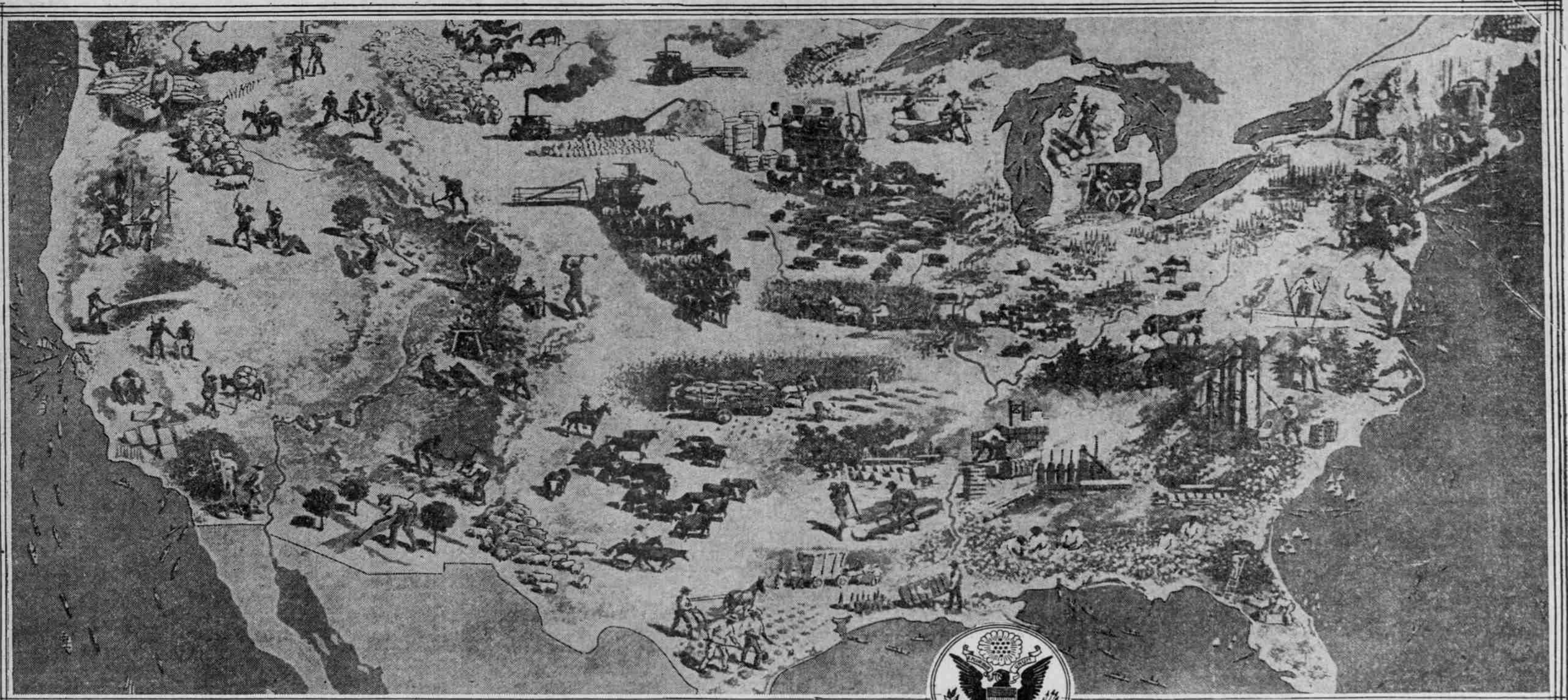


# The Greater United States

FRANK G. CARPENTER WRITES OF OUR NEW INDUSTRIAL EMPIRE FROM STANDPOINT OF PREPAREDNESS.



Map of United States Showing Some of Industries That Will Be Dealt With by Mr. Carpenter.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—It thrills me when I think of my job. I am to write a series of letters about our new industrial empire from the standpoint of preparedness. I have agreed to travel over the United States and make on-the-ground studies of the revolution that is going on in our farms, factories and mines. I want to show their importance in this critical stage of our history. I want to investigate their wonderful resources, and how they may best be developed in view of the enormous demands—that have arisen in connection with our great war with Germany and with the trade war that will probably result when peace comes.

