

GRAIN CROPS ARE PROMISING

Western Canada 1917 Crops in Good Shape.

While it is a little early to predict what the Western Canada grain crop will produce, there is every indication at the present writing that the 1917 crop will give an excellent return. Reports received from all portions of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta speak of good growing weather, a fairly advanced stage of all grains, with prospects as good as in the past two years. Should conditions continue as at present, it is safe to conclude that Western Canadian farmers, already free of debt, as a result of the splendid crops and prevailing high prices, expect from this season's returns to be in a position that will place them away beyond any fear of the future.

The acreage of Western Canada will be about the same as last year. Seeding was somewhat later than last year, but germination was quicker. The only possible drawback now would seem to be a scarcity of harvest hands, but it is felt by the authorities that the situation will be pretty well cared for by that time.

Land values are increasing, but there is room for a much greater increase than in the past, owing to the returns that farmed land will give when compared with its cost. In some districts land that could have been bought five years ago for \$15 an acre is changing hands at \$60 an acre, the seller satisfied that he is giving the purchaser good value for his money. And why not, when it is known that in a great many cases during the past two years crops have been grown on this land that have produced a profit of forty and fifty dollars per acre, over and above cost of production. These cases, while not general, were not exceptional.

In addition to the lands that are offered for sale by railway companies, land companies and private individuals, the homesteading areas offer great inducements for those who are willing to do a little pioneering for a year or two. By that time settlements would come into existence, and this means a condition similar to that enjoyed by many of the older settlements of today—schools, churches, railways. The land is of high-class quality, strong and vigorous, easily worked, and capable of producing the very best of crops.

The demand for all grains for some years will be great, and it will require all the resources of man, beast and soil to meet it. That the prices will be good goes without saying, but at the present time there is something more appealing than the lucrative prices that prevail. That is, the desire to assist in winning the world war. The man at the plow is doing his "bit," and the spirit of patriotism that prevails will lead him into a broader sphere of action. No matter where he may be he will look about him that he may find land to further develop the country's resources. It is possible that his own state may furnish the land, in which case he will be quick to take advantage of the offer. If land in his own state is not available, Canada (now our ally) will be glad to furnish it in unlimited quantity, as she is vitally interested in largely increasing the supply of foodstuff which is now as urgently needed and is as valuable as ammunition to the allied countries.

The appeal made by Mr. Hoover, United States controller of foods, and also by Hon. W. J. Hanna, Canadian controller, emphasizes the need of the allies, urges economy and the prevention of the waste in food, and bespeaks whole-hearted public co-operation. Speaking of Great Britain, France, Italy, Belgium and their European allies, they say:

"For nearly three years their man power has been engaged in the direct work of war, and in some cases large areas of their most productive lands have been overrun by the enemy. Their food shortage and the food to supply the armies of Canada and the United States must be wholly provided from this side of the Atlantic. The supply must also be sufficient to cover losses at sea. Australia, New Zealand, the Argentine Republic and other countries are not now available to relieve the situation because of their remoteness and the shortage of tonnage.

"The crop of storable foods grown in Canada and the United States suitable for shipment overseas threatens to be entirely inadequate to meet the demand unless the whole people determine by every means in their power to make up the shortage. Every individual is under a direct obligation to assist in rationing the allied forces. There must be national self-denial and national co-operation to provide the necessary supplies."—Advertisement.

See!

