

PLAN MANY DRIERS

NEBRASKA TO HAVE 100 PLANTS IN OPERATION THIS YEAR.

FREE BULLETIN AVAILABLE

Extension Service Behind Move—Scarcity of Canning Receptacles Makes Project Imperative.

Plans to have one hundred community drying plants in operation in Nebraska this summer are being made by the agricultural extension service of the University of Nebraska. These plants will follow the same general lines of the driers which proved so successful in a number of Nebraska communities last year. In most cases the driers this year will be established with funds furnished by towns or civic organizations from plans furnished free of charge by the extension service.

Their establishment will mean that any family can take its produce to the nearest drier and for a charge of two to five cents a tray have it dried for winter use. With a natural scarcity of tin cans and glass jars, these driers will do much toward handling produce which otherwise would be wasted.

So successful were the plants established last season that the United States department of agriculture devoted a bulletin, No. 916, in its Farmers' Bulletin series to community drying. This bulletin is available for free distribution and may be obtained either on application to the department of agriculture at Washington, or to the agricultural extension service at Lincoln, Neb.

The first plant established in the country was erected in North Lincoln, Neb., last June. Later plants were built in Fremont, Omaha, and University Place, Nebraska, and in Council Bluffs and Glidden, Iowa. In North Lincoln 75 families made use of the plant and 1,180 trays of fruits and vegetables were dried. At Fremont 150 bushels of fruits and vegetables were handled and the plant was kept going night and day.

The drying plant recommended to

at home. Every person is urged to have everything in readiness before bringing to the plant, even to the slicing.

A 100 tray drying plant can be built complete for from \$200 to \$250, depending upon the type of motor and fan that is used, and upon the material used in the construction of the cabinet. Complete plans for building such a plant will be furnished by the Agricultural Extension Service, University Farm, Lincoln, Nebraska upon request, and the Extension Service will be glad to help any community in the establishment of such a plant.

Discovery in Drying Vegetables.

A discovery which experts consider of much value in vegetable drying has been made by Mrs. Edith M. Park, a member of the North Lincoln Community club, the club which established the first community drier in the state. Mrs. Park has discovered that dried vegetables which would not yield to the ordinary method of cooking, that is soaking in cold water over night and then cooking until tender, could be made palatable by cooking in boiling water, without soaking, and adding soda. The difficult part of this method, and the part to which Mrs. Park is devoting continued effort, is the determination of the proper amount of soda to be used. The drying of some vegetables, string beans for instance, seemed almost a failure until Mrs. Park made this discovery. Practically all vegetables are said to yield to her method.

Farmers to Be Business Men.

The government has advised the farm management department of the University of Nebraska Extension Service at Lincoln that the American farmer shall be a business man. "Not only shall the farmer keep an account of his receipts and expenses, but he is urged to make an inventory of goods on hand at the beginning and end of each calendar year, just like the merchant does."

The commissioner of internal revenue has advised the farm management department that farmers' net incomes, figured from accounts kept with inventories for the beginning and end of the calendar year, will be accepted for tax purposes. Inventories taken each year in connection with receipts and expenses will en-



1—French patrol leaving its dug-out to make a raid on the enemy trenches nearby. 2—A British soldier looking over the dreary scene of a battlefield in Flanders; in the foreground a disabled tank sinking into the quagmire. 3—Regiment of American engineers in France marching to the front.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

British Army, Now Supported by French Troops, Still Holds Back the Germans.

