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CALENDAR OF ILLINOIS HISTORY.

August 15, 1822—The volunteers of the Black Hawk war were mustered out at Dixon.

MILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT.

Not this year—but next year. The wheat crop of 1917 may be set down as a failure, considering the enormous effort expended on it and the hopes centered in it. It barely suffices for our own needs; when we wanted hundreds of millions of bushels for our hungry allies. But there is to be no repetition of this failure, the earnest efforts of the government counts for anything. The department of agriculture is already starting a campaign for a bumper wheat crop in 1918, with 1,000,000 bushels the goal.

We raised that much in 1915, and here's no evident reason why, with ordinary luck and a little more than ordinary effort, we shouldn't do it again. The agricultural department admits that there is some shortage of fertilizer, but believes that this handicap can be overcome.

It is promised that there will be no shortage in the supply of seed, farm machinery and transportation. The area to be planted is the most uncertain factor, but it is believed that with governmental support of \$2 wheat this season, and assurance of a similar guarantee next year, and with the new stress the government is bringing to bear, the farmers will be moved to add the necessary acreage.

According to departmental "dops," the end can be attained if 47,337,000 acres are sown this fall in winter wheat. That represents an increase of 18 per cent in wheat area. On the basis of the average production of the last ten years, that should yield 672,000,000 bushels more than we ever raised before except in 1914 and 1915. It would then require but a slight increase in next year's spring wheat acreage, with an average production, per acre, to make the billion bushels. If the spring wheat acreage were not increased at all over this year's, and we had as good luck with it as we had in 1915, the desired billion would be realized.

It would be rash to say, off-hand, that this cannot be done. Barring unlikely accidents, it certainly can be done if American farmers make up their minds to it and proceed with the determination that characterizes a military campaign. It is none too soon to start preparing for the great "drive."

CAMOUFLAGE.

The war has created a new and fascinating art, developed apparently by the French and practised by them and the British with conspicuous success. They call it "camouflage." It is the art of deception for purposes of concealment from the enemy.

A battery of guns is decked out with branches to make it look like a clump of underbrush. A "tank" is painted mud-color, to make it indistinguishable from the soil it crawls over. Tents are smeared in all sorts of outlandish hues to make them blend with the landscape like natural objects. Soldiers' uniforms are colored to suit the particular work they are engaged in, by day or night, according to the light, the weather conditions, the soil and the vegetation. Airplanes are made to blend with the sky and clouds, boats and ships to blend with the water.

It isn't really a new thing, though its military use is a novelty. The birds have been practicing camouflage for countless ages, suiting their color to their environment to escape detection by their foes. Sometimes they do it by blending into the color of bark, leaves, plants, grass or soil, and sometimes by means of bold contrast. Insects are great camouflage artists, for the sake of protection from the birds. Animals do it, too. Any hunter knows the difficulty of detecting a wild rabbit when it squats motionless on the snow or dead grass before his eyes. And what boy has not learned the difficulty of catching frogs, those camouflage experts of the swamps?

Now that the armies have taken it up, we may soon be applying this art to civilian life. What fine possibilities there are in the way of making ugly factories, fences, railroad tracks, etc., inconspicuous. And if you want people to stop bothering you in your summer cottage, just try a little camouflage on it. You can hide your outhouses in the same way, and cover up disagreeable features of rooms and furniture.

And then there's clothes. Why not sartorial camouflage, to conceal physical defects, or even to make your-

RETURN TO WORK,  
ORDER TO MINERS

OPERATORS REFUSE TO GRANT DEMANDS FOR INCREASE OF WAGES—FEAR I. W. W. IS ORGANIZING MINERS.

Chicago, Aug. 15.—President Frank Farrington, of the district executive board of the miners' union, today was prepared to order striking miners to return to work, following the refusal of coal operators to accede to the strikers' demands for increased pay. Farrington declared the situation one of "rebellion" and disclaimed any responsibility.

It is probable that Governor Lowden and the coal operators also will instruct the men to return to work.

