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A GREAT TASK BEFORE US.

The Government is calling on the people to lend it two billion dollars through the medium of the War Savings Stamps. The amount expected from North Carolina is almost fifty million dollars. Of this amount Johnston County is asked to raise \$910,822. It is a big task, but it is not beyond the ability of the people of this great and rich county. The population of this county is in round numbers, 48,000. And the per capita for this county is about nineteen dollars. In other words if Johnston County meets the expectations of the Government every man, woman and child will have to buy about nineteen dollars' worth of War Savings Stamps. Of course, there are hundreds and thousands of people who will not buy a single stamp. That means that other folks will have to buy more than the per capita amount in order to make up the deficiency. After all, the people are not giving to the Government. They are lending to it every time they buy a stamp. Not only will the Government pay back every dollar loaned in this way, but will pay it back with interest. The interest is compounded at the rate of four per cent. Back of every dollar loaned to the Government is the wonderful resources of this great country. The dollars we have today are no better than the Savings Stamps. The safe Government is back of every War Savings Stamp and Certificate that is back of every piece of money issued by the Government. One is as good as the other.

The task is a great one. The Chairman of the campaign in this State has called our townsman, Mr. T. S. Ragsdale, to take charge of the campaign in this county. Mr. Ragsdale has accepted the position and is going to bend every energy to make it a success. He can not do it alone. He is counting on the patriotism of the people of the county to stand by the Government in this great crisis.

The campaign is to be carried on largely through the schools of the county. The matter is to be presented them and they are asked to do what they can toward raising the amount expected from this county. It is to be a campaign of Thrift. We have heard a great deal about thrift. Now we have the opportunity to show our faith by our works. If we really believe in thrift we will lend our savings to the Government by buying War Savings Stamps.

More than five billion dollars have been lent to the Government through the Liberty Bond Loans. This money has come largely through the wealthy men and institutions of the county. However, thousands and thousands of dollars have come from men, women and children who could buy only one fifty dollar bond. They have felt the thrill of patriotism and have come to help the country by lending it a little of their money. But there are millions and millions of people who have not helped the Government in any way yet. They have not given to the Red Cross. They have given nothing to the Y. M. C. A. They subscribed nothing to the two Liberty Loans. Now they have the opportunity to show whether they have any patriotism.

The country needs every man, woman and child enlisted in the great war in some way or other. If one cannot fight he can aid those who fight by helping to make their burdens lighter. He can at least lend some of his savings to the Government. And remember it is giving

nothing. It is merely lending to the biggest institution in the world which promises to pay every dollar with interest.

We believe Johnston County can raise every dollar expected of this county. It would be the greatest thing that ever happened to the county. The money that would come back into the county on January 1, 1923, would make the county revel in wealth. It is a great proposition from any standpoint we may look at it and one that will mean more to our people than one realizes at first thought.

Let the teachers and the preachers and the farmers and the boys and girls and everybody else rally to Mr. Ragsdale in this great campaign and help him to make it a great big, rousing success.

THE WAR-SAVINGS PLAN.

Question. What is the War-Savings Plan?

Answer. It is a plan by which you can lend small savings to your Government at 4 per cent interest, compounded quarterly.

Q. How may this be done?

A. By purchasing War-Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps.

Q. What is a War-Savings Stamp?

A. It is a stamp for which the Government will pay you \$5 on January 1, 1923.

Q. What does it cost?

A. Between \$4.12 and \$4.23 during 1918, depending upon the month in which purchased.

Q. What is a Thrift Stamp?

A. It is a stamp costing 25 cents, to be applied in payment for a War-Savings Stamp. It does not earn interest. The purpose of its issue is to enable people to accumulate in small sums the amount necessary to pay for a War-Savings Stamp.

Q. Where can I buy them?

A. At post offices, banks, and authorized agencies.

Q. Why should I buy them?

A. Every dollar loaned to the Government helps to save the lives of our men at the front and to win the war.

War-Savings Stamps and Certificates.

Q. I want to begin to save on the War-Savings Plan. What is the first thing to do?

A. Take \$4.12 to the post office or a bank or any other agent, buy a War-Savings Stamp, and ask for a War-Savings Certificate.

Q. What is a War-Savings Certificate?

A. It is a pocket-sized folder containing 20 spaces upon which to affix War-Savings Stamps.

Q. Is the War-Savings Certificate a Government obligation?

A. It becomes an obligation as soon as one or more War-Savings Stamps are affixed to it.

Q. Can I get a War-Savings Certificate without buying a Stamp?

A. No.

Q. Does the War-Savings Certificate cost anything?

A. No. The agent from whom you purchase the stamps will write your name and address on the certificate and will furnish you an envelope in which to keep it.

Q. What do I do after that?

A. Affix the War-Savings Stamps on your certificate in space No. 1 and take good care of it.

Q. What do I do next?

A. You have now become a war saver. Continue to buy War-Savings Stamps every week or month and put them on your Certificate until you have filled all of the 20 spaces. When this is done you can buy another War-Savings Stamp, and you will receive free of cost another certificate to which you can attach new stamps as you buy them.

Q. When I have filled the 20 spaces on my certificate what do I do with it?

A. Keep the certificate until January 1, 1923, and the Government will pay you \$100 for it.

Q. How many War-Savings Certificates can I fill?

A. Ten. The law allows each person to own \$1,000 worth of War-Savings Certificates.

Q. What is the largest quantity that I can purchase at any one time?

A. \$100 worth, or 20 stamps.

NEW CROP RECORDS.