DRAWS BACK EAST OF YPRES

Huns Fight Furiously to Capture the Messines Ridge and Bethune—Secretary Baker Returns to Speed America's Men Across—Schwab Heads Shipbuilding.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

At the end of another week of the most sanguinary battle the world has ever known, the British army was still unscathed, its lines still unbroken. Overwhelmingly outnumbered in Flanders, Haig's men were forced to give up some important positions, and east of Ypres they withdrew from the bulging Passchendaele salient before the enemy observed the movement, and straightened and shortened their defensive line so that it was much stronger and more secure. Meanwhile French reinforcements arrived to assist the British, the commanders having decided that the Flanders offensive was not merely a diversion. To the south, on the Somme and the Aisne, the French had been stoutly repulsing every attack, and it was predicted that the time was near when General Foch, the allied commander in chief, might be expected to start his counter-offensive. Though they were still bringing fresh divisions into the battle, it was figured the Germans must be approaching the point of exhaustion, when a return blow would be most effective. Indeed, it did not seem this blow could be much longer delayed, for the British, though their spirit and courage were undiminished, were sustaining continuous attacks by an enemy which was immensely superior in numbers and was under leaders whose disregard for life was utterly reckless.

At the beginning of the week the Germans, finding they could not make much progress toward Bethune, at the south part of their salient, because of the stubborn resistance of the British at Givenchy, Festubert and Locon, turned to the north and undertook to flank Ypres by driving the British from the Bailleul-Neuve Eglise, Wulverghem-Hollebeke line. For two days the attacks of the Huns were beaten back with fearful slaughter, but then Field Marshal Haig was compelled to give ground and retired from part of the famous Messines ridge, at the same time drawing his lines nearer to Ypres. There was still higher ground at his rear, however, and his generals and men displayed a cheerful optimism that contrasted with the depression caused in England and, to a considerable extent, in America by what looked like serious reverses. Not for a minute did the men who are doing the fighting admit that they were beaten or could be beaten by any forces Hindenburg could bring against them, and though the Hun, when he had taken Bailleul, was within 24 miles of Dunkirk, they still had no idea of permitting him to force his way to the coast.

In the effort to reach the La Bassee canal and take Hazebrouck, the enemy, after intense artillery preparation, attacked along the front from Meteren to Robecq, but was repulsed at almost every point and sustained heavy losses. The allied artillery was especially effective here and east of Bethune and the Germans found it almost impossible to bring up their transport trains.

On Thursday the enemy resumed his attacks in the Bethune region, throwing a number of light bridges across La Bassee canal near Locon. These were swept away by the British artillery and machine-gun fire and large numbers of Germans were killed. Again and again the Germans renewed the attack, using more than 125,000 fresh troops on the 12-mile front between St. Venant and Givenchy, but each time they were thrown back with appalling losses. French infantry and batteries co-operated with Haig's forces.

Save for certain engineer units, the American troops had not yet been en-

gaged in the big battle, but they were steadily and rapidly moving up to their assigned positions, and the news that more and more of them were being hurled across the Atlantic was greeted with enthusiasm by the British and French officers and men. They are needed, and needed quickly, for the allied commanders, though believing their lines cannot be broken, know the enemy is still very strong, and undoubtedly is gathering his strength for further tremendous efforts. While he might be held by the allied forces now there, he can only be crushed and driven back when they have been greatly re-enforced by the boys from America.

Moreover, the commanders of the allies say no greater mistake could be made than to think this is the final battle. Even if it can be called decisive, it is absolutely essential that the United States send over all its men as quickly as possible, that all possible eventualities may be faced and the right kind of a victory ultimately enforced.

That this is the view of Secretary of War Baker also is made plain in his report to the president, made on his return last week from Europe. In a sentence this was that the United States must furnish the strength that will crush Germany, and must furnish it at once. If Mr. Baker ever thought the war was "3,000 miles away," his trip abroad has cured him of that delusion. There is now no warmer advocate of the policy of giving force, precision and rapidity to American activities, and on his own behalf and that of his department he pledged better results in hurrying men and munitions to the fighting front.

As for the American troops now in France, Mr. Baker had nothing but praise for their condition and their military qualities. They have made good in every way, he said. Those same troops during the week had opportunity to show the stuff they were made of, for several times the Germans made fierce attacks in the Toul sector. Each time they were repulsed, and the Yankees went into the fray with a joy that did the hearts of their officers good. Their bravery, coolness and efficiency were so general that their commanders had difficulty in picking out any men for especial commendation.