I wonder if you realize what a great possession the United States is. It is the best business proposition in the assets of the nations. It is by far and large the richest country on the face of the globe, and its possibilities are beyond the dreams of national savants. Suppose we take a look at the globe and see what we have. Pick the continents and islands out of the oceans and you would find that all together, all told, it is just about 52,000,000 square miles, and that the United States owns more than one-sixteenth of the whole. That means that if all the land upon earth could be joined in one farm and that farm divided into 16-acre fields, one acre in every field would belong to us. If it were bunched into farms of 160 acres each, Uncle Sam would own a 10-acre field in every one of those farms.

Now cast your eye once more at the globe and see where our land lies. It is at just the right angle in the face of the sun to give us a climate that will produce everything that man wants, and at the same time, the ozone to supply the ambition and energy to drag the products from the soil. We raise so much that we feed not only ourselves, but a series of the rest of the world, and our country is so situated that we have the best place from which to trade with the whole human race. Lying in the middle of the North American continent, we have water highways which connect us with the millions of Europe and the millions of Asia. It is the best trading stand in the market place of this big round world.

Our soil is so good, our mineral resources so great, and our position so fitted for the accumulation of wealth that we have already become the richest of people of the whole human race. Our wealth is of enormous account as a war asset. It is now estimated at 220 thousand millions of dollars. The amount is so enormous that the human mind cannot comprehend it. It is equal to one-fourth of all the wealth of all the world. This means that if all the assets of all the earth could be turned into cash, and from the mines could be dragged enough ore to make sufficient gold to represent that cash, one-fourth of all these gold pieces would belong to us. If the golden eagles could be loaded into bushel baskets, we would own a peck of gold of every basket.

If we could separate our share of the golden eagles and contrive a way to count them, they would be 11,000,000 in number. If we could divide them evenly among our population, there would be about \$2500 for every one of us. At five to the family, there would be more than \$12,000 for every family—white, black and red—of the whole United States; enough, if invested at 5 per cent, to bring in \$600 a year, enough to give every family an income of \$60 a month for all time to come. We are so rich that our new war indebtedness is a bagatelle in comparison with our national income. Even at 6 per cent, the annual interest charge on \$5,000,000,000 would be only \$1,500 for each of us, or only \$7 per annum per family.

We have accumulated this great wealth, although we have just begun to develop our resources and are still prospecting the country to find out what they are and how they may best be brought forth for the use of mankind. Let us stop and look at a few

of our assets. We have now to make a cost efficiency sheet as a military necessity, and, like Germany, must make every atom of material, industry and energy tell. The purpose of my travels will be to learn something of where our wealth lies, to investigate our resources, and find how they may be developed, protected and made most efficient for the present and future. It is my plan to visit our chief food-producing centers, and show something of what part each has in the Nation's prosperity. I want to go down into the mines, and find out their place in Uncle Sam's account sheet. I want to take up the chief industries, and especially the new industries which the troubles in Europe have made so necessary to our industrial independence.

A large part of my travels will relate to the farms. We need these to supply our own wants and to aid in feeding our allies in Europe. The farms are Uncle Sam's biggest asset. They brought in almost 14,000 millions of dollars last year, which is more than two and a half billion dollars above the receipts of any crop of the past. Nevertheless, the Agricultural Department believes that these crops might be doubled, and improved farming is being introduced into every part of the country. The South has been getting 20 cents a pound for its cotton, and the West about \$2 a bushel for wheat. The farmers received more than one billion dollars for each of those crops in 1915. They now have the capital to inaugurate better soil cultivation. Many of them are using motor cars to carry their grain to the markets, and they are plowing the fields with gasoline tractors. The new discoveries in farming, and to give some idea of our crops and the livestock which so affect our meat and bread baskets and the high cost of living.

As it is now, we raise so much on our farms that one would think that bread and meat should be cheap. In 1916 our grain crop amounted to more than three billion bushels, enough to give 60 bushels to every man, woman and child in the United States, or 300 bushels per family. Of this, almost three billion bushels were Indian corn, the best all-round food ration for the body of man. We raise almost all the corn produced by the world. Our crop was 160 bushels per family in 1915, and in 1916 we led the world in wheat. We produced that year one peck of every bushel of wheat raised upon earth. The amount was equal to 50 bushels per family, and it sold for more than \$1.50 per bushel. The crop was worth more than \$250,000,000. The gold that was dug from the earth in that year.

So much for the bread. Now for the meat. We have, altogether, about 6,000 million dollars' worth of livestock, and our domestic animals are over 300 millions in number. We have so many farm animals that if we could round them up and divide them evenly among us, every family in the United States would have five hogs, three cattle, two sheep and a horse. In addition, there are countless turkeys, chickens and ducks, and more than four million mules to spare.

