WASHINGTON GOSSIP

People More Economical in Use of Foodstuffs

WASHINGTON.—The war and high food prices have caused Americans to be economical in the consumption of foodstuffs. Statistics indicating that fact have been announced by the department of agriculture. They show that in the years 1912 and 1913, before the war, the United States was consuming 2.8 per cent more food than it produced. In the two war years, 1915 and 1916, the United States produced 1.2 per cent more food than it consumed. Americans were consuming less edible grain, meat, dairy products, vegetables, sugar and fish, while the consumption of coffee and tea, fruits and nuts and poultry and eggs had increased.

Production of foodstuffs between the two periods increased 3.7 per cent; imports increased 15 per cent; consumption showed an increase of only three-tenths of 1 per cent, and exports increased 76 per cent.

Edible grain production of the United States was 5 per cent greater in the two war years than it was in the two years before the war, while consumption of edible grain in this country was 8 per cent less in war years. Edible grain imports increased 115 per cent and exports showed a 70 per cent increase between the two periods.

Meat production increased 5 per cent, consumption showed a very slight decrease, imports decreased 37.5 per cent, and exports increased 65 per cent.

Dairy products supplies increased 4.1 per cent, consumption fell off 3.4 per cent, imports decreased 37.5 per cent and exports decreased slightly.

Poultry and eggs supplies increased 6.1 per cent, consumption increased 5.6 per cent, imports decreased 50 per cent, and exports showed a 25 per cent increase.

Vegetable production decreased 1.1 per cent, consumption decreased almost 1.5 per cent, imports decreased 20 per cent and exports increased 107 per cent.

Production of all other foodstuffs increased 3.6 per cent, consumption decreased 7 per cent; imports increased 8.3 per cent, and exports 100 per cent.

Federal Capital Offers Motor Ambulance Corps

THIS city is to furnish a motorambulance corps for service at the front if the United States requires it. Dr. Ryan Devereux, who had ten years' service in the army and is fully equipped for such work, is the leading spirit in the proposed organization, which is to be composed of undergraduates of Georgetown university, George Washington university and Catholic university. It is planned for Doctor Devereux to serve as captain and for the several educational institutions to nominate the officers.

Plans for perfecting the organization were made at a mass meeting. Several hundred undergraduates of the three universities were in attendance. Associated with Doctor Devereux in planning the ambulance corps are Dr. Scott Breckinridge, first lieutenant, medical reserve corps, U. S. A.; C. E. Bingham, lecturer with the American Red Cross, and Dr. Alfred F. Hopkins, each representing one of the three universities. The meeting was addressed by Dr. Edward B. Pace of Catholic university, Rev. A. J. Donlin, rector of Georgetown university, and Col. Jefferson R. Keane, medical corps, U. S. A., and director general of war relief, American Red Cross.

Doctor Pace said that university men could better serve their country in a crisis such as threatens the United States today by giving the service asked of them than by any other means. He spoke of the men of Oxford and Cambridge in England and what they are doing at the front.

Miss Mabel Boardman of the Red Cross society said she was delighted to see such a response to the call for the organization of the ambulance corps, and told of the work being done by the ambulance corps in Europe today.

Preparing for Confederate Veterans' Reunion

HEADQUARTERS for the United Confederate Veterans and the other affiliated societies which will meet in reunion here in June have been arranged by Col. R. N. Harper, chairman of the general committee.

"I have selected rooms for Gen. George P. Harrison, commander in chief of the Confederate veterans, at the New Willard," said Chairman Harper. "The hotel has been designated as headquarters for all the societies which are to meet here the first week in June. These societies include the United Confederate Veterans, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Federated Southern Memorial association. The general headquarters for Commander in Chief Harrison will include accommodations for all the national officers and the staff of General Harrison."

Dr. Clarence J. Owens, managing director of the Southern Commercial congress, assured Chairman Harper of the co-operation of their organization. He said the congress would urge all organizations affiliated with it to boost the Confederate reunion.

