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OUR FARMER-PATRIOTS

THE REAL FARMER

And who is the Real Farmer? The man who farms, simply to see how many dollars he can get out of his year's labors? Not for a moment. That is all too narrow a conception of the Real Farmer.

Rather, it is the farmer to whom farm life and farm surroundings constitute the ideal of human happiness; the farmer who knows as well how many children he has as how many cattle and hogs; the farmer to whom it is as great a pleasure to find in his rambles afield a baby calf, colt, lamb, or litter of pigs, with attendant manifest maternal affection, as it is to grasp the price of a fatted steer; the farmer who finds satisfaction in binding up a broken leg and oftentimes succeeds when the veterinary said, Oh, shoot it, setting will never succeed; the farmer to whom every horse, dog, cat and even the diminutive bantams look to, and justly so, as a friend; the farmer who finds pleasure in the realization that a great part of his mission is to feed the world—this type alone constitutes the Real Farmer.—Quoted by Dr. H. C. Taylor, University of Wisconsin.

WHO WILL WIN THE WAR

The American farmer in large degree will determine the trend of human history for all time to come, because the enormous ultimate consequences of this conflict rest primarily upon the farmer's production of food and feed to sustain the fighting forces. They might fail even with an adequate food supply; without it they are certain to fail.

But in his field, far from the fury of battle, far from either the adventures or the horrors of the firing line, the American farmer will say whether autocracy or democracy shall rule the world during the seasons that are to come. In a sense the war will be won or lost in the fields, gardens, orchards, pastures, and hog lots of the American farmer.

The hope of the American citizen, not a farmer, also hinges upon adequate agricultural production. Our aeroplanes are useless, our guns are spiked and our rifles jammed, our shells are but as harmless baubles, if the farmer fails. This must be understood in all its grim force by every man, woman, and child in America; by farmers and by those who are not farmers.—Clarence Osley, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

THE LIVESTOCK PROBLEM

Estimates published by the U. S. Food Administration show that there are 115,000,000 fewer meat animals in the world today than there were in the year preceding the beginning of the war. While the increase in cattle in the United States was 7,090,000, the total world decrease was 28,080,000. Sheep decreased 3,000,000 in the United States and 54,500,000 in the world. Hogs have increased 6,275,000 in the United States, but throughout the world their number has decreased 32,425,000.

The close of the war will find Europe almost barren of meat and dairy animals, and with an annual production of meat and dairy products decreased to a startling extent.

If we would profit by this opportunity we must correctly grasp the enormous world demand for meat, dairy and breeding animals and meat and dairy products which must continue for many years after peace is proclaimed.

It will take several years to sufficiently increase the herds and flocks of America, and those of us who have the right vision will begin at once to bring about this increase.

This opportunity is specially presented to the Southern states, where the cattle tick has prevented the successful raising of beef and dairy cattle.

If every Southern state would compel the use of the dipping vat and get rid of the tick, the natural advantages in the way of mild climate and long growing season would make the South the greatest beef and dairy section of the world.—P. G. Holden, International Livestock Co.

DOGLESS DAYS

Dogless days as well as wheatless days is the suggestion coming to Herbert Hoover as relayed through Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels from a prominent manufacturer of Winston-Salem. The idea prevails in this letter that the two must be correlated so as to guarantee wheatless days. The Forsyth county tenant men-

tioned in the letter seems to have as many hounds as the proverbial Carter's oats.

The manufacturer doubtless speaks in vehement terms of the perverseness of dog nature when reflecting upon their nicety in declining to eat corn bread these days when the world war so decrees. The suggestion has been passed on to the office of the Food Administrators, and the example of the thirty-six hounds will be reviewed in all its ramifications. The letter follows:

"Pardon me for adding to your burdens, but I do not know Mr. Hoover and I know you are in cordial accord with everything he is doing. A friend of mine who lives a few miles from Winston is in my office and tells me that in making a campaign for the observance of wheatless days he found the tenants on his own land owned thirty-six hounds and every owner told him that the dogs would not eat corn bread so he would have to cook wheat bread for the dogs whether the family got any or not.

