service of all the people. Every group can substitute and even the great majority of thrifty people can save a little—and the more luxurious elements of the population can by reduction to simple living save much. The final result of substituting other products and saving one pound of wheat flour, two ounces of fats, seven ounces of sugar and seven ounces of meat weekly, by each person, will, when we have multiplied this by one hundred million, have increased our exports to the amounts absolutely required by our allies. This means no more than that we should eat plenty, but eat wisely and without waste.

Food conservation has other aspects of utmost importance. Wars must be paid for by savings. We must save in the consumption in commodities and the consumption of unproductive labor in order that we may divert our manhood to the army and to the shops. If by the reduction in consumption of labor and the commodities that it produces and the diversion of this saving to that labor and those commodities demanded by the war, we shall be able to fight to eternity. We can mortgage our future savings for a little while, but a piling up of mortgages is but a short step toward bankruptcy. Every atom that we save is available for subscription to Liberty bonds.

The whole of Europe has been engaged ever since the war began in the elimination of waste, the simplification of life, and the increase of its industrial capacity. When the war is over the consuming power of the world will be reduced by the loss of prosperity and man power, and we shall enter a period of competition without parallel in ferocity. After the war, we must maintain our foreign markets if our working people are to be employed. We shall be in no position to compete if we continue to live on the same basis of waste and extravagance on which we have lived hitherto. Simple, temperate living is a moral issue of the first order at any time, and any other basis of conduct during the war becomes a wrong against the interest of the country and the interest of democracy.

The impact of the food shortage of Europe has knocked at every door of the United States during the past three years. The prices of foodstuffs have nearly doubled, and the reverberations of Europe's increasing shortage would have thundered twice as loudly during the coming year even had we not entered the war, and it can now only be mitigated if we can exert a strong control and this in many directions. We are today in an era of high prices. We must maintain prices at such a level as will stimulate production, for we are faced by a starving world and the value of a commodity to the hungry is greater than its price.

As a result of the world shortage of supplies, our consumers have suffered from speculation and extortion. While wages for some kinds of labor have increased with the rise in food prices, in others, it has been difficult to maintain our high standard of nutrition. By the elimination of waste in all classes, by the reduction in the consumption of foodstuffs by the more fortunate, we shall increase our supplies not only for export but for home, and by increased supplies we can help in the amelioration of prices.

**For Better Distribution.**  
Beyond this the duty has been laid upon the food administration to co-operate with the patriotic men in trades and commerce, that we may eliminate the evils which have grown into our system of distribution, that the burden may fall equitably upon all by restoration, so far as may be, of the normal course of trade. It is the purpose of the food administration to use its utmost power and the utmost ability that patriotism can assemble to ameliorate this situation to such a degree as may be possible.

The food administration is assembling the best expert advice in the country on home economies, on food utilization, on trade practices and trade wastes, and on the conduct of public eating places, and we shall outline from time to time detailed suggestions, which if honestly carried out by such individuals in the country, we believe will effect the result which we must attain. We are asking every home, every public eating place and many trades, to sign a pledge of care to accept these directions, so far as their circumstances permit, and we are organizing various instrumentalities to ameliorate speculation. We are asking the men of the country who are not actually engaged in the handling of food to sign similar pledges that they shall see to it, so far as they are able, that these directions are followed, and this is the essence of democracy itself.

Autocracy finds its strength in its ability to impose organization by force from the top. The essence of democracy consists in the application of the initiative in its own people. If individualism cannot be so organized as to defend itself, then democracy is a faith which cannot stand. We are seeking to impose no organization from the top. We are asking the American people to organize from the bottom up. The call of patriotism, of humanity and of duty rings clear and insistent. We must heed it if we are to defend our ideals, maintain our form of government, and safeguard our future welfare.

# INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. E. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.) (Copyright, 1917, Western Newspaper Union.)

## LESSON FOR AUGUST 26.

### THE CAPTIVITY OF JUDAH.

LESSON TEXT—II Kings 24:1-21. GOLDEN TEXT—As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked.—Ezekiel 33:11.

Many years after the kingdom of Israel was taken captive by the Assyrians, Judah was carried away to Babylon. Judah's captivity was in three stages, covering about twenty years. The first deportation was while Jehoiakim was king. Daniel and his friends went into captivity at this time (Dan. 1:1-6). The seventy years captivity dates from this time. The second deportation was while Jehoiachin reigned. Most likely Ezekiel was carried away with this second company (Ezekiel 1:1-2). The third deportation, some twelve years after the second, is the one described in our lesson. At this time the greater part of the nation was removed to Babylon. Only the poor and unimportant were left. Jerusalem itself was destroyed at this time.

