

# Call for Farm Volunteers

(By Addison C. Thomas.)

A call for volunteers should be made at once for at least one million men for the fields and a million farms for them to plow as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

A more urgent necessity for men and land never before existed and I hope never will exist again and it never will if our patriotic men, not fit for the trenches, but fit for the fields, will respond to the call of hungry humanity, and perhaps millions of starving children.

If the men of America refuse to respond to hunger's call, conscript them, such service to continue until the war is over, but not a day longer. The rich men must first respond to this call for acres that their lands may produce food cereals.

This country can supply an abundance of food for our people at home and our sons in France and all our allies.

The production of food is perhaps more essential now than men for the trenches and ammunition for them. Time is food for a starving world, and men must be on the land or farm firing lines as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

The allwise Creator has decreed the seed time and the harvest. Men, women and boys should be training now in the use of every piece of farm machinery, especially the plow and the farm tractor. Training places should be secured immediately in every large city in this nation, where the people can be filled in the use of farm and dairy machinery, as our boys are being trained to use the gun. Women should learn how to milk a cow and perform other farm duties that will assist the farmer's wife. Help for his wife is alike essential as assistance for the farmer.

The war will only be won by the harvest fields of America.

Napoleon said, "An army travels on its belly." Our fields must not only produce food for the stomachs of our soldiers, but we must divide with the French who shared their army biscuits with our forefathers and who shed their blood unselfishly for freedom.

Farm training encampments, or farm schools, where men can learn the art and the business of farming, like cantonments are provided to educate men in the fighting business, should be established throughout the land where the rudiments of farm work can be taught until spring-time, and then send them to the land and they will know how to shoot straight with the plow and the hoe, as our boys are learning to shoot at the cantonments. The farmer needs experienced and trained help and these men should be sent to the farmer with a "letter of recommendation."

Every grain-laden train and food car should be given the right of way over every other train or car; when destination is reached, they should be unloaded before any and all other freight

## PRESIDENT CALLS FOR INQUIRY INTO HOG ISLAND SHIP CONTRACTS

The White House, Washington, Feb. 13, 1918.—My Dear Mr. Attorney General: Mr. Hurley, of the shipping board, has called my attention to some very serious facts which have recently been developed with regard to contracts made in connection with the shipbuilding program with the company operating at Hog Island. They are so serious indeed that I do not think we can let them be taken care of merely by public disclosure and discussion. I would be very much obliged if you would have some trustworthy person in your department get into consultation with Mr. Hurley about the whole matter with a view to instituting criminal process in case the facts justify it.

Cordially and sincerely yours,  
WOODROW WILSON.

Hon. T. W. Gregory,  
The Attorney General.

## CHAIRMAN HURLEY TO ADMIRAL BOWLES

February 12, 1918.—Rear Admiral Francis T. Bowles, Assistant General Manager, Emergency Fleet Corporation, 136 South 16th St., Philadelphia, Pa. My Dear Admiral: From the

newspaper reports, as well as from the indications which have come from you, it is quite clear that there is a condition of disorganization as well as of negligence at Hog Island.

By taking hold of conditions with a strong hand I am convinced that you will be able to bring about more careful and economical management. If there have been irregularities of any kind, punishment must be meted out to the offenders, and I am requesting the attorney general to assign one of his assistants to aid you in this investigation.

The whole question of the management of affairs at Hog Island is now before the senate and I felt that you would want to know that in my opinion we should await the judgment of the committee before committing ourselves to any program of action. Of course, we may find it necessary to cancel the present contract entirely. If in this connection you have any suggestions to offer I will be very glad to have them.

Yours, very truly,  
EDWARD N. HURLEY,  
Chairman.

## HOTELS AND PROHIBITION

"Quincy, Mass., Feb. 8, 1918.—To the Manager, Grove Park Hotel, Asheville, N. C. Dear Sir: Hotels in Massachusetts are considering the attitude which they should hold toward the question of ratification of the National Prohibition Amendment.

Your experience will be of great value. Will you kindly favor us with a brief statement regarding the effects of prohibition in your vicinity, with special reference to the hotel business?

"Thanking you in advance for any favor, we are.

