

YOUR OWN BOYS FIRST.

(By Anna Steese Richardson of The Vigilantes.)

Last week a friend dressed in her smartest fall raiment and armed with the ubiquitous knitting bag, motored to one of the cantonments where our new army is being trained, to attend the opening of a club house for officers. It was an extremely fashionable function; but my friend slipped away with a young non-commissioned officer to see the sights of the camp.

That night she knitted as she had never knitted before, because she could not sleep for the memories which beset her, memories of shivering figures, echoes of hacking coughs. And the next morning she was at it before her friends were out of bed, telephoning them, imploring them to knit, knit, knit, and stand between the men she had seen and that grim enemy, pneumonia.

Another friend served as waitress in a Red Cross tea room at a county fair near one of the Northern cantonments. When there were no patrons to serve, the waitresses brought out their knitting. Three young soldiers from a Western State, finding the women thus occupied, asked in all seriousness if a class in knitting could not be started among the men in the camp. They could knit before taps, an hour or so, and it would be jolly to have sweaters, mufflers and wristlets.

I listened skeptically to these tales. The uniform was working its little tricks on the emotionalism of women, I agreed.

Then yesterday I saw the picture with my own eyes. And I no longer doubted.

I went to a nearby encampment to look on the son of an old friend who lives in a distant state. Wherever I turned I saw half finished windows through which the fall wind whistled and shrieked bleakly. And all around me were shivering men.

The half finished buildings are the barracks which contractors have not completed as promised for our newly mobilized army. The shivering men are your sons, the sons of your friends, the boys from your town who rode forth cheerily to make the great fight for democracy.

The boy I went to see was not shivering. His mother, a woman of means had sent him forth with more than her prayers—warm underwear, a heavy overcoat, knitted sweater, muffler, wristlet and socks. Some of the things he still has. The rest he has given to his pals.

I saw men in shoddy overcoats which were made to wear in crowded trolleys, and subways—not in the open, men in leather coats which they wore when riding motorcycles, men in pea jackets and slickers which had been loaned to them by kindly fishermen from nearby towns.

Uniforms?

Nothing doing in that line! The contractors who are turning out uniforms, shirts, overcoats and shoes have not yet begun to catch up with the army which is rallying to the colors. But winter is catching up with it—coming on hard and fast.

The boy tramping at my side explained the situation thus:

"You see, most of these chaps come from inside jobs, stores, factories, offices, where there's steam heat a plenty in cold weather. They don't know what life in the open means. They hadn't the clothes for this sort of life. And most of them haven't the money to buy it with. Hundreds of 'em, like the average American, lived right up to the tip end of their salary. It they had anything laid away, it was behind for the folks. We haven't had any pay yet, and when it does come, 90 per cent. of these men will send the bulk of it home. Some of them signed all but money for 'smokes' over to their folks before they left. We didn't come out for a Pullman car, camping with Indian guide holiday, but see whiz, if some of these fellows don't get something warm on their backs soon, they'll be whistling something besides 'Tipperary' through their teeth, and if 'y' be plenty or pneumonia."

It wasn't a cheerful line of conversation. I hated the overheated atmosphere of the train on which I rode back to New York.

Later in the afternoon I stopped at certain headquarters of a great organization. It seemed to have been knitters' day. Scores of women were busy in finished garments, cumfy, snugly wool warm sweaters, mufflers, wristlets and socks in khaki and green.

I watched the work, a nice warm glow enveloped me. It was like going into your own living room from a cold room and finding that some thoughtful soul had lighted the fire.

And then the glow died and left me all those garments were going to Europe. Nobody new just where in Europe, but the great boxes would go to sea.

Oh, I know our boys are in France—oh, the regulars went first, men perfectly equipped to the last detail. And I know our allies command our deepest sympathies, our most generous impulses. But our boys are our boys! And they are here in America, so easy to reach! No question of shipment. Long journeys over sea, nor red tape in distribution. Just a green box and express companies that give consignments for cantonments the right of way! And for boys who shiver needlessly.