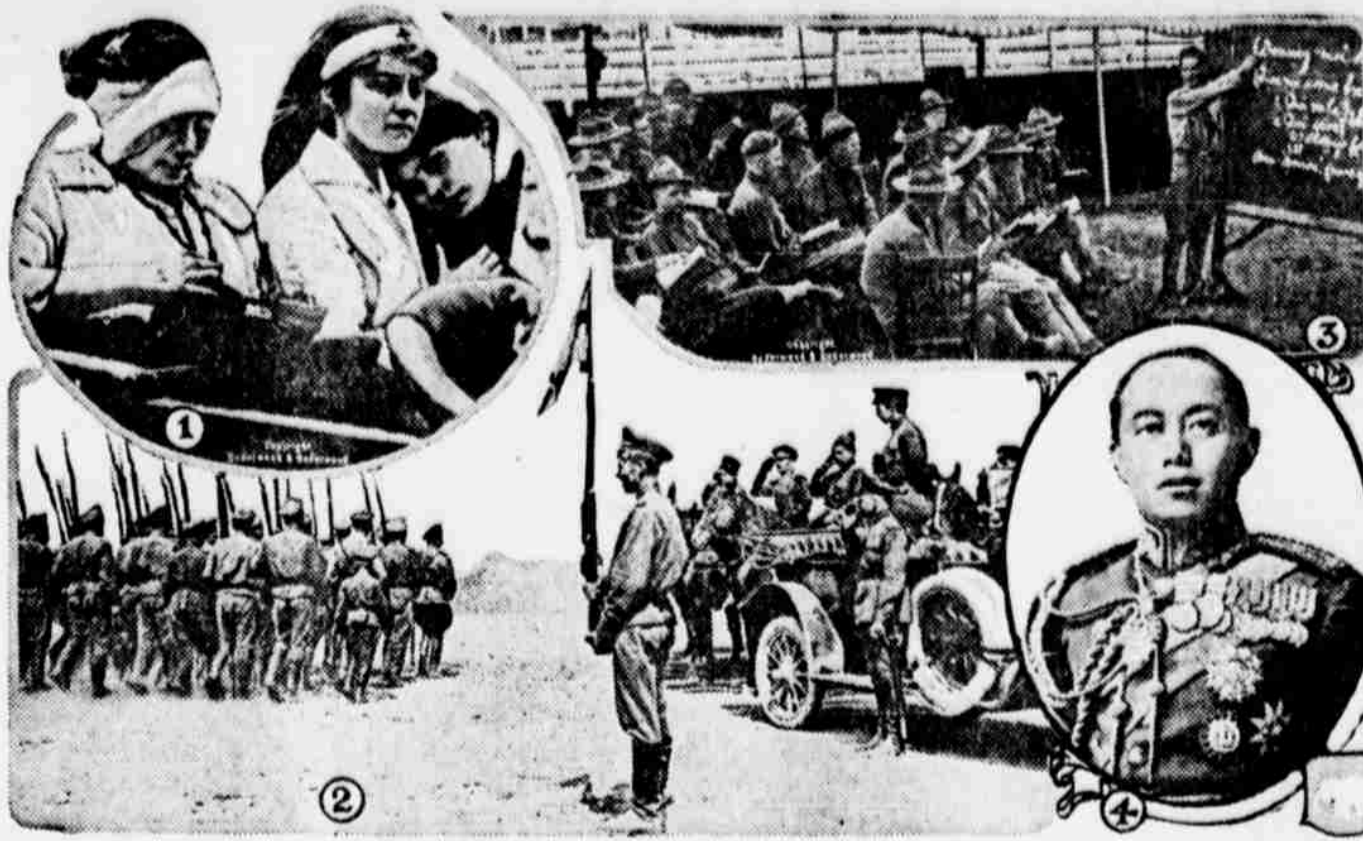
"I see they are looking for draft camp sites."
"Yep; suppose that will give the opticians lots of work."

Quite So.

"He is in a grave revery, isn't he?"
"He does seem to be buried in thought."

Natural Noise.

"That's a yellow-dog fund."
"Then why wonder there's a howl about it?"



1—Two women victims of a German air raid on London being taken to their homes from a hospital. 2—Premier Kerensky, now dictator of Russia, reviewing some of his troops. 3—Soldiers in the Gettysburg training camp being taught the most necessary French words and phrases. 4—King Vajirvudh of Siam, who has declared that a state of war exists between his country and Germany and Austria-Hungary.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Secretary McAdoo Startles Congress by Asking \$5,000,000 More for War.

TRANSPORT PROBLEM IS BIG

Shipping Board Quarrel Ended by Change of Personnel—Russia's Military Collapse in Galicia Complete—French Repulse Tremendous German Attacks.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The United States is having impressed upon it the magnitude of the war in which it has embarked, and is beginning to realize that it must be fought through to a victorious finish at tremendous cost in money, energy and, doubtless, life. The money end of it was brought sharply to the attention of congress last Tuesday, when Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo informed the lawmakers that \$5,000,000 more than had been estimated was needed, and needed at once. Much of this will be expended for ordnance. Senator Smoot informed the senate that by the end of the fiscal year the war expenditures by the United States are likely to amount to \$20,000,000,000. The figures staggered the members of both houses, and there was a hasty calling together of the senate finance committee to revise its report on the war-tax bill.

