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SAVE WASTE AND WIN THE WAR

EVERY READER CAN HELP

Fifteen thousand copies a week! That's the number of University News Letters going into the mails these days.

Read each one of our War-Time Specials, or pass it along to your neighbor. We earnestly hope you will do both these things.

Or post it week by week in some public place.

We are mailing extra copies to the county and city superintendents of schools. We beg these officers to send them out promptly to their schools, to be read by teachers and pupils.

They are full of suggestions for short talks about the War to school children and to assemblies of the folks at the school houses.

Use the information in the News Letter for Friday afternoon exercises by the children.

Here's a chance to inform your people about the most perilous event in the history of men since the world began to be.

If you are a county officer, please display the News Letter on the court house bulletin board.

It is free. Anybody can have it mailed direct, by sending us a post card—or so, until our publishing fund is exhausted.

FOOD MEANS VICTORY

More than a century ago Napoleon said that an army travels on its belly. Today the supreme question of war is that of food, for food has become the chief munition of war. Its abundance with us means our victory; its failure in Germany means her defeat. Every ounce saved in the United States is worth a bullet fired at the enemy, and he who today makes two blades of grass grow where only one grew before is more than a statesman—he is doubly a patriot.

TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP

The other day our boys in France went into the front line trenches singing Tramp, Tramp, Tramp—the Boys are Marching. And they fired a shot heard round the world, like that of the embattled farmers at Concord bridge in Revolutionary days.

Within the next twelve months millions of our boys will be on the battle fronts abroad. They must be fed and clothed, armed and equipped, cheered and comforted by the faith and self-denial of the folks at home. They cannot be left to starve and rot, forgotten and neglected, in far-away lands while fighting our fight for democratic freedom in the world.

The Stay-at-Homes Can Help

We can buy Liberty Bonds almost without limit. We are not giving the government anything; we are lending the government money. And we are getting four per cent for it, which is as much as the savings banks pay.

It costs \$25,000 a day to run our 50,000 motor cars in North Carolina. If we run our cars one day less each week, we save enough to buy \$1,300,000 worth of bonds in a single year. And this is only one way of saving—there are scores of others. And this nation of scandalous wasters needs to get the habit. It will be worth billions of the years that follow the war.

Stop the Household Leaks

They run up to \$700,000,000 a year in America, say the authorities in Washington. If each of the 22 million homes in this country saves daily a pat of butter, an ounce of meat, a slice of bread, a table-spoonful of sugar—if we keep these small wastes out of the garbage can daily—we'll have seven million bushels of wheat, one and a half million cattle, three and a half million hogs, a million and a quarter pounds of butter, and fifty-five million pounds of sugar more to send to our boys in the trenches this year; and this much more from this single source of saving.

The more we save in our homes, the less the local merchants will need to ship in and the greater will be the supplies in the big market centers for the government to send abroad to our men in the battle lines.

The Women are Doing It

The first three days of the Food Pledge Campaign, three million housewives

signed the cards. A million a day, so far! Indiana lead with 110,000 cards, Virginia came next with 107,000, and New York City stood third with 104,000. In Auglaize county Ohio—a county half German in population—nine-tenths of the homes have already signed the food pledge cards.

That's the answer of American women to the cry of our soldiers and our allies. And the campaign is hardly yet begun.

We have not yet learned the results in North Carolina, but we do not doubt the patriotism of our women.

When the figures are all in, it will be seen that the Old North State stands high in the Food Pledge column—or so we have the faith to believe.

There are 600,000 households in North Carolina and the signed pledges ought to number 500,000, at the least. Surely we can do as well in North Carolina as any half-German county in Ohio. We have boasted our pure Anglo-Saxon blood for many long years. We can now see what it's worth in a pinch and crisis.

LIBERTY'S BLAST

Laura E. Richards
Blow your horn, Liberty,
Liberty, Liberty,
Blow your horn, Liberty,
Over the hill!
Rise up and answer it,
Answer it, answer it,
Sons of America,
Now with a will!

Off with the bonds of indulgence
and avarice;
Shake them and break them and
fling them away!
On with the bonds of devotion and
sacrifice;
Firm be they riveted, strong be
their sway!

Take our hands, Liberty
Liberty, Liberty,
Take our hearts, Liberty,
Now with our gold!
So as your bondsmen we
Yours to the death will be,
Bond to the right, and free,
Faithful and bold.

Blow your horn, Liberty,
Liberty, Liberty,
Blow your horn, Liberty,
Over the hill!
Rise up and answer it,
Answer it, answer it,
Sons of America,
Now with a will!