All over America today women are knitting—without knowing where the finished garments are going. It is all

G. M. GLAZENER BUYS MAIN STREET BUSINESS PROPERTY.

Will Erect Modern Building Next Spring for Department Store.

G. M. Glazener has purchased the Dr. T. A. Allen store building in front of the court house from the Allen heirs. Mr. Glazener expects to begin in the Spring the erection of a modern brick store building.

In talking of his purchase Mr. Glazener said: "I have been wanting to own a store building in Hendersonville a long time. I made up my mind that a modern department store near the court house would be convenient for the country people and I may call my new store The Farmers Store. This will make three stores for Mr. Glazener."

WOOD MARKET OPENING UP BETTER PRICES TO PREVAIL.

Announcement Is Made by Local Concern of \$3.50 Per Cord Delivered.

An advertisement in this issue of the Hustler belonging to the Hendersonville Laundry, Ice and Fuel company announces a new market price for cord wood delivered to the house. Provided as much as five cords are bought it can be had at \$3.50 per cord.

The enterprising managers of this concern realizing that the coal market was rather uncertain have made arrangements by which Hendersonville people can secure wood at "let live prices."

The city has been in rather a predicament for wood during the past two weeks. Several of the local dealers have secured a small supply and have been selling it in small lots to relieve the strain.

The coal situation is just about the same, excepting the enterprising work being done by Fuel Administrator R. M. Oates who has been selling small lots of coal to those in absolute need of same at cost prices. This coal is being supplied from the private stock of the Hendersonville Light and Power company.

Mr. Oates buys a number of carloads every year to run his steam with. He had several cars on hand when all the local dealers were unable to supply the demand during the recent cold weather. Mr. Oates does not deliver the coal but has simply been helping the citizens out until the local dealers can supply the demands.

The rule now being adhered to by the local dealers is to take your order and place your name on a waiting list then delivering coal to you in regular order as it is received in the yards.

AMERICAN TROOPS ARE BATTLING IN THE MUD.

They Are Constantly Under Fire and Constantly Have Their Guns on the Enemy.

With the American Army in France Monday, October 23.—(By the Associated Press.)—The first Americans to establish contact with the Germans today are battling in the mud of eastern France. They constantly are under fire and constantly have their guns on the enemy.

American shells have been hurled into German territory and they have exploded near the enemy line.

On a hill to the right of the explosions cataraacts of mud are to be seen. On one side an American officer is looking on the scene through his field glasses. He is trying to see what damage has been done by the artillery to the enemy and his barbed wire entanglements.

Closer to the enemy in the first line trenches is the infantry with the shells of both American and German guns whizzing over the heads. The men are rubber-booted and ponchoed. Rain, mixed with snow, pelts their helmets. No clothing, however, is able to withstand the wind-driven drops of rain and snow, but gunners and infantrymen, although they were wet are satisfied, feeling that the honor of having been the first Americans in action is more than sufficient recompense for their discomfort.

The correspondent reached the American position after a long motor ride through shell-battered towns. Leaving the motor in one of the towns he waded the rest of the way. Motor cars attract the eye of the Germans and they are likely to drop a half dozen shells in the direction that any machine is seen. The first American battery has almost walked upon before it was discovered. It was so well hidden under trees and with foliage about it on a low-wire netting. Under the feet, water dripped steadily. Some of the gunners were digging another pit in the mud alongside their hidden gun.

Through the foliage in every direction the ground was undulating. At that moment there was a flash of flame through the mist. It was the crack of a .75 gun and following it closely came the noise of the shell rushing through the air, becoming fainter and fainter as the projectile went on its way to the German position over the crest of a hill farther away. The mud digging artists continued their work without even looking up.

A lieutenant from Georgia emerged. He was the officer who directed the first shot. He led the way down the slippery, muddy hill to a dug-out covered over with sandbags and logs. There was met a lieutenant from Indiana, of the same battery who directed the first 18 shots of the war against Germany from an observation post.