Transportation is now one of the administration's biggest problems—transportation by both land and sea, but especially the latter. An immense number of vessels must be provided to carry to Europe our troops and the vast supplies they and the allied armies, must have, and efforts are being made to gather together all the available ships, even Japan being asked to release many of her merchantmen. Meanwhile the plan of building a monster merchant marine of our own was given added impetus last week. As had been predicted, President Wilson was compelled to take a hand in the dispute between General Goethals and Chairman Denman of the shipping board, and he settled the matter by accepting the resignations of both, and of Capt. J. B. White as well. He then named E. N. Hurley of Chicago as chairman and Bainbridge Colby as member of the board, and Rear Admiral Capps, long chief constructor of the navy, as head of the emergency fleet corporation in place of Goethals. Of these appointments, only that of Colby was adversely criticised. Hurley is an energetic business man and has been on the federal trade board. Though the elimination of Goethals is regretted by the innumerable admirers of the great builder of the Panama canal, it is felt that no one better than Admiral Capps could be picked to manage the construction of the emergency fleet. It is understood that as many steel ships as possible will be built, which was Goethals' plan.

Later in the week the president accepted the resignation of Vice Chairman Theodore Brent of the shipping board.

Steps in Making the Army.

The need for many vessels is emphasized by the semi-official announcement that the United States plans to send to Europe not only 500,000 men, but more than a million as soon as they can be trained and equipped and as fast as transports can be obtained to carry them across. Two more steps in the making of this great army were taken last week. The men drafted for the national army began to receive their calls before the exemption boards, the city of Washington leading the way, and the National Guard of 19 states and the District of Columbia was mobilized to be taken into the federal service. After a few weeks of intensive training in camps, the best of the guardsmen will be sent to France to prepare for the spring offensive.

The shortage of railway transportation at home also is troubling the ad-

ministration, though it doubtless will be remedied with the willing assistance of the American railway executives. The demand for cars already is tremendous, for the moving of materials and supplies for the army training camps and for a dozen other purposes, and it will be increased immediately as the men of the National Guard and of the national army begin moving to their allotted places.

Russia's Collapse in Galicia.

The collapse of Russia's offensive in Galicia, due to insubordination instigated by German agents, developed into a general retreat, and the retreat into a virtual rout. Abandoning vast military stores and burning villages, the mutinous Slavs flew everywhere before the easy advance of the Teutons, except on the Rumanian front, where for the time at least, they stood firm. Farther north, indeed all the way to the Baltic, the Russians gave ground.

Premier Kerensky, armed with dictatorial powers, declared he would apply a policy of blood and iron to stop the mutiny and treason, and General Korniloff ordered his loyal troops to shoot down any who deserted or refused to obey orders, but this was ineffectual to retrieve the disaster. Stanislaw, Halicz and other important cities were evacuated, and from the wooded Carpathians to the region of Tarnopol the country was full of long columns of fleeing Russians on which the Teuton field guns played with merciless slaughter.

One story from Petrograd told how loyal troops in Korniloff's army blew to pieces an entire mutinous division with its own guns.

On the demand of the military commanders at the front, the provisional government has again put in force capital punishment for treason, which was abolished at the time of the revolution.

However, this second great Russian slump, serious though it is, is not fatal. Kerensky and his colleagues are determined to rid their country of the German agents and their traitorous Russian aids. Lenin, the chief of the latter, is already under arrest, and it is believed he will be either executed as an agent of the German general staff or at least isolated as insane. Russians and their friends still believe their new republic will emerge triumphant from the chaotic conditions that now hold it almost helpless.

The "Guard of Death," the battalion of Russian women raised by Vera Butchikoff, was in action on Tuesday for the first time, at Krevo. The women fought well, gaining the respect of the male soldiers.

No Military Success for Germany.

Germany has scored no real military success of moment for a long time. The Gallican affair is not a success of arms, and though the kaiser decorated some of his commanders there, they gained no glory by the pursuit of mutinous and disorganized troops. Rather should Wilhelm have bestowed his decorations upon the spies who stirred up the insubordination.