The evident and urgent need for more soldiers helped to hasten Lloyd George's man-power bill through parliament, despite the opposition caused by the clause applying conscription to Ireland. The government also prepared to introduce its home rule bill which it announced it would pass or fall in the attempt. There was considerable dissatisfaction in England over the fact that the British in Flanders were so badly outnumbered by the Germans, and the blame, if any, was not placed, there were insistent calls for the return of Sir William Robertson to the position of chief of the imperial general staff. On Thursday Viscount Milner was made secretary of state for war, the earl of Derby becoming ambassador to France.

Since it is still evident that "ships will win the war," and that America must supply most of the ships, our national shipbuilding agencies were reorganized last week for the fifth time and Charles M. Schwab, chairman of the board of directors of the Bethlehem Steel corporation, was given the new position of director general of shipbuilding and placed in supreme control of the construction of merchant vessels. Chairman Hurley of the shipping board and General Manager Pletz will work in complete harmony with him, directing the organization necessary to carry out his plans. The necessity for some such a step was shown by the official announcement of the charge, which said: "The carrying forward of the construction work in the 130 shipyards now in operation is so bad that it requires a re-enforcement of the shipbuilding organization throughout the country." The determination to speed up shipbuilding was evidenced by the warning issued by Mr. Hurley that delinquent plants will be taken over by the government unless they show decided improvement.

The British admiralty report showed 15 British vessels sunk by submarines during the previous week, 11 of them being 1,600 tons or over.

On Monday British warships encountered a fleet of German armed trawlers in the Kattegat and sank ten of them, the nearby German naval forces

evidently not daring to come out to the rescue. The fact that the British were engaged in clearing the Kattegat of mines may portend naval operations of moment.

Turning to the east, we find the parts of the former state of Russia being exploited as fields for German ruthlessness comparable to that which devastated Belgium. According to advices in Washington, the Huns intend to make Ukraine an Austro-German colony, and are about to dissolve the rada and install a Teuton government. Already they are putting Austro-Germans into all the offices and have cut Ukraine off from all communication with Russia proper. All entente officers in the state have been ordered under arrest. Finland is running red with the blood of the people of the working class and others who oppose the White guard and the Finnish feudal class. They are pointed out to the German troops, which have occupied Helsinki, and are murdered by the latter in conjunction with the White guard. The provisional government of Finland and tens of thousands of Finns have retired to Petrograd. The brutalities of the Huns are being exhibited also in Russia itself as the troops push their way north and east. In one village the inhabitants resisted an armed requisition for money by German forces and an officer was killed in the resulting scuffle. Thereupon the Germans burned the town and with machine guns slaughtered the inhabitants as they fled from their blazing homes. Against this and other similar outrages Tchitcherin, Russian minister of foreign affairs, protested to Berlin, asking the punishment of the guilty. But can anyone recall the infliction of punishment on the Huns who perpetrated like outrages in Belgium and northern France?

Any hope that the relations between Germany and Austria-Hungary might be disrupted by the exposure of Emperor Charles' letter concerning peace and the French claim to Alsace-Lorraine was dispelled by the appointment of Baron Burian as minister of foreign affairs to succeed Count Czernin, the official goat. Burian is recognized as a firm supporter of the policy of a continued alliance with Germany and the press of both Austria and Germany assert that the country's foreign policy will not be changed by him. Dr. Von Seydler, the Austrian premier, was emphatic in stating the same view, and said those who looked to the entente for salvation would always be regarded and treated as enemies of the state. In this category he must include many of the people of Bohemia, for at a great mass meeting in Prague President Wilson was cheered and the kaiser jeered. In Vienna there has been serious rioting by the hungry people.