On the other side of the hill was found the first gun fired. The muddy gunners were hard at work cleaning their guns.

COUNTRY BOYS SHOW UP WORSE THAN CITY BOYS.

Selective Draft Examinations Find More Country Boys With Defects—Medical School Inspection Made Difference.

County boys according to recent draft data, showed up worse in their physical examinations for army service than did city boys. A greater per cent of young men from country were found unfit for military service because of physical defects than was the case with young men raised in cities. Dr. J. A. Nydegger of the United States Public Health Service, who is authority for the comparison accounts for this difference through the lack of medical inspection in the country schools. He says:

"While in this country most of the city schools have adopted medical inspection, most of the rural institutions have none. In this lies the fact that insanitary defects which are today barring men from the United States forces. Defective eyes, teeth, ears and throats among the youth of rural communities have been found to be due largely to conditions in the rural schools. Improper desks and seats also have caused much spinal curvature, leading to other faulty conditions. These conditions ought to be corrected at once, and school children all over the country should be examined because defects arising at their period of life as a rule cannot be overcome later."

The State Board of Health says that this is just another surprise that he physical examinations incident to the selective draft have made known. "Every body expected a reasonable number of rejections on account of physical unfitness among our young men," says the board, but as they were the pick of our flock and the best of our manhood, we were more than surprised when it was learned that something like a third failed to qualify.

"This convinced us that something had to be done particularly for our young men who are now in the making. Many suggestions have been offered but medical school inspection outweighs them all. That the country boys at least will be expected to have a State wide Medical School Inspection is what is needed."

North Carolina is probably the only State that has this law. Beginning November 1, this law goes into effect in thirty-five counties, and should another draft be necessary in the next several years, North Carolina's country boys at least will be expected to show up with their city cousins."

LIBERTY LOAN SUBSCRIPTIONS CARRIED FAR BEYOND GOAL.

Banks Veritably Swamped by Buyers up to Late Closing Hour Saturday Night—Ten Million Subscribers.

Washington, October 27.—The Liberty loan apparently has passed the \$5,000,000,000 mark.

A last day drive of titanic proportions throughout the nation rounded up more than \$1,000,000,000, and was believed to have carried the total several hundred million dollars beyond the maximum sum treasury officials had hoped for.

Federal reserve banks were struggling tonight under an avalanche of last minute subscriptions to form some idea of the grand total. Indications are that they will not complete their tabulations for several days.

At least 8,000,000 persons throughout the country wrote their names on application blanks. How many more final count, several days hence. The number may be as high as 10,000,000.

Each of the 12 districts appeared to have passed its minimum, and indications were that most of them had exceeded the maximum as well.

The treasury's tabulation of returns, based upon the estimates received from the reserve banks, showed a total of \$4,555,000,000. This was admitted to be an under-statement of the result. At the hour the tabulation was made, subscribers were standing in line in thousands of cities and towns throughout the country and most of the 26,000 banks were swamped with unreported subscriptions.

The treasury's compilation by districts follows:

Boston, \$500,000,000; New York, \$1,500,000,000; Philadelphia, \$425,000,000; Cleveland, \$450,000,000; Richmond, \$180,000,000; Atlanta, \$100,000,000; Chicago, \$550,000,000; St. Louis, \$200,000,000; Minneapolis, \$130,000,000; Kansas City, \$160,000,000; Dallas, \$35,000,000; and San Francisco, \$275,000,000.

"Subscriptions to the second Liberty loan probably have passed \$5,000,000,000," said a treasury statement.

"From every district came the report that it was almost impossible to estimate totals, as the subscriptions were pouring in so rapidly that it was with the greatest difficulty they were even being recorded."

"New sales were being reported by telephone, telegraph and messenger, it was declared, from coast to coast. None was so bold as to say it would be possible to give an accurate accounting of all sales before next Wednesday."

Wednesday is the day on which bank subscriptions must have reached the district federal reserve banks.

