

SOUTHERN AVIATOR DIGS FROM PRISON AND SWIMS RHINE

Calls "Y" Work in German Prison Camp "Life Saver," While Confined At Villigen.

New York, Feb. ...—Lieutenant George Puryear, of Memphis, Tenn., an aviator, was one of a trio of hardy American adventurers who were successful in a wild dash for liberty from the Villigen prison camp on October 6. Sixteen men made the attempt, but only Puryear, Lieutenant Harold Willis of Boston, and Naval Lieutenant Isaacs of Portsmouth, Va., got away. Word has just been received at Y. M. C. A. headquarters here concerning their almost hopeless escape.

The men brought back remarkable accounts of Y. M. C. A. work even at Villigen.

"The 'Y' sent us books of all kinds and even sporting goods," said Lieut. Puryear. "We played basketball and volley ball incessantly—our space was too small for baseball and football. I tell you, those games were life savers to us, and they kept us in fair physical condition."

It is reported that Puryear and his comrades slipped out of the camp through a tunnel under the wire. All but the three named were headed off before they reached the river Rhine, but the intrepid trio swam the river—a terrible feat in itself—and made their way into Holland.

MONEY SENT HOME BEFORE BIG BATTLE

Doughboys "Cleaned Pockets" for Home Folks, When Return From Fight Was Uncertain. Y. M. C. A. Has Delivered Millions of Dollars For Amex.

Paris, Feb. ...—The steady unselfishness of the American soldier, shown by the way he "cleaned his pockets" of money before going into action, to be sent home if he didn't come back, is told by W. J. Baker of Portchester, N. Y., who served eleven months as a Y. M. C. A. worker with the 26th Division. His particular charge was the third battalion of the 103rd infantry. He joined that unit on the St. Mihiel front, went with them to Chateau Thierry, and later was in the famous St. Mihiel clean-up and the drive before Verdun.

"It was just before that action began," said Baker, "that I saw the finest example of the characteristic unselfishness of the boys. They 'cleaned their pockets' for the folks at home. They knew they were going up against the real thing, and they wanted all their money to go home in case they never came back. In all, I was entrusted with \$8,000,000 francs—upwards of \$1,600,000—before that attack. We handled such funds through the regular Y. M. C. A. service established for sending money from soldiers to relatives in America."

Baker lived with his battalion, and saw lively times, as the "Yankee Division," as it was called, was kept on the fighting front almost continuously.

MICKIE SAYS

IF YOU LIKE OUR PAPER, BE A GOOD FELLER. AN' SAY SO! I DON'T MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE WHETHER YOU TELL US OR SOMEBODY ELSE, JEST SO YOU TELL SOMEBODY! IT WILL DO US GOOD EITHER WAY. I THANK YOU



think WHY then BUY

TEXAS PREPARING TO REDUCE ACREAGE

Along the Same Lines That Are Being Followed in Other Southern States.

Press dispatch from Dallas says: Cotton Growers, with 1,600,000 bales stored away, see danger of losing money.

Fearing cotton prices will sink near the pre-war levels, unless measures are taken to prevent it, Southern cotton growers are joining in a movement for general reduction of 1919 acreage. In Texas the move has taken the form of a pledge to reduce acreage to two-thirds of that of 1918. The State Agricultural Department is emphasizing the benefits of planting grain on the acreage thus saved.

The Government crop report placed last year's Texas production at 2,530,000 bales. Cotton was around 35 cents a pound at the close of the picking season, but many growers and some speculators felt it would reach 40 cents and did not sell. Prices fell, however, with the signing of the armistice, and since then have been wavering between 21 and 25 cents.

Bankers who loaned money to growers found their security diminished, and plantation owners found their crops of less value than when harvested. Texas growers estimate there are 1,600,000 bales stored by individuals and in the compresses. They declare much of this has been damaged by winter rains.

While cotton at 21 to 25 cents is higher than before the war, growers say production costs is so much higher that they will lose money at 25 cents a pound.

