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annoyance.

As The Editor Sees It.

Those who have the welfare
of their town and city at heart
are always glad to welcome
worthy people to their midst,
glad of all additions of their
ranks that tend to the town's
advancement. Population—des-
irable population—is a prime
necessity. But there is a ten-
dency among a certain class of
our population to move to town
that, for the best welfare of the
country, should be discouraged.
We refer to the solid, substan-
tial farmer, who has made a
success of the farm, accumu-
lated a competence, and turning
the farm over to tenants, re-
moves with his family to town
to "enjoy life." Not that the
town people would not be glad
to welcome him and his family,
but that they realize that in
deserting his farm he is work-
ing an injury to the commu-
nity in general that can not be
remedied. Were he to sell his
farm holdings to competent
parties his move would be
welcomed. But to turn the
farm over to tenants who, in
most cases, have no interest
save that of extracting the last
dollar of profit from the land,
is working an untold injury to
the community. The success-
ful farmer owes his success to
his own enterprise and indus-
try. There is no royal road to
success on the farm. The
causes that work for the indi-
vidual success of the farmer,
are the forces that go to build
up the substantial interests of
the community in general. No
community can be considered
desirable wherein the individ-
uals are unsuccessful. A com-
munity of well-developed farms
turned over to careless or dis-
interested tenants is a most
pitiable sight. Not that all
tenants are thus unconcerned,
but the fact remains that many
of them are, and can not be
expected to be otherwise, not
having the same inducements
as the owner. The successful
farmer owes it to his commu-
nity and to his own manhood
to devote to the development of
his community the same ener-
gies that have won his success.
And in this age of schools and
churches, or telephones, rural
mails and automobiles, life on
the farm has none of the ele-
ments of privation. In fact, in
most particulars it has town
life beaten to a finish.

A People Aroused.

Whether or not the American
people are fully aroused on all
matters pertaining to the war,
there can be no question as to
their being wide awake to the
importance of increased food
production. As the figures on
this season's crop become avail-
able, the results assume stag-
gering proportions. Such crops
the world never before has seen.
The one item of Irish potatoes
shows the amazing yield of 450
billion bushels. Corn is away
up alongside of the tubers, and
in all lines, except, possibly,
wheat the figures have swelled

far beyond anything ever before
known in this country of enor-
mous yields.

The result should be a source
of great encouragement to our
people in many ways. It will
tend to give us some idea of the
immensity of the domain we
are called upon to fight for in
order to preserve its integrity.
It must also convince that there
can be no reasonable fear of
hunger in such a land unless
we lose either the inclination
or the ability to tickle our soil
to the yielding.

The result is also gratifying
in that there now is no question
of our being able to extend to
our allies all needed supplies of
food. Last spring this matter
loomed darkly as one of the dire
possibilities. That it no longer
exists will tend to remove at
least one of the sources of dis-
content. Once assured that we
shall not want for plenty, our
people will view with willing-
ness the exporting of supplies
across the waters.

The results of the year's la-
bors should teach one more
lesson. We should remember
that no task is so great but that
with the proper perseverance
and grit it may be accomplish-
ed. Also that there are very
few achievements but may be
improved upon. If we can in a
single season so largely swell
the national production, we
should in the next few years,
with an arousing of the well-
known American pluck and
ingenuity, be able to discount
even that record. In fact it
should teach us that we have
not yet even imagined a limit
to what we could accomplish.

So, whatever other matters
we may have to give us dis-
quiet, we may be thankful that we
shall not hunger—that there is
enough and to spare.

Is Food Conservation Failing?

Reports come from many sec-
tions of the country that the
answer to the appeal for con-
servation is not by any means
what it should be, and what
the authorities had every rea-
son to expect it would be. It
has been some time since the
people were urged to economize
on wheat, yet we are informed
that the consumption of wheat
in this country for the month
of October, 1917, was 18 per cent
greater than for the same month
last year.

Now, hysteria in the matter
of economy will get us nowhere.
It is useless to seek to scare the
people with the cry of possible
famine. All too well they know
this to be impossible so long as
the seasons come and reason-
able work is done. People every-
where are earning more these
days than ever before, perhaps,
in the lives. This no doubt ac-
counts for much of the increase
in consumption.

