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FARM COMMUNITIES.

"Heretofore, in rural land development," says Benton MacKaye of the United States forest service. "It has always been the single farm that has opened up. Instead of that, the development should include a group of farms. It is the community and not the farm that should be the unit of development."

In laying out farms, each community would be grouped around some center, preferably a shipping point on a railway. The families occupying these farms would then constitute a sort of rural town. Though farther removed from each other than neighbors in the city, they would still have much the same relations to each other. The houses would be placed for convenient access. There should be co-operative arrangements for selling farm products and perhaps also for buying farm supplies.

Undoubtedly the chief obstacle to modern pioneering is the loneliness of the pioneer farm. And that obstacle exists also in most of the older communities, where farms have been laid out as separate units rather than parts of an organized rural community.

In most European countries farmers have their houses grouped in little villages, in the center of the land they cultivate. Thus they combine country labor with community life. American farmers prefer to have their houses on their farms, and American farms are so large as a rule that the houses are necessarily separated by a considerable distance.

GRATITUDE TO ENGLAND.

A citizen who disapproves of the critical attitude the United States has taken toward Great Britain reminds us that our exports have increased about 100 per cent and our favorable trade balance nearly 300 per cent. And this, he says, is "the gift which the British fleet has made to America."

He seems to think it highly ungrateful of us then, to demand that Great Britain stop interfering with such of our export trade as she disapproves of. It is a curious sort of reasoning. There is no question that our great increase of exports to the Allies has been facilitated by British control of the sea. But for all that, it does not follow that we owe Great Britain any particular debt. Her fleet has been used solely for her own purposes—only incidentally for our advantage.

If naval conditions were reversed, and Germany controlled the sea, the exports now going to the Allies in such volume would naturally go to the German powers. In that case we should not owe Germany any more gratitude than we now owe England; for she, too, would merely be using her fleet for her own designs.

THE TABERNACLE MEETINGS.

The Tabernacle meetings have taken unusual hold on the people of Asheville. The very first of the meetings gripped the interest which has been maintained through the whole series. The influence of such power must make itself felt in the future. Its force is too widely exerted to end with the meetings. And the appeal of these meetings has not been confined to particular classes. It seems to have taken

hold of all sorts and conditions. Most especially have the meetings received the support of business men.

One of the leading business men of Asheville speaking of the Tabernacle meetings a day or two ago, said that the business men of Asheville could well afford to bear the expenses of such an institution to bring it here every two years, not considering the results from a purely religious standpoint. He said that such meetings quickened the moral perceptions of the people, made them more careful of their obligations and more liberal and charitable in their everyday intercourse.

It might be rather hard to determine exactly where morality gives place to religion as an influence in producing the conditions which this business man referred to. In fact such differentiation is not necessary. Certainly, in this case it is useless to attempt an analysis.

Of one thing there is no doubt: Most of us can find profit in periods of introspection, which as a rule are much too rare. Agencies which can bring about these periods of introspection are also rare. There is abundant evidence that the Chapman-Alexander meetings do this.

PRESS COMMENT.

Poking Up Mr. Kitchin.

The New York Herald, the property of a more or less well-known resident of Paris, appears to have constituted itself a committee of one to prove to Claude Kitchin the error of his way in refusing to support the administration's plans for national defense. It began by asserting that Mr. Kitchin claims to represent the sentiment "back home"—a claim Mr. Kitchin promptly denied ever having made. Then the Herald proceeded to gauge sentiment in the Second North Carolina by means of telegrams addressed to constituents of the Scotland Neck congressman; of 24 replies received and published by the New York newspaper 20 were against Mr. Kitchin, three for him and one was evasive.

We are in no position to deny the accuracy of the Herald's conclusion that the Second as a whole is not inclined to follow Mr. Kitchin in this particular enterprise. The Second has an exceedingly, perhaps excessively high record for the president; if they are against their representative in this case the chances are that it is not that they love Kitchin less, but that they love Wilson more.

But that is neither here nor there. The point is the Herald is attempting to form a coercion on Claude Kitchin. Whatever may be his sentiments as regards preparedness the average North Carolinian will smile at that idea. Moreover, whatever may be the impression of the editorial department of the Washington correspondent of the Herald has no illusions as to what manner of man the paper is dealing with. In a dispatch published last Wednesday he says:

"Mr. Kitchin is regarded as an excellent type of the old-fashioned southern statesman—courteous, gallant and likable; an orator who plays on the emotions, now bringing a laugh from his hearers, now bringing a tear; wears a soft black hat and plain black clothes and generally a sombre colored tie; temperate in habits, never affecting an automobile or anything of that sort, and living simply at a hotel of modest type."

"In season and out of season Mr. Kitchin has been for a low tariff and is an orthodox democrat. He has consistently denounced what the southern democrats have termed 'republican extravagance.' He has scrupulously adhered to the democratic national platform, voting against the Panama canal tolls exemption repeal and the administration's ship purchase bill."

"In opposing the naval program, his friends say, he is exhibiting two important characteristics—consistency and courage. He is regarded as consistent in the stand he has taken, because he has always opposed army and navy appropriations. Concerning his courage, it is said by democrats that it requires a good deal of courage to resist an administration program, whatever it may be."

his friends both from the north and south refused to listen to this plea and promptly made him the choice of the democratic caucus. What ability he may demonstrate in legislative strategy and parliamentary tactics is still unknown.