A fund of $60,000 to be expended for the care, comfort and pleasure of the veterans at their reunion is rapidly being raised by enthusiastic solicitors under the leadership of Harry F. Cary, head of the special committee on finance.

Yoke of Steers Brought Forth Reminiscences

YOU don't often see a yoke of steers in this part of the world, which accounted for the crowd. They were big, red steers, with knobs on their horns, and they were hauling an advertisement along a suburban road that would lead pretty soon to the city. And they plodded along so sedately that the whip carried by the man who walked alongside was as useless an emblem as the scepter held by kings.

Passers-by on foot or in automobiles stopped to look at the odd sight, and one dignified old gentleman who was fine enough to be on a board of directors was so pleasantly reminiscent that he said to another man next to his car—a poor chap who needed good brown soap and a razor:

"Looks as if they were just from the old farm, don't they?"

But the other man had an opposite opinion, which he lost no time in voicing:

"Well, sir, they don't look at all homelike to me. I've driven ox teams, off and on, ever since I was knee-high to a grasshopper, an' it takes a heap o' elbow grease to handle oxen. They want to wheel outer the road an' ram into fences an' buck into trees—an' that's what they're everlastin' doin' if you don't keep hollerin' at 'em and usin' the ox goad free. Watch them oxen, sir. Do you see 'em lower their heads an' lash their tails like everyday steers do? No, sir, you don't. They are hikin' along as unnatural calm as if they was a marchin' up a church aisle to get married. They've gone through a lot o' training since they come off any old farm. Been in a circus, I reckon."

"Sure! But I seen that yoke o' oxen, or one like it, years ago, haulin' a big ad through the city—red fellers, just like these, only they had brass knobs on their horns steader wood———"

The third man sounded convincing, so the dignified old gentleman had to admit that they didn't exactly act like steers just from the old farm.

"You are right, boys—I remember when I was a little shaver, down at my grandfather's, there was an old black steer that used to———"

It was sure to have been a story worth hearing, but when you are only a guest in an automobile and the chauffeur starts, naturally you have to go, too.

AROUND THE WORLD

Large supplies of electric-light bulbs, of grades formerly supplied by Germany, are being shipped from Japan to southern Russia.

The finest street in Christiania is the Karl Johans gate, named after King Karl Johan, the first Bernadotte to ascend the Norwegian throne.

The State University of Kansas is preparing to establish a four-year course in city management, the first of the kind in the country, it is said.

The Zulus like to sing, but their singing and music are unlike that of any other tribe or nation.

Quails, part of the food of the children of Israel when in the wilderness, are still numerous in Egypt, and during their yearly migrations descend in swarms.

Cassie is a perfume much used in sachet powders and is obtained from the flowers of acacia feruesiana, a large, shrubby species always vigorous in California and running wild in Texas.

COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND ITS ADVISORY BOARD

The Council of National Defense and its civilian advisory board, shown together in this photograph, is working night and day to mobilize the military, naval and industrial resources of the country against an impending war. The council is composed of six cabinet officers, while the advisory board is composed of seven citizens eminent in their respective fields. Seated in this group are: Left to right, Secretary of Agriculture David F. Houston, Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane and Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson. Standing, left to right, Grosvenor B. Clarkson, secretary of the council; Julius Rosenwald, chirman of the committee on supplies; Bernard E. Baruch, in charge of raw materials; Daniel Willard, transportation; Dr. F. H. Martin, medicine and sanitation; Dr. Hollis Godfrey, science and research; Howard Coffin, munitions, and W. S. Gifford, director of the council.

DEFENSE COUNCIL TACKLES BIG JOB

Mobilization of the Industries of the Country Is Its Principal Function.

MADE UP OF LEADING EXPERTS

Will Lay Down a Policy of Industrial Preparedness for the Nation—To Point Out to Manufacturers the Part They Can Play.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.
(Washington Correspondent of the Western Newspaper Union.)

