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## OVER THE TOP IN WAR SAVINGS

### NO BUMMERS AND SLACKERS

North Carolina's share of the third Liberty Loan is 19 million dollars.

We over-subscribed our allotment of the second Liberty Loan by more than a million dollars.

And yet fewer than 24 people in the thousand of our population, the state over, had any in the 27 million dollars that we invested in that loan; 976 people in every thousand in North Carolina invested nothing in it. In 13 counties more than 990 people in every thousand invested nothing in it.

All of which means that we can do better this year—easily so, if only we will. Ninety-six per cent of our people have done nothing so far toward floating a liberty loan issue. Many of these people will go their limit in taking up the third issue of war bonds, because they know better than before what tremendous issues are at stake, and because, too, their boys are rapidly getting into the struggle overseas and they are willing to support them with government loans at home.

Lending money to the government and getting four and half percent for it in tax-free bonds is a far better investment than the banks have ever been able to offer.

Liberty Bonds are a good business proposition. But also they give those of us that are beyond the age limit of military service a chance to join the army of support at home. They give us a chance to serve humanity in the most perilous hour it has ever faced in human history.

The word bummers was a term of deadly reproach in the South for long years following the sixties, and till this good hour neither the sons nor the grandsons of the camp-followers and the profiteers of those war times have been able to put out of mind the shame of their ancestors.

Our own children and our children's children for the next hundred years will be asking what we did in this war—whether we fought in it, or worked and saved for it?

### PATRIOTIC WAR SAVINGS

In addition to the 38 million dollars we already have laid away in Liberty Bonds and Thrift Stamps, suppose we save enough this year to take up the 19 million of the third Liberty Loan and also the balance of the War Savings Stamps allotted to North Carolina—46 million dollars worth?

Just suppose we save that much this year for the sake of our boys on the battle front and the cause they are risking their lives for—then, on January 1st, 1919, our savings in these two forms of thrift alone would be 104 million dollars, as follows:

Liberty Bonds - - \$57,000,000  
War Savings Stamps - 47,000,000

If only we were willing to deny ourselves and save for this noble purpose in this heroic way, on New Year's day our Liberty Bonds and Thrift Stamps would be nearly five times our total bank account savings in banks of all sorts the year the World War began.

### Our Chances To Save

Can we do it? Is it within the reach of human possibility in North Carolina? Easily so.

If we run our 60 thousand automobiles one day less each week we'd save \$1,560,000.

If we cut out intoxicating liquors, tobacco, jewelry and plate, patent medicines, candy, soft drinks, and chewing gum—these alone—we'd be \$12,500,000 better off. This estimate is based on the figures of Dr. Charles W. Eliot of Harvard, given to the public two years ago.

If we patched up our old clothes and cut down our bills for furbelows, fuss and feathers, we'd save 5 millions more.

If everybody lived on home-raised vegetables and fruits this year, we'd lower

our grocery bills 50 million dollars.

Here are 69 million dollars to the good, without going any further into details.

We need only 66 million dollars to take up the third Liberty Loan and the Savings Stamps allotted to us in 1918.

If only we are equal to self-denial of this sort we'd be a stronger, braver people when the next New Year rolls around.

Our worst weakness is wastefulness. Weakness and wickedness are one. Civilization is built on the sense of futurity and the power of self-denial. We sorely need discipline in self-denial in North Carolina.

Liberty Bonds and Thrift Stamps are giving us a chance to learn a fundamental lesson, and to learn it nobly.

### TWO BUSY FACTORY TOWNS

The factory products of Durham have been nearly quadrupled during the last four years. In 1914 they were valued at 27 million dollars; this year the total will be around 100 million dollars, according to Mr. W. M. Upchurch, whose study of Durham County, Economic and Social, will soon be given to the public in bulletin form.

During the same period the internal revenue paid into the Federal Treasury by Winston-Salem has more than quadrupled. It was nearly 6 million dollars in 1914, nearly 20 millions in 1917, and during the year ending next June it will be around 25 million dollars. A forty-fold increase in 30 years in internal revenue paid on manufactured tobacco is the story of Twin City achievement. During the year ending June 30, 1917, the aggregate internal revenue receipts from North Carolina were 30 million dollars in round numbers, and almost exactly two thirds of the total was turned in by Winston-Salem alone.

### Conscripting Wealth

Not quite all our millionaires live in Durham and Winston-Salem, but there are said to be five men in these two cities whose war taxes on individual and corporation incomes will this year be in the neighborhood of a thousand dollars a day each. So far as we know, not one of these men has whimpered.

The richest man in North Carolina lives in a little cotton mill center. His war taxes will be around twelve hundred dollars a day; but he is quoted as saying, "If necessary I'll cheerfully give every dollar of my income to win this war for humanity."

### WHERE TO SAVE

Do you put out all unnecessary lights at home and thus save coal?

Do you keep the temperature of your house down to 68 degrees, which not only saves heat but improves health?