But while the people can not
be scared into economy, if the
matter is placed before them in
its proper light, common sense
should induce them to economize.

The present era of high prices
is in the nature of a windfall—
a streak of luck that can not,
in the nature of things, contin-
ue indefinitely. Eventually the
cause—war—must be removed,
when prices will naturally seek
something near the old level.
The man who, while taking
every legitimate advantage of
inflated values, at the same
time practices economy in his
expenditures, is the man who
will be living on Easy Street
when the slump comes. The
fellow who increases his style
of living to match his salary
will find himself at that time
in worse condition than ever.
He will have contracted habits
of life that he will find impos-
sible to maintain when condi-
tions change.

There is, however, another
aspect of the case that should
be impressed upon all. Our
government has decided to

maintain the Allies to the best
of its ability. It will also keep
plenty of supplies going to our
own armies in Europe. These
causes, together with extrava-
gance at home, may easily cause
such conditions that it will be
imperative that the govern-
ment take active steps in food
control. This has not been
done as yet, the government
preferring to place the people
on their honor in the matter of
conservation. If that honor is
continually and systematically
violated, the government will
have no alternative other than
to take charge.

The man who persistently
refuses to comply with the re-
quests in the matter of food
conservation is helping to bring
that day nearer.

The problem of labor for our
farms is looming up as the one
great question, and in many
localities is becoming really
serious. Even before we were
in war it was a matter of con-
cern. Now the matter can no
longer be lightly set aside.
There is no doubt that unless
steps are taken, before the en-
tire war draft is run out, to re-
create the ranks of farm labor,
it will be a physical impossibil-
ity for our farms to meet the
demands that will be made up-
on them another season. Many
localities report that even now
the scarcity of farm labor is
seriously crippling operations,
and when the draft is complet-
ed the situation will be even
more serious. It is hoped that
the amended regulations will
tend to relieve the situation.
From the present outlook, it
would seem the part of wisdom
that the draft apply to farm
labor equally with the army. It
would be hard to tell which is
the most important just at this
time. Certain it is that with-
out the farmer our armies will
be impotent.

Jerusalem is at last in Chris-
tian hands, and the preaching
of Peter the Hermit has been
vindicated. During the twelve
hundred years in which it has
been in the hands of the Moslem
it would be hard to estimate
the lives sacrificed in the at-
tempt to wrest it from him. It
should never again be desecrat-
ed by his presence, to say noth-
ing of his revolt. The Holy
City should revert to its right-
ful owners, and the entire ter-
ritory of Palestine with it.
They should have a free hand
in rebuilding a Jewish nation
if they so wish.

The Kaiser is quoted as say-
ing that all he wants is justice,
and the Allied world is of one
mind in the determination to
see that he gets it—and in full
measure. The probabilities are,
however, that his kaisership
won't recognize the article when
he sees it coming.

The war has called back into
service nearly 500 retired offi-
cers of the Navy and 138 former
officers who resigned to enter
civil life, including 22 rear ad-
mirals, 18 commodores, and 34
captains.

Within 12 hours after receiv-
ing news of the Halifax disas-
ter the woman's committee of
the council of National Defense
had equipped a relief steamer
and started it to the scene of
the disaster.

A nation wide campaign for
economy in the use of coal in
steam plants has been under-
taken by the Fuel Administration.
The Bureau of Mines is con-
ducting the campaign, with the
help of the American Society
of Mechanical Engineers.

The retail price of milk in
England has been advanced
from 14 to 16 cents a quart.
The sale and use of cream has
been prohibited, except for in-
valids, infants, and for butter
making.

Purchase War Savings Stamps

And Help Your Country Down the Kaiser

Until the last day of January, 1918, you can buy
a \$5.00 stamp for \$4.12. Twenty stamps consti-
tute a War Savings Certificate, costing until the last
day of January, \$82.40.

On January 1, 1923, five years from now, the
government will pay you \$100 for such certificate,
giving a net earning of \$17.60 to you.

