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FORMER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
WRITES FROM FRANCE

have never read in books, and so many things I have read in books have been so contrary to what I have experienced and observed, that if ever I do get back I may be able to tell others.

The French people are the most kind and polite people that I have ever had any dealings with. I never dreamed of so much of it in any one race of people. It has been a wonderful experience for me to profit by when I get home.

Since I began this letter with such a sad tone I have rather "eased up" and feel much better because, well, you know the because.

I wish that I had time to write every one of you a personal letter, but this I am unable to do because I really haven't the time during these strenuous times.

I have ordered the Stayton Mail sent to me and while that will be a great tonic for me, there is nothing that would take the place of letters from my students.

Just remember, anyway, that I think of you many times every day.

Yours very truly,
—Burgess F. Ford.
12 rue d'Aguesseau,
Paris, France.



AMERICA MAKES GOOD

Hoover's Hopes Are Exceeded

Remarkable Results at End of Food Administration's First Year Proves Voluntary System Was No Mistake—Confidence That People Will Continue Patriotic Conservation Efforts is Felt at Washington.

W. B. Ayer, Federal Food Administrator for Oregon, earnestly directs attention to some excerpts from a recent official summary, at the end of its first year's work, of the United States Food Administration's aims, methods and results. These excerpts are given below:

"When the U. S. Food Administration undertook the work of conserving and mobilizing America's food resources, there were three methods of approach possible in handling the problem, these methods of control being rationing, high prices and voluntary effort.

The Three Systems.

"The introduction of rationing into this country would have resulted in an inevitable reaction. It would also mean a tremendous expenditure. On the basis of the rationing system adopted by European countries for certain staple foods, it would require \$4,800,000 a year for the printing of the necessary ration cards; it would demand one official for every 1,000 families to take care of distribution under this system; in fact, on the European basis, about \$45,000,000 a year would be required to administer the rationing system in this country.

"Control of consumption by high prices was obviously too unfair to merit consideration in such a country as ours, meaning as it must, conservation for the rich at the expense of the poor.

"The voluntary system, based upon education and publicity (the third alternative), was selected because of the moderate expense involved, and because of the opportunity it afforded to use the great desire of loyal Americans to serve their country.

Results Enormous.

"The results of the voluntary control of food have been enormous. The surplus of the 1917-18 wheat crop, based on normal consumption, would have been 29,000,000 bushels. If the present rate of saving by the American people continues, we shall be able to deliver to our Allies from this crop possibly 170,000,000 bushels of wheat, of which 150,000,000 will represent the voluntary savings of the American people. This delivery of wheat has enabled the Allies to meet the more immediate and pressing bread needs of their people, and to keep up the bread ration of their soldiers.

"As to our exports of meat, the results of conservation are even more remarkable. The analysis of figures in regard to hogs indicates that we were 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 hogs short when the conservation campaign was started. Before the war, the average monthly export of hog products was about 50,000,000 pounds. In March, 1918, we exported 300,000,000 pounds and can see our way clear, with the present saving and production, to go forward at this rate for an indefinite period. Before 1914, we were exporting from 1,000,000 to 6,000,000 pounds of beef per month. After the European war began, there was an increase to about 23,000,000 per month. Now, we are exporting at the rate of 130,000,000 pounds of beef per month and, with the continuation of conservation and production, there is no reason to anticipate a material reduction in these figures.

Great Offensive Needed.

"The winning of the war depends upon the development of great offensive strength on the part of the United States. This offensive must include ships, men, supplies and food. With the increase in the size of our Army, there is a necessary decrease in our productive capacity. Harvests are bound to vary with seasonal conditions.

"The only safe procedure for us and for the Allies is to provide enormous reserve stocks of staple foods, both here and in Europe, to meet any emergency which may arise. In a later period of the war, to have to stop in a critical phase of it in order to put unusual emphasis upon agricultural production, might be fatal to our final success.

"There must be no letdown in the program of conservation until the new harvest. Heartened by our success and by the spirit of devotion and self-sacrifice shown by the American people, we must go ahead more than ever convinced of our responsibility to those who fight with us and to those unfortunate peoples who look to us as the one source of the food supply necessary to keep them from destruction.

In France and England.

"The American Labor Mission just home from London, was appointed by President Wilson to make a study of conditions in England and France. Of its nineteen members, nine are from the American Federation of Labor, two of whom are women. The others represent every social element of the American people. This mission made a comprehensive study of conditions in the Allied countries, and before leaving London for America, issued the following statement regarding food conditions:

"Since landing in England, all members of the committee have visited a number of cities and interviewed a large number of people regarding the food situation, as well as other mat-



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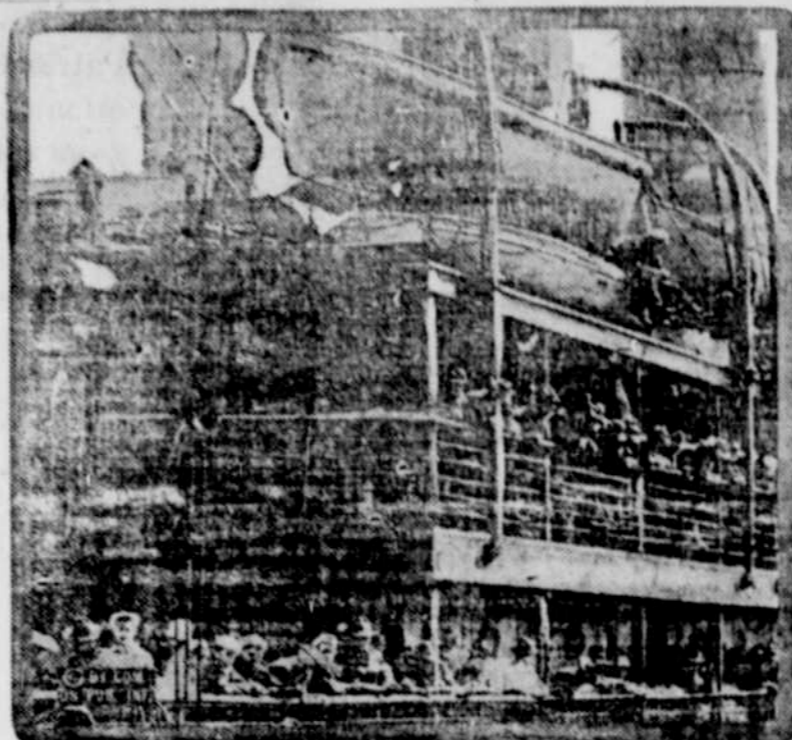
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American troops have crowded hundreds of ships this spring and summer, pouring through British and French ports on their way to Chateau Thierry and the Aisne-Marne front. So continuously do the columns of Americans march through British channel ports to embark for France that the English residents call it "the endless line."