"If the differences of opinion between the president and Mr. Kitchin as regards the naval program become accentuated there will be danger of an outbreak of personalities only if some of the president's friends go to the extreme of discourtesy. Mr. Kitchin has a temper and will resent such conduct. The real danger in the situation from a democratic standpoint is that some lesser leader in a burst of enthusiasm may start an acrimonious discussion that will cause bad feeling. In that event there would be real war, it is conceded."

"Real war" is on a likely correct. It is inconceivable that Mr. Kitchin wants to start anything; he is risking a great deal merely by opposing the administration plans. But if anybody is spilling for a fight to such an extent that he is willing to climb aboard the Kitchin anatomy to get it, he will certainly be accommodated.—Greensboro News.

QUARREL IN JAPAN OVER OURA'S CASE

Controversy Results From Non-Prosecution of Viscount Oura For Bribery.

Tokio, Nov. 15.—The decision of the government not to prosecute Viscount Oura, the recent minister of home affairs, whom a preliminary court declared had contributed \$20,000 for purposes of bribery of members of parliament, has excited a controversy throughout Japan. The controversy centers about Yukio Ozaki, the minister of justice, who frankly takes the responsibility upon his own shoulders, and who says: "Viscount Oura was undoubtedly guilty of bribery but the act was prompted not by any base or selfish motive but solely and entirely by a sincere desire to carry out the government's policy, though in unconscious disregard of the principles of the cabinet. In consideration of this and of the fact that the ex-minister is repentant and has resigned all political and public positions and has manifested his intention not to interfere in state politics for the rest of his life we have decided to postpone prosecution."

"Criminal punishment has the double aim of preventing repetition of an offense and of warning the public against committing similar offenses. Prosecution of the ex-minister is dropped not because he was a member of the nobility or the holder of a high position but solely because we believe the end of the criminal code has been attained without subjecting him to punishment." The same preliminary court which found that Viscount Oura had distributed bribery money found four members and fourteen former members of the house of representatives to be guilty of bribery. The case centers about an attempt to buy over members of the opposition groups and induce them to vote for the government's project to increase the army by two divisions. That project was adopted by the last session of the diet. The disclosure of bribery scandals and the subsequent resignation of Viscount Oura led to the collapse of the entire Okuma ministry. The cabinet later returned to office in a reconstructed form.

The records of the preliminary court show that Oura admitted that he had given certain politicians various sums of money but pleaded that he had acted for the good of the nation. "I feared," testified Oura, "that if the proposed army expansion was rejected it might create antagonism between the army and navy and create circumstances undesirable for the country. I thought it would be better for the country to make the house accept the government's bill even if it were necessary to expend money to accomplish that end." Oura continued by saying that he had not intended to bribe members of the house but merely to use the money in defending the government against attacks from the opposition.

The opponents of the decision to grant immunity to Oura contend that the law should have been allowed to run its course irrespective of the position or the so-called motives of the defendant. They declare that it is a miscarriage of justice to give freedom to the briber and hold the bribed for trial. They contend that the argument that Oura, having forsaken public life and gone into seclusion, is really more severely punished than he could have been by the law, is more sentimental than legal.

Says the Japan Times: "The plain fact is that the government has not the heart to brand as a criminal a man, who, as one of its members, did what he considered to be in its interests, even to the extent of violating the law of the land. The government apparently considers that the offense has been adequately and severely expiated. But we can scarcely see how the government can avoid a very heated discussion of this question in the next session of the diet."

The warmth of the discussion throughout the country on this question is another proof of the striking growth of the freedom of public opinion in Japan, a freedom that has come from the west and is especially based on American ideas.

"What are your daughters studying now?" "Nothing," replied Mr. Cumrock. They have learnt all about music, painting and literature. All they've got left to learn is not to bother people with them.—Washington Star. Don't worry or trust to luck. Laroche's Best eliminates four troubles. 419-45

VANDERBILT GETS OLD S. I. A. A. CHAMPIONSHIP

Wins Title by Defeat of Auburn —Virginia Not Included In S. I. A. A. Territory.

Atlanta, Nov. 15.—Vanderbilt's decisive victory Saturday over Auburn is regarded by football experts as giving the Commodores the title to the championship of the old Southern Intercollegiate Athletic association territory. Georgia Tech, the remaining contender for honors, was outplayed here Saturday by the University of Georgia and held to a scoreless tie. Auburn previously had defeated Georgia.

Virginia is not included in the inter-collegiate territory, nor is Washington and Lee, which until Saturday had been undefeated for two years. But both are southern colleges and must be considered in the all-southern championship. Virginia has defeated Vanderbilt, but Washington and Lee has played none of the big southern schools. Its most important game against such institutions being the annual Thanksgiving clash with the North Carolina Aggies.

Vanderbilt outplayed Auburn in every department of the game. The Plainsmen's goal line had not been

Views Of The Press

A Poet's Dream Has Become A Reality

In a recent issue of The Chronicle there appeared a detailed and most interesting account of a fleet of aeroplanes belonging to the French army ready for action.

Some of them carried three-inch guns and all of them were equipped with the latest appliances for dealing out death and destruction. The picture drawn by the press correspondent was so amazing as to be well-nigh incredible, yet it was a fearful, ghastly fact and added—if that be possible—new horrors to war. Yet it was but the realization of a poet's dream.

Alfred Tennyson lived to be an old man. He was one of the world's great and real poets. He has written lines that will live as long as the thoughts of men are preserved in printed speech, and in that great poem, "Locksley Hall," are found gems of poetic beauty which shine with unquenchable lustre.

He said: Love took up the glass of Time And turn'd it in his glowing hands. Every moment, lightly shaken, Ran itself in golden sands. He said, too: Love took up the harp of Life

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