"With its maximum safety passed at sundown," the statement continued, "the New York district went forging ahead by artificial lights bent on running up a total of hundreds of millions more. An enormous volume of business was being conducted tonight."

Subsequent to the issue of this statement, officials were informed by telephone that New York's total would run up to \$1,650,000,000. This would swell the department's figures to \$4,765,000,000.

"Cleveland furnished one of the eleventh hour surprises," the statement added. "This district's total bids fair to go high over the maximum of \$500,000,000."

"Chicago, somewhat disappointed at its slow start toward its maximum of \$700,000,000, buckled down hard today to come as near that mark as possible. Workers had not entirely lost hope tonight of taking rank with other leaders, but the task looked difficult."

"Atlanta wired they were swamped with long distance telephone orders and with telegraphic orders and that all the banks were staying open until 9 o'clock. Optimistic observers thought that the district might reach its maximum quota of \$125,000,000."

"Indications tonight were that soldiers had subscribed \$75,000,000 and sailors \$6,000,000."

Right in a Way. Some fighting men will get their gift sometime, but why not certain boys now—while they are close at hand?

Here in New York, the knitting committee of the National League for Women's Service, 257 Madison Avenue, heard that the Rainbow Division, consisting of men from all over the United States, training at Mineola, Long Island, was only half equipped with warm garments. An emergency call was issued. The entire basement of the Madison Avenue headquarters was turned over to them. They urged their friends and neighbors, personally, to come to headquarters and knit regular working hours. They issued statements in the daily papers. They concentrated on the Rainbow Division, as a business man concentrated on the weakness of a certain part of his plant. And they are equipping this regiment as fast as knitting needles can perform the beautiful miracle.

Every community can do the same thing. Outfit your own boys first. Whether you have a Red Cross Chapter or any other sort of war relief organization, form a new committee, a personal, intimate, get-right-down-to-business committee and call it "Our Boys First Committee."

Find out the name of the regiment and the company in which each and every man from your town or community has enlisted or been drafted. Somebody can tell you—your postmaster the editor of your local paper, the National Guard enthusiast of your town.

If you have sent out an entire company, write to the captain and learn the individual needs of his men in the way of warm clothing and fill them. Don't wait for Uncle Sam. He is doing his best with contractors. We women can beat the contractors with our knitting needles. If you have not sent any men from your town, from your district (and it seems incredible, when I look on this sea of men camped near New York, that any town however small has not sent its boy then write to the next town and ask what you can do to help provide for their boys.

Never mind if you do not know Jim Hughes, the boy on the next block who was drafted. Never mind if you have not spoken to the mother of Billy Green who enlisted with Company G—work for Jim and Billy and for the village ne'er-do-well, if he has gone. War may make heroes of all three. And you'll be glad that you helped to warm their bodies and their hearts with your work.

Even if you know no man in training, knit for one and make sure that your finished garments go to someone man from your part of the country. Don't send your sweater or muffler or socks to the nearest big organization and say—"I want this to go into a box for the boys from my State."

It can not be done that way. All these organizations are huge machines. They work in a big, impersonal way. They can not fit the garment to the man. They must deal with the army as a whole and answer calls as they come most loudly, from American or Europe.

But you can do the warm, kindly thing in a personal way. Your garments can reach the man from your town—if you will seek out those men.

An how can you do less?

How can you fail to realize the extra pleasures you will have in knitting if you know your work goes to warm a lad from your own state. We are a great nation, with tremendous national pride—but we are still neighbors—and our town boys should come first.

Don't misunderstand me! I believe in sound organizations and all their work—but our own boys first. There'll be time aplenty to work for the Red Cross and we'll work better if we know our own men are warm.

As I write this, a carpenter is fitting storm windows on my porch. In the back yard two husky darkeys are pouring coal into my cellar. A great bucket of canal coal has just been set beside my fireplace, pending an opening of work.

Comfort—warmth—luxury—for heat—firelight—winds baffled of their prey—are luxuries.

