

A LETTER TO THE COUNTRY FOLKS FROM UNCLE SAM

By HIRAM MOE GREENS.
Editor Woman's World.

Dear Nephews and Nieces:
Even before you open this letter I know that you will know what it is about. Some one of you—Lemuel Jones I guess it was—said the last time I was out to your house for Sunday dinner, that I hardly ever came around and almost never wrote, unless it was about money matters. Well, I guess that Lem is about right, but as the fellow said when some one offered him sympathy because he lost a couple of fingers in a corn shredder, "You can't feel any worse about it than I do."

I'm sorry that this unfortunate affair that we are in is taking so much money. But I'm glad right down to the very bottom of my heart that we can raise the money to see the whole thing through. I know you will raise it—but we'll come to that later.

The other day I was in New York and I went out to see one of those big transports for soldiers. There were little tugs all around her waiting to get her headed straight into the stream and further down, near the Statue of Liberty some battleships were waiting to convoy the transport. It was an interesting sight. It meant so much. And I couldn't keep my Adam's apple in its place, and there was a kind of a mist before my eyes—until through the tears I was trying to hold back, I saw Eb Root's boy, George, looking over the rail on the top deck. The last time I had seen him he was cultivating corn on that ten acre piece down on the state road next to Asa Hartford's.

Somehow when I saw that boy up there I didn't want to cry. My blood got warm instead of cold and every muscle in my body was as taut as a violin string. My heart just swelled in my body. In all my life I never felt so proud and so much like being able to fight, as I did then.

And I said to myself, "There goes Eb Root's boy, George. He is only one boy in a million and more that are over there now. But there are others like him, and the folks back home they will stand back of him, and all, everything, that he and his comrades, and the ships and the men and the flag that flies over them stood for."

I could not feel and I do not feel now, that the folks back home would waste anything that might help to bring George Root back. I know just as well as I know my own name that George Root and the boys like him would not offer themselves as the supreme sacrifice to our cause, and those for whom they were fighting be small and niggardly about doing their part.

During this coming year it will be necessary for us to spend twenty-four billion dollars. It is a tremendous sum. But is not too much to pay for a world at peace, with us all as free as God intended we should be.

But remember that our total annual income, all of us put together, is only about fifty billion dollars, and so it is going to take about half of all our income this next year. That means that you must stop all waste. Our waste runs into the millions. You must stop that waste and then you must put this saving with other money you have in Liberty Bonds. It is the surest, safest investment you can make. You have my personal guarantee and you know I have never failed on anything I have ever attempted, and though I hardly need to add it—I never will fail.

Adjust your affairs to meet these new conditions. I know I can depend upon you. Gorge Root and every boy in a U. S. uniform knows that you will do your part, and so do the mother's sons of Britain, France, Belgium and Italy—our allies—know you will do your part.

Be brave-hearted about it. It is a big thing, a tremendous thing, but it has been the big things, the great sacrifices that have made us a great people and have builded our great nation that we hope may be greater still in the eyes of the world and greater still to our God in his heaven.

Talk it over. Help each other. I know you will all do your part.

I am
With love and pride for you all,
Your
UNCLE SAM.

Record Mackerel Price.

Gloucester, Mass.—The unprecedented price of \$29.75 a barrel has been reached here for salt mackerel. The record midsummer price was reached recently when \$27.10 per barrel was paid. Since then the advance has been steady.

Open Sugar Bowls Taboo.

Boston, Mass.—Open sugar bowls on tables in public eating places in Massachusetts were ordered eliminated for the duration of the war by the state food administration. Individual portions must not exceed one ounce per person per meal.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Governor Withycombe declares that Oregon has the finest parole system in the United States and that its development is due to Joe Keller, present state parole officer.

W. N. Clark, of the North Bend box factory, has closed a lease for 15 years on the Southern Oregon mill and yard at Empire, where the mill will be reconstructed and placed in shape for service.

Hunting parties who have been in the mountains along the coast at Newport since the opening of the deer season are coming in wet and bedraggled from the continuous rainfall since August 15.

The run of salmon in the Umpqua this year is unusually heavy, and the prospects are for a good season, according to George E. Campbell, of Gardiner, who is engaged in fishing operations there.

No payments will be required of firms coming under the workmen's compensation act during September, that month having been declared an "exempted month" by the industrial accident commission.

Albany College will open its next school year on September 23, instead of on September 16, as originally planned. The opening has been delayed because of the demand for help in harvesting crops of all kinds.

Under the budget of the Applegrowers' association of Hood River, just adopted by the directors, a maximum charge of 26 cents per box for apples and 10 cents for pears may be made for handling the fruit the coming year.

