

dictator. My ambition is to see my own people solve their own problems. Those men and women who can not serve in the trenches or the shops can show their patriotism in no way so fully as in this service, and I feel that we have as much right to call upon them to serve in this administration as we have a right to call upon our men to serve in the trenches."

Mr. Hoover proposed that the food administration be divided into four great branches, whose duties he defined in detail. Most of the work would be carried out by men and women of the country on a volunteer basis.

"If this can not be done," said Mr. Hoover's statement, "I shall certainly and willingly surrender the task to some other method of emergency. I hold that democracy can yield to discipline, and that we can solve this food problem for our own people and our allies in this way, and that to have done so will have been a greater service than our immediate objective, for we will have demonstrated the rightness of our faith and our ability to defend ourselves without being Prussianized."

With the President, Mr. Hoover believes it rarely will become necessary to apply large powers.

Five cardinal principles of food administration outlined by Mr. Hoover in his statement are:

"That the food problem is one of wise administration and not expressed by the words 'Dictator' or 'Controller,' but 'Food Administrator.'"

"That this administration can largely be carried out through the co-ordination and regulation of the existing legitimate distributive agencies, supplemented by certain emergency bodies composed of representatives of the producers, distributors and consumers.

"The organization of the community for voluntary conservation of foodstuffs.

"That all important positions, so far as they may be, shall be filled with volunteers.

"The independent responsibility of the food administration directly under the President, with the co-operation of the great and admirable organizations of the department of agriculture, the department of commerce, the federal trade commission and the railroad executives."

"I conceive," said Mr. Hoover, "that the essence of all war administration falls into two phases:

"First, centralized and single responsibility; second, delegation of this responsibility to decentralized administrative organs."

The four branches of food administration are described by Mr. Hoover as follows:

"In the first branch we should set up a certain number of separate executive bodies for regulation and administration of certain critical commodities, and these should be organized on the normal lines of our commercial institutions with a board of directors, the president and executive officers who will work out problems involved in these commodities and will institute such measures as may be necessary to stabilize prices and distribution and that these bodies should be constituted of the leaders of the country, producers, distributors, bankers and consumers alike.

"It has been the experience of all European food control that results can be best accomplished by acting through or by regulation of the ordinary distributing agencies in the community, placing such restriction

which will cause a minimum sacrifice on the part of the legitimate distributor and will eliminate broad national waste, unnecessary hoarding and the sheer speculator in food-stuffs. With the good will of the distributing community it is possible to do this without disruption of the essential commerce of the country.

"The second branch of administration lies in the co-operation of the governors and state administrations through the establishment of state food administrations, who will act on behalf of the national executive in national matters and who will themselves handle local problems through them and their assistants to secure co-ordination in distribution from one section of the country to another, and to use the powers against illegitimate hoarding, which congress is being asked to vest in the food administration. Furthermore, it devolves on the states to stop waste in public places.

"These powers being asked for are necessary in order that we may force into the market every form of food-stuff over and above such stock as normally and legitimately belongs to any particular business for its proper conduct, and to prevent any withholding, directly or indirectly, of food supplies from the market.

"The third equally important department is one of domestic economy. As 90 per cent of the ultimate food consumption of the country is in the hands of the women of the country, we will shortly place before them a plan of organization including policies as to the elimination of waste, the reduction of consumption, the substitution of local commodities for those from further afield, the substitution of overabundant commodities for those which we wish to export to our allies and instruction in the intelligent purchase and use of foodstuffs and to set public opinion against waste and extravagance in public places.

"We do not ask that the American people should starve themselves, but that they should eat plenty, wisely and without waste.

"It is my present idea to propose a plan to the American women by which we ask every woman in control of the household to join as an actual member of the food administration and give us a pledge that she will so far as her means and circumstances permit, carry out the instructions which we will give her in detail from time to time.

"We hope to set up such an organization over and above this vast army of supporters as will give it efficiency and intelligence in action.

"There is no service in this war on behalf of our own country and our allies in which the women of the country can so well enlist themselves as in this service, and the success of the food administration will rest very largely upon the support which we receive from them.

"The fourth branch of the administration must be that of co-operation with our allies, in many important questions involving exports from this country and our common imports from other countries. Furthermore, we will probably need to undertake the control of purchasing in this country on her behalf and on behalf of such neutral shipments as are prompted by the government in order to eliminate competition and forcing of our prices."

BOOKS RECEIVED

The Composer of the Battle Hymn of the Republic. By John J. MacIntyre. (Booklet.) William H.

Conklin, Publisher, 1915-1917 Fulton St., New York City, N. Y.

The Cracker Box School. By Elizabeth Miller Lutten. The Reilly & Britton Co., Chicago, Ill. Price \$1.25 net.

New Thought Christianized. By James M. Campbell, D. D. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, Publishers, New York. Price \$1.00 net.

Bulgaria and Her Neighbors. An historic presentation of the background of the Balkan problem, one of the basic issues of the world-war. By Historicus. The Mail and Express Job Print, Inc., New York, N. Y.

After the War. Christendom and the Coming Peace. From an Australian Point of View. The Christian church's opportunity. By T. Henley, M. P. (New South Wales Parliament). Honorary commissioner, Australian Comforts Funds to our Troops—Egypt, France, England, 1915-16. Price one shilling. Hodder & Stoughton, London, New York, Toronto.

The Red Rugs of Tarsus. A Woman's Record of the Armenian Massacre of 1909. By Helen Davenport Gibbons. The Century Company, 353 Fourth Ave., New York City. Price \$1.25, net.

What Is True Temperance? The Temperance of Christ or the Temperance of Mohammed? By Jean Paul Huter. Published by Reform Publishing Co., Kansas City, Mo. Price 25 cents.

Exodus From Poverty or The Other Economics. By Amos Norton Craft, D. D., Ph. D. Published by The Economic Publishing Co., 1188 Main St., Bridgeport, Conn. Price \$2 by mail.

The Spirit of the New Thought.

Essays and Addresses by Representative authors and leaders. Edited by Heratio W. Dresser. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, Publishers, New York. Price \$1.25, net.

Let the Flag Wave. With Other Verses Written in War-Time. By Clinton Scollard. James T. White & Company, Publishers, 70 Fifth Ave., New York. Price 75 cents.

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