

WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO ASSIST IN INCREASING THE FOOD SUPPLY

Engage in Campaign for Bigger Crops—Federal Department of Agriculture Trying to Interest the Nonfarming Population in the Food Problem—More Hands Needed to Help Till the Soil.

New York.—The farmers cannot work any harder—only women and children and men whose regular work is not agriculture can increase the crops of the nation.

This is a truth which impresses itself on anyone who investigates the experiences of the warring nations and the problems of our own.

In Germany and the other central powers the problem is not one of more land, but more labor. With the farm hands limited mostly to women, children, wounded or otherwise incapacitated men, old men and prisoners, it is found impossible to produce a usual crop, even with ordinarily favorable weather.

In this country similar problems are met. It is useless to explain the crisis to the farmer and his "hired men." They are going to get up at four o'clock in the morning and work as long as it is light in the hot months. But they were going to do that whether or not the United States went to war. They can do no more.

It is only by bringing in hands which in other years would not be devoted to the cultivation of the soil that the earth's bounty can be increased.

played with natural pride healthy young tomato, lettuce, bean and pea plants ready to be set out when the weather was gracious. Two huge greenhouses were filled with plants ready for the open. A long row of chrysanthemums occupied an especial place in one of the hothouses. The lady farmer explaining that they were all yellow ones and were being especially trained for suffrage decoration only.

Women Do the Work.

"It's no kid-glove job," is what Albert Johnson told 150 women recently at the Astor hotel when he talked to them about what they must expect when they begin a course in practical agriculture.

They had responded to a call from Miss Alice Carpenter, chairman of the executive committee of the No. 6 National Service school of the women's section of the Navy league, which hopes to train a score of women every three weeks at the State Agricultural school, at Farmingdale, L. I., and at the same time train 200 women in military duties.

The expectant agriculturists listened to some solid facts about the work. Mr. Johnson, who is head of the state school, announced at the start that they hadn't a "farm hand" on the place, and that the women must do the work themselves.

"We take women of every age," he said. "Recently we had three grandmothers and one great-grandmother in our classes."

Anyone past the age of eighteen is eligible to enroll for the agricultural course under the guidance of Miss Carpenter and Mr. Johnson. There were several gray-haired women present whose faces brightened when they heard the reference to the agricultural activities of grandmothers.

Every student is to have a garden plot 15 by 20 feet, Mr. Johnson explained. These will be on the grounds of the state school. Every bit of the work on that plot is to be done by the students, under the supervision of instructors.

"Special emphasis will be placed on the methods which can best be employed in vegetable growing in city yards, vacant lots and school gardens," he continued. "All common vegetables will be grown. Particular attention will be paid to those of high-food value, including potatoes."

"The work will include seed testing, starting of seeds in flats, use of cold frames, setting out plants, culture, harvesting, packing or otherwise preparing the vegetables for marketing, storing and preserving vegetables, the last to include canning."

Many Practical Courses.

"There will be a course also in economic entomology, where the students will take up the habits of insects of orchards, gardens and farm crops. A course in the different types of soils, poultry raising, which will include incubation, rearing of chicks, their feed, care and management, killing, dressing and marketing, and poultry house construction, also is offered to the women bent on growing and conserving the nation's food supply."

Milking cows, driving horses, feeding, the care and management of dairy cattle, hogs and horses are also to be taught at the agricultural school. The courses will open on April 23, and will close on July 23. Living accommodations will be provided on the grounds. Mrs. Carpenter said they had rented an old-fashioned homestead for the women students.

"Potato patriotism" is being encouraged at the headquarters of the Woodcraft League of America, here. Ernest Thompson Seton, the chief, is urging all members to devote time this summer to growing the costly "spud."

"The great need for potatoes has

caused us to urge the formation of clubs of boys and girls and men and women who will raise potatoes," the league says in its pamphlet called "The Hoe Behind the Flag." A minimum number of hills is to be raised by each member, but it is hoped that this will be only a starting point.

Clubs are to be formed in every state and prizes will be offered for the best crops.