Washington.—Some time ago the United States congress created a council of national defense. The body owes its creation to the fact that the lawmakers held that the country which best is prepared for peace is also best prepared for war. Whether peace broods over the land or war strides through it, it is necessary that the industrial fabric of a nation "be organized in the most effective way."

The council of national defense consists of six members of the president's cabinet, the secretaries of war, of navy, of agriculture, of the interior, of commerce and of labor. An advisory commission of seven persons "each of whom shall have special knowledge of some industry, public utility or the development of some natural resource, or be otherwise specially qualified," has been appointed. Its members are Daniel Willard, Samuel Gompers, Howard E. Coffin, Julius Rosenwald, Benard B. Baruch, Dr. Franklin Martin, and Dr. Hollis Godfrey.

The council of national defense has two lines along which it must progress. Its endeavor is to lay down a complete policy of industrial preparedness for the nation, and it is now endeavoring to determine facts concerning the personnel, the material, and the economic and industrial resources to give effect to its policy and to be able to maintain it. The members of the council are determining facts concerning nitrates. All things necessary to make powder in abundance are to be found within the United States except nitrate salts.

To Build Nitrate Plant.

Congress has appropriated $20,000,000 to build a nitrate plant. The sole source of these salts today is Chili. The council of national defense will undertake the study which is intended to make the United States government independent in the matter of production of this absolutely essential element of proper preparedness for defense.

All kinds of industrial problems are being studied by the members of the council. The attempt is to get a thorough knowledge of all the facilities of the United States for comprehensive industrial work, so that preparedness along these lines may keep pace with actual military preparedness. Industrial organizations all over the United States have made offers of assistance to the government.

President Wilson not long ago summed up the duties of the council and the advisory commission in words which put the case succinctly:

"The council of national defense has been created because congress has realized that the country is best prepared for war when thoroughly prepared for peace. From an economic point of view there is now very little difference between the machinery required for commercial efficiency and that required for military purposes. In both cases the whole industrial mechanism must be organized in the most effective way. Upon this conception of the national welfare the council is organized in the words of the act for "the creation of relations which will render possible in time of need the immediate concentration and utilization of the resources of the nation." The organization of the council likewise opens up a new and direct channel of communication and co-operation between business and scientific men and all departments of the government, and it is hoped that it will, in addition, become a rallying point for civic bodies working for national defense.

Its Chief Functions.

"The council's chief functions are: The co-ordination of all forms of transportation and the development of means of transportation to meet the military, industrial, and commercial needs of the nation; the extension of the industrial mobilization work of the committee on industrial preparedness of the naval consulting board. Complete information as to our present manufacturing and producing facilities adaptable to many-sided uses of modern warfare would be procured, analyzed, and made use of.

"One of the objects of the council will be to inform American manufacturers as to the part they can and must play in national emergency. It is empowered to establish at once and maintain through subordinate bodies of specially qualified persons an auxiliary organization composed of men of the best creative and administrative capacity, capable of mobilizing to the utmost the resources of the country."

The details of what the council of national defense is doing or will do probably never will be made public. The means which a nation takes to prepare itself for warfare are not to be publicly proclaimed lest the enemy profit by the information.

JEWELER PUTS IN MEAT AS SIDE LINE

Calexico, Cal. — Cartoonists and paragraphers have not been so very extravagant in their depictions of H. C. of L. if one is to judge by the innovation of a Main street jeweler here, who has actually put in meats as a side line. The store presents a dazzling array of diamonds, steaks, rubies, pork chops, pigs' feet and amethysts. The old talk about casting your pearls before swine now seems to acquire an added significance.

WILL SPEND A MILLION

Miss Rose Young of New York, well-known newspaper woman, has been chosen by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt to direct the expenditure of the $1,000,000 left to Mrs. Catt by the estate of Mrs. Frank Leslie. The courts have just settled the litigation following the will and Mrs. Catt has already received $500,000 of the amount. Miss Young has leased quarters in New York where she will direct the activities of a traveling suffrage school, which may be enlarged to several divisions. Part of the fund will be distributed on the Carnegie plan to state organizations which are conducting suffrage campaigns, but none of the money will pay routine expenses or organization expenses of any organization.