Last year's government reports placed the Texas acreage at 11,235,000. By reducing this one-third, bankers and agriculturists feel that prices can be held to a point that will bring a profit and also bring a higher price for the unmoved crop of 1918.

The council of defense chairman in each county and the county agricultural agent have been named as committees to aid in an extensive advertising campaign to persuade all planters to sign the two-thirds acreage pledge.

MUST STAND TOGETHER.

The farmers will all have to stand together or they will all fall together. Co-operation is the one salvation of the farmers and when they undertake as they have done to all band together in order to force a higher price for the product on which so much of their financial future depends, no fair-minded person can do otherwise than wish them well.

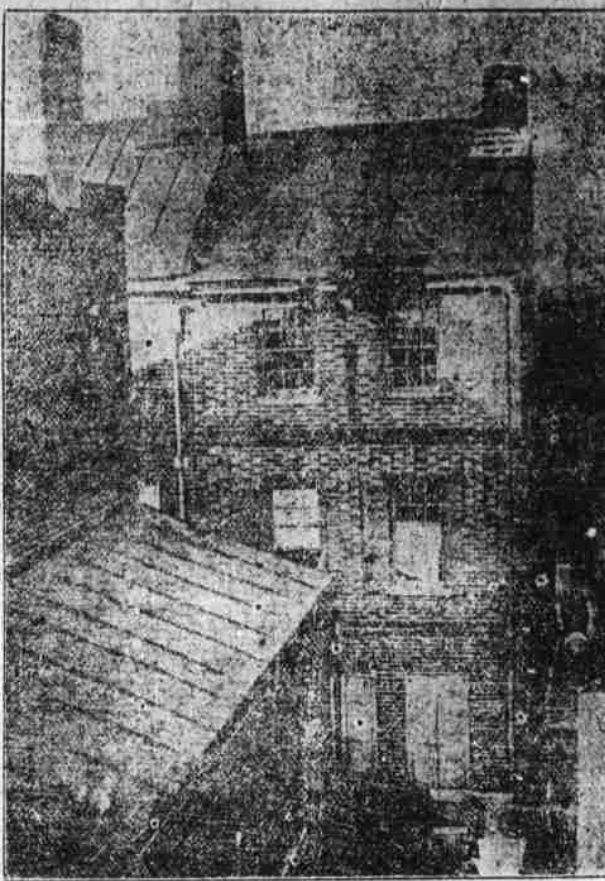
And the farmer, committed to the plan of holding his cotton as a means of boosting the price, ought to display genuine bulldog tenacity. It will not do to hold a couple of weeks and then let go just because the market shows a little upward slant. This will not be keeping the pledge. This is not the sort of attitude that will make an impression on the man and the interests who are matching their wits with those of the farmer. If the farmer wants to prove to those men and those interests that he is in deadly earnest he will have to show more than just a little temporary determination to hold his cotton.

Nor is self-interest the only incentive that should move the farmer in the present emergency. Equally as great a motive is the necessity of a spirit of loyalty to his fellow farmers. The cotton grower has his obligation to his fellow cotton grower as well as to himself, and it certainly seems that he owes it to the rest of the men in the calling to adhere closely to the program which the majority seem to feel is the wisest under the circumstances.

There has been a disposition on the part of one part of the public to take it for granted that the farmer has been making big money in recent years. And the farmer has done better than in the pre-war years, but the high cost of living and of materials has hit the farmer as severely as it has any one else and his net profits have been by no means extravagant. He is entitled to the sympathy of every one who wants to see fair play in the great game of American enterprise.—News and Observer.

