

# WILSON SENDS WORDS OF PRAISE FOR THE FARMERS

President Writes Message to Convention at Urbana in Which He Tells of Urgent War Problems.

(By Associated Press.)  
Washington, Jan. 31.—To the farmers of the United States President Wilson today sent a message in which he called attention to the country's need of their assistance during the coming year in winning the war.  
The message was sent through the farmers' conference being held at Urbana, Ill., and was delivered by President Jones of the University of Illinois in the absence of Secretary of Agriculture Houston.  
The president had expected to attend, but indisposition made it impossible and he delegated Mr. Houston, who was prevented from participating by the tieup in transportation facilities.  
The president's message said:  
"I am very sorry, indeed, that I cannot be present in person at the Urbana conference.  
"I should like to enjoy the benefit of the inspiration and exchange of counsel which I know I should obtain, but, in the circumstances, it has seemed impossible for me to be present and, therefore, I can only send you a very earnest message expressing my interest and the thoughts which such a conference must bring prominently into every mind.  
Demand Supreme Sacrifice.  
"I need not tell you, for I am sure you realize as keenly as I do that we are, as a nation, in the presence of a great task which demands supreme sacrifice and endeavor of every one of us. We can give everything that is

needed with the greater willingness and even satisfaction because the object of the war in which we are engaged is the greatest that free men have ever undertaken.  
"It is to prevent the life of the world from being determined and the fortunes of men everywhere affected by small groups of military masters who seek their own interest and the selfish dominion throughout the world of the governments they unhappily for the moment control.  
"You will not need to be convinced that it was necessary for us as a free people to take part in this war. It had raised its evil hand against us.  
America at Mercy of Germany.  
"The rulers of Germany had sought to exercise their power in such a way as to shut off our economic life so far as our intercourse with Europe was concerned and to confine our people within the western hemisphere while they accomplished purposes which would have permanently impaired and impeded every process of our national life and have put the fortunes of America at the mercy of the imperial government of Germany.  
"This was no threat. It had become a reality. Their hand of violence had been laid upon our own people and our own property in flagrant violation not only of justice but of the well-recognized and long standing covenants of international law and treaty.  
"We are fighting, therefore, as truly for the liberty and self-government of the United States as if the war of our own revolution had to be fought over again, and every man in every business in the United States must know by this time that his whole future fortune lies in the balance.  
Must Win War.  
"Our national life and our whole economic development will pass under the sinister influences of foreign control if we do not win. We must win, therefore, and we shall win.  
"I need not ask you to pledge your lives and fortunes with those of the rest of the nation to the accomplishment of that great end.  
"You will realize, as I think statesmen on both sides of the water realize, that the culminating crisis of the struggle has come and that the achievements of this year on the one

side or the other must determine the issue.  
"It has turned out that the forces that fight for freedom, the freedom of men all over the world, as well as our own, depend upon us in an extraordinary and unexpected degree of dependence, for the supply of the materials by which men are to live and to fight and it will be our glory when the war is over that we have supplied those materials and supplied them abundantly, and it will be all the more glory because in supplying them we have made our supreme effort and sacrifice.  
Farmers Given Aid.  
"In the field of agriculture we have agencies and instrumentalities, fortunately, such as no other government in the world can show.  
"The Department of Agriculture is undoubtedly the greatest practical and scientific agricultural organization in the world.  
"The banking legislation of the last two or three years has given the farmers access to the great lendable capital of the country and it has become the duty both of the men in charge of the federal reserve banking system and of the farm loan banking system to see to it that the farmers obtain the credit, both short term and long term, to which they are entitled not only, but which it is imperatively necessary should be extended to them if the present tasks of the country are to be adequately performed.  
"Both by direct purchase of nitrates and by the establishment of plants to produce nitrates, the government is doing its utmost to assist the problem of fertilization.  
"The Department of Agriculture and other agencies are actively assisting the farmers to locate, safeguard and secure at cost an adequate supply of sound seed.  
Labor Furnishes Problem.  
"The labor problem is one of great difficulty and some of the best agencies of the nation are addressing themselves to the task of solving it, so far as it is possible to solve it.  
"Farmers have not been exempted from the draft. I know that they would not wish to be. I take it for granted they would not wish to be put in a class by themselves in this respect.  
"But the attention of the War de-