TRAINING FLIERS FOR AIR SERVICE

Good Progress Made at Government Aviation Field at Hempstead Plains.

LEARN THEIR DUTIES QUICKLY

Practice Work In Problems of War Is Principal Task of Instructors—Officers Well Pleased With the Efficiency Shown.

New York.—At the big government aviation field on Hempstead Plains good progress is being made in training fliers and working out tactical problems. The biggest thing yet attempted was a flight by 25 airplanes, the largest number ever to take the air this side of the Atlantic. They went in search of a theoretical enemy.

Some of the machines were manned by regular army officers and others by civilians under training. An enemy regiment—so "dispatches" had reported—was encamped in the vicinity. The problem was to find their trenches, such of their forces as were on the march, their motor transports, and their artillery.

The fliers took the air at three o'clock, and within an hour and 25 minutes all of the information was in the hands of the officers at headquarters on the aviation field.

Pleased With the Test.

Most of the airplanes had returned within 40 minutes, but the squad assigned to locating the motor truck did not accomplish its mission until the truck was within three miles of the field.

The army officers and the flying instructors were much pleased with the test, which was made without any mishaps and according to schedule. The 25 planes took the air in squads, to each one of which had been assigned a special mission. They ascended to heights varying from 6,000 to 8,000 feet, except the squad which had been ordered to detect the artillery fire of the enemy, which flew at about 2,000 feet.

A trench about 400 feet long had been dug about three miles from the camp. Near it was an imaginary regiment represented by strips of white cloth. The motor truck which started from Far Rockaway represented a supply train, and was covered with black and white stripes. Smoke bombs were sent up to represent artillery fire.

In each machine were an observer and a pilot. They took with them maps of the country, sketching pads and cameras. Capt. J. W. Butts of the First Signal corps, operated a camera by a revolving propeller, which permitted the taking of several hundred photographs within a short period.

Do Their Work Well.

The artillery fire was located first, and soon afterward a second squad returned with news of the position of the imaginary regiment. The trench also was found within a comparatively short period. The motor in the meantime had been continuing its run to Mineola, meeting on the Long Island parkway a number of other machines, from which at a great height it was hard to distinguish it. It had arrived at Hempstead village before the aviators discovered it.

The airplanes maintained squad formation during their entire flight. At signals from the officers in command of the different groups, they executed different scouting formations.

Inherits Fiancee's Fortune.

Chicago.—Samuel H. Hodge, bachelor and clubman, inherits the fortune of Mrs. Lucy A. Whitney, his fiancee, who died suddenly several weeks ago, a few days before the date set for their wedding. Her will makes him her heir.

Modern Romance.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—It was an elopement—she squealed with delight—police thought it an abduction—arrest—parents' forgiveness—married. That's the romance of Mary Cerulli, twenty-two, and James Chickerella.

BUNCOED, TURNS TABLE, WINS

North Dakota Man Gets Revenge After Four Years for Fleecing at Richmond.

San Francisco.—James G. Spitzer of Salina, N. D., who was fleeced out of $2,800 at Richmond in 1912, has got nearly one-half of his money back and he is now looking for more bunco men who are seeking an easy mark.

February 17, 1913, was the big day for Spitzer. He was approached by a bunco man in Oakland, who gave him $1,000 in currency to bet on a horse race. Instead of betting the money Spitzer rushed for a police station.

When the Oakland police announced that they would keep the $1,000 as evidence, Spitzer let out a wail of anguish. No arrests were made and the $1,000 was put in the city treasury of Oakland.

Spitzer sued and won his case in the lower court. The appellate court has affirmed the finding of the lower court, an opinion by Associate Justice Richards stating that Spitzer "was in sole and peaceable possession of the money" when the city clerk took it from him.

Cure for Hiccups.