Bolo Pasha, the spectacular French traitor, was executed at Vincennes on Wednesday, after having made confessions that are believed to involve many others in his infamies. In the United States men equally guilty of treason are allowed to live, and if arrested are usually let out on bail to continue their vile practices until the time comes for their trial. This may be remedied, however, by the passage of the Chamberlain bill introduced in the senate, declaring the United States a part of the military zone and making spies and disloyalists subject to trial by court-martial. Among those who appeared before the senate committee to urge the passage of this measure, was W. B. Bloodgood, chairman of the Milwaukee council of defense. He warned the senators that dire consequences might result in Wisconsin unless the government deals more effectively with disloyalty and sedition. "Feeling grows stronger with the departure of every army transport," said he, "and the people are likely to go back to primitive methods." Mr. Bloodgood asserted that pro-German propaganda has been widely disseminated in the training camps where Wisconsin troops have been quartered, and that German agents have purchased union cards and obtained employment in munition factories when they were unable to hit a nail on the head.

Extension of the espionage law to apply to women will lead to the arrest of numerous women, though many of them already have fled from the country. Most of the spies who run away go to Cuba, and it has been discovered that their headquarters are in Havana.

The week was marked by the death of United States Senator William Joel Stone of Missouri.

ARE YOU WITH OR AGAINST THE HUN?

Buy a Liberty Bond If You Would Show the World Where You Stand.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED NOW!

There Can Be No Such Thing as Neutrality on the Part of a True American Citizen in This Great War.

By RENE BACHE.

"Murder!" It is a cry for help. What will you do about it?

There is a kind of man who under such circumstances says: "It is none of my business. I am not called upon to interfere."

"Such a man calls himself a 'peace-loving citizen'—a pacifist, to use a word recently popularized.

But you know, and I know, that he is only a coward. His only anxiety is to keep out of danger, no matter at what sacrifice of his manhood.

Even though he knows that his neighbor's wife or child is being attacked he will not interfere. It is "none of his affair." Besides, he himself might get hurt.

The unprovoked invasion of Belgium by the predatory Huns was exactly analogous to the breaking and entering of a peaceable man's home by armed burglars. Theirs was a criminal enterprise pure and simple.

Later it became manifest that we were likely to suffer similarly in our turn. In fact, the same criminals began to attack us. They killed our people—even our women and children.

So, much against our will, we were at last compelled to fight. If ever there was a just and righteous fight, it is ours in this war. Will you personally stand aside, playing the coward's part, or will you help?

Buy a Liberty Bond.

If you cannot do your bit with bomb and bayonet, you can help very importantly by buying a Liberty bond.

Would you prefer to help the kaiser and his gang of professional murderers? You can do so by refusing to help your country with your money!

There can be no such thing as neutrality on the part of an American citizen in this war. Either you are a patriot or you are a traitor. Which of the two shall you choose to be?

If you refuse your help, merely standing aside, you are actually aiding the kaiser. You are the accomplice, at least constructively speaking, of the greatest criminal since Nero.

Do you approve of the rape of Belgium and the ruthless slaughter of its inoffensive people?

If not, then show it by buying a Liberty bond.

Do you approve of the wholesale violation of women and the mutilation of little children?

If not, then buy a Liberty bond.

Are you in favor of the poisoning of wells, of shelling unarmed and helpless people in open boats, of indiscriminate warfare upon noncombatants?

If not, then buy a Liberty bond.

You Are For or Against. You cannot compromise with your conscience in this matter. Either you are for these things, or you are against them.

Civilization is engaged in a desperate struggle against barbarism—nay, indeed, something much worse than barbarism, scientific savagery. It is a fight of right against wrong.

Do you wish to help the right? Then buy a Liberty bond.

The happiness of your children and of your children's children is at stake. For there can be no happiness without liberty, and liberty will cease to exist if Prussian power achieves the objects for which it is now contending.

One word more. Do you believe in a life that is to follow this life? Do you believe that your welfare in the hereafter will be influenced by your conduct in your present state of existence?

Then how can you hope for happiness in the "next world" if, in this struggle between right and wrong, you deliberately choose to stand with the Hun murderers against your God?

You are helping them if you stand "neutral," and fail to help your country.

Make your choice. And, having chosen, buy a Liberty bond.

BECAUSE SHE KNOWS

By AMELIA JOSEPHINE BURR of the Vigilantes.