The following information in regard to the progress of the cotton association's fight was given out: "Editors in the leading financial papers state that 'the organization of cotton farmers throughout the entire cotton belt, we find, is more complete and the most systematic and most thorough. The men behind the movement understand the importance of the vital necessity of the organization. A personal investigation of men in the field convinces us that beyond a shadow of doubt the pledge reductions will be carried out to the letter. Furthermore, that most important of all, indications are that steps being taken will lead to remarkable changes in the marketing of cotton. It is an unwritten law that following all wars remarkable changes and various phases of business usually result and the chances are that one of the most remarkable changes will take place in the commercial life of the South.'"

Franklin's Spring Street Home In Philadelphia



Within a few blocks of the Friends' Burying Ground in which lies the body of Benjamin Franklin, whose picture adorns the 1919 issue of War Savings Stamps, is a quaint three-story brick dwelling, one of the places where the inventor-philosopher lived while in Philadelphia. The house is in Spring Street, in the center of Colonial life in the Quaker City. It is in excellent state of preservation. The 129th anniversary of Franklin's death will be commemorated April 17. Franklin's thrifty sayings did much to stimulate among the American people the habits of wage saving, secure investment and avoidance of waste.

FOX TROTS ON LIBERTY LEGS

Limbs Blown Off by Shell, But This Man Continues to Trip Light, Fantastic Toe to Jazz Accompaniment.

Lillard Evans is a colored soldier boy who had both legs blown off in action. He lives for the present at Letterman General Hospital at the Presidio in San Francisco. He can and does dance fox trots and one step. How? Why?

Of course to dance a fox trot or a one-step a fellow has to have legs—good legs. Well, Evans has them—not his own legs of flesh and bone, but his own willow legs with joints and everything. He is going to leave Letterman pretty soon and go back to work and make his living and probably get married and raise children. That's the how.

The why of it is—the government of the United States has gone in for leg and arm making. It is giving a specially built leg or arm or hand or a pair of legs or arms or hands to every soldier who lost his legs or arms in the war. At Letterman in particular they are making Liberty legs and arms and hands in their own workshop. They are making them because they have hit upon a better artificial limb than some manufacturers were turning out.

This is one phase of the reconstruction work that Uncle Sam is quietly carrying on. It is one of the least expensive, but it is costing hundreds of thousands of dollars. Remember that when Uncle Sam comes a-knocking at your door with the Victory Liberty Loan. Much of the money you will lend is going to regenerate these men who gave of their flesh and blood for their country.

MICKIE SAYS

THEY MAY BE SOME PLACE WHERE THEY DO BETTER JOB PRINTING THAN WHAT WE DO IN THIS OFFICE, BUT I CAN'T FIND IT ON THIS MAP!



Cotton Producers On Road To Victory

From every county, town and hamlet in Texas come reports that farmers are signing pledges to curtail their cotton acreage this year at least 30 per cent of last year's acreage. Some individual farmers even limit their planting to one-half of their last year's acreage.

Reports from other cotton states indicate a like action by the cotton growers.

An unusual feature of the movement is the active, enthusiastic participation of bankers, merchants and professional men. All classes have awakened at last to the necessity for co-operation in an effort to secure a legitimate price for the south's cotton.

Hitherto the farmers have not acted in concert and they had little assistance from other classes. They did the best they could to control the market for better prices; but without organization their efforts culminated in windy, wordy resolutions and still lower prices for their cotton.

The methods by which the government secured co-operation in preventing foodstuffs going too high in price during the war have been an object lesson to the cotton growers, and they are appropriating in some measure those methods to prevent cotton from going too low in price in time of peace. They are signing pledge cards to raise less cotton this year and by limiting the supply increase the demand and the price. They have passed beyond empty resolutions for publication. They are doing something tangible. Actions speak louder than words. They are in the road to the goal. Let them "keep in the middle of the road" and they will reach that goal.

Once they have demonstrated their power to secure living prices for their great agricultural product, they will have won economic independence for themselves, their children and their children's children in the years to follow.—Cotton and Cotton Oil News.

PREDICTS SUCCESS FROM ACREAGE REDUCTION MOVE.