And out on Long Island men shivering—that you and I and all other women may go to our night's rest without fear or dread.

Our boys—our own boys first! Where are your boys—the boys from your town, your farm. Find them and knit for them. It is our "bit" for the democracy of which we talk so much. Now let us serve democracy—and our boys.

MRS. EGERTON RETURNS FROM FORT CASWELL.

Says That Home Boys Are all Looking Well and Seem to be Pleased.

Mrs. Bessie Egerton has just returned from a week's visit to Fort Caswell where she visited her son, Sergeant Thomas Egerton, of the 6th company stationed there.

In talking of her trip Mrs. Egerton stated that the boys all seemed to be in the very best of spirits and were looking quite well. She stayed at Southport, N. C., just two miles across the bay from the fort, and made frequent trips over to Caswell where she had an opportunity of seeing the home boys at work and at pleasure.

MOVIE MEN TO PAY TAX.

Theaters Announce That They Will Keep Old Charges in Force as Long as Possible.

(Greensboro News.)

Although a tax of 10 per cent. upon all theater tickets, including movies above the nickelodeum class, becomes operative today, the prices of admission to the local theaters will remain the same as heretofore. The tax will have to be paid upon Municipal theater tickets out of the pockets of patrons, it has been stated but the smaller theaters, the movies and the Piedmont, are to continue this week without charging the extra 10 per cent.

NOT TO DENY SELVES BUT MUST SHIP TO ALLIES.

Food Administrator Advises People to Substitute for Wheat, Meats and Fats.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 31.—The Food Administration is somewhat surprised that evidences of misapprehension as to the exact purpose of its plan of food conservation are still reaching Washington in spite of the wide educational campaign that has been carried on by the Federal Food Administration through the newspapers of their States.

The mistaken idea that American citizens are expected to reduce their own consumption in order to save food to our Allies keep cropping up.

"We do not ask our people to deny themselves any food they need for their health, or enjoyment," declared a Food Administration official today, "the nourishing, palatable foods, which we have in abundance for a few commodities that we must ship to our Allies. We must send wheat, meats, fats and sugar. There is no escape from that necessity and duty. We can do it easily if we will substitute corn and other cereals for a part of our usual consumption of wheat, use fish, poultry and eggs instead of part of our ordinary amount of meat, employ vegetable oils instead of animal fats in cooking and save sugar by using syrups wherever possible. This involves no hardship, no deprivation. In fact it will usually increase the variety and palatability of our daily diet. But it will release these other foods which concentrate a large amount of nutritive value into a small volume of space. Combined with the elimination of all possible waste it will permit us to keep our Allies supplied with food."

Food Administration officials are highly gratified with the unanimity with which citizens of all states are signing the Food Pledge cards. From various localities come reports that enrollment is much greater than even the most optimistic expectations.

In many localities the enrollment includes practically one hundred per cent of the population.

A full plate at the end of a meal means a full victory for the Kaiser at the end of the war.

A clean plate means a clean defeat for him.

Save food to save democracy.

TO HOLD CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW

The ladies of the missionary society of the Presbyterian church will hold a chrysanthemum show in the store room formerly occupied by Whitmore's Shoe store, Friday, November 2nd. Everybody is cordially invited to attend the show.

ITALIANS ARE RUSHING AID.

French think Italians will be able to stem the Tide of Invasion—All Classes in Italy Are With General Cadorna.

Virtually one thousand square miles of Italian territory has been overrun, more than 1,000 Italians have been made prisoners and in excess of 1000 guns have been captured by German and Austro-Hungarian armies in their eight days' drive from the Isonzo and Carnic Alps fronts of the Austro-Italian war theater.

From the east the enemy invasion on the center of the battle front now is well within gun range of the Tagliamento river, where it has been presumed that Gen. Cadorna would turn and make a stand. The Italian commander-in-chief, however, has not yet brought his troops about to face the enemy, but in continuing his retreat with the rear guards harassing the advance. Just where Cadorna purposes to give battle has not become apparent.