After the last day of January the price of these
stamps will increase at the rate of one cent a month.
Better buy at once and save the advance.

FOR SALE AT ANY POSTOFFICE

THIS SPACE DONATED BY
THE BIG STONE GAP POST
TO HELP DOWN THE KAISER

**Radford Nor-
mal Notes**

The Second Quarter of the
Normal opens January 2. A large
number of new students are en-
tering at the beginning of this
quarter. The Normal School at
Radford is in session forty-eight
weeks in each year. These forty-
eight weeks are divided into
four quarters of about twelve
weeks each. Students enter
without difficulty in September,
January, March or June. The
same credit is given for work
done in the Summer Quarter as
for work done in any other quar-
ter. Many of those entering
now are teachers, and a still
larger number of teachers will
enter at the beginning of the
spring Quarter in March and re-
main during the spring and sum-
mer Quarters.

Prof. W. E. Gilbert on Christ-
mas Day was married to Miss
Harriett T. Cooper, at West-
chester, Pa. Mrs. Gilbert is a
graduate of the Westchester, Pa.
Normal School and has taught in
the high schools of Virginia for
the last five years. For the past
two years she has taught in the
Radford High School. Prof.
Gilbert is a native of Russell
County, an alumnus of the Uni-
versity of Virginia, and one of
the well known educators of the
State. He has been Professor
of History and Social Science at
the Radford Normal School since
its opening in 1913. Prof. and
Mrs. Gilbert reached Radford on
Monday, December 31st.

The physical Director and
Resident Physician of the Nor-
mal School make careful meas-
urements and rests of the body,
physical condition and health of
each student entering the insti-
tution. A carefully prepared
record of each student is kept
and physical exercise and recrea-
tion necessary for the health and
development of the student is
prescribed. Certain physical

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and unexplicated proposition to January students.
Piedmont Business College, Lynchburg, Virginia

RADFORD STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
Students can enter at the beginning of the second quarter early in January or
the beginning of the third quarter in March and find all the courses they will possibly
wish. Free State Scholarships, very moderate expenses, and courses suitable for
all kinds of teachers and prospective teachers.
For Catalogue, Booklet of Views, and Full Information write:
John Preston McConnell, President. East Radford, Va.

exercises are required of each
student each week. The trained
nurse and resident physician
carefully look after the health of
the students. During the first
quarter closing in December,
there was not a single case of
anything like serious sickness in
the whole student body.

Clark-Bailey.

The marriage of Miss Golden
Bailey, of Big Stone Gap, Va.,
to Mr. Robert Clark, of Fayette
county was solemnized on Mon-
day afternoon at 2 o'clock at
the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. C.
G. Hobbs on North Broadway.

The bride is the niece of Mr.
Hobbs and has been making
her home with them for some
time. She is pretty, bright and
charming and was educated at
Berea College.

Rev. Mark Collis was the
officiating minister, the couple
sealing their marriage vows
with a ring.

Only the members of the two
families witnessed the seremo-
ny and after the wedding the
bride and groom left for a short
trip.

They will be at home with
Mr. Clark's parents, Mr. and
Mrs. Granville Clark, at their
place in the country on the
Walnut Hill pike.
The bridegroom is a splendid

young citizen and prosperous
farmer.

The young couple was re-
membered with many hand-
some gifts and have the good
wishes of all for happiness and
prosperity.—Lexington, Ky.,
Herald.

Mrs. Clark has a large num-
ber of friends in the Gap, who
will be interested in the above
announcement. She is a niece
of Mrs. Florie Reaser, of near
Olinger, where she made her
home before going to her uncle,
who is a prominent lawyer in
Lexington.

General Porshing has sent
the American people a message
that contains a volume in a
sentence of three clauses. He
says, "Germany can be benten,
Germany must be beaten, and
Germany will be beaten." To
every word of which every red-
blooded American will shout
"Amen!"

There are now approximately
19,000 speakers in the "Four
Minute Men," the nation-wide
organization of volunteer
speakers who assist the Govern-
ment in the work of nation-
al defense by presenting mes-
sages of vital national importance
to motion picture theatre audi-
ences.