The prohibition party has filed the following certificates of nominations and acceptance with Secretary Olcott, all as candidates for representative from Multnomah county: Joseph K. Hart, Eugene E. Smith, William F. Amos, Herbert Gordon and H. L. Idleman.

Whether Salem shall have a machine gun company or not as a part of the Oregon National Guard will come up before the general staff at a meeting to be held in Portland this week, according to a statement made by Adjutant-General Williams to Governor Withycombe.

The first carload of Bartlett pears harvested at Hood River this season was shipped east Monday night. The fruit was packed in refrigerated rooms and shipped to market in ice cars. The total Bartlett crop will reach approximately 50 carloads. More than 25 carloads of D'Anjous will be harvested.

A new two-story brick business block on the corner of Sixth and Main street, to be constructed by H. L. Bristol, is the latest evidence of the development of Klamath Falls. The ground floor of the building will be occupied by Kay Sugarman, clothier. The second floor of the new building will be devoted to office quarters.

In the first four days that Albany's Canning Kitchen has been open it has prepared 193 quarts of canned fruit and vegetables and 42 glasses of jelly. These supplies are being prepared for use in military cantonments, and the work is under the direction of the women's committee for Linn county of the state council of defense.

On the same farm on which a large rattlesnake was killed a few weeks ago—the farm of James Nichols, near Plainview—a blowsnake 46½ inches in length was killed Friday. This blowsnake was the first snake of the kind ever seen in that vicinity, and was the largest snake of any kind ever killed near there.

Comparison of the piece and day-work systems was made by Governor Withycombe relative to the convicts employed at the penitentiary flax plant, with all of the odds favoring the piece work system for that institution at least. He declares that the convicts who produce work on the plan of a straight 25 cents per day for their labor take their time at the job and stretch it out as long as possible, while the piece-work men work at feverish speed.

A. A. Schramm has been appointed by Superintendent of Banks Bennett as bank examiner to fill the vacancy caused by the departure of E. Fritz Slade to enter the army. The salary is \$1800. Mr. Schramm is from Salem and was formerly employed in a bank in Salem, but has been connected with the banking department for some time.

The Buehner Lumber company of North Bend plans to erect a large building near its plant to serve as a barracks for additional soldiers which it proposes to employ. The company is the largest employer of soldier labor in the county and will, when it secures the additional number, be employing fully 60 per cent soldiers in the operation of its plant.

To offset the hay shortage which threatens the stockmen of the Klamath district this coming winter, the ranchers operating along the shores of the big Upper Klamath Lake are putting up thousands of tons of wild hay, which has never heretofore been cut. This hay, which consists of a variety of wild grasses, is not as nutritious as some of the cultivated products, but it will be eaten with a relish before spring and will be a big aid, in the opinion of stockmen, in getting their herds safely through the winter.

FOCH SPOILS HUN'S PLANS

Foe's Work of Four Months Undone In Three Weeks.

With the French Army in France.—The situation since the battle of the Avre shows a change, which for rapidly and extent has rarely been approached in military history. Marshal Foch's strategy and masterly tactics have in three weeks wastered the Germans what required four months for them to obtain at a cost variously estimated at from 700,000 to 1,000,000 men.

The immediate results of the counter offensives which will have the greatest bearing on subsequent operations are the clearing of the Chateau-Thierry pocket, ending the menace to Epernay and Paris; the liberation of Montdidier, ending the menace to Amiens; the freeing of the important eastern railroad line from Paris to Chalons and the equally important northern line from Paris to Amiens, restoring to the allies means of communication which give them enormously greater ease in future movements of troops.

These successes render impossible any rupture of the line which would separate the French armies of the center from those to the east, or a rupture of the junction between the French and British.

The most disastrous consequence to the Germans, aside from the heavy losses they sustained in men and material, is the collapse of their plan to drive wedges into the allied lines and the subsequent widening and joining which would have threatened general dislocation.

Marshal Foch's strategy in reducing the salient wedges wrested the initiative in operations from the Germans, at once obliging them either to order a general retreat to a strong line such as the Somme or to engage reserves. The enemy adopted the second alternative which, having failed, makes eventual retirement immensely more difficult.

The first phase of the battle of the Avre finds the French with a footing upon Thiescourt plateau, west of Noyon, which has vital importance in future operations. The Germans must either capture this at high cost, if they can, or abandon Noyon, which means the fall of Roye and Laasigny, which already are under imminent menace of capture.

