

# FOOD ADMINISTRATION SPEAKERS URGE ALL TO SAVE SUPPLIES AS VITAL WAR NECESSITY

## AMERICA MUST CARRY LOAD IF ALLIES ARE TO WIN WAR, FOOD SPEAKERS TELL OMAHA

### French and British Merely Holding Line Until Uncle Sam's Boys Are Ready and United States Must Send Them Food So They Can Hold That Line.

The French and British are merely holding the German line until the Americans come; they admit freely that they cannot win the war without our help, and we must send them food constantly to make it possible for them to hold that line until we can train an army. That was the burden of 13 speeches delivered in Omaha yesterday by Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur of Leland Stanford university, Everett Colby of Orange, N. J., and Mrs. Isabel Becker of Birmingham, Ala. These speakers for the federal food administration, who opened their speaking same-

**FRANCE DOWNHEARTED.**  
"The French were tremendously downhearted and discouraged when they heard in the fall that though we were willing to send men over for cannon fodder we would not deny ourselves food in order to help our allies and our own men," said Everett Colby, in his talk to the county food administrators from all over the state at the Hotel Fontenelle at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

"I came back from France, where I saw the most terrible thing; saw children starving in the streets, saw the fever in their eyes, and heard their cries. When once you hear the cry of a starving child you can never forget it."

**America Takes No Heed.**  
"Yet I come back here and find people going along eating everything they want just as though there were nothing going on in the world. I confess I cannot discuss this matter with any patience. I feel deeply on the subject, for I have heard the cry of starving children. And if you don't begin now and save food, substitute and send the pork and flour abroad the day is not far distant when things will be so that you will hear the cry of starving children, too. Mark what I tell you."

**Unpleasant Truth.**  
"When I took luncheon at the University club at noon they brought in my plate with a piece of bacon on it. I cannot understand that. I would not eat it. Of course, I don't suppose I can get it back on the market again because it has been sliced and fried, but it is absolutely wrong to serve it here."

**Speak at Theaters.**  
Dr. Wilbur and Mr. Colby spoke at the Muse, Brandies, Strand, Gayety, Orpheum, Sun, Empress and Boyd theaters last night. The three speakers will leave for Fremont this morning, beginning their tour of the section north of the Platte river for one week.

"Food has taken a paramount place in the strategy of the war. Our soldiers can do nothing unless we supply them and our allies with food," said Mrs. Isabel Becker in her talks to women at the Young Women's Christian association Monday.

"If we are going to be fit to live in the same world with English women who have sacrificed so much in the war, we will have to come out of our selfishness, stop eating so much, stop serving refreshments at parties, and yet believe we are not wasting just because we save the leavings for the chickens."

**Pool the Food.**  
"Take the world in at your table. There is not enough food in the world, but if we pool it, there will be enough to go around. If you take more than your share, you are robbing some one else."

"Do not touch wheat, bacon or ham and other hog products, fats, sugar and fresh meats. If you don't hear this call of the government, you ought to have on your burial robe. It's the personal response to the national purpose which will win the war. Whatever we have that is genuine belongs to the government in this hour of need."

"There's been a great deal of talk about making the world safe for democracy. The test is now to see if democracy is safe for the world."

**Unpleasant Truth.**  
"Unless we send our allies 6,000,000 barrels of flour a month for the next nine months we are licked. That is the bald, unpleasant truth of the war," declared Everett Colby of Orange, N. J., at the University club. Mr. Colby returned from Europe a month ago and is one of the speakers who are trying to impress the people with the absolute necessity of saving wheat to win the war.

**Found Situation Acute.**  
"I visited the French, British and American fronts and I found the situation there absolutely acute. Not only is the food nearly all gone, but the people have very little seed or fertilizer and the outlook for a crop this year is extremely bad."

"We cannot understand the attitude of the American people in declining to save wheat and meat. The only explanation is that we have basked in plenty for so many years that we can't realize the absolute, gripping life-and-death necessity for saving food. This is no joke, I can tell you, and unless the people wake up and deprive themselves of wheat and meat Germany will win the war and then our people will have long years in which to wish they had obeyed the vital orders of the food administration."

"Even with our own troops in France the situation is acute. I found one division with only five days' food rations between it and hunger. The sinking of just one ship would have put these boys up against it. In London, when we left, the butcher shops were all closed because there was no meat."

**Says "Ugly Truth."**  
"We must learn that every little bit saved multiplied by our 100,000,000 people is going to save the situation. And I tell you that we are defeated now unless the people will take themselves in hand and faithfully observe every regulation of the food administration. That is the plain, ugly truth."