She is a fragile little elderly gentlewoman, a teacher by profession, an Alsatian by birth. During the summer holidays of 1914 she left her home in Strasburg, and came over to visit her brother, in a suburb of New York. She has been here ever since, too proud to be a tax upon her brother's slender means, and maintaining herself by French lessons here and there, governing, helping mothers, and other work to which she has never been accustomed but which she does with the true spirit of France. I have heard—yes, and felt—complaints trickle out and then dry up entirely at the sight of that radiant little figure plowing indomitably through the snow. Her earnings, it hardly need be said, are not large, yet she has bought a Liberty bond of each issue, and is resolved to keep on as long as the war does.

FIRST PLANT IN THE COUNTRY



Community Drier, established in North Lincoln last summer. It is expected that upwards of one hundred of these plants will be in use throughout Nebraska during this summer.

communities this year consists of a cabinet about 16 feet long, 2 feet high and 3½ feet wide. The bottom of the cabinet may be made of flooring or ungrooved ceiling. The sides and top may be made of the same material or of "compo" board. The top of the cabinet is closed by hinged doors or removable sections to enable the lowering of the trays into the cabinet.

The cabinet is divided into five sections, four of which are large enough to accommodate two stacks of drying trays of ten each. These trays are of convenient size for community drying, being 1½ feet wide, 3 feet long, 2 inches deep, made of half-inch material for sides and braces, and pearl wire screen for bottom, with wire screen at one end. An exhaust fan is placed at one end of the cabinet in the fifth section. This fan may be operated by electricity or by a gasoline engine, and the air should be drawn thru the cabinet at a rapid rate. The end opposite the fan is covered with ordinary wire screen, so that flies may be kept from the drying fruit or vegetables.

A sufficient charge per tray is made to cover cost of operation and the salary of the caretaker. The caretaker is at the plant for two hours in the morning, and for about an hour in the afternoon. She receives and delivers vegetables or fruit at this time. The patrons have their vegetables and fruits all prepared when they come to the plant. Two or three slicing machines are provided for the convenience of those who do not have them

able the farmers to determine their exact income. The farm management department has given preference to the inventory system in record books which they have been placing among the farmers, but the government has not until now seen fit to advocate that the farmer be as careful in ascertaining his income as the business man. Under this system a farmers' income will consist of his cash receipts plus increased value in his stock, shown thru his inventories. Under the old system the farmers' income was simply his actual cash receipts minus his cash expenses for the year, no account being taken of amounts of grain and stock on hand during the year.

Soft Corn Profitable Feed.

Cattle marketed at South Omaha recently by the University Farm showed that Nebraska soft corn was fed with profit last winter. Of five lots of cattle sold, those fed snapped soft corn and alfalfa were the most profitable. Nearly \$20 a head was made on cattle fed this ration. Cattle fed shelled corn and alfalfa made a profit of less than half this, \$8.23. Cattle fed silage, cotton-seed and alfalfa made the smallest profit, \$4.19 a head. Cattle fed ground corn, cotton-seed and ground alfalfa made a profit of \$11 each. The silage fed cattle suffered a large shrink in transit, 50 pounds, while the cattle fed snapped corn lost but 18 pounds. Corn and alfalfa cattle lost 28 pounds.

Adopt Nebraska Gardening Plan. The school garden army project inaugurated by the United States Bureau of Education, of the Department of the Interior, will carry out the Nebraska plan of children's gardens, according to information received by Director C. W. Fugley of the Nebraska extension service at Lincoln. The new branch of gardening activity has already asked for copies of the Nebraska literature to use as a model in encouraging the children in other sections of the United States to take up the garden work.

The extension service already has 100 towns in sight which will hire paid supervisors for the coming year and about 100 towns which will furnish voluntary supervision over the children's garden work. This is the fifth year of extension activity along this line. The funds which the extension service has available come from the department of agriculture. The money available for the new school garden army comes thru the department of interior. Other agencies have also started the same kind of gardening work among the Juniors.