Therefore, the experts of the department of agriculture, and of state farm bureaus, and various official and semi-official organizations throughout the country, are trying to interest the non-farming population in the food problem.

Nowhere are they meeting with greater success than on Long Island. This stretch of nearly level soil, very rich when fertilized, bids fair to be one continuous garden this year and make a new name for itself as a truck produce center.

It is the promised land of the commuter. It is a country of small holdings, besides many large estates. Women and children are assisting in many ways to increase the yield.

Suffragist Shows Her Worth.

One of the most interesting points on the island, from a food-increase standpoint, is Mrs. Ruth Litt's magnificent 125-acre estate, Jackwill farm, named after her two boys. It lies on Great South bay, near East Patchogue.

Here the suffragist is finding a new way of proving herself fit for the ballot.

The votes-for-women enthusiasts are tilling the ground and planting vegetables in a most efficient way. They are doing all the work themselves, real men's work.

Mrs. Litt has turned over a huge field to the suffragists, besides tools, horses, seeds and other things needed. The women will put it entirely under cultivation, and they are making it a point of honor not to let a male hand assist them.

Associated with Mrs. Litt in the agricultural venture are Mrs. George Baxter, Jr., the suffrage leader of Long Island; Miss Grace Homan, vice leader; Mrs. W. Granville Smith and Mrs. Charles Gould.

A three-day-old Jersey calf has become the mascot of the woman farmers.

"The women of England," said Mrs. Litt, carefully steering the plow in a straight furrow as she talked, "were not prepared to do any work of this sort. It came to them in the nature of a great hardship, albeit they were willing to do their 'bit.'" The American woman has taken a lesson out of the experience of her British sister and is learning to do efficiently something that she may sooner or later be called upon to do by the government.

"The work is good for women. It will turn a lot of women from house plants into 'huskies' and will be of two-fold benefit, making efficient workers and garnering health and physical strength for the women of the nation."

Mrs. Litt turned the plow over to one of the other workers and proceeded to the hothouse, where she dis-

OFFERS LAND FOR FARMING



Earl Carroll, America's youngest and most versatile composer and playwright, whose royalties from his successful comedies and numerous popular songs are said to be in the neighborhood of \$5,000 weekly, believes in acting while others are planning as to what can be done for the country in this crisis.

Just outside New York city, within twenty-five minutes' ride of the city hall, there is a great tract of land that Mr. Carroll has succeeded in leasing.

He has offered the tract to the superintendent of schools. The great stretch of land, covering about two hundred acres, is to be divided into small plots (each 25 by 100), and schoolboys and girls are to aid in raising their quota of food for the soldiers.

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GROWS HAIR FOR GIRL'S WIG

Man Arrested in California Tells Story About Accident of Daughter.

Sacramento, Cal.—Because his little daughter, two years ago, when she was but three years of age, fell into the fire and burned her scalp to a crisp so that hair never again will grow thereon, Henry Hamilton of Idaho, now working on a nearby ranch, is growing a luxuriant head of hair, it being his idea when he returns home to have the hair cut and made into a wig for his little girl.

The story came out the other day when Hamilton, who had been arrested the night before while on a visit to this city, was questioned by Max P. Fisher, who had inquired as to the cause of the flowing locks.

Hamilton said he had come to California to work during the winter because he could not get steady employment in Idaho during the cold weather. He added he expected to return home in a few weeks and prepare the wig for which he has been undergoing ridicule because of his long hair.

After his story had been verified he was released.

SCOURGE HITS BRITISH BEES

Ravages Have Caused Honey Output in the United Kingdom to Be Cut in Half.

London.—The output of honey in Great Britain has been cut in half since 1910 by the ravages of a scourge known to bee keepers as the Isle of Wight disease. It has been known to kill millions of bees within a few days.

The board of agriculture declares itself helpless until it can obtain power to order the prompt destruction of infected hives.

GERMAN OFFICER'S SON ENLISTS IN U. S. ARMY

Chicago.—Albert Werner is a private in the United States army.