FOOD AND PATRIOTISM

Patriotism and food! Winning a world war by eating poultry and corn products instead of wheat and beef! It will take wholesale education to get this point of view in America. An army of food savers does not appeal to the imagination like an army with guns and banners. But remember the large words of M. Bloch: That is the future of war—not fighting, but famine!

Germany's Way

I had some opportunity during the two years from May 1915, to May 1917, of seeing embattled Germany at close range. And I saw Germany fighting, not only with armies of men in field gray, but with greater armies of un-uniformed men, women and children—the civilian armies of workers and food-savers. Germany is fighting as a whole people, a whole nation mobilized. Germany is fighting to win a war that was to have been all conquest and glory, and is now all Durchhalten (holding fast). In this fighting and Durchhalten, Germany has lifted food to all the importance that M. Bloch prophesied for it. She is struggling to hold off famine from herself and to impose famine upon her enemies. Germany controls food, saves food, stretches food, as no nation has ever done before. That she has not already been beaten is due no less to her food organization than to her fighting organization. She has put patriotism and food together. So must we.—Vernon Kellogg, November Atlantic Monthly.

THE PRESIDENT'S APPEAL

The chief part of the burden of finding food supplies for the peoples associated

FOOD WILL WIN. SAVE IT

Henry A. Page

To wage successful warfare, every government must have the active co-operation of all its citizens.

Those of military age and condition constitute merely the first line of defense. Behind these every man and woman must serve.

The war service nearest to your hand is your job. **Have you found your place?**

'Food will win the war; don't waste it.'

In this important sphere of war service every one may and should serve daily.

Inform yourself about the needs of your country; set yourself earnestly at your own task, and thus become a "soldier of liberty."

with us in war falls for the present upon the American people, and the drain upon supplies on such a scale necessarily affects the prices of the necessaries of life.

If our people will economize in their use of food, providently confining themselves to the quantities required for the maintenance of health and strength; if they will eliminate waste; and if they will make use of those commodities of which we have a surplus and thus free for export a larger proportion of those required by the world now dependent upon us, we shall be able not only to accomplish our obligations to them, but we shall obtain and establish reasonable prices at home.

Sacrifice and Devotion Needed

To provide an adequate supply of food both for our own soldiers on the other side of the seas and for the civil populations and the armies of the allies is one of our first and foremost obligations; for if we are to maintain their constancy in this struggle for the independence of all nations, we must first maintain their health and strength. The solution of our food problems, therefore is dependent upon the individual service of every man, woman, and child in the United States. The great voluntary effort in this direction, which has been initiated and organized by the Food Administration under my direction, offers an opportunity of service in the war which is open to every individual, and by which every individual may serve both his own people and the people of the world.

We cannot accomplish our objects in this great war without sacrifice and devotion, and in no direction can that sacrifice and devotion be better shown than by each home and public eating place in the country pledging its support to the Food Administration and complying with its requests.

IT IS SUCH A VITAL THING.

I wish I could talk personally to every home in America about the Food Pledge Campaign. It is such a vital thing, and such a simple thing. It means so much to our success in the war, and it asks so little of individual homes.

It means, briefly, that if our 22,000,000 homes will follow the course laid down in the food pledge cards and will make the few simple changes asked in our eating habits, our allies will be fed and their hearts kept high for victory. It means that if our homes do not do this, our allies will go hungry and fall into discouragement.

While this service is a major service from our women, we are not asking them alone to bear the burden of conservation. We are asking that the men support it and that every hotel, restaurant and factory practice it.

That ounce of meat, that slice of bread, that third of an ounce of fat, that ounce of sugar we ask each person to conserve each day, will weigh heavily in the scales against the kaiser. Please think of that when you go into your kitchen to prepare your meals.

Only America Can

It looks small, it seems trifling, I know. But so does the acorn. Yet in a basket of acorns is a mighty forest. So, also, in our ounces of savings is the germ of an allied victory.

We do not ask you to eat less, merely to eat differently. We do not ask that

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TEACHERS CAN HELP

Peculiarly fitted by temperament and by training for service, and interested in the conservation of all resources the teacher has a most unusual opportunity in the months to come. If we are to win this war we must win it with food and feed as much as by guns and men. We need food for our people here at home, for our boys over there, and for the armies of our allies and their families.

Our people do not yet realize how vitally necessary food is to the winning of war. They seem to have a notion that there is a great deal of talk about something which is not so very important. They may perhaps recognize the need for great numbers of men, for ships, for ammunition, for guns, for steel and iron, but that we must provide great stores of food-stuffs and feedstuffs seems too far removed from warfare to appear a real necessity.

The teachers can talk such matters over with the children in school and make clear to them how necessary food is for an army and successful warfare.

Teach the Sin of Waste

The first great lesson the teacher can drive home is the necessity for saving what we have, using certain foods and

you cut down quantities, merely that you substitute different varieties.