"When we have won the war the whole world will look back and say,

## Administrator Wattles and Speakers Who Lead State Food-Saving Campaign



allow us to send one ship a week, painted in stars and bars. We must wake up now. We are bleeding to death at the source. Many ships are waiting in New York harbor for what that is out here.

"The world today is watching the greatest race of all history. It is the race between Germany trying to finish up the war before we can get in, and America trying to get in before it is too late."

"When Dr. Garfield stopped the industries of the east for a period of days so that coal could be moved, he saw the great importance of the situation. He was big enough to see that the industries could afford to be shut down a few days in order that coal might be available for the ships that were lying in the harbor with their bunkers empty—ships that positively must sail if our troops in France and the allied troops were going to be able to hold the line any longer."

**Life Hangs On Thread.**  
"The very life of this nation at this moment hangs on a thread of ships sailing between American ports and France and England. That thread was positively broken when the ships were idle in New York for the want of coal. The very thread that held

the life of this nation was temporarily broken, and Dr. Garfield knew it when he gave that order. Any school child can see, then, how important the order was."

"We cannot do much in a military way this year. That is already plain. Our machine guns are still incomplete. Our ships will not begin to be turned out before midsummer. Our duty and our business, then, is to feed the allies and keep them fighting until we can get there, lest it be forever too late."

"If the American people don't wake up at once it positively will be too late and then they will have a good, long time to regret their indifference. We are the great amateurs of the world in world affairs. The world is watching to see whether we really are going to prove ourselves to be the greatest nation in the world or whether we are going to turn out to be merely a nation of money-loving bluffers as the Germans have said we were."

"The American school teachers are the ones in the first trenches. If they fail to do their share, all hope is gone," Ray Lyman Wilbur told the teachers of Greater Omaha yesterday in the Central High school auditorium.

"Omaha and the middle west is rotten with war profits. You are living on the blood of the boys in France. If you continue to eat as at present, you are going to live on the blood of our own sons now in France," continued the speaker in an attempt to bring a realization of the food crisis in this country to his hearers.

Mrs. Isabel Beecher, the first

speaker vividly brought to her audience the fact that this is our war; that we must win it. And that means to win it was to save food.

Everett Colby of Orange, N. J., who has recently returned from the first line trenches, first described the horrible conditions in Europe before making his appeal for conservation. He told of the 3,000,000 Frenchmen either killed or wounded and the barbaric methods of warfare used by the Huns.

**Must Sacrifice.**  
"We stand beaten today unless we make this little sacrifice," said Mr. Colby. "Thirty ships are awaiting cargoes of wheat in New York harbor that have not even been saved yet. We must send 400,000,000 bushels of wheat or lose the war."

"You may take our boys and feed them to the cannon but you may never have our pork which we want for our own stomachs, seemed to be the attitude of America at the beginning of our participation in this war."

"Every piece of white bread that you eat you take from the mouth of starving children in Belgium. There will be no wheat in France in three months and there will be a complete famine in nine months in that poor country. No man with a right conscience can eat a piece of pork now."

**Nebraska Patents Granted.**  
Reported by Beale & Park, solicitors of patents, Washington, D. C.:  
A. Berck, Hastings, air compressor; R. B. Bonney, Omaha, road grader; Caroline Ship-herd, Omaha, dish cleaner and mop; Gertrude Smart, Madison, poultry appliance; H. W. Watson, Grand Island, hay-sweep.

## From Our Near Neighbors

**Avoca.**  
The public sale of George Harshman, Jr., was held last Friday. Mr. Harshman and family will leave soon for Perkins county where they will reside.  
Mrs. Ora E. Copes entertained the Women's club Wednesday afternoon.  
Mrs. E. G. Spencer of Tallmages was here Thursday for a visit with her parents.  
Claude Durham returned the latter part of the week from a two months' stay at Chadron.  
The school gave a patriotic program for the benefit of the Junior Red Cross at the opera house Friday night.  
Henry Hunterman was at Omaha this week with two cars of cattle.  
Miss Edna Johnson of Sumner is spending the week with relatives in this city.  
Miss Nita Francis was at Dunbar over Sunday for a visit with her parents.  
Henry Maseman, Jr., will leave the first of the week for Bertrand, where he and family will reside on a farm.  
Charles E. Everett was a state capitol visitor this week.