Back of his simple statement is a story of heart-breaking struggle of a young man who wrestled alone with his conflicting emotions and who sacrificed everything for principle.

Werner is German born. He was brought to this country by his mother after his father had joined the German army. Today the father is a high officer in the kaiser's forces. Uncles and cousins of Albert Werner hold other high military posts.

In Chicago Werner has been holding down a mail-order house job at \$45 a week. When war was declared fellow workmen asked him what he intended to do.

The answer came in the words with which this story was started.

WASHINGTON CITY SIDELIGHTS



Woman Makes Patriotic Offer to Serve Red Cross

WASHINGTON.—Washington's most patriotic woman has been discovered by Mrs. W. E. Harvey, chairman of the Red Cross civilian relief committee. She has two sons in the Third regiment, N. G. D. C., who saw service on the border, a third "who, if the president demands, will go," and an eleven-months old baby.

Yet she has written to Mrs. Harvey offering to work for the committee, and to do her "little bit" for the country and the president, "even if it is only to take my baby on one shoulder and our flag on the other and march down Pennsylvania avenue."

The name of this woman is withheld, but this is her letter to Mrs. Harvey:

"Dear Mrs. Harvey: I have been reading in the papers that you are asking the women of the District to do their part. I wish to say I would like to do my part, be it ever so little. I have no money I can give, and although I have a little eleven-month-old baby to look after, still there may be something I could do.

"I am a seamstress using the power machine, also a very good nurse. If it was not for my baby, I would go tomorrow morning and enlist. I have two boys in the Third regiment, who have been down on the border; also I have a third son, who, if the president demands, will go. Now, although with my little baby, I may do my little bit for my country and our president, even if it is only to take my baby on one shoulder and our flag on the other and march down Pennsylvania avenue. If there is anything I can do I hope you will call on me."

Mrs. Harvey announced that this was only one of many similar letters she has received, and if possible she would find a place for the writer. Mrs. Harvey said:

"Children are, of all sufferers through war, perhaps the most pathetic. The work of minimizing their suffering is one of the most important that anyone can undertake—for they are the future, these little ones, and vain is our tremendous sacrifice if they be not preserved to benefit by it. A great organization will be required for this work, and the women who engage in it will find themselves grappling with many of the most vital problems that war brings.

"What we want saved out of this cataclysm we must work with all our might to save. There is work in abundance for everyone of us—and will be, for long time to come."

Speaker Clark Might Have Become a Millionaire

NEARLY everyone can tell a story of how near he, or she, came once upon a time, to stepping on the high road to great wealth. Some will tell of being offered stock on the ground floor of some infant industry which has since become one of the financial rocks of the country; some will tell of oil leases selling for a song and developing a veritable sea of the oozy fluid; while others will tell you how they sold a horse of the "Dobbin" price, which developed into a famous racer and captured all the big purses and blue ribbons in the country; all will tell of some bonanza which lay inviting but unopened at their feet.

Speaker Champ Clark of Missouri is no exception. When he was twenty-three years old and president of the Bethany college of West Virginia—the youngest college president in history—he was urged by a friend to invest his savings of \$800 in coal lands in that neighborhood at 80 cents an acre. Everyone knows that the coal lands of the West Virginia panhandle are now worth thousands of dollars an acre. But young Clark had heard about Missouri, and to Missouri he went, turning a deaf ear upon the pleadings of his investor friend.

"But," he says, "I've got a piece of walnut cut from the first log cabin Daniel Boone ever built in Missouri, and a 'toddie' stick used by Colonel Benton." The speaker will have the walnut cut in two pieces and made into pen holders, one for his son, Bennett, and one for his daughter, Mrs. Thomson.



Girls Replace Marines as Telephone Operators

THE Washington navy yard has the distinction of being the first service station in the United States to employ girl telephone operators. This change took effect only a few days ago, and now six young women are occupying the positions formerly held by marines.