partment has been seriously centered upon the task of interfering with the labor of the farms as little as possible and under the new draft regulations I believe that the farmers of the country will find that their supply of labor is very much less seriously drawn upon than it was under the first and initial draft, made before we had had our present full experience in these perplexing matters.  
"The supply of labor in all industries is a matter we must look to and are looking to with diligent care.  
"An let me say that the stimulation of the agencies I have enumerated has been responded to by the farmers in splendid fashion. I dare say that you are aware that the farmers of this country are as efficient as any other farmers in the world.  
Produce More Per Man.  
"They do not produce more per acre than the farmers of Europe. It is not necessary that they should do so. It would perhaps be bad economy for them to attempt it. But they do produce by two to three or four times more per man, per unit of labor and capital, than the farmers of any European country.  
"The are more alert and use more labor saving devices than any other farmers in the world. And their response to the demands of the present emergency has been in every way remarkable.  
"Last spring their planting exceeded by 12,000,000 acres the largest planting of any previous year, and the yields from the crops were record breaking yields.  
"In the fall of 1917, a wheat acreage of 42,170,000 was planted, which was 1,000,000 larger than for any preceding year, 3,000,000 greater than the next largest, and 7,000,000 greater than the preceding five-year average.  
Must Exceed 1917 Record.  
"But I ought to say to you that it is not only necessary that these achievements should be repeated, but that they should be exceeded. I know what this advice involves. It involves not only labor, but sacrifice, the painstaking application of every bit of scientific knowledge and every tested practice that is available.  
"It means the utmost economy,

even to the point where the pinch comes. It means the kind of concentration and self-sacrifice which is involved in the field of battle itself, where the object always looms greater than the individual. And yet the government will help and help in every way that it is possible.  
"The impression which prevails in some quarters that while the government has sought to fix the prices of foodstuffs, it has not sought to fix other prices which determine the expenses of the farmer is a mistaken one.  
"As a matter of fact, the government has actively and successfully regulated the prices of many fundamental materials underlying all the industries of the country and has regulated them not only for the purchase of the government, but also for the purchase of the general public, and I have every reason to believe that the congress will extend the powers of the government in this important and even essential matter so that the tendency to profiteering which is showing itself in too many quarters, may be effectively checked.  
"In fixing the prices of foodstuffs the government has sincerely tried to keep the interests of the farmer as much in mind as the interests of the communities which are to be served, but it is serving mankind as well as the farmer, and everything in

these times of war takes on the rigid aspect of duty.  
"I will not appeal to you to continue and renew and increase your efforts. I do not believe that it is necessary to do so, I believe that you will do it without any word or appeal from me, because you understand as well as I do the needs and opportunities of this great hour when the fortunes of mankind everywhere seem about to be determined and when America has the greatest opportunity she has ever had to make good her own freedom and in making it good to lend a helping hand to men struggling for their freedom everywhere.  
"You remember that it was farmers from whom came the first shots at Lexington, that set aflame the revolution that made America free. I hope and believe that the farmers of America will willingly and conscientiously stand by to win this war also.  
"The toil, the intelligence, the energy, the foresight, the self-sacrifice and devotion of the farmers of America will, I believe, bring to a triumphant conclusion this great last war for the emancipation of men from the control of arbitrary government and the selfishness of class legislation and control, and then, when the end has come, we may look each other in the face and be glad that we are Americans and have had the privilege to play such a part."