The disaster which menaced General von Hutier's army has been averted for the moment. The few narrow passages which now are open for the withdrawal of his stores are so harassed by the bombs of aviators and the fire of heavy artillery that prompt escape is impossible, rendering probable a desperate effort by the Germans to cling to their 1914 lines.

TROTSKY ASKED TO EXPLAIN WAR TALK

London.—Action suggestive of an ultimatum to the Bolshevik government is reported to have been taken by the allied powers. This move, which is referred to in Moscow advices by way of Berlin, has taken the form of a demand for an explanation of the war talk recently attributed to Premier Lenine.

The diplomatic representatives of the allies are said to have handed a collective note to War Minister Trotzky demanding within three days an explanation of Premier Lenine's threat that Russia would "declare war against Anglo-French imperialism."

It was reported on Monday that Premier Lenine and War Minister Trotzky had fled from Moscow to the naval stronghold of Kronstadt, and that the Bolshevik government would follow them there.

Owing to the difficulties of communication with Russia, it seems probable that the above dispatch has been delayed in transit and refers to an event of several days ago.

Lenine's declaration was made prior to August 9, when American Consul Poole at Moscow informed the state department at Washington that Lenine had told a gathering of soviets that a state of war existed between the Russian government and the entente.

Anna Held, Actress, Dead.

New York.—Anna Held, the actress, died here Monday after an illness of several months. Miss Held had been ill since April of a rare malady known as myeloma, a disintegration of the spinal marrow, and her condition was reported several times as critical. She rallied repeatedly, however, and until attacked by pneumonia a few weeks ago was regarded as on the road to recovery.

Japan Defied by Lenine.

London.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen says the Petrograd newspaper Pravda, organ of the Bolsheviks, announces that following a stormy meeting of the workmen's and soldiers' deputies, Premier Lenine sent an ultimatum to Japan concerning Japan's intervention in Siberia.

972 Officers Discharged.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Baker informed the senate Monday that of 16,971 national guard officers, 972 have been discharged since the guard was called into federal service. Of that number 464 were discharged upon the recommendation of efficiency boards and 476 were discharged because of physical unfitness. Thirty were court-martialed and two deserted.

BILLION BUDGET TOO SMALL

Amount Necessary for Railroads Held to Be \$1,097,398,000.

Washington, D. C.—The so-called billion-dollar budget approved early this year by Director-General McAdoo for railroad improvements and equipment has proved insufficient to meet war needs and it has been increased to \$1,097,398,000, or \$156,000,000 more than the original aggregate of budgets of all federally controlled roads. This was disclosed Saturday in a detailed report of capital expenditures authorized to date.

Most of the increase was made necessary by the growing need for cars and locomotives. Originally \$486,000,000 was authorized for purchase of new rolling stock, but this has been raised to \$665,686,000 by huge orders placed by the railroad administration.

For additions and betterments, including new yard and industry tracks, terminal facilities, bridges and stations, the budgets of first-class roads provided originally for \$433,000,000. This has been pared down to \$404,000,000, chargeable to capital accounts, but additional work costing \$105,000,000 has been authorized, to be charged to operation expenses. The \$20,000,000 approved early this year for extensions and branch tracks has been raised to \$35,000,000.

The \$1,097,000,000 now authorized for additions, betterments and equipment does not include an additional \$125,652,000 which will be considered as part of railway operating expenses.

The huge program of railway improvement indicated by these new figures is now being carried out, partly with the aid of an army of engineers, laborers, masons, builders, steam shovelers, telephone linemen and track-layers in thousands of places along the rail lines. The biggest single item in the additions and betterments consists of yard tracks, sidings and industry tracks.

The actual outlay under the improvement program has been about \$400,000,000, officials estimate. Actual reports show \$221,914,000 up to July 1, including \$102,000,000 for additions and betterments, \$111,000,000 for cars and locomotives and \$8,000,000 for extensions.

BIG DEMONSTRATION OF TRACTORS SOON

The farmer is the most essential factor in winning the war.

The patriotism of the American farmer has been tested and proven, the evidence comes from public officials high in authority who state that our soldiers and sailors at home, abroad and on the firing line are being well fed. Not only has the American farmer produced quantities of food for the American army, he has also produced quantities of food for all the allies, and upon the American farmer depends principally the production of food that will make it possible to keep up the fight until victory is won.

The serious question that now confronts the farmer is what can quickest and best be done to replace man and animal power that is being so rapidly taken from the farms. As the army increases in number, the necessity for increased food production becomes more and more imperative.

Something like two million men and a million and a half working animals have been taken from the farms.

It is quite evident that the draft age is going to be extended to include male citizens from eighteen to forty-five years of age. This act will make a further enormous decrease in farm help.