"Very truly yours,  
"QUINCY REAL ESTATE TRUST,  
"D. King, Treasurer."

To which the Grove Park Hotel replied:

"Asheville, N. C., Feb. 15, 1918.—Mr. D. King, Treas., Quincy Real Estate Trust, Quincy, Mass.—Dear Sir: We have never handled liquors in any way at Grove Park Inn, regardless of prohibitory laws, nor do we ever expect to. We are operating the hotel for the highest class tourists known to the science, as you will see by the enclosed list of a few of our prominent guests, and we do not find that any of them require us to have a saloon in conjunction with our hotel business in order to make them comfortable.

"We hope all the hotels will reach some such a conclusion sooner or later, and with best wishes, beg to remain,

"Very sincerely yours,  
"GROVE PARK INN."

## SECRETARY DANIELS

There was a military parade in New York last week at which the government's representative in the reviewing stand was Josephus Daniels, the secretary of the navy. The New York Times made this an occasion for remarking upon the strange case of Mr. Daniels and his department.

"There has not been a reflection on the sea service since a state of war with Germany was declared," says the Times. "Secretary Daniels," it adds, "has claimed unprecedented achievements for the navy department, but not one of them has been challenged. . . . Mr. Daniels is now known as one of the most competent members of the cabinet. . . . Naval officers no longer talk about his temperamental unsuitability for the post and smile at his hobbies. He has won favor in all ranks." There are people who ask, says The Times, "Is this the Josephus Daniels whom everybody was abusing two years ago for naval deficiencies?"

The case of Secretary Daniels is the most remarkable instance of "reversal of form" that we can recall. Newspaper readers remember well enough the bitterness and the persistency of the attacks centering upon Daniels up to a year ago. From even so responsible a weekly as Collier's one gained the impression that the navy was going to pot under Daniels. If we remember correctly, that genial publication, Life, issued a "Secretary Daniels" number, the general purport of which was that Daniels was professionally a failure and personally a buffoon. Good words for Daniels were nowhere in the United States plentiful.

It was early obvious this far west that Daniels had made enemies to his credit. His dismissal of liquor from the navy made the liquor

MANY A MOTHER, FATHER AND SWEET-HEART WILL THANK GOD FOR THE Y. M. C. A.



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—From The Pittsburgh Post.

interests furious. His efforts to infuse democracy into the naval service gained the opposition of what some critics call the "naval ring." He was in frequent clash with the steel interests and succeeded in beating down the price of armor plate, which most of the time in the past had been so high as to be a national scandal. But even those Americans who felt kindly to Daniels because of his braving such powerful interests as these must have suspected in their hearts that, with all his good points, he must be something of a weakling. Else why should responsible periodicals and noted naval critics be saying so with such confidence and persistency?

The war comes, and after a year of it not a chirp against Daniels. The navy has vindicated itself at every test. Its building program has gone forward successfully. Its supply system has been above complaint. The blows that formerly beat upon Daniels are now falling on other shoulders. When before has a national official, after such buffetings, such unpopularity, been so strikingly vindicated and so fully returned to public confidence? The case of Daniels is calculated to make men humble in their judgments of other men.—Nebraska State Journal.

## TEXAS LEGISLATURE INVITES MR. BRYAN

Senate Chamber, Austin, Texas, Feb. 27, 1918. Hon. F. O. Fuller, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: I am directed by the senate to inform the house that the senate has passed the following: Concurrent Resolution No. 2, inviting the Hon. William Jennings Bryan to address the legislature.

Respectfully,  
RALPH SOAPE,  
Secretary of the Senate.

## INVITING THE HON. W. J. BRYAN TO ADDRESS THE LEGISLATURE

The Speaker laid before the house, for consideration at this time, the following resolution:

S. C. R. No. 2, inviting Hon. W. J. Bryan to address the legislature.

Whereas, The Hon. William Jennings Bryan, illustrious democratic leader and distinguished American, will be in Texas soon and has dates to speak at Denton and Fort Worth on March 5 and 6 respectively; therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate of Texas, the house of representatives concurring, That the Hon. William Jennings Bryan be invited to address the legislature in joint session at such time and on such subject as may suit him.

The resolution was read second time and was adopted.

(Speaker in the chair.)