## NEW PLAN AIMED TO SPEED FOOD HAULS

McAdoo and Food Administration Reach Agreement on Scheme to Expedite Shipments of Perishables.

(By Associated Press.)  
Washington, Jan. 31.—An agreement on plans for further expediting transportation of food and foodstuffs was reached late Wednesday by Director General McAdoo and the food administration.  
The agreement as given out Wednesday night provides:  
"The shippers of sugar, beans, rice, vegetables, live stock, meat and perishables generally, should first apply for cars in the usual way through railroad agents; in case of not being furnished in reasonable time they may apply directly to the food administration in Washington, stating the cars required, the point to be set, the character of the commodity to be loaded, the consignee and destination."  
When Buying Advertised Goods Say You Read of Them in The Bee

# THOMPSON, BELDEN & Co.

The Fashion Center for Women

## Some Friday Sales Not to Be Missed.....

### Advance Notice of Two Fine Sales

Saturday—An advance sale of Petticoats for Spring. New styles. Best of materials and colors. Full particulars in Friday night's Bee.

Monday—Our annual February clearance of Silk and Dress Goods Remnants. A sale eagerly awaited by women who like good materials at exceptionally low prices.

### The Sale of MEN'S SHIRTS

Eagle, Arrow, Earl and Wilson Shirts. Best of patterns and colors in either soft or stiff cuff styles.  
\$1.50 Shirts, \$1.35  
\$2 Shirts, \$1.65  
\$2.50 Shirts, \$1.85  
\$3.50 Shirts, \$2.85  
\$5 Shirts, \$3.85  
\$6, \$6.50 Shirts, \$4.85  
Shirts for \$1.00. A few that are soiled; only sizes 14, 16 1/2 and 17.  
55c Neckwear—A very desirable selection of wide end silk four-in-hands at this price.  
Fiber Hose, 29c—These are of first quality, in a heavy weight. The price is low, 29c a pair.  
Handkerchiefs—Real Irish linen handkerchiefs. Not a thread of anything but flax, 19c; or by the dozen, \$2.25.  
Last day of reduced prices on bath robes and mufflers.  
The Men's Shop

### A New House Dress for \$2.69

A very good looking new house dress. Attractive for afternoon wear, and really a wonderfully fine value for \$2.69.  
Basement

### No Shortage of YARNS

Utopia and Minerva knitting yarns in khaki, khaki mixed, dark and light, gray mixed and white. Minerva Vicuna yarns in a complete assortment of colors for women's and children's sweaters.  
Lessons in knitting under the direct supervision of our expert instructor, Miss Steenstrup. Daily, 9 to 12, mornings; 3 to 5, afternoons.  
Third Floor

### Good Moderately Priced Hosiery Is Worth Buying

Fine ribbed black hose with double soles, splendid for gym wear, 39c.  
Lisle hose, black and white, with garter tops and double soles, 65c.  
A very fine quality plain lisle hose with spliced seams, garter tops and double soles, black and white, 75c a pair.

### Fine FURS Extra Values

The demand, at present, is more insistent than usual, but it is being met here by an exceptionally large selection of the various furs now fashionable. For early Spring wear, the most voguish furs are separate scarfs and throws of fine Fox, Kolinsky and Mole.  
It will be very vex to your interest to take advantage of the latest reductions.  
The Fur Shop, Second Floor

### First Showings of New White Goods

With Prices of Interest to Women Who Are Now Planning New Apparel

Indications are that white for dresses and skirts will be greatly favored for the Spring season. Just at this time when thousands of women are considering ways and means to make their Spring frocks meet the prevailing call for economy.