Moreover, this industry is at its beginning. We are raising more and better animals every year. Just now the boys of the South and West are starting pig clubs and baby beef clubs and the girls have their fowl clubs, and with the aid of Uncle Sam they are teaching their fathers how to raise better stock. I want to visit the great packing centers in different parts of the country, and also to talk with the farmers as to the meat supply of the future.

I want to show you the enormous wealth we have buried in the rocky heart of Old Mother Earth. We have more minerals than almost any other country, and we are now digging them out at the rate of something like \$2,400,000,000 a year. If the product were divided, it would annually give us \$24 per head. We lead the world in copper and zinc, minerals of enormous value in war. Last year we got \$250,000,000 out of our copper, and \$118,000,000 from the sale of our zinc. Zinc of that year brought in more than our



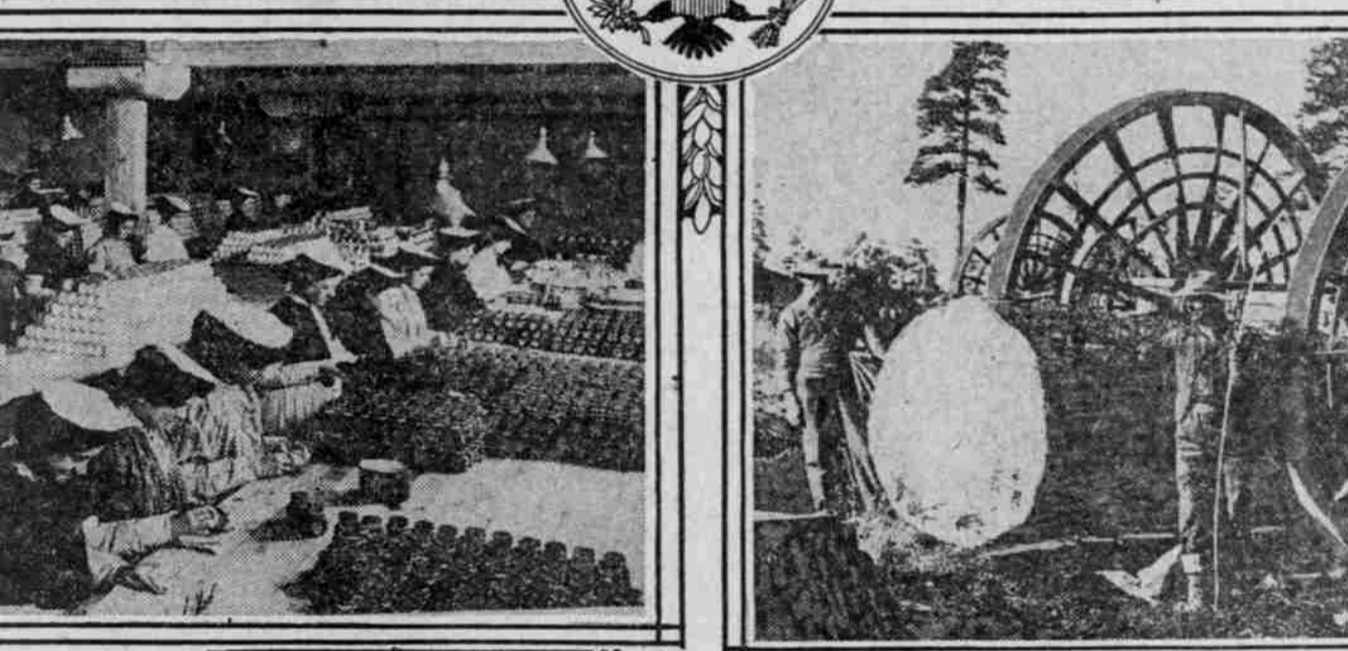
"We Have 7,000,000 Men and Women Earning Their Living by the Work of Their Hands." These Girls are Putting up Canned Meat in Chicago.

gold mines, and the copper sold for more than six times the amount of our silver; this, on account of the high prices of those metals caused the war.