A truth that every American recognizes and is proud of is, that American ingenuity has always been able to meet every absolute public necessity and so it is that American ability has come to the aid of the agriculturists in these strenuous times.

Power Farming Machinery has reached that stage of perfection that it can now be successfully used on all classes of farms from the largest ranch to the small vineyard or orchard.

Tractors that will do good work are now manufactured ranging from a five to seventy-five horsepower machine. They are made in variety of size, form and construction that make them usable on all kinds of tillable soil.

By the use of tractors as motive power, one person can now till from five to twenty times more land, can do very much more work where power is required on the farm and do it all much easier than could be done by the old methods.

Because of farm tractors and tractor implements men who thought they had passed the age of active labor and women are beginning to replace the men who have been called from the farms into war service.

The great Tractor and Implement Demonstration will be held at Portland, Oregon, September 5th, 6th and 7th, 1918.

You will see in actual operation practically every tractor manufactured or sold on the Pacific Coast.

The Big, the Medium, the Small sized tractors.

Some with wheel drive, some with creeper drive.

The right size for orchard use, for vineyard use, for use on the big grain ranches.

Behind the tractors will be pulled Moldboard and Disc Plows, Peg-tooth, Spring-tooth and Disc Harrows, Scrapers, Land Levelers and Sub-Sollers, virtually every kind of tractor drawn implement.

MEXICO PERSISTS IN OIL TAX POLICY

Answer to British Shows Obnoxious Nature.

U. S. INTEREST IS HIT

Carranza Announces He Declines to Recognize Right of Foreign Nations to Enter Protests.

Washington, D. C.—The Mexican government has made an unsatisfactory reply to the protest of Great Britain against taxes on oil properties.

So far from mitigating the severity of the original decree of February 27 last, imposing new taxes and restrictions upon the foreign owners and operators of oil properties in Mexico, the reply of the Mexican government to the British protest against that decree has, in the opinion of officials here, only added to its obnoxious nature.

Some time ago American interests, with the knowledge and sympathetic support of the state department, sent representatives to Mexico with the purpose of arriving at an amicable adjustment of the grave issues arising from the determination of the Mexican government to enforce this new oil decree.

It was hoped that in this unofficial way, if the Mexican government was disposed to be at all fair in its treatment of the Americans who had invested so heavily in the development of Mexican oil properties, it would be possible to arrange a new scale of taxation that would be profitable to the Mexican government without being confiscatory.

Following discouraging reports from these personal representatives of the oil interests, the letter of Secretary Agular, in answer to the British protest, is taken as conclusive evidence that the Mexican government has not in any degree changed its original purpose to carry out the decree, not only as to English properties, but as to American and all other foreign interests.

Regarding the contention in the Mexican note that the decree applies equally to Mexicans as well as to foreigners, it is pointed out that this is only technically true, as nearly all the oil properties are foreign owned, and Mexicans consequently are unaffected by the decree, which amounts to 100 per cent increase in the tax, beside containing features that look to the actual confiscation of a large proportion of the foreign-owned oil lands.

AUGUST 24 IS SET AS REGISTRATION DAY

Washington, D. C.—Registration on Saturday, August 24, of all youths who have reached the age of 21 since the second registration last June 5 was ordered Wednesday by Provost Marshal-General Crowder under a proclamation by the president. The purpose is to add quickly to the almost exhausted class 1 to meet army draft calls in September.

About 150,000 young men will register. Most of them will qualify for class 1 and therefore will join the army probably within a month after their names are recorded.

It was announced that the suggested date, September 5, would not be the day for the registration of men from 18 to 45, even if congress passes the bill, because several of the largest states in the union hold primary elections on that date.

There will be no new drawing to establish the order of liability of the new registrants. The provost marshal-general's office announced that the 1200 numbers drawn for the June 5 registrants would be sufficient to cover the August 24 registrants in the largest district in the country.

BOLSHEVIKI VIOLATE ALLIES' CONSULATES

Washington, D. C.—Official dispatches from American Consul-General Poole in Moscow lifted the curtain for a moment and revealed an amazing train of events in that city.

Consul-General Poole, after witnessing the violation of the French and British consulates and the arrests of the consul-general and their staffs, destroyed his code book and papers and turned the affairs of the American consulate over to the Swedish consul, at the same time demanding safe conduct from the country for himself and his associates.

French and British citizens have been arrested and the Bolsheviks have announced they would hold them as hostages because of the attack on the Soviet government by British and French troops at Archangel.

Members of the French and British military missions stationed in Moscow were refused permission to leave the country, in spite of a previous promise of safe conduct.