Wheat, meat, fats and sugar are the most efficient foods and the most easily shipped. No one in the world has them to give but America. They can be supplied only by the individual savings of our homes.

I do not mean of course, that we should waste foods other than these. Every housewife in America has a personal reason for not doing that.

Please do not understand me as accusing America's housewives of being wasteful. The vast majority—about 70 per cent of them—could not live more closely to the margin of true economy than they do. That is splendid. It is among the remaining 30 per cent that great waste is found.

Food Will Win the War.

My plea, therefore, is that each of us take this food conservation program seriously. It is my profound hope that the women of America will begin that serious consideration by signing the Food Pledge card and that they will then patriotically and faithfully live up to it.

For it is not a mere phrase, that of "Food will win the war."

Food is the first and most vital of all our ammunitions.—Herbert C. Hoover.

COUNTY OFFICE CHAOS

The North Carolina Club at the University, at its third meeting of the year, was addressed by Mr. M. S. Willard of Wilmington on County Finances, and by Mr. George G. Scott of Charlotte on County Book-keeping and Uniform County Accounting.

I am fully persuaded, said Mr. Willard, that our present county financial system, with all its failures to accomplish what is desired, is not so terribly bad if the laws as they exist were really enforced. For instance, taxes are not levied and collected as prescribed by law in a single county in the state.

Diligent efforts to collect all taxes are seldom made, said he, and there is no similarity in the methods employed in handling delinquent tax payers. Should the sheriff enforce the law he would lose his office. Mr. Willard asserts that he has never seen an annual balance sheet that accurately showed the amount of uncollected taxes due a county.

The Way to End Chaos

The shortcomings and looseness that prevail in county offices can be charged to the people themselves, and will not cease until taxpayers and voters take a lively interest in county affairs.

Mr. Willard is satisfied that we would come very much nearer to attaining the goal if we should change our laws so as to provide:

First, A small board of commissioners with complete authority over all county business.

feeds not easily transported across seas and thus setting free for transportation the wheat, meat, sugar and fats so easily carried and so necessary to a well-rounded ration for fighting men.

Some parents feel they are being asked to live on a shortened ration. Teachers can correct the error and impress upon the children the idea that we can still live as well and better by using certain articles of diet more and using others less.

Teach Production

The second lesson is to begin preparation now for producing more food and feed next year than ever in our history. As time goes on the waste of war will increase and the need for us who have great untilled areas to make them produce will be ever greater and greater. Not less cotton and tobacco but more corn, wheat, hogs, cattle, vegetables, and fruits must be produced.

Geography, language, arithmetic, all lend themselves as convenient media through which the teacher can do this work. Here is a chance for the teacher to do her bit. The Bureau of Extension will furnish specific information about such work if the teachers who are interested will send a postcard request for such help.

Second, Machinery by which county and municipal activities could be combined whenever the people desire it.

Third, Uniformity in keeping all records of accounts, their periodic auditing, and the full publication of all information in convenient form for circulation.

Fourth, Changing the tax laws preferably in line with recommendation made by the State Tax Commission.

Mr. Willard's address was rich with the wisdom of life-long activity in county affairs.

Sorry Public Accounting

Mr. Scott, speaking on Uniform County Accounting, said, It is a fundamental principle that efficiency and economy of administration cannot be any higher than the information produced by an adequate system of accounts. Our laws governing county accounting are not adequate in their scope.

Limited knowledge of practical accounting by county officers causes vast discrepancies in the methods employed, and numerous errors in the balance sheets. The commissioners' books in one county were examined and a deficit of \$200,000 disclosed. There was no dishonesty here, but the case is cited as typical of general ignorance in handling finances and preparing exhibits. Money is collected and paid out without note being made of it. It is a common practice in county offices. The state is in need of county officers who understand the keeping of accurate books. The counties are sadly in need of a uniform system of accounting.

Legislation Necessary

Mr. Scott suggests that necessary laws be enacted for the creation of a State Commission of Public Accounts to deal with the matter, with the following powers:

First, To devise, chart, and establish a uniform system of accounting procedures for the counties of the state; to prepare an accounting manual therefor, and to require the adoption of a budget system.

Second, To require all counties to install and maintain such devised systems and accounting procedures.

Third, To require an annual audit and examination of the books and accounts by qualified accountants.

Fourth, To require all counties of the state to publish an annual Year-Book containing uniform statements of operations and financial conditions together with uniform statistical data.

Mr. Scott is chairman of the State Board of Accountancy, whose business it is to examine and license Certified Public Accountants.

His address with Mr. Willard's ought to be read by every legislator and the intelligent people of the state in every county.

Both addresses will appear in full in the 1917-18 Year-Book of the North Carolina Club.