As to our mineral resources, they alone would make us the richest of the nations. We have coal in 30 different states, and if our coal fields could be brought together, they would make one great bed seven times as large as the coal fields of all Europe, and more than 35 times the area of those of Great Britain. West Virginia alone has more coal than Great Britain, and Professor Tyndall has said that the seat of that country's greatness lies in her coal mines. As it is now, we are supplying 40 per cent of the world's coal, and at the present rate of consumption we have enough left in the earth to keep us going for 100 years. We took out enough last year to equal 22 tons for every family in the country, and the black diamonds were worth at the time \$700,000,000. There is one little patch of anthracite in Pennsylvania whose yearly output is worth more than was spurring the latter that is annually mined.

We have the biggest oil fields of the world. I want to visit those of California and of the Great Southwest. This is the age of gasoline and fuel oil. Gasoline moves the war tractors, the military automobiles and the scouting airplanes; and fuel oil sends the trains over the railroads and our naval vessels through the water at express speed. Petroleum has become a vital necessity in time of war, and a nation is powerful or weak in proportion to the amount of this mineral. Here again the United States leads the powers. It is now producing more than half of all the oil that comes from the earth, and our annual product from Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma alone is worth more than \$200,000,000. So far, we have furnished 60 per cent of all the petroleum that has ever been used by mankind, and today our oil fields are turning out four times as much as those of Russia with the war spurring the latter to their fullest activity. I want to describe the new things in oil production. The fuel has become so valuable that they are increasing the flow and eliminating the waste. They are also spending large sums to save the natural gas which so often lies in a great bed over the oil. This gas sold for more than all we got from our gold mines and millions more were lost in the waste. Our output of petroleum is now so large that if it were divided evenly it would give ten gallons a week the year round for every family under Uncle Sam's flag.

The farms and the mines are only part of our great manufacturing

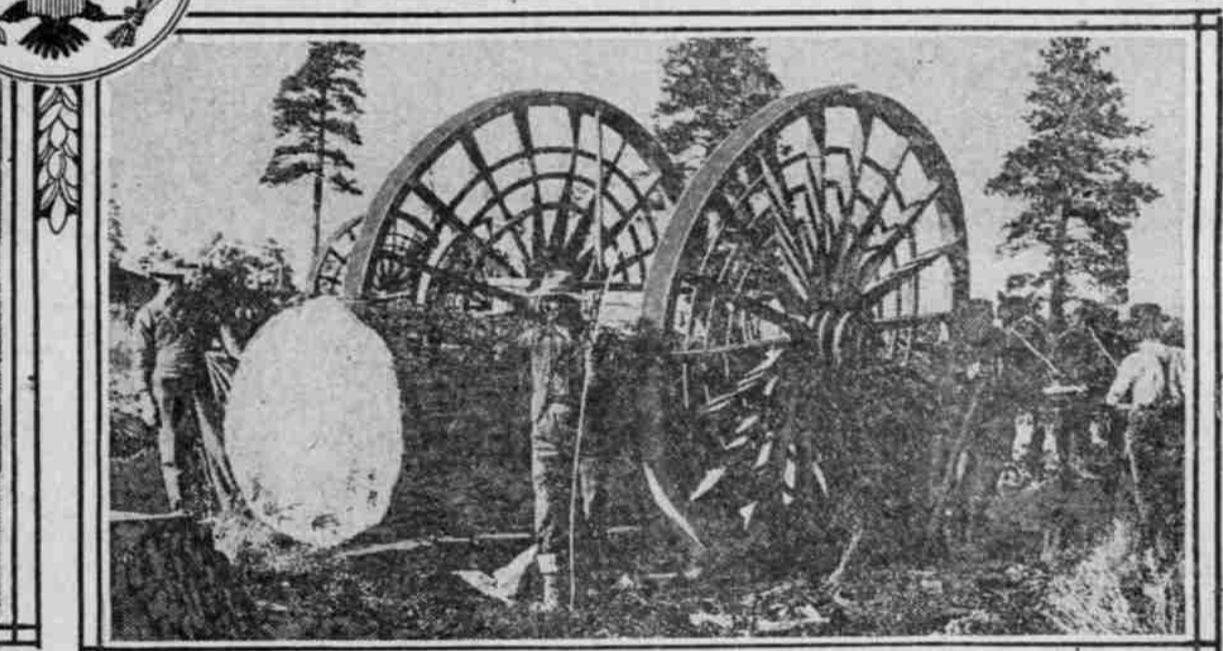


"Notwithstanding the Waste, Our Forests Would Still Make a Boardwalk Thirty Feet Wide From the Earth to the Sun." Logging in Arizona.

