

GENERAL NEWS

"Make a bridge of ships" to France was the message from General Pershing and every man of his command, delivered to the American people by Major Frederick Palmer, chief censor of General Pershing's staff, in an address at the National Press Club in Washington. "Build ships, and let every woman and child in the land think ships," said he.

Disease, starvation and expulsions have reduced the Jewish population of Jerusalem to 33,000 or about forty per cent in the three and a half years since the war began, according to cable advices received by the Palestine restoration fund commission in New York. With the advance of the British into Palestine, the Turks made wholesale deportations of Jews from the seaport towns. From Jaffa, some 10,000 Jews fled the Turkish power or were driven out, it is reported.

Eligibility for appointment to West Point, now given by law to a limited number of enlisted men in the regular army and the National guard, has been extended to include privates in the National army. The number of appointees remains the same as before, 103 men annually from the three military sources. Commanders of divisional camps have been instructed to designate the men whose records indicate special aptitude for army careers.

Foodstuffs valued at \$1,315,614,577 were exported from the United States in 1917, an increase of \$246,000,000 over 1916, figures issued by the Bureau of Commerce show. Imports of foodstuffs increased \$139,000,000, the total being \$737,173,254. Manufactured products made up the bulk of America's record breaking exports, amounting to \$4,180,800,000, a gain of \$418,000,000 over the preceding year. Exports of crude materials were worth \$780,736,788. Horses shipped abroad in 1917 were worth \$33,041,160, and mules \$13,666,063.

Announcement that France will be able before July 1 to manufacture enough artillery to supply 20 American divisions, or approximately 500,000 troops, if the United States mean-while adheres to an understanding by which France would receive the necessary raw material from American, was made in New York by Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to this country. Mr. Tardieu made the statement also that there are in France today more American troops than comprised the American army at the time the United States entered the war.

The United State treasury has made the computation that the war is costing Uncle Sam \$277 a second and this makes no exclusion for Sundays and holidays. Then, too, the government does not observe the eight hour law. During these ten months the United States has been engaged in the world war it has cost Uncle Sam approximately \$7,000,000,000 according to the report of the treasury. This signifies an expenditure of \$24,000,000 a day or \$1,000,000 an hour. Add to the bill for current expenses and you can anticipate that running the government in war times isn't operating a free lunch counter.

A Justifiable Complaint.
One afternoon the proprietor of a village store, who also was the postmaster, was wrapping up a pound of sugar and a pair of boots, when a farmer rambled in, wearing a thoughtful expression. "See here, Sam," said the newcomer, addressing the proprietor, "hain't there some way that ye kind o' sepparate yer grocery business from yer post office business?" "What's the matter now, bill?" asked the groceryman, looking up from his work. "Been diggin' up somethin' else to kick about?" "I ain't kicking any, Sam," answered the farmer, in a gentle voice, "but I do get all-fired tired o' tastin' kerosene every time I go ter lick a postage stamp."

Three billion dollars will be raised in advance of the third liberty loan, which probably will be launched in April, by sale of certificates of indebtedness under a plan looking to systematic investment by every bank in these short time securities.

SORE THROAT
or Tonsillitis—gargle with warm, salt water then apply—
VICK'S VAPORUB
Keep a little body-used in your pocket

MORE MAN-POWER NEEDED.

The Farmers Are Expected to Produce Larger Crops.

American factories, which before the war turned out \$24,000,000,000 worth of goods, are now under the moral obligation of turning out \$35,000,000,000 worth during the present year. They will have to do some humping to make good.

Those who maintain that there is plenty of labor in this country should consider the demand that agriculture is about to make. Including farmers who work on their own lands there are normally about 12,500,000 farm laborers in this country. The draft, voluntary enlistment and the attractions of factory wages have reduced this number by over 3,000,000. The agricultural program for 1918 calls for a productive record far in excess of that for 1917. The farmers are asked to raise the wheat crop figures from 650,000,000 to 1,000,000,000 bushels. Large increases in the other food crops are also called for. In some parts of the country ploughing will begin in four weeks. The demand for farm labor thereafter will grow more and more insistent. To carry out the agricultural program 6,000,000 more farm workers will be required.