**I. Jerusalem Besieged (vv. 1-3).** Zedekiah owed his kingship to the king of Babylon (chapter 24:17), who appointed him to the throne after the removal of Jehoiakim. His name was changed from Mattaniah to Zedekiah. He was not a good man (24:19). Though having his position by the will of the king of Babylon, he rebelled against that king. He thought that by the aid of the surrounding nations, especially Egypt, he could throw off the yoke of Babylon. Jeremiah counseled submission, but the king refused. Nebuchadnezzar came in person with all his host and laid siege to Jerusalem, even building forts against it (v. 1). This siege lasted for about a year and a half. For a while during that period the Chaldean army withdrew because of the appearance of Pharaoh's army (Jer. 37:5). Shut off from help from without, the Jews soon were famishing for want of bread. The horrors of this famine were awful. For a description of it one should read the book of Lamentations. Mothers ate their own children (Lam. 4:10). The richest, even ladies in silken robes, wandered about searching for scraps in the dung heaps (Lam. 4:5-10). Their tongues clave to the roofs of their mouths, and their skulls were dried up. Added to these horrors were murderous fights between parties among the Jews. Some wanted to surrender; others insisted upon holding out.

**II. Zedekiah's Flight (vv. 4-7).** At length the city was broken up, and the king and his warriors fled by night. His thought was to escape to the country beyond the Jordan. The Chaldean army overtook him, scattered his army, and carried Zedekiah to Riblah, where Nebuchadnezzar had his headquarters. Here judgment was passed upon him. In his trial it was shown that his solemn oath of allegiance to the Chaldeans had been broken, thus showing himself a traitor (II Chron. 36:13). As a punishment for his treachery his own sons were slain before him, his eyes put out (v. 7), and he himself carried to Babylon, where he remained a prisoner till his death (Jer. 52:11). In this we have a marvelous fulfillment of prophecy (Ezekiel 12:3), which says that Zedekiah shall be taken to Babylon and die there and yet not see the city. He could not see it because his eyes were out. Let us learn from this that that which God says will surely come to pass, even though we cannot explain its details.

**III. The Destruction of the City (vv. 8-10).** Not only were the people taken captive, but the city itself was subjected to the utmost rigors of war. They plundered the house of the Lord, the palace and the houses of the rich, and then consigned them to the flames (v. 9). They even broke down the walls of Jerusalem (v. 10) and massacred many of the people (Lam. 2:3, 4).

**IV. Disposition of the Inhabitants and the Contents of the Temple (vv. 11-21).** 1. The inhabitants (vv. 11, 12). They were divided into two classes, those who had deserted to the Babylonians during the siege and those who were found inside of the city at the time it was taken. Many doubtless deserted to the Babylonians during this siege, as even Jeremiah was arrested on this charge (Jer. 38:13). The poor of the land were left to be vine dressers and husbandmen. The wealthy and influential were taken away, as they would be of value to the conquering nation; besides they would be a menace if left behind. The poor were left because paper captives would be a burden. Besides it was very undesirable for the land to lie in waste, as then they could not exact tribute from it. To that end encouragement was given by the Babylonians as "vineyards and fields" were given to the poor.

2. The contents of the temple (vv. 13-21). From the temple which had been twice plundered before (II Chron. 36:7, 10), such of gold, silver and bronze vessels as still remained were taken, even the great pillars of the molten sea. The captives and the treasure were delivered to Nebuchadnezzar at Riblah, where more than threescore of men were killed (vv. 19-21).

## COMPANY G ARRIVED AT DEMING SUNDAY EVENING

Company G of the 4th regiment, Nebraska National Guard, now in the federal service, arrived safely at Deming, New Mexico, at 6 o'clock Sunday evening according to a message received here from Captain "Jack" Miller. While the company arrived at Deming Sunday evening it did not detract until Monday morning. The soldiers have fine quarters and are enjoying themselves. Company G left Fort Crook near Omaha Friday afternoon. D. J. Nelson piloted the special train that carried the Alliance company out of Fort Crook on Friday, leaving them at Pacific Junction. Mr. Nelson lived in Alliance a number of years and knew many of the boys.

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## NEBRASKA PATENTS

Official list of Letters Patent of invention issued from the United States Patent Office at Washington, D. C., to inhabitants of Nebraska for the week ending August 11, as reported through the patent office of Sturges & Sturges, registered patent lawyers, Suite 332 Bee Bldg., Omaha:

Roscoe D. Gaston, Hastings—truck attachment for automobiles. Lloyd C. Newcomb & E. E. Otto, Omaha—Power transmission attachment for motor vehicles. Jesse A. Scott, Fullerton—Adjustable steel hama. Paul C. Timm, Osceola—Grain shocker. Frank H. Forrest, Dakota City—Power steering attachment for traction engines.

## COLORED NOTES

The entertainment at Mrs. Lane's Saturday night was a success. Wm. Weaver and Jas. Washington are in the city again. Fred Williams' brother who works at the station was called to Colorado Springs to see his wife, who was sick but who passed away before he got there.

Aaron Barclay, who had not seen his father, Rev. T. B. J. Barclay for thirty-one years, came from Birmingham on No. 41 Monday to remain. His wife will follow in a few days.

A great demand for help now. Chief Snyder says to work or move. Good!

More good citizens would move to Alliance if they could only get a house to live in. It is too bad. How can our city grow without more accommodations.

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