We suggest the wearing of white

White Voiles are in greatest vogue, whether plain, in shadow effects and lace weaves or in varied checks and striped. Priced from 50c to \$1.25 a yard.  
Phantom Cloth—A soft shadow striped material, ideal for dainty undermuslins, 40c a yard or a bolt of 10 yards for \$3.75.  
Damoselle Cloth—A weight just between Nainsook and Longcloth, 42 inches wide, 45c a yard, or a bolt of 12 yards for \$4.50.  
Beautiful Skirtings—Fancy striped Gabardines, also the plain styles are the favorites. Priced from 50c to \$1 a yard.  
Longcloths and Nainsooks, Specially Priced by the Bolt  
Longcloths in 10-yard bolts:  
18c (36-inch), \$1.65 a bolt.  
20c (36-inch), \$1.85 a bolt.  
25c (36-inch), \$2.25 a bolt.  
30c (36-inch), \$2.50 a bolt.  
35c (36-inch), \$3 a bolt.  
40c (36-inch), \$3.50 a bolt.  
Japanese Nainsook—35c quality, boxed in 10-yard lengths, for \$3.  
40c quality, boxed in 10-yard lengths, for \$3.75.  
White Flaxons—Plain, checked and striped. Priced, 25c to 50c a yard.

### Remnants of Wash Goods

Sheetings and Cambrics

Greatly Reduced Friday

Savings of 33 1/3% to 50%

This is a clearance of remnants accumulated during the past several months of heavy selling. Percales, tissues, cotton suitings, wide sheeting, pillow tubings, muslins and cambrics. Good lengths of from one to eight yards.

For a quick clearance prices will range from

33 1/3% to 50% Less

Than Present Market Prices.

On Sale in the Basement, 9 A. M., Friday

## February Brings a SHOE SALE

Most Women Will Wish to Attend

Nearly All of Our Highest-Grade Boots

Both Lace and Button Styles

\$10 to \$14 Values

FRIDAY, \$8.85 a Pair

These are correct new fashions in street and dress shoes, high and low heel models.

Leathers of brown, white, ivory, gray, champagne and black kid, besides black and tan calfskin.

Your choice is practically unlimited, and with such a very low price, we suggest the purchase of one or more pairs as a real saving.

\$10 to \$14 Shoes, \$8.85 Friday.

ALL SALES FINAL.



To insure Victor quality, always look for the famous trademark, "His Master's Voice." It is on all genuine products of the Victor Talking Machine Company.

# Out to-day New Victor Records for February

Garrison sings a charming coloratura aria

A beautiful rendition of the tuneful "Thou Brilliant Bird," with its lovely flute obbligato. A joy to the musical ear.

Victrola Red Seal Record 74542. Twelve-inch, \$1.50

Another superb Philadelphia Orchestra record

This exquisite, poetic interpretation of Mendelssohn's "Midsummer Night's Dream" Scherzo displays to perfection the art of Stokowski and his ninety-four musicians.

Victrola Red Seal Record 74560. Twelve-inch, \$1.50

"Two Grenadiers" superbly sung by Whitehill

The famous baritone sings this dramatic number with thrilling effect, every change of sentiment being vividly contrasted by his splendid voice.

Victrola Red Seal Record 74556. Twelve-inch, \$1.50

Olive Kline and Elsie Baker sing attractive solos.

Two lively dance numbers by J. C. Smith and His Orchestra.

Delightful songs by Elizabeth Spencer and Alan Turner.

Two Entertaining Fairy Tales for Children. Two Interesting Concert Numbers.  
Five Splendid Popular Sentimental Songs. Five Stirring Patriotic and War-Time Songs.

Hear these new Victor Records to-day at any Victor dealer's. He will gladly give you a complete descriptive list and play any music you wish to hear. Ask to hear the Scenepet Voice Culture Records. There are Victrolas and Victorols in great variety of styles from \$10 to \$400. Period styles to order from \$375 to \$550.

Victor Talking Machine Co., Camden, N. J.

Important Notice. Victor Records and Victor Machines are scientifically coordinated and synchronized in the processes of manufacture, and their use, one with the other, is absolutely essential to a perfect reproduction.

New Victor Records demonstrated at all dealers on the 1st of each month

# Victrola

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