Rockaway, N. Y.—Hiccups sufferers, here's a cure: After ten days' suffering with hiccups, James F. McCabe obtained relief from Tonquin musk, a French Indo-China drug. It sells at $5 a grain, and cost him $120 to be cured.

FARM LABOR IN DEMAND IN WESTERN CANADA

Extraordinary Inducements Being Offered.

Previous articles have dealt with the necessity of producing extra quantities of foods to feed the world during this stress of high consumption and paucity of production. Instead of the condition improving it is growing worse, and unless drastic and immediate action is taken, prices will continue to climb higher. It is hoped by the Canadian government that by offering extra inducements to secure a homestead of 160 acres of excellent land in the homesteading areas of Western Canada, with the combined effort of the farmer in extraordinary preparation of tillage and bigger wages than ever, that Western Canada, with the assistance of a Divine Providence, may produce a greater number of million acres of wheat than ever in the past. The farm laborer can now secure a homestead on easier conditions than ever before. All the time that he works for a Western Canadian farmer during 1917, after he makes his entry or filing will count as residence on his homestead for that year, leaving him but two additional years' residence before getting title to a piece of land that should then be easily worth $1,600. The response to this offer has been wonderful, and hundreds have already taken advantage of it.

The climate of Western Canada is one that breeds energy, instils life and buoyancy, and with the soil that the country possesses, no greater asset could be desired. The country is past the pioneering stage; its ability to grow all the smaller grains better than any other portion of the continent has been proven so often that it seems a waste of time to speak of it. The high name that has been given the country in the splendid class of live stock that it raises, has placed it in the high column with the best states of the Union. And then social conditions, something that every housewife asks about, are as nearly perfect as could be wished for. Thousands of miles of telephone line connect the remotest hamlet with the principal cities of the country and continent, miles of excellent graded roads, as well as the perfect natural roads of the prairie, make driving and hauling easy. Gridironed as these provinces are with railway lines bring the farm near to Atlantic or Pacific, or United States markets, rural mail delivery brings the settler still closer to the homes abroad. Rural and consolidated schools everywhere are easy adjuncts to the colleges and universities, which are said to be among the best on the continent.

Taxation is light, and only applied on the farm land, cattle, implements, etc., on the farm being exempt. Many farmers, having realized sufficient from one crop of wheat to pay for their entire farm holdings, have installed their own electric light and heating plants, have their automobiles and many luxuries they would not have possessed on their old home abroad. Life is comfortable and existence enjoyable in Western Canada. In no country is there a greater percentage of contented farmers, and in no part of the continent is farming easier or more profitable.

Land there will produce 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, while there are many cases where the yield was higher, as high as 70 bushels. What this means to the farm laborer does not fully appear on the surface. He will get good wages, he can secure a homestead worth at the end of three years about $1,600, while working for wages he can put in residence duties, and can also look around, and find a good location.

Besides the homesteading attraction of Western Canada, there remains the other fact that other lands can be purchased at from $15 to $30, while improved farms may be had at reasonable figures.

The desire to have a piece of land of one's own is a natural instinct in the heart of every properly developed man and woman. In earlier years, on account of the great areas of land available in the United States, no great difficulty was experienced by any ambitious settler of that country who wished to become his own landholder, but the rapid increase in population, combined with the corresponding rise in the price of land, has completely changed this condition. Land, which a generation ago might be had for the homesteading, now commands prices ranging to $100 an acre and over. At such prices it is quite hopeless for the tenant farmer or the farmer's son in moderate circumstances, or the city man with limited capital, to attempt to buy a farm of his own. To pay for it becomes a life-long task, and the probability is that he will never do more than meet the interest charges. If he is serious in his desire to secure a farm home, he must look to countries where there is still abundant fertile land available at moderate cost, and where these lands are to be purchased on terms which make it possible for the settler with small capital to become a farm owner as the result of a few years' labor. He will also want land in a country where the practices of the people are similar to those to which he has been accustomed; a country with the same language, same religion, same general habits of living, with laws, currency, weights and measures, etc., based on the same principles as those with which he is familiar. He wants a country where he can buy land from $10.00 to $30.00 an acre, which will produce as big or bigger crops as those he has been accustomed to from lands at $100.00 an acre. He wants this land where social conditions will be attractive to himself and his family, and where he can look forward with confidence to being in a few years independent, and well started on the road to financial success.