Final crop estimates made by the Department of Agriculture show that new records have been established this year on crop production with the exception of wheat. The corn crop is 3,159,494,000 bushels valued at \$4,053,672,000. The wheat crop shows a reduction of 9,000,000 bushels from previous estimates. The final estimate places the crop at 650,838,000 bushels valued at \$848,372,000. The oat crop totals 1,587,286,000 bushels valued at \$1,061,427,000.

The Irish potato crop is the biggest ever grown with a total of 442,536,000 bushels with a value of \$543,856,000.

MORE MONEY FOR SCHOOLS.

School Trustees, County Superintendent and County Board of Education Might Get Together and Organize for Better Schools.

To the Editor:

I am writing this communication in order to get some information regarding the public schools of Johnston County. I wish to know how the schools can be run on the same money as heretofore, when everything is high and salaries of all kinds are much higher than in previous years. We are paying common labor more money than public school teachers are offered.

From what I can gather from the County Board of Education they have no more money than last year and no means of getting any more, unless the County Commissioners provide it. I see no extra school tax levy for the County, and some schools without teachers. Will, or can the County Commissioners pay into the School Fund a portion of the County funds, or will the schools have to suffer? Something ought to be done.

School teachers must have more money or we shall not be able to keep good teachers in the County. I think it is the duty of every Graded School Superintendent in Johnston County and the duty of every trustee of every school in the county to have a meeting in order to prepare for more funds for our teachers before we arrive at the stopping place, after we have lost the best graded school superintendents.

The School Trustees, the County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools should get together and organize to better our schools, and to do this, we will have to arrange for more money for our teachers.

We are bound to have more money for our Selma schools. We are paying more school taxes than any other township in the county and we are having a school second to none in North Carolina. But we are bound to have more county money than we are receiving. Other counties are bidding for good teachers. We need them and are able to pay them better salaries, and must do so to keep them.

If the people in Johnston County who are interested in education think well of the above plan, let's hear from you and we will get busy.

M. C. WINSTON.
Selma, N. C., Dec. 10th.

When We are 500,000,000.

If there is an essential difficulty in feeding the nation when our population is only 115,000,000 souls, how will this problem be met when we are 500,000,000?

As a matter of fact the present difficulty in our food problem is not paramount. The evil is not the deep-rooted one of paucity of resources. We have become unduly alarmed over what was mainly a coincidental shortage of several important crops. It may be generations before the wheels of chance produce another such combination. Coupled with crop shortage and war demand, there is also a deep feeling that our distribution system has been provided to be weak. But our possibility of production has hardly been touched. A prominent agricultural worker of Illinois recently made the remark that if it should come to a pinch the population of his state could subsist on the butter beans which could be grown along the fence rows.

The farmer is conservative and is feeling his way carefully about production. Experience has taught him to be conservative. He has found that half a crop brings more than a fell crop, and that a double crop is usually ruinous. If this ruinous fluctuation can be "hoovered" out of our marketing system, food production should keep pace with the demand for a longer time than the dreamer can see.

Men on the average earn more than their keep in the world. They leave behind a little increment when they go. Dressing up Mother Earth, fixing a new corner to produce or an old corner to produce more, will continue to be the effort of men's lives.

There is nothing essentially lacking in America's ability to feed itself. The 500,000,000 to come will no doubt enjoy a more sumptuous Sunday dinner than did our grandfathers. Our problem today is not one of ability to produce—we merely need to work out some system to stabilize markets, avoid lost motion and cut parasitic manipulators. When we have done this production will keep pace with any reasonable demand.—Country Gentleman.

Hog Worth \$142.20.

J. S. Reep, who lives on Newton route 3, killed a hog last Friday which weighed 870 pounds on foot and when dressed weighed 711 pounds. The hog was worth \$142.20 at the present price. Mr. Reep sold this pig in Charlotte.—Newton Dispatch.

A BIG DRIVE

Flour, the best at \$11 per Barrel.
Cotton 30 cents per pound.
Dry Goods, Notions and Shoes at 25 per cent off.

OUR SEMI-ANNUAL 25 PER CENT REDUCTION

Cash Sale

BEGINS

FRIDAY MORNING DECEMBER, 14th.

Here is another splendid opportunity for our friends and customers to save money.

REMEMBER: The More You Buy
The More You Save.

And Here's Another Big Proposition:

We will allow 30 cents per pound for Strict to Good Middling cotton ON ACCOUNT. Do not miss the chance to settle up at once for the offer is subject to be withdrawn at any time.

Our stocks of Dry Goods and Groceries are complete for the Holiday Season and for a limited time we will sell a limited quantity of our Best Flour at \$11 per barrel CASH. Here's where you come in again. Don't miss these bargains.

They Are Wonderful

Come and Bring the Family, Especially the Children.

Ashley Horne & Son

"THE HOUSE THAT PROTECTS YOU"

Clayton, - - - - - North Carolina

Do Your Part To

Win

Uncle Sam must have corn, Hay and Cotton to win the War and he expects you to do your part.

Buy a Little Dutch Sulky Plow and prepare your land in the best way.

THEY ARE LIGHT DRAFT.

They will prepare your seed bed just right.

We have 20 of these plows to sell in next ten days for

\$45 Cash

This is less than Factory Cost Today. They must be sold in ten days.

Austin-Stephenson Co.

Smithfield, - - - - - North Carolina