In the Champagne region the crown prince hurled his troops against the French lines with the utmost recklessness all week long, but the only result was tremendous losses for the Germans, for the pillus were indomitable and if now and then their line was bent, they counter-attacked so furiously that the Teuton could not hold his small gains more than an hour or so. In some places, especially on the Californic plateau, the French advanced their lines considerably and repulsed all attempts to drive them from the new positions.

Germany's hullabaloo over peace terms and internal reforms has slimmered down to a discontented discussion of Chancellor Michaelis' intentions and policies, based on his speech to the reichstag, which is universally admitted to have been ambiguous and even secretive. As has been said before, the political upheaval there doesn't bring appreciably nearer the end of the war. Many of the opposition leaders and newspapers more than hint that the U-boat campaign is really a failure in that it is not starving England, and they realize that its continuance is reducing daily the number of friends Germany will have after peace is concluded. But the militarists of Prussia can't let go of that weapon, and the masses of the Ger-

man people, who have an astonishing capacity for self-deception, evince no desire to throw these militarists out and save their empire from ultimate disaster.

Siam Joins Kaiser's Foes.

One by one the smaller nations of the world are lining up with the enemies of the kaiser and despotic militarism. Far-away Siam is the latest addition to the list. German vessels in Siamese ports were seized and German citizens were interned. The influence of every country that comes in on the side of freedom and justice will be felt, if not strongly now, at least after the war is ended. The Teutonic economists well know this, and even now are holding a conference on post-war conditions, seemingly still hopeful that their armies can bring about the realization of that dream of a "Mittel Europa" that would be self-sustaining and self-contained and that would always threaten the peace of the rest of the world. The frustration of that hope is the great ultimate aim of the allies.

Representatives of the entente allies met in Paris on Wednesday for the purpose of determining the course of their future policy in the Balkans, which Premier Ribot, who presided, said must be modified because Greece is now ranged with the allies. The United States was not represented, the administration holding that this nation is not yet directly interested in Balkan matters.

Food Control Bill Delayed.

President Wilson's strenuous objection to the senate amendment to the food control bill creating a congressional committee on expenditures for the war, and the determination of the house to defeat the senate amendments, caused a delay in the final passage of the measure. The prohibitionists were bound to have restored the "bone-dry" plan for which the house voted.

The entente allies held a conference in Paris and adopted unanimously this declaration:

"The allied powers, more closely united than ever for the defense of the people's rights, particularly in the Balkan peninsula, are resolved not to lay down arms until they have attained the end which in their eyes dominates all others—to render impossible a return of the criminal aggression such as that whereof the central empires bear the responsibility."

In accordance with the recommendation of General Pershing, the American army is to be reorganized on the French plan of reorganization. This will change a company from 150 to 250 men, a regiment from 1,800 to 3,000 men, and a division from 28,500 to approximately 17,000 men.

The government is planning a system of war insurance that will preclude the establishing of pension rolls as a result of this war. It is proposed that every man in the army, navy and marine corps shall be entitled to insurance ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000, paying a premium of \$8 a thousand, the insurance being assumed by the government in lieu of pensions; in addition, the families and other dependents will be provided for by allotments.

Recruiting was given a big boost last week, partly by the announcement that drafted men would not be accepted as volunteers after they were called before the exemption boards, and partly by the concerted campaign of the American and British recruiting officers. The British mission is obtaining large numbers of enlistments in Chicago, New York and other large cities.

Despite the tremendous financial drain on the country due to war expenditures and in the face of fervid protests from Senators Borah, Kenyon, King and a few others, the senate passed the annual rivers and harbors bill, carrying an appropriation of \$27,954,000. Only eleven members of the upper house dared to vote against this "pork" measure which, iniquitous at any time, is especially so when the nation is engaged in a war that will demand all its resources.

Ireland's great opportunity is at hand. The convention to draft a home rule constitution is in session in London, with Sir Horace Plunkett in the chair, and if the delegates can reach an amicable and satisfactory agreement, the government of Great Britain is pledged to put it through. The result is in the hands of the Irish themselves.

The Eye of the Night.

One afternoon, Deliah, a little colored girl, had seen an automobile run over a white woman. That night the youngster's mother, a laundress, could neither persuade nor compel Deliah to deliver a bundle of the day's washing.