Do you save gasoline, rubber, and skilled labor by cutting out all unnecessary use of motor cars? Gasoline is a most important factor in winning the war, so is rubber! and chauffeurs are needed on Government work.

Are you cutting down on amusements? Recreation is necessary but not the amusements that cost so much money. As far as you can, get your amusements more out of doors and out of your brains and less out of your pocket book.

Are you foregoing personal luxuries—things not essential to your health or efficiency or that of your friends?

Are you wearing out your old clothes and buying only that which is necessary and will wear well? By so doing you will save labor and material that should be used in winning the war.

Are you avoiding unnecessary travel? The Government has already asked you to take no unnecessary trips on the railroad, that they may be used for war service?

Do you produce anything? If not, be sure you are consuming as little as possible and releasing others who can produce.

Do you refrain from unnecessary repairs and improvements? Do only what is necessary to keep things from going to pieces. Don't worry about shabbiness

### TAKE THE LOAN

Edward Everett Hale

Come, freemen of the land,  
Come meet the great demand,  
True heart and open hand—  
Take the loan.

For the hope the prophets saw,  
For the swords your brothers draw,  
For liberty and law,  
Take the loan.

Ye ladies of the land,  
As ye love the gallant band,  
Who have drawn a soldier's brand,  
Take the loan.

Who would bring them what she could,  
Who would give the soldiers food,  
Who would stanch her brother's blood  
Take the loan.

All who saw our hosts pass by,  
All who joined the parting cry,  
When we bade them do or die,  
Take the loan.

As ye wished their triumph then,  
As ye hope to meet again,  
And to meet their gaze like men,  
Take the loan.

Who would press the great appeal,  
Of our ranks of serried steel,  
Put your shoulders to the wheel,  
Take the loan.

That our prayers in truth may rise,  
Which we press with streaming eyes,  
On the Lord of earth and skies,  
Take the loan.

in war times.

Do you employ servants who might aid the Government in shipbuilding, transportation, and farming?

Have you planted your War Garden or an extra acre to help win the war? Last year's gardens saved the food situation.

Are you saving and investing your savings in Thrift and War Savings Stamps?

If you refuse to do any or all of these you put yourself in the same class with the healthy young man who refuses to serve his country.—State War-Savings Committee.

### MARVELOUS GAINS

The various grain crops produced in North Carolina last year reached a total of 84 million bushels, according to the Federal Crop Report of Dec. 1917.

It is an increase of 37 million bushels since 1909.

Which is to say, we have nearly doubled our production of small grains in eight years.

Our last year's grain crop averaged 35 bushels per inhabitant, counting men, women, and children.

It was a near approach to sufficiency. Look at the increases in detail during these eight years:

Corn from 34,000,000 bu. to 60,000,000 bushels.

Wheat from 3,800,000 bu. to 9,700,000 bushels.

Oats from 2,700,000 bu. to 5,700,000 bushels.

Rye from 280,000 bu. to 520,000 bushels.

Buckwheat from 144,000 bu. to 240,000 bushels.

Peanuts from 5,980,000 bu. to 7,600,000 bushels.

During this period we nearly doubled our crop of white potatoes, but we made almost no gains in the production of sweet potatoes. Indeed we lost our primacy in the Union as a sweet potato state. Last year Georgia beat us by 3 million bushels and Alabama by nearly 8 million bushels. We needed 27 million bushels of potatoes a year; we produced only 13 million bushels.

We also dropped from the 2nd to the 4th place in our peanut crop. Georgia beat us by 2 million bushels, and Alabama and Texas by nearly 8 million bushels each. However, we took the leadership of the Union in soy bean production.

Our saddest lack is in home-produced meat and dairy products—beef, pork, mutton, poultry, eggs, milk, and butter. And this lack largely accounts for the fact that this year we shall be sending out of the state some 200 million dollars for bread and meat that we failed to produce at home.

We have done well, but we must do

immensely better this year, if we are to be a self-feeding state with surpluses to send abroad to our soldiers and our Allies in Europe.

### ABLE-BODIED LOAFERS

New Jersey has an anti-loafing law with teeth in it, says the Literary Digest. It requires every able-bodied male citizen between the ages of 18 and 50 to be habitually and regularly engaged in some lawful, useful, recognized business, occupation, trade or employment.

The mayors of the state have had the police compile lists of the habitual idlers. The hoboes and the swell-club loafers are rounded up together and treated to hundred dollar fines or three months in jail or both if necessary.

If a man will not work, neither shall he eat is the way the Book has it. We sadly need man-power on our farms and in our factories, and the loafer, rich or poor, is an unspeakable disgrace to himself and an intolerable insult to society.

The first day this law went into effect a thousand men applied for jobs in the Public Employment Bureau in Newark alone.