The operators today announced fifty mines are now idle, 20,000 miners are out of work and estimated that the Illinois coal production has been reduced 25 per cent, or 100,000 tons a day.

Drastic measures to end the strike that have thrown 20,000 Illinois miners out of employment and closed fifty mines, were decided upon yesterday as a joint conference of representatives of three coal operators' associations and the state's executive board of the miners, headed by President Frank Farrington.

"We call upon the operators to define their position in the present strike crisis."

A committee was appointed by the operators, and the ultimatum prepared.

It is addressed to the miners' executive board and says in part:

"After deliberate consideration the operators have decided hereby to notify you they will not accede to the demands of the miners, coalmen and other day laborers for increased wages.

The Illinois mine owners have in good faith entered into an agreement with your organization, specifying the wages that shall be paid the men who are now responsible for these mines being idle.

We are willing at all times to give due consideration to any grievance your members may have if it is taken up in the regular way as specified in the agreement with your organization. We will not surrender to such rebellion as now seems rampant throughout the state.

Put Men Back, Demand.

Therefore you are notified we find that the executive force of the Miners' Union use its full power to force the rebellious members to return to work. We shall expect and have a right to expect you leave nothing undone to accomplish this end.

You are also reminded that, in the event of your inability to influence the day hands to return to work immediately, the mine committees will be obliged under the provisions of our agreement to furnish men to take their place. We expect the union to go to the extreme limit to see this section in our contract is complied with.

Any failure on your part to do this will be regarded as a failure to discharge the obligations imposed upon you by the joint agreement and as a warrant for us to take such other action as we may and necessary in order to force compliance in your members to the fulfillment of the contract.

Miners to Take Stand.

"We asked the operators to define their position and they have done so," said President Farrington. "Our executive board will go to Springfield and declare the stand it will take. This is all that can be said at this time."

The understanding of the operators is that the union executives' statement to the men on strike will be just as severe in tone as that of the operators.

What will happen if the men refuse to return to work the operators do not know. They spent several hours trying to decide upon a course of action. They agreed to stand together, refuse to raise wages and hold the union to its contracts. They also will hold their own members to the rules of the three organizations, which means that any operator making a side agreement with the miners will be ousted.

May Appeal to U. S.

Should President Farrington fail in his efforts, it is probable the operators would appeal to the federal government. Coal Director Carter has told them he is without jurisdiction in the matter of labor and they feel they can expect no material assistance from the State Council of Defense.

The entire middle is fast drifting toward a stage where the government is likely to step in. There are rumors that I. W. W. and German propagandists have been at work in the coal fields and investigators consider it significant that 500 young men—few more than twenty-five years—have thrown 20,000 others out of work and curtailed the coal production of Illinois 25 per cent, or 100,000 tons daily.

We always love those who admire us; we do not always love those whom we admire.

self invisible in the midst of a crowd?

FREEDOM

Mrs. Hinley, of Ottawa, visited her daughter, Mrs. Benj. Dolder part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schmidt, of San Benito, Texas, who were recently married, are guests of relatives.

Mr. O. A. Priestland and Thelma, of Mendota, visited at the Arentson home last week. Mr. Priestland came for them Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Clark, of Ottawa, were week end visitors here.

Mrs. Clifford Dana, of Colorado, is a guest at the home of her brother, Chas. Ellis and family.

Mrs. Smith, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, visited at the home of her niece, Mrs. Harold Battles part of last week.

Mrs. Mannie Thompson is visiting her friend, Miss Isabel Larson, in Leblond, this week.

Wm. Denton and family of Rochelle visited at the home of James Stover Sunday.

Mrs. A. J. Bishop left Monday for her old home in Oklahoma to visit relatives for a few weeks.

George Shaw, of Ottawa, is visiting his grandparents in Hardhat this week.

Mrs. Ralph Hall is visiting relative in Mendota this week.

Mrs. Ruth Hall is in Chicago this week taking treatment for the throat.

D. A. Hall, Wm. Hall and Frank Wirth families and Miss Lois Smith and Miss Fannie White, of Peoria, attended at Glen Park last Tuesday.