"No—no—no!" wailed the excited child. "If dem auto mans can't see a white lady in de middle of de day, how's dey a gwine to see me in de dark?"

Promise Easily Kept.

"Your honor, let me off this time and I'll never appear before you again," pleaded the culprit.

"Am I to take this as a promise to reform?"

"Yes, your honor. And I might add that I am on my way to Australia. If I should happen to backslide, some other court would attend to my case."

Cruel.

Cholly—I am often mistaken for a distinguished personage.
Grace—Mutt or Charley Chaplin?

What He Saw.

An excited man at Evansville called the sheriff's office and asked in an anxious tone of voice whether William Habbe, a laundress, knew that "three or four boys were playing on the roof of the court house."

The sheriff didn't but he promised to make an investigation at once. When Sheriff Habbe had climbed the long flight of stairs to the cupola and looked out he saw—

Four tinnies engaged in laying a new cornice around the eaves of the building.—Indianapolis News.

Exposed to Weather.

Harold Hollownut—You're coughing awfully.

Percy Pinfeather—Yes, dash it! My man told me smart dressers weren't wearing tiepins any more, so I left mine off and caught a dreadful cold in my chest.

Seven-Thirty A. M.

Writer—What'll you have this morning?
Fresh—Breakfast!—Burr.

Don't Poison Baby.

FORTY YEARS AGO almost every mother thought her child must have PAREGORIC or laudanum to make it sleep. These drugs will produce sleep, and a FEW DROPS TOO MANY will produce the SLEEP FROM WHICH THERE IS NO WAKING. Many are the children who have been killed or whose health has been ruined for life by paregoric, laudanum and morphine, each of which is a narcotic product of opium. Druggists are prohibited from selling either of the narcotics named to children at all, or to anybody without labelling them "poison." The definition of "narcotic" is: "A medicine which relieves pain and produces sleep, but which is poisonous doses produces stupor, coma, convulsions and death." The taste and smell of medicines containing opium are disguised, and sold under the names of "Drops," "Cordials," "Soothing Syrups," etc. You should not permit any medicine to be given to your children without you or your physician know of what it is composed. **CASTORIA DOES NOT CONTAIN NARCOTICS**, if it bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

Canadian Farmers Profit From Wheat

160 ACRE FARMS IN WESTERN CANADA FREE

The war's devastation of European crops has caused an unusual demand for grain from the American Continent. The people of the world must be fed and wheat near \$2 a bushel offers great profits to the farmer. Canada's invitation is therefore especially attractive. She wants settlers to make money and happy, prosperous homes for themselves by helping her raise immense wheat crops.

You can get a Homestead of 160 acres FREE and other lands at remarkably low prices. During many years Canadian wheat fields have averaged 50 bushels to the acre many yields as high as 45 bushels to the acre. Wonderful crops also of Oats, Barley and Flax. Mixed farming as profitable an industry as grain raising. The excellent grasses full of nutrition are the only food required for beef or dairy purposes. Good schools, churches, markets convenient, climate excellent. There is an extra demand for farm labor to replace the many young men who have volunteered for the war. The government is urging farmers to put extra acreage into grain. Write for literature and particulars as to reduced railway rates to Supp. of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada, or

W. V. BENNETT
Room 4, Bee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.
Canadian Government Agent

He'd Blow the Whistle.

"Suppose," read Capt. John J. Toffey, Jr., instructor of the Sixth company of the Ninth division, at Ft. Harrison, from "Small Problems of Infantry," "that your advance guard had been surrounded; that you knew the approximate location of the enemy and his number, but his position was strongly held, and darkness was coming on. What would you do?"

"I'd let it be known that I was a union man, and then I'd blow the whistle and go to supper," volunteered one fellow. And then, when he was "bawled out" for his flippancy, he had another answer just as good and much more apropos ready.—Indianapolis News.

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Mild Malevolence.

"I hope I haven't a mean disposition," remarked the man whose head resembles a billiard ball.

"Of course, you haven't."
"But every time I see a fellow with a few wisps of hair laid out to the best advantage on top of his cranium, I can't help wishing something would happen to it."

Calling the Master.

Caller—Are you the master of the house?

He—Why?

Caller—I am the inspector of nuisances, and have called to—

He (going to the foot of the stairs)—Mother-in-law, you're wanted!—London Tit-Bits.

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