### TWO MORE WAR LEAFLETS

"If home-keeping youths have homely wits, and little more in North Carolina, it is not the fault of our state university. Home bred students who cannot get away to college have the chance of their lives at competent culture in war topics and democratic ideals. Your War Information Series is wonderful. Please send me an extra full set to date." So writes an alert, active minded country boy in one of our remote counties.

Two more War Leaflets are ready for the public, without charge, No. 15—America and her Allies: Section A, France, and No. 14—National Ideals in British and American Literature, by the English Faculty of the University. Both these bulletins are outlines of studies in progressive detail, with abundant reading references.

Bulletin No. 14 is a pamphlet of 85 pages and the chapters are as follows:

1. Foreword.—Edwin Greenlaw.
2. From the Beginnings to Shakespear.—J. M. Steadman, Jr.
3. The English Renaissance.—Edwin Greenlaw.
4. The Rise of Modern Democracy.—James H. Hantford
5. England Democratizing Under Victoria.—John M. Booker.
6. The Rise of Imperialism.—John M. Booker.
7. American Ideals.—Norman Foerster.
8. War and Democracy: State Papers and Public Discussions.—Richard Thornton.
9. War and Democracy: In Personal Narratives and Imaginative Literature.—James H. Hanford.

### TALK ABOUT TAXES

We are briefing below one of the score or more letters that have come from thoughtful, good men all over the State since the North Carolina Club began its study of County Government and County Affairs in September—not because a final conclusion has been safely reached by any one of these splendid men or by all of them together, but because of the high lights they throw on our sorry tax situation in North Carolina.

But returning to our mutton, the letter is as follows:

I was County Assessor for my county in 1915 and my experience was worth a lot to me. As you say, the great trouble is with the township assessor. He is usually a poor business man. He virtually belongs to the county commissioners who appoint him. They post him beforehand what to do. He is usually a deputy tax-collector handicapped by his petty job and anything but reliable in judgment. The greatest trouble I had with the township assessor was his inclination to favor his friend and do the man he did not like.

After figuring on this matter for two or three years, I have come to the conclusion that it would be better for the legislature to do away with the township assessor altogether, and appoint as county assessor a good business man who has

backbone, or allow the State Commission to appoint him, which I think would be still better. The work of assessing real property ought to begin on April 1, and personal property on June 1. One man could do all the work for each county and do it better than 15 or 20 township assessors.

This one man could then go entirely over the real estate in a county and see exactly for himself what changes ought to be made. Equalization could then be more uniform. One man's judgment is better than that of 15 when no two of the 15 agree.

The money before paid to 15 or 16 township assessors could be paid to one man and he could afford to devote his entire time throughout the year to his work. Each year could be improved upon by his previous experience.

I sincerely wish the assessment were on a basis of actual worth and the combined state and county rate made lower.

The appointment of county assessors should be made preferably by the State Tax Commission, and freed if possible from the domination of local politicians. When so appointed the man holding the job would not be hampered as he is at present. He would be free to do his whole duty.

I make these statements not to the detriment of any man, but from my experience as a landowner, as a county assessor, and as a long-time citizen of this county, which I know well.

### WASTE IN BRIDGE BUILDING

The vast majority of the bridges of the State are unsafe and insufficient in size and capacity, according to Mr. W. S. Fallis, State Highway Engineer, who addressed the North Carolina Club at the University on Monday night. Mr. Fallis urged that for the sake of economy and safety great care be taken to secure adequate designs made by independent and skilled engineers—those not connected with any bridge company or any contractors proposing to build the bridge, and that careful supervision of bridge construction by competent men be taken in every case.

Great care must be taken in constructing bridge foundations, and in selecting materials for building—depending largely on local conditions, costs, etc. Selection of the design is an important factor. Bridge designing is almost an exact science. Many, if not all, of the State Highway Departments have developed standard plans for bridges to be built under the supervision of the State Departments, and to be used by the counties of the state for the purpose of securing a better class of construction than is usually sold by bridge companies. When the character of the foundation has been determined it is a job for the bridge engineer to determine the design of the piers. Failure in properly determining the character of the foundation often results in destruction of the bridge by a flood which it would otherwise have stood against. The failure to do this explains why many bridges across the Catawba and Yadkin rivers were washed out by the floods of 1916.

### How the State Helps

One of the greatest crimes committed against the taxpaying public by county authorities, he continued, lies in their failure to maintain bridges properly after they are built, by neglecting to keep the bridges painted and the floors in smooth and safe condition. Steel bridges should never go more than three years without being thoroughly cleaned and painted, he said. Preferably two years should be the limit in repainting the average steel bridge.

Mr. Fallis emphasized the importance of county supervision in bridge building. Those in authority in the county should see to it that proper care be taken to have the job supervised by competent bridge engineers. The State Highway Commission furnishes designing, constructing, and supervising engineers to the counties, but payment of their expenses, and each county should take advantage of this fact. Our counties are spending about a half million dollars a year in bridge construction, and the county authorities need the help of the State Highway Commission to save needless waste of public money.—Myron Green, Secretary.