Four solutions of the general labor supply problem have been proposed. The first is mobilization, but mobilization does not solve the problem of actual shortage. The second is the employment of women and children to take the places of men, but although the help of women and children will be needed their labor is not equal in productivity to that of men. Moreover, the employment of women and children in certain industries and on a wholesale scale would have physiological and social effect that are not desirable.

The third method is the elimination of non-essential industry. But what is non-essential industry? During the coal famine Government officials have given widely divergent answers. Some have put the schools and churches in this category, but not the breweries. Differences of opinion on the subject are irreconcilable.

The fourth method is to let down the bars to Japanese and Chinese

immigration for the duration of the war. Immigration from Europe has been entirely cut off. Immigration from Asia could be made to take its place so far as labor is concerned, but such a radical step would lead to complications which in the end might be more serious even than the shortage of labor itself.

Whatever be the difference of opinion on all other points of the labor problem, there should be none on this point: Every man who can work should be engaged in a useful occupation.

MRS. RINEHART'S APPEAL.

Mrs. Mary Robert Rinehart, the novelist, for herself and for the women of the country, has investigated hospital conditions in camp and cantonments here and abroad. She has a son in the Army and thus has the strongest possible personal interest in the matter. She was trained as a nurse and married a doctor, and thus possesses considerable qualifications for speaking on the subject.

Her testimony is that the number of inefficient in the medical and surgical service is small and that of cruelty and indifference she has found nothing. In regard to general health conditions she believes that ninety-nine out of a hundred men in the drafted army are receiving better care than they could afford at home.

Mrs. Rinehart does not, however, assert that everything is perfect, that nothing is left to be desired. She declares that the women of the country are entitled to know the facts, good and bad; demands that improvements be made where improvements are possible, and emphasizes especially the duty of reassuring the mothers of the nation. Her own testimony is reassuring. Secretary Baker gives his cordial approval to the sentiments expressed and suggestions made by Mrs. Rinehart.

Senator Chamberlain cited two harassing cases of death attended if not caused by the neglect of physicians and nurses. It is yet to be proved, however, that neglect is common. The evidence shows that

it is extremely rare. A million and a half men have been gathered in camps and cantonments and the needless death of two of them should not be taken as proof that the lives of all the rest are similarly endangered. In truth, the health conditions in the Army are miles better than in any previous war, and the death rate among the soldiers is lower than it would have been if they had stayed at home.

HISTORY PROVES FRANCE OWNS ALSACE-LORRAINE.

Chancellor von Hertling's contentions, proclaimed to the Main Committee of the Reichstag, that Germany lawfully entitled to Alsace-Lorraine, is disproven by the following facts, gleaned from history:

Alsace.
Settled by Celtic tribes and Gauls, the forebears of the French.

In Roman possession for 500 years.
Taken by force of arms about 950, by Otho I, of the Holy Roman Empire.

Changed hands repeatedly until 1648, when at the end of the Thirty Year's War it was ceded to France by the treaty of Muenster.

1697, formally ceded to France by the treaty of Ryswick, remaining French until 1871.

Lorraine.
Settled by Franks, Burgundians and Frisians, forebears of French. Ceded by treaty of Verdun in 843 to Lothair I.

Ceded to France by treaty of Bonn in 921.

Changed hands repeatedly until middle of eleventh century when French civilization, language and learning gained a foothold.

Ceded to France by the treaty of Ryswick in 1697 and remaining in her possession until 1871.

No individual licenses are now required by the War Trade Board for the exportation of horses to Canada and Newfoundland. Shippers will be given notice through the press if there should be a change in this ruling in the future.

Don't grow up to be a soured old batchelor, when there are so many true and lovely girls that will make such excellent wives.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

The Clerk of the Superior Court having duly appointed me as Administrator of the estate of W. T. Robards, deceased, all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make settlement with me. All persons holding claims against said estate are warned to present them to me within one year from the date hereof or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery.

This February 11th, 1918.
U. M. ROBERTS, Admr. of
W. T. Roberts, deceased.



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