"I believe the dogs in America consume more food than the pigs, and it just occurs to me that a campaign that would abolish worthless dogs or put such tax on them as would abolish them would save millions of pounds of food for ourselves and our allies. I know this is not a new question to you, but if you feel like passing it on to Mr. Hoover, I know it is a question vitally affecting conservation."—S. R. Winters, News and Observer.

THE FARM IS FUNDAMENTAL

We were founded as a nation of farmers, and in spite of the great growth of our industrial life it still remains true that our whole system rests upon the farm, that the welfare of the whole community depends upon the welfare of the farmer. The strengthening of country life is the strengthening of the whole nation.

Farmers must learn the vital need of co-operation with one another. Next to this comes co-operation with the Government, and the Government can best give its aid through associations of farmers rather than through the individual farmer.

Country life should be as attractive as city life, and the country people should insist on having a full representation when it comes to dealing with all the great public questions. In other words, country folks should demand that they work on equal terms with city folks in all such matters. They should have their share in the membership of commissions and councils; in short, in all the organized bodies for laying plans for great enterprises affecting all the people.

I am glad to see on such bodies the names that represent financial interests, but those interests should not have the right-of-way, and in all enterprises and movements, in which the social condition of the country is involved, the agricultural country—the open country—should be as well represented as the city.

The man of the open country is apt to have certain qualities which the city man has not. The two should be put on equal terms, and the country talent be given the same opportunity as the city talent to express itself and to contribute to the welfare of the world in which we live.—Theodore Roosevelt.

THE FARM IS SAFE

The world is in delirium. The world war fever makes it so. Business is abnormal and sub-normal. Some industries are at high speed and others at low tide. Price levels have mounted high. Wages have climbed to dizzy heights in shop, factory, and furnace. The city has lured the human moth into its belly. The reaction is as sure as nature's law that day follows night.

After the war, what? Will the fever leave the patient emaciated and lean? Will city industry be hit and hurt? To large extent—yes. The one industry that is always safe to follow is the husbandry of the farm.

When war has had its way and waste, nations will turn instinctively to the soil as the source of natural wealth and prosperity. The fires of many furnaces will die out. Countless chimneys will cease to vomit smoke. The makers of machinery and munitions of war will languish and cease to fatten. The farm and farmer will be the cornerstone upon which will be built a new nation with new ideals of living. The meal-ticket grower will have a front seat and be in the limelight as never before.

Own the land. Wed the soil. Tie to

WHY BOYS LEAVE FARMS

"Why did you leave the farm, my lad?
Why did you bolt and quit your dad?
Why did you beat it off to town
And turn your poor old daddy down?
Thinkers of platform, pulpit, press
Are wallowing in deep distress;
They seek to know the hidden cause
Why farmer boys desert their paws.
Some say you long to get a taste
Of faster life and social waste;
Some say you silly little chumps
Mistake your suite cards for your trumps.
In wagering fresh and germless air
Against the smoky thoroughfare,
We're all agreed, the farm's the place,
So free your mind and state your case."

"Well, stranger, since you've been so frank
I'll roll aside the hazy bank.
The misty cloud of theories,
And show you where the trouble lies.

I left my dad, his farm, his plow,
Because my calf became his cow.
I left my dad, 'twas wrong, of course,
Because my colt became his horse.
I left my dad to sow and reap
Because my lamb became his sheep.
I dropped my hoe and stuck my fork

Because my pig became his pork.
The garden truck that I made grow.
'Twas his to sell but mine to hoe.
It's not the smoke in the atmosphere,
Nor the taste for life that brought me here.

Please tell the platform, pulpit, press,
No fear of toil or love of dress,
Is driving off the farmers' lads,
But just the methods of their dads!"
—J. Edward Tuft.

the farm. The tide will reverse and flow from city to rural regions. Think it over. Get a vision of the future.—Toledo Blade.

GERMANY'S LAST CHANCE

Terrible as the struggle has become, therefore, its significance was never so apparent to all the world as it has become within the past month. The German leaders have no thought of any peace except what they call a "good German peace," to be gained as the reward of a smashing victory over France and England.

The allies can therefore make no plans looking toward peace, excepting through military action that will first show the world that (1) the Germans cannot gain their smashing victory on the West front this summer, and (2) that even if further heavy reserves should overtake the allies, there is no chance for an accepted and established peace in a world harmonized under German dictation.

