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measures too numerous to mention are all now matters of history. Indeed, it is because Mr. Bryan has had pre-eminently, among all the statesmen of his generation, the gift of vision, and because he has shown always such a comprehensive grasp of all the many problems he has studied so profoundly that anything he may now offer upon the solution of the railroad problem in the United States is entitled to a great deal of respect and consideration. For that reason we deem it a privilege and pleasure to be able to print elsewhere on this page an able editorial by Mr. Bryan which appeared in a recent issue of The Commoner on this vitally important matter of the government's ownership and control of railroads in this country, and we commend a most careful reading of this statement of Mr. Bryan to all our readers.

**PRESIDENT WILSON APPROVES SCHOOL GARDEN CAMPAIGN**

President Wilson has written Secretary Lane, of the Interior, expressing the hope that "every school will have a regiment in the Volunteer War Garden Army"—the army of school children that, it is hoped, may raise this year produce amounting to \$500,000,000.

"Every boy and girl who really sees what the home garden may mean," writes the President, "will, I am sure, enter into the purpose with high spirits, because I am sure they would all like to feel that they are in fact fighting in France by joining the home garden army."

In his letter, which follows, the President approves the design of Secretary Lane to arouse the school children of the United States to "as real and patriotic an effort as the building of ships or the firing of cannon":

"Washington, Feb. 25.—My dear Mr. Secretary: I sincerely hope that you may be successful through the bureau of education in arousing the interest of teachers and children in the schools of the United States in the cultivation of home gardens. Every boy and girl who really sees what the home garden may mean will, I am sure, enter into the purpose with high spirits, because I am sure they would all like to feel that they are in fact fighting in France by joining the home garden army. They know that America has undertaken to send meat and flour and wheat and other foods for the support of the soldiers who are doing the fighting, for the men and women who are making the munitions, and for the boys and girls of western Europe, and that we must also feed ourselves while we are carrying on this war. The movement to establish gardens, therefore, and to have the children work in them is just as real and patriotic an effort as the building of ships or the firing of cannon. I hope that this spring every school will have a regiment in the Volunteer War Garden Army.

"Cordially and sincerely yours,  
(Signed) "WOODROW WILSON."  
Hon. Franklin K. Lane,  
Secretary of the Interior.

It is Secretary Lane's idea, that is being worked out through Commissioner Claxton of the Bureau of Education, to have five million boys and girls of the schools in every city, town and village in the country, captained by forty thousand teachers, produce as nearly as possible all of the vegetables, small fruits and eggs for their home consumption.

To the extent that each district is able to supply itself with these food products, the railways will be relieved of the burden of transporting them, and the Allies of the United

States in Europe, and our own soldiers on the battlefield will get that much more of the food of which they are in need.

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