Baton Rouge, La., March 10.—Success of the cotton acreage reduction movement in Southern states was predicted by Governor Pleasant of Louisiana upon his return here today from Washington, where he attended the conference of governors.

New York brokers may bluff their courage up, but it is plain that since the farmers started their talk about holding cotton and reducing acreage the tendency of the staple has been to go upward instead of to sag further.—News and Observer.

The "Infallible Plan" of the N. C. Cotton Association is proving a great spring tonic for the farmers of North Carolina. Every county is reporting acreage reduction and a determined spirit among the farmers to hold their cotton now on hand until they at least get the cost of production for it.

COTTON PROPOSAL IS GRIPPING SOUTH

Movement is Spreading Like Wild-Fire All Over The Cotton Belt.

Reports received at state headquarters, Raleigh, of the North Carolina Cotton Association during the past few days indicate that the movement inaugurated at the recent county conventions held in practically every county in the state last week to hold the unsold balance of the present crop and to reduce the acreage for the coming crop by one-third as compared with 1918 is spreading like wild-fire in all parts of North Carolina. The bankers, merchants and farmers who attended these conventions last week let no grass grow under their feet upon their return to their homes. The New Orleans, Houston, Galveston, Dallas, Memphis, Montgomery, Atlanta, Little Rock, Charleston, Savannah and Birmingham newspapers have been publishing daily reports of county and State meetings held in these States to ratify and put into practical effect the work outlined by the general convention recently held in New Orleans. In fact, it would seem as if every Southern State and every county in the cotton belt were vying with one another to see which will make the best record in the matter of reducing the cotton acreage in 1919 and holding the cotton now on hand for remunerative prices.

Alarmed over this movement, which threatens to break the stranglehold which the spinning interests of the country, aided and abetted by the bear speculators in the New York market, have had on the cotton market for some weeks past, the Northern press is attempting to throw ridicule on the movement and to belittle it. A typical instance of this bear propaganda to offset the cotton acreage reduction movement is furnished by an article published in a recent issue of the Journal of Commerce. Some supposed correspondent from the South is quoted in that Journal, which has always been very friendly to the New England spinning interests, as saying:

"I take little stock in resolutions to decrease acreage, as such attempts at reduction are economic heresy. Too well do many of us remember the days of four and five cent cotton in the nineties. Conventions were held in Memphis and elsewhere to reduce acreage. Solemn oaths were signed, but always the result was the same, an increase of acreage, because each went home with the same determination to increase his own acreage as he believed his neighbor was going to decrease."

Such articles as these, full of misstatements of facts, are calculated to have just the opposite effect in the South from that intended by the authors. Much water, in an economic way, has passed under the mill since the early nineties. The cotton growers of the South have learned by sad experience that a small crop with good prices pays better than a large crop with low prices. If they had any doubt on this score Secretary Hester's annual reports, showing the total value of the various crops produced by the South, state the facts only too plainly. The Journal of Commerce statement to the contrary, no signed pledges were required by the cotton convention previously held in the South, and it was this very lack of signed pledges that foredoomed the acreage production movements of previous years to practical failure. There never was a year in which a convention of this sort was held that the acreage was not materially decreased, although the cut in acreage did not always come up to what the convention had planned. Lack of proper organizations by States and counties, the failure to get signed pledges to carry out the objects of the convention and the fact that no subsequent convention was held later in the season to receive reports as to the progress made by the different cotton-growing States in effecting a reduction in acreage were some of the reasons that the former conventions proved a failure in so far as accomplishment went. All these loopholes have been closed by the recent convention, and, in addition, a resolution was adopted by the convention to brand any man in the cotton belt who refuses to co-operate as "so lacking in public spirit as to forfeit the confidence of the community in which he lives."