The change was a surprise to the many persons calling through the switchboard at the navy yard, and it was with difficulty at first that the operators explained to those who did not know of the change that girls are now operating the board. Familiar with a masculine voice answering their calls, a number of callers desiring connections with various lines operated through the switchboard, not having the mystery cleared, however, no trouble is being experienced, as the girls have come from various telephone exchanges throughout the city and are capable of filling the positions held so long by men.

Cots have been placed in the room occupied by the exchange for the girls' use. It is thought probable that the change will become permanent, as excellent service is being given by the young women. Two are on duty at all times.

These young women, who are enlisted in the Naval Reserve corps, will be uniformed. The uniforms are expected to arrive in the near future.

War Now Holds Center of Stage at Washington

GRIM-VISAGED war has the nation's capital in its grasp. The evolution of the United States from a peace to a war basis is manifested in many ways. Cabinet officials and responsible bureau chiefs no longer adhere to any certain hours of work. Theoretically, they are always on the job.

Most of the members of the cabinet are steady church goers, but Sundays now find them in their offices instead of in their church pews. A deeply religious man is Josephus Daniels, secretary of the navy, but he fractures the Sabbath regularly nowdays and congratulates himself that he is doing so in a good cause.

Visitors at the capital are struck by the transformation of the city at night. The capitol building is bathed in wonderful illumination that makes it an object of general admiration and instills patriotism in all who have the privilege of seeing the giant dome in a flood of light that makes it visible for many miles.

Powerful searchlights were installed on the roofs of the senate and house wings of the capitol and at night these are trained on the dome, with very inspiring effect.

Of course, a tense situation like the present is conducive to all kinds of wild stories, and a day seldom passes when someone does not hear, or dream, of a plot to blow up the capitol. These reports travel with seven-league boots, gathering momentum as they travel. As a result the police department is kept constantly on the cul vive.

Secret service operatives and police in plain clothes are stationed at the various important department and other buildings throughout the city, while a detachment of soldiers remains constantly on guard at the White residence.

DAIRY THE DAIRY

HAY SUPPLY FOR DAIRY COWS

Roughages Are Relatively Cheaper Than Grain, but Should Not Be Fed Exclusively.

"Because of the large hay crop and the small demand for it now, roughages should be fed to the limit of the dairy cow's capacity, says Prof. C. C. Hayden of the Ohio experiment station. "Relatively, the roughages, like hay and corn stover, are much cheaper than grains, and hay is of unusually good quality. Roughage, of course, should not be fed exclusively, as such feeding might lead to compaction and death, even in dry cows and heifers. Some grain is needed in every dairy ration."

"This dairy specialist also declares 'Choice alfalfa hay at \$20 a ton is cheaper than bran at \$30. Our experiments show that soy bean hay is in the same class as alfalfa, and clover is third. With corn at \$1 a bushel, clover hay should be worth about \$20 a ton, or \$5 more than it is now quoted."

Timothy hay is recommended for milking cows only in small quantities, to replace such grains as corn and hominy. Leguminous roughages have proved far superior in numerous experiments to timothy for cows in milk.

PROFIT IN DAIRYING

To make dollars in dairying, keep cows that are money makers.

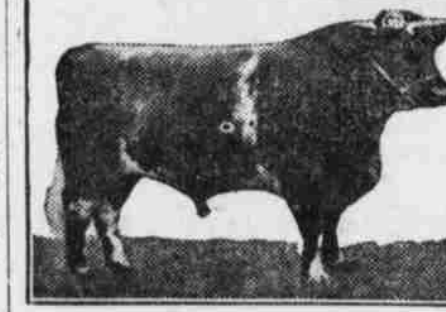
Feed silage or other succulence, plenty of good roughage and grain in proportion to production.

Supply plenty of fresh water. Ventilate barn thoroughly. Produce the best possible products.

RECORDS OF BIG ASSISTANCE

Help Breeder Answer Questions From Prospective Buyer of Herd Sire—Write for Details.