Fourth Liberty Loan Bonds will provide more and bigger ships for more, but not better, soldiers to help the Hun in his retreat to Berlin.

WOMEN AND THE WAR

By MRS. HENRY P. DAVISON

Treasurer War Work Council
National Board Y. W. C. A.

In an Illinois prairie town lives a widow who launders seventeen baskets of wash a week and every night thanks God for having put pity into the hearts of women. To her came one day a letter from her only son. He was then at Camp Funston, Kansas, learning to be a soldier. The letter begged her to come and see him before he was sent to France.



Mrs. Davison

The mother opened the tin bank in which she had been hoarding her dimes and quarters against this day. The money was scarcely enough. Nevertheless she started. She walked the first eighteen miles. Then her strength gave out, and she took a train.

She did not know that visitors to Camp Funston stay in Junction City, eleven miles away. So she got off the train at Fort Riley. An officer set her right and she reached Junction City after dark. Somehow she found a rooming-house. Some one there stole five dollars from her—five of the precious dollars she had earned over the wash tub and saved by walking. Terror-stricken, she crept out of the house when no one was looking.

Later in the night a soldier found her trembling in the street, and took her to the rooms of the Young Women's Christian Association, rooms which the War Work Council had opened as a clearing-house for troubles. The poor frightened woman was put to bed, but she was too miserable to sleep. The matron got up at daybreak, built a fire, and comforted her. The son's commanding officer was reached by telephone early in the morning, and the boy came to his mother on the first trolley-car he could catch.

The two spent long, low-voiced hours together, perhaps the last hours they will have this side of heaven. Every moment was as precious as a month had been last year. The old lady had still one present worry. The boy's bad cold might turn into pneumonia if she left him. But she had not money enough to stay another night and buy a ticket home. When the matron told her that her bed was free, she broke down and cried.

"I did not know there was so much pity left in the world," she sobbed. She stayed till her boy's cold was better. Then she went back to her seventeen washings and her memories.

Because of the certainty of just such cases as this was Governmental sanction given to the activities of the War Work Council of the Y. W. C. A. From the Pacific to the Atlantic its field extends. Every state in the Union has its members. Urgent appeals for help are its cause and its

inspiration. Women of every race and creed are its wards. The work of the War Work Council is tremendous.

When the United States entered the great war the Young Women's Christian Association was, as always, working among women. With the call to new duties its members did not abandon their old responsibilities. The War Work Council was formed as an emergency measure to take care of the women who were caught in some of the mazes of war, just as the parent organization has taken care of them through many years of peace. The varied activities decided upon by the War Work Council follow closely the needs of the different communities of the country. Secretaries trained in the methods of the organization were sent out broadcast. They were instructed to report to the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association in New York the lines of work which could be best followed in the various localities. These secretaries work in close cooperation with ministers, women's clubs, chambers of commerce, churches, military officials, and charitable societies. The record of a day's doings of a secretary reads like a novel, an economic treatise, and a psychological essay all compressed into a line-a-day entry.

A secretary sent out by the War Work Council must be equal to any emergency. Miss Lillian Hull at Chillicothe, close by Camp Sherman, hurray along the street at nightfall came upon a forlorn couple. A Finnish soldier had found a job for his wife, so that she might come on from Cleveland. When she arrived she was refused the place because she spoke no English. Their money had been all spent on the railroad fare, and the soldier was due back at Camp. The situation was bad.

Thanks to Miss Hull a Chillicothean housewife now has an industrious and grateful domestic, a soldier is happy, and a soldier's wife is safe.

Army folks often benefit even more directly from the secretaries' work. In Bremerton, Washington, a secretary was accosted on the street by a sailor. She was a slender woman, and he had mistaken her for a girl. "May I walk along with you?" he asked.

"Surely," she replied with mature understanding and intuition. "What is the matter? Are you homesick?" The lad's story came out with a rush. Yes, he was homesick, so hopelessly, despairingly heartick that he was on the verge of deserting. But this woman gave him genuine sympathy and encouragement. She saved him to his country.

From north, south, east and west these pioneer secretaries sent in their reports. The appalling size of the undertaking was revealed to the War Work Council. Systematization of the work was the first step. Out of the multitudinous phases certain lines of work were revealed.

(Continued)

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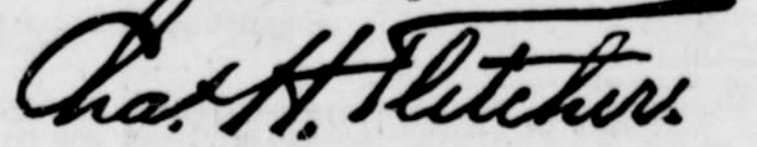
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