The "economic heresy" of reducing the cotton acreage, to which the Journal of Commerce refers, is a fine-sounding phrase, but cotton men say it will not deceive anybody in the South who stops to think. The New England and Southern mills, when they find a stock of goods accumulating and no buyers coming into the dry goods market at once take steps to reduce their output. It is argued, therefore, that if it is a good thing for the mills to reduce their output of the manufactured goods, in order to stimulate demand, why should it not also be a good thing for the cotton growers in the South who produce the raw material? This is the point of view that the cotton interests of the

FARMERS ASKED TO TAKE BONDS

Special Appeal on Behalf of Liberty Loan Issue is Sent Out by Washington Representative of National Grange.

Every farmer in America is expected to support the Victory Liberty Loan, says Thomas S. Atkinson, the Washington representative of the National Grange Patrons of Husbandry, who has sent the following letter to the officers of every farm grange in the United States:

"Victory Liberty" is the slogan for the new loan. The drive is to begin April 21, for the sale of six billion dollars in Victory Liberty Bonds. These two words visualize all that is best in American spirit. American farmers must respond to this appeal.

"What the farmers of America did in sacrifice and in accomplishment, in food production and in bond buying during the war is a part of the record. It is a war record of which any class may be proud. It must be made good now by meeting the obligations which result from the outpouring of American strength which conquered the enemies of Liberty and civilization. Time to Get Ready.

"It is time to get into this Victory Liberty Bond campaign. No appeal of the war has gone unanswered to the full limit when brought to the attention of the farmers. Men, money, wheat, other food—no matter what the obstacles or the difficulties—the answer has been full and certain. The answer must be the same in this coming drive.

"Millions of soldiers must be brought home; thousands of sick must be cared for; thousands of wounded and mangled must be made ready for future usefulness. We armed a nation and mobilized its resources into a war machine of such tremendous potential power that our enemies surrendered rather than face it, and thereby months or years of fighting and thousands of lives, were saved. Now we must pay the obligations created by this effort. Who can neglect to pay his just part for that which prevented so great a sacrifice of life and blood.

World Wants Products.

"There lies just outside the doors of the American farmer a hungry world, a world which needs all our products. American farming rests on the safe basis of need and service. The investment of the hard earned dollars of American farmers in Victory Liberty Bonds is a safe investment with a certainty of fair return, and the money will come back into circulation making more business, increasing the market and the demand for farm products, and increasing prosperity. Buying Victory Liberty Bonds will make farmers Victory-Liberty-Prosperty-men. Do your part to put the Victory Liberty Loan over the top.

"Make your investment in Victory Liberty Bonds the measure of your confidence in American institutions and that democracy for which your sons offered the supreme sacrifice; a symbol of your determination that the war shall not have been fought in vain; an offering of thanksgiving for peace."

HOW WAR BONDS GO UP IN VALUE

History of All Loans for a Century Shows That Advance Has Always Come with Peace.

Will history repeat itself? That question is in the minds of many bond buyers these days. Records show that the prices of bonds were way down during war times of the past but soon after peace was declared advanced rapidly.

During Napoleon's wars prices of English 3 per cent consols ranged from 67 1/2, the high and 54 1/2, the low, in 1814 to 96 1/2 the high and 54 1/2, the low, in 1824. During the same period French 5 per cent rentes rose from 80, the high, in 1814 to 104.8 in 1824. They also went as low as 45 in 1814. French 5 per cent rentes during the Franco-Prussian war ranged in price from 75.1 to 37.3 and 50.8 to 81.1.

United States bonds during the Confederate war sold for 35%, the high, and 33, the low, in 1861, but from then on they had practically a steady rise until 1873, at which time the high was 123% and the low 111%. The forty-year bonds, put out in 1864 advanced from 103% to 116% in ten years.

Four series of Liberty Bonds have been issued and the fifth—to be known as the Victory Liberty Loan—will soon be offered. These securities have behind them the mightiest protection ever devised—the resources and the pledge and the faith of one of the great nations of the world. The investment value of the bonds can never decrease, for the interest will always be paid and the bonds will be redeemed at full face value at maturity.