France, Great Britain, the United States and Italy are determined to co-operate so completely and so generously at this time as to withstand the desperate blows that are being dealt under the direction of the German emperor and his allies and his military leaders. If Germany does not achieve great success within the next three or four months, she will have lost the war.

This does not mean that peace would assuredly be achieved during the present year. But it means that through another winter of preparation the military and naval resources the enemies of Germany will almost certainly develop and become effective in such a way as to give all the advantages from an aggressive standpoint to the nations that are leagued together for the overthrow of German power.

The time has come to develop allied co-operation on a broad scale, and make every effort count towards the final solution.—Review of Reviews.

THE FARMER'S PRAYER

O Father, I thank Thee that my forebears were tillers of the soil. Thou knowest that I have gone down to the sea in ships; I have followed the shifting crowds that cluster around the night fires of a great city; I have listened to the words of them that have authority; but nowhere have I found a place where my heart could be at ease, save in the orchard paths and meadows of my fathers.

O Father, I look not to men desiring to wrest from them the means wherewith to live; I look up to Thee, who holdest the rains and the sunshine in the hollow of Thy hand; in Thee do I trust, Thou hast promised that the seedtime brings the harvest.

O Father, give to the idle and the hungry eyes to see that the face of

the land smiles where the plowshare passes.

Grant that I may not be discouraged by the petty dealings of those who traffic in the things I labor to produce.

Let there be willing hands to gather the riches of autumn; hands that delight in the touch of the golden grain, eyes that glory in the beauty of ripe fruits; ears that love the slow tread of faithful beasts.

O Father, the promise of the green earth fills me with peace. Let it be my privilege to refresh the weary passer with a glimpse of growing things tended by one who loves the land.

Even so shall I add to Thy glory and my eternal salvation. Amen.—A. A. Clark in Farm and Fireside.

FRANK MANN'S CREED

I believe in a permanent agriculture, a soil that shall grow richer rather than poorer from year to year.

I believe in hundred-bushel corn and in fifty-bushel wheat, and I shall not be satisfied with anything less.

I believe that the only good weed is a dead weed, and that a clean farm is as important as a clean conscience.

I believe in the farm boy and in the farm girl, the farmer's best crops and the future's best hope.

I believe in the farm woman, and will do all in my power to make her life easier and happier.

I believe in a country school that prepares for country life, and a country church that teaches its people to love deeply and live honorably.

I believe in community spirit, a pride in home and neighbors, and I will do my part to make my own community the best in the state.

I believe in the farmer, I believe in farm life, I believe in the inspiration of the open country.

I am proud to be a farmer, and I will try earnestly to be worthy of the name.

MOFFETT'S CREED

"I believe in work and the joy of work. I believe in service and the joy of service. I believe in the care of the body, abstemiousness, exercise, for without health I can do nothing.

I believe in the power of will and its growth by training, in the power of self-control and its growth by training, in the power of love and its growth by training; not love for personal salvation, but love for humanity that must abolish poverty and war.

I believe in universal education and equal opportunity—for men and women alike. I believe in the Christ spirit. I bow before the Supreme Creator and draw strength and comfort from the ocean of soul-force that surrounds us.—McClure's Magazine.

LESSON OF THE BIG DITCH

If Asia had a Panama Canal to dig, she would dig it with picks, hoes, and spades, and tote out the earth in buckets. Nothing but human bones and sinew would be employed, and the men would be paid little, because without tools and knowledge they must always earn little.

But America put brains, science, steam, electricity, machinery into her Big Ditch—tools and knowledge in other words, and she paid good wages, because a man thus equipped does the work of ten men whose only force is the force of muscle.—Clarence H. Poe.

IGNORANCE AND POVERTY

You prosper just in proportion to the prosperity of the average man with whom you are brought into business contact. If the masses of the people are poor and ignorant, every individual, every interest, every industry in the community will feel and register the pulling down power of their backwardness as inevitably as the thermometer records the temperature of the air. The merchant will have poorer trade, the doctor and lawyer smaller fees, the railroad diminished traffic, the banks smaller deposits, the preacher and teacher smaller salaries, and so on.