All these conditions he will find in Western Canada, and nowhere else. The provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, commonly called "Western Canada," provide the one and only answer to the land-hungry. The land is here; it is the kind of land he wants; the conditions are as nearly ideal as is possible, and the prices and terms are such that the man of moderate capital has an opportunity not available to him elsewhere.—Advertisement.

Light Responsibility.

"I thought you said Dubson could be depended on in an emergency. Yesterday his house caught fire and he got so excited he couldn't turn in an alarm."

"I failed to explain the kind of emergency I meant. If you should ever want to stoop over and tie your shoelace, Dubson could be depended on to hold your hat."

SYRUP OF FIGS FOR A CHILD'S BOWELS

It is cruel to force nauseating, harsh physic into a sick child.

Look back at your childhood days. Remember the "dose" mother insisted on—castor oil, calomel, cathartics. How you hated them, how you fought against taking them.

With our children it's different. Mothers who cling to the old form of physic simply don't realize what they do. The children's revolt is well-founded. Their tender little "insides" are injured by them.

If your child's stomach, liver and bowels need cleansing, give only delicious "California Syrup of Figs." Its action is positive, but gentle. Millions of mothers keep this harmless "fruit laxative" handy; they know children love to take it; that it never fails to clean the liver and bowels and sweeten the stomach, and that a teaspoonful given today saves a sick child tomorrow.

Ask at the store for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which has full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly on each bottle. Adv.

Can't Be Done.

"Will you explain this war situation in two words?" asked the puzzled citizen.

"I'm sorry, but I can't accommodate you," answered the student of international politics. "The vocabulary of a person with average intelligence is about 2,000 words, but when he tries to explain the war he usually ends by getting black in the face and merely spluttering."

LADIES CAN WEAR SHOES

One size smaller after using Allen's Foot-Ease, the antiseptic powder for the feet. Shaken into the shoes and sprinkled in the foot-bath, Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight shoes feel easy and gives instant relief to corns and bunions. *Try it today.* Sold everywhere, 25c. For FREE trial package address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.—Adv.

No Wonder.

"What did your husband think of that twenty-dollar hat you bought?"

"Oh, he just raved over it."

WHAT EVERY WOMAN KNOWS.

Every woman takes great pride in having her home well kept, in having the family wash done early in the week. Good bluing is needed even more than good soap. Be sure to use Red Cross Ball Blue.—Adv.

Some men never accomplish anything because they are unable to find an easy mark to put up the money.

CRISIS OF WOMAN'S LIFE

Change Safely Passed by Taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Wagoner, Okla.—"I never get tired of praising Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound because during Change of Life I was in bed two years and had two operations, but all the doctors and operations did me no good, and I would have been in my grave today had it not been for Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound which brought me out of it all right, so I am now well and do all my housework, besides working in my garden. Several of my neighbors have got well by taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound."—Mrs. VIOLA FINICAL, Wagoner, Okla.

Such warning symptoms as sense of suffocation, hot flashes, headaches, backaches, dread of impending evil, timidity, sounds in the ears, palpitation of the heart, sparks before the eyes, irregularities, constipation, variable appetite, weakness and dizziness should be heeded by middle-aged women. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has carried many women safely through the crisis.

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always use
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Full directions in 15 languages
Sold everywhere—25c and $1.00
U. S. GOVERNMENT BUYS IT

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Will reduce Inflamed, Strained, Swollen Tendons, Ligaments, or Muscles. Stops the lameness and pain from a Splint, Side Bone or Bone Spavin. No blister, no hair gone and horse can be used. $2 a bottle at druggists or delivered. Describe your case for special instructions and interesting horse Book 2 M Free.
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