The present sharp competition in the dairy business and the increased price of feed force the successful dairyman to secure the greatest return possible from his outlay. If he has registered cows he expects more for his progeny than if he had only grades. But to obtain more and enough more to pay to keep purebred stock, L. W. Wing, Jr. of the Missouri college of



Champion Shorthorn Bull.

agriculture, reminds the dairymen that he must be able to answer the following questions from the prospective buyer of a herd sire. Is the sire registered? What is the record of his dam? How many advance registry daughters and proved sons has his sire? And what are the records of his granddams and grandsons? If the breeder is selling a registered cow he must answer: What is her record; the record of her dams and granddams and the ability of her sire and granddaughters to produce advance registry daughters and proved sons.

To answer these questions and meet the demands of buyer the breeder of purebred dairy cattle must do official testing. This testing is under the supervision of the various state colleges of agriculture. Breeders ready to take up this work or wishing further information, should write to the dairy department of the college of agriculture of their respective states.

CORK-BRICK BARN FLOORING

Non-Absorbent and Adapted to Needs of Farm Animals—Laid in Cement Over Concrete Base.

The search for a warm, non-absorbent flooring suited to the needs of horses, cows, hogs and sheep has led to the adoption of cork brick. The brick, as described in Popular Science Monthly, consists of finely granulated cork and refined asphalt, heated and thoroughly mixed, and then molded under pressure into bricks nine by four by two inches. The flooring is laid in cement mortar over a sub-base of concrete and crushed stones or ashes.

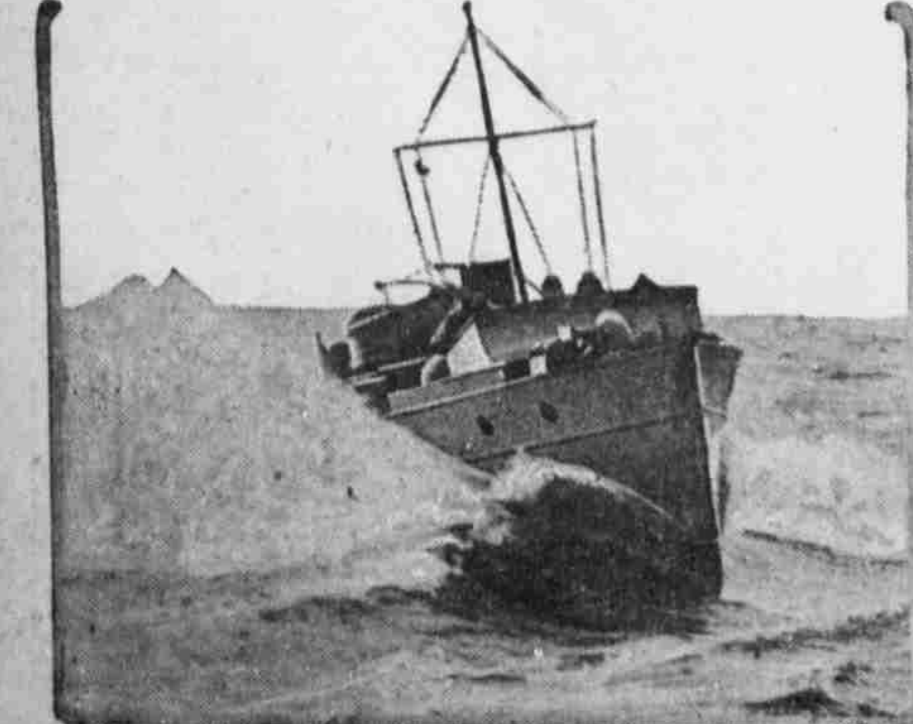
MILK ALL COWS THOROUGHLY

Little Extra Time Required After Usual Amount Has Been Secured Will Pay Dividends.

Sufficient time ought to be taken to milk the cows thoroughly even if so much other work on the farm cannot be accomplished.

A little extra time required to work and manipulate the udder by hand after the usual amount of milk has been obtained will pay dividends and sometimes make a profit where otherwise there would have been a loss.

SUBMARINE CHASER AT TOP SPEED



A vital part of the navy is the fleet of submarine chasers, small vessels of high speed carrying a gun and wireless outfit.