Every man who through ignorance, lack of training, or by reason of any other hindering cause, is producing or earning only half as much as he ought by his inefficiency is making everybody else in the community poorer.—Clarence H. Poe.

THE HOME PAPER

The sway of the home paper comes over us unconsciously. We subscribe to it to gratify our curiosity as to what is going on around us. Yet from the time we begin to pick it up, while still school children, to read, perhaps, how we are among those who haven't missed a day's attendance, on until old age has dimmed our eyes, we have taken it up each week and have

bibed, without appreciating the fact, much more than the neighborhood gossip which we thought was practically all it brought to us.

We have, indeed, absorbed its ideas on many subjects. We have become advocates of good roads and good schools with it; of cleanliness in politics and of uprightness in business life, following its imperceptible guidance and little reckoning that we have not been leaders ourselves—while in truth it has been the despised purveyor of neighborhood gossip, as we have looked upon it, that has led us, and this although we have even often used its actual language in learnedly expounding our supposedly original views.—The Morristown, (N. J.) Record.

WE ARE LEARNING

Another reason for growing corn is that not only have prices gone skyward but the South has learned to make corn. A few years ago we didn't know how to make it, and with the methods we then used, it would hardly have paid us to produce much corn at any price. But just take a look at our yield per acre now as compared with twenty years ago—1917 as compared with 1897:

	1897	1917
Virginia	18.0	29.5
North Carolina	13.0	20.0
South Carolina	9.0	19.0
Georgia	11.0	16.0
Florida	8.0	15.0
Alabama	12.0	16.0
Mississippi	14.5	20.5
Tennessee	21.0	28.5
Arkansas	16.0	24.0
Louisiana	17.0	18.0
Texas	18.5	11.0
United States	23.8	26.4

—The Progressive Farmer.

OUR DEMOCRATIC ARMY

Democratic! Conscription is a principle of democracy not a weapon of autocracy. It is just and democratic because it plays no favorites, but compels every class to bear its share of the nation's burden. Whether it is a question of the nation's man power or its wealth the principle should be applied the same way.

The government could confiscate all private property if necessary in order to win the war, just as it could send all men to the firing line. It does neither, but levies upon the earnings of all alike to supply funds, just as it calls all of certain classes to fill its armies.

The wealth of the country voluntarily responded to the nation's call in the Liberty Loan campaigns, particularly the third one, according to this principle. Wage-earner and capitalist vied with one another in buying to the limit.

For example, 10,182 out of 10,976 employees of the American Sugar Refining company purchased nearly three-fourths of a million dollars worth of the bonds. In another large corporation, the Corn Products Refining company, 97 per cent of all employees backed up the government by the purchase of its bonds.

Democracy does not stand for the destruction of wealth, but for the principle that out of its earnings wealth should pay its proper proportion for the nation's defense.

A democratic army, backed by a unanimous popular response to the nation's financial needs will win the war for democracy.—Leslie's.

NOT AS THE PHARISEES

Do our soldiers pray? Certainly not as the pharisees of our Lord's time prayed, standing in public places, to be seen of men. A shy, sensitive, secret spirit of reverence has been discovered in the breast of the soldiers!

Just as they have sloughed off interest in the petty considerations of sectarianism and of conventionality, so they have taken on a new, deep sense of the reality of God and of His providence.

Their very self-abandonment to all the risks and tasks of war is a prayer. They feel that they are about a work to which God called them, and in which He has a great stake, and for which they may count upon His co-operation.

Their faith is itself a petition. They offer up their lives as a flaming act of worship and supplication, as the Russians offer up candles.—William T. Ellis.

In its issue last week the Red Springs Citizen stated editorially that the only man in Red Springs who had not purchased Liberty Bonds or War Savings Stamps or contributed to the Red Cross was Rev. G. T. Pace. Saturday, so the Robesonian is informed, when Mr. Pace demanded an apology of Editor Branch, there came near being a riot, and the upshot of the affair was that Mr. Pace was persuaded by indignant citizens to pledge to buy \$500 worth of War Savings Stamps and to contribute \$25 to the Red Cross.—The Robesonian.