Mrs. Carl Erickson and wife, of McKeesport, Pa., were guests of friends here a few days this week.

Miss Lois Wiley visited at the home of J. Ed. Ellwell part of last week.

Mrs. Wanda and children, of Mankato, Iowa, were guests at the T. H. Thompson and H. T. Brannon homes last week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Kray and children, of Bello, and Chas. McElroy, of Chicago, visited at Mrs. Margaret's Sunday.

Mrs. C. E. Leary entertained the Merry Widows at her home Wednesday afternoon of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Stewart spent the week end with Ottawa relatives.

Dentley King, of Williamsport, Ky., spent last week with Mrs. H. Macquette.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Mosley and daughter, Miss Tess, and son, Orrin, of Leblond, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Moser and son, Omer, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Moxey, resided at Starved Rock on Sunday.

Miss Nora Worsely, of Triumph, visited at the home of Rudolph Worsely last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Justin Johnson and little son, motor to Whitewater, Wisconsin, last Saturday for a few days' outing.

Elwood Mann, of Chicago, is visiting at the John Johnson home.

C. A. Leech and family and Mrs. Goldman spent Sunday at Starved Rock.

Miss Blanche Dunn, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, is visiting friends here for two weeks.

A telegram was received here last week announcing the death of Mabel Laura Stanley, of Clearwater, Kansas. Mrs. Stanley was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lucas. She had been in very poor health for a year and at the time of her death was in a sanatorium in Topeka, Kan.

Milton Terry, E. T. Gody, from here and Albert Terry, and sons, of Serena, camped here, of Serena last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Marena Yackie and daughter, Hazel, Mrs. Fraim and sons, Edward and Elmer, of Hammond, visited at Clyde Gody's Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schmidt and Mrs. Paul Schmidt motor to Rochelle last Friday.

The Ladies' Aid cleared \$25.75 at the lawn social at the Mossey home last Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Keeler left Friday in their auto for California, where they expect to make their home.

The Phobian Circle cleared about \$25 at their ice cream social at the Lutheran church last Thursday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Wills Clark and Maynard, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Clark and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Pool attended the Rowe family reunion at Eldridge's on Sunday. There were thirty-nine members of the family present.

The Lutheran Sunday school, under the leadership of their annual picnic at Starved Rock last Wednesday, was an ideal success for a picnic and large crowd attended.

There will be no church service held in the M. E. church, Thursday, August 16th, and Mrs. Blanche Arentson, of Mendota, will be the only one attending.

Several of the boys, Benjie and Melvin, of the young people's club, accompanied Starved Rock on Wednesday last week. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Miller, of Mendota, Mrs. Frances Kellogg, and Miss Paul.

Miss Gertrude Branch is having a two weeks' outing with friends at Lake Geneva.

Chas. and Mrs. Leblond, who were on the new boat on R. D. Smith's farm last week.

The boys will meet at the home of Mrs. Harvey Knutson, Thursday afternoon, August 16th.

Mrs. Antoinette Henningson left on Monday for her home in Upper Wisconsin, after a month's visit with relatives here. Her nephew, Tom Terry, went with her and will attend school there this year.

Miss Clara, Anna and Mary Wiley and Margaret Schuch, of Williamsport, were calling at the Mossey home on Wednesday.

Mrs. Cookman and daughter, who are on their way from Cleveland, Ohio, to their new home in Chicago, yesterday visited their cousin, Mrs. Harold Battles, a few days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beach left last week for a trip to Yellowstone Park and other western points.

Young men members of the Roman Catholic youth club were guests at a social at the St. Joseph's church last Monday evening. About 100 young men attended the entertainment for the evening. By games and other sports.

Mr. and Mrs. Benj. Knutson, of the city, spent the week end at the home of Wm. Stover.

Miss Gertrude Branch is having a two weeks' outing with friends at Lake Geneva.

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"Does your dog ever growl?" "No. He knows that my husband has his business and his mind."

Grandchildren in the "Cincinnati" may have no rank or position.

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MOTHER OF NINE CHILDREN

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If you want special advice write Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential), Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read, and answered by women only.

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