**Weeping Water.**  
At the Red Cross benefit given Tuesday night by the Women's club the receipts were \$12.13.  
Andrew Johnson and family will move soon to Chappell, Neb.  
Mrs. Fred Gotter has recently received appointment as district committee woman in the civil service section of the State Federation of Women's Clubs.  
Mrs. Adolph Mogensen entertained fifty friends last Saturday at a kitchen shower in honor of Miss Christina Christensen, whose marriage to Otto Mogensen occurs in the near future.  
Mrs. George Hageman and two children of Wray, Colo., arrived this week for a visit at the home of Mrs. Hageman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parker.  
Walter Olander, who recently enlisted in the navy, was called to report for duty at Omaha Friday.  
Mr. J. Wickstrom returned the first of the week from a month's trip to St. Petersburg and other points in Florida.  
Miss C. M. Paine and her brother, Ira Paine, are visiting this week at the home of their sister, Mrs. Stella Butler.

**Valley.**  
John Monahan, C. H. Webb and Miles Moon went to Omaha Wednesday.  
Mr. and Mrs. Jansen are rejoicing over the birth of a daughter, born February 14.  
Mrs. J. Y. Lettoll gave a Valentine party for the Valley Camp Girls and friends Thursday evening. On account of Mrs. Lettoll moving into the country she resigned as guardian and Miss Katherine Nielson

**Elkhorn.**  
V. E. Chamberlin visited several days the first of the week with his daughters and family at Fairbury.

Mrs. Arthur Nolte went to Bennington Friday for a few days' visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Logeman.

H. A. Eicks and daughter, Lena, visited Mrs. Eicks at a hospital in Omaha Saturday. She is recovering from a dislocated hip and body bruises received in an automobile accident. The accident occurred three miles east of Elkhorn, when the auto slipped off the muddy road and turned turtle. Six of the family were in the car and Mrs. Eicks was the only one hurt.

Madame Clyde Hollister and M. F. Carlson were Omaha visitors Saturday.

John Smith of Dakota county is visiting a few days with his sister, Mrs. D. Kuehl, and family.

Mrs. E. A. Schurman is spending a week visiting friends in Chicago.

Madame Clyde Hollister and M. F. Carlson were Omaha visitors Saturday.

William Hansen of Osceola visited his parents Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gaeth are the parents of a bouncing baby boy, born Tuesday.

Mrs. Margaret Milke went to Camp Punston yesterday to visit her son, John Hansen.

Henry Miller of Chappell is visiting friends and looking after business a few days.

The Henry Kroeger-Simmet Bank sale was postponed to February 28 owing to severe weather.

The J. H. Riecken sale on Thursday was well attended and the chattels sold for high prices.

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## PACKERS-HENEY HEARING BRINGS OUT SENSATION

### Letters Read in Open Court by Special Prosecutor Show Meat Heads Were Well Informed.

Chicago, Feb. 25.—Heads of the packing industry had "inside" information that Joseph B. Cotton, a New York attorney, would be appointed to assume charge of the packing and live stock department of the federal food administration and several of them saw him before his appointment was announced.

This fact was revealed today in private letters which Francis J. Heney, special counsel for the federal trade commission, read today in the government's investigation of the packing industry.

**Knew of Appointment.**  
Mr. Heney read a telegram from Thomas E. Wilson, president of Wilson & Co., in which Mr. Wilson, then in New York, advised V. D. Skipworth, his confidential agent in Chicago, that Cotton had been chosen and that announcement would be made public later.

"I had luncheon with him today," Mr. Wilson added in the message, which he said should be treated as confidential. The message was dated several days before Cotton's appointment was announced and was sent over a private wire.

**Interviewed Packers.**  
Confidential letters from the files of Swift & Co. also revealed that as early as October 7, four days before Mr. Cotton's appointment was announced, he had been in Chicago and held a conference with Louis F. Swift and his brothers in the directors' room at the Swift plant.

A letter in which Louis F. Swift referred to Swift & Co.'s public announcement in favor of the government setting maximum food prices as "galley play" was read today by Attorney Francis J. Heney before Chairman Davies of the federal trade commission.

**Charges "Galley Play."**  
The alleged "galley play" was made April 10, 1917. The letter, dated a month later, was signed by Louis F. Swift and was addressed to Charles H. Swift at Washington. It was one of the letters taken from Swift & Co.'s files some time ago. Mr. Heney read it as follows:

"Some of this is galley play when we say we are in favor of maximum prices. But I repeat that this is the only proper thing to do and I believe that it is possible to follow it out if the government wants to. I am well satisfied that the government doesn't want to and is not going to. At the same time it doesn't make any difference—I mean our public announcement."

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