The United States ought to be industrially independent, and we shall manufacture a great proportion of such things in the near future. We shall get our colors from our own coal supply, and shall eventually grind our potash out of our rocks. We hope to become independent even of Chile, and Congress has lately appropriated \$20,000,000 to squeeze our nitrate out of our own circumbent air.

I want to visit our great electrical works, which are among the wonders of the world. There is a company at Pittsburgh that employs 20,000 hands, and another at Schenectady whose factories cover the area of a good-sized farm. They are making new things in electricity for the factory, the house and the farm, and the day will come when all that men will have to do will be to press the button and the "lightning in harness" will do the rest. Speaking of electricity brings up the subject of Uncle Sam's water power. I expect to show what the falls of Niagara are doing and how we have hundreds of other waterfalls working day and night all the year through to add to the wealth of the nation. It is claimed by Government officials that we have about 60,000,000 horsepower which is still undeveloped, and that in addition to the amount already in use. This means that we have that vast force going to waste. It is as though we had 60,000,000 horses pent up in our stables from one year's end to the other. The engineers estimate that the force is equal to the energy pro-

duced by 400,000,000 tons of coal. It would be enough to operate all the factories, run all the street cars, light all the houses and heat all the homes of the United States. This force represents a loss in coal and labor of more than \$200,000,000 per annum, and this loss will continue until the hydraulic engineers round up the water-power bronchos and break them to harness.



"In 1916 We Produced Six Billion Bushels of Grain."

But it is impossible to mention all the assets in the great balance sheet of Uncle Sam's wealth. I might speak of our forests, which, notwithstanding the waste of the past, are still enough to make a boardwalk 30 feet wide and an inch thick from the earth to the sun; of our railroads, whose tracks are long enough to reach 10 times around the earth at the equator; of our domestic commerce, which surpasses that of any other land upon earth, and of our foreign trade, which last year amounted to \$5,500,000,000. I might show how the money of other nations has been rolling into the United States in great streams and how the hard gold and billion now in the Treasury vaults here at Washington amount to more than \$2,500,000,000. I have written enough, however, to give you a glimpse of our wonderful wealth and to show that our resources and industries are well worth mobilization. In this letter I have mentioned only some of the principal items, crowding a world, as it were, into a nutshell. My correspondence to come will be along the same lines, as I go to and fro over the country. My first letters will relate to the South, where I expect to be traveling for some months to come.

**Schoolboys Enlist for Farms.**  
CINCINNATI, O., May 2.—Superintendent of Schools R. J. Condon has launched a movement to release a small army of Cincinnati schoolboys for work on farms and in gardens during the re-

mainder of the Spring months. His orders involve an extension of the co-operative principle to the farm and garden division of school work. Every school in the city becomes at once an enlistment station for boys not less than 14 years old under an agreement between the boy, the employer and school authorities, by which the boy can be excused at once from school for the year, but will receive credit for his farm work in lieu of school attendance.



BOYS SAVE MOTHER'S LIFE  
Revolver Knocked From Hand of Man When Directed at Woman.

CLEVELAND, May 4.—The two small sons of Mrs. Mabelle A. Wehner probably saved her life the other day, when they fought with an armed man who broke into their home at 1875 West Forty-seventh street, threatening to kill their mother. The boys threw themselves upon the man just in time to knock a revolver from his hand. The weapon exploded, however, a bullet striking Mrs. Wehner in the right leg. After the shooting the man fled, and police were unable to find any trace of him. Mrs. Wehner told the police that as the man rushed into the room where she and her boys were sitting he pulled the revolver from his coat pocket, saying he would kill her. The boys, John, aged 12 years, and Joseph, 13 years old, then leaped at the man. In this Wehner, who was taken to the German Hospital, recently filed suit for divorce, charging her husband, George Wehner, with gross neglect and extreme cruelty.

**WASHBURNES JOIN COLORS**  
Three Sons of ex-Mayor of Chicago Doing Military Duty.

CHICAGO, May 2.—Three sons of a former Mayor of Chicago, Hemstead Washburne, and grandson of Elihu B. Washburne, Secretary of State in President Grant's first Cabinet and Minister to France in 1871, have joined the colors. Mr. Washburne, who was chief executive of Chicago 25 years ago, said he was "tickled to death." Clark Washburne, the eldest, 32 years old, has joined the radio service; Gratiot, 27 years old, is a member of the First Illinois Field Artillery, and Hemstead, Jr., the youngest of the three, has entered the Navy.