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HOMES FOR SOLDIERS PLANS WAIT TOO LONG

Bills for Irrigation, Reclamation and Clearing of Lands Get no Further Than Introduction. Clamor for Labor Throughout Country is Now Heard. Work Enough For All

The sudden and unexpected close of the war has probably put an end to movements for providing farm homes for soldiers. The soldiers will be home and in private occupation before any progress could be made. Secretary Lane estimated it would require a million or two even to make the preliminary study necessary to work out a plan and determine location of suitable lands. He had in mind irrigation of arid lands, drainage of swamp lands and clearing of cut-over lands. Any project would require a year in preparation and at least another year before the land would be ready for cultivation. Before this could be accomplished the men will practically all be discharged from the Army.

Both Oregon Senators introduced bills designed to start work along this line, but neither bill was acted on. The Chamberlain bill provided for construction by the United States of irrigation and drainage projects through contracts with districts, organized under state laws. The bill assumed that the land would be in private ownership and that owners would vote bonds, which, deposited with the Secretary of the Interior, would be the Government's security against loss in the construction of the reclamation system.

It was the plan of the Chamberlain bill to provide employment for returned soldiers on the reclamation projects and to acquire homes within the projects on which they worked.

The McNary bill had a similar purpose but provided that the reclamation work be under control of the Secretary of War—the main purpose being to provide homes for returned soldiers. The reclamation work was to be treated largely as a sort of substitute for a pension system. A bonding provision is part of the McNary plan, with repayments to cover a period of about 50 years, with a low rate of interest.

Since cessation of hostilities and the certainty that soldiers will soon be returning there has been less evidence of concern as to employment. Almost every kind of industry is clamoring for help. Farmers are old they must raise greater crops next year than ever and they want to know where they are going to get the labor. Shipyards are still calling for labor and recruits for the merchant marine are needed. Deferred construction work of all kinds is planned, particularly building in cities, road improvements, street improvement, etc. Almost every kind of possessential work, from painting a house to building a skyscraper, has been deferred because of the high cost of labor and materials.

With labor and materials plentiful, this deferred work will be taken up. It is doubtful, therefore, whether there will be any abnormal number of idleness after the soldiers return home, unless foreign manufacturers succeed in selling their products in our markets, thus limiting American production.—Oregonian.

CONSERVATION WEEK FOR WAR RELIEF

For the purpose of bringing before the people in a forcible manner the need for saving food and sharing it with the Allies and the liberated nations, the United States Food Administration named December 1-7 as a nation-wide "Conservation Week for World Relief" and a stirring program of education and enthusiasm will be carried out simultaneously throughout the country.

On Sunday, December 1st, a personal message from Herbert Hoover will be read from all pulpits in churches of all denominations. Wed-

nesday, December 4th, will be "Women's Organization Day" and a special Hoover message will be the central feature of a patriotic program in all the women's clubs of the country, the meetings being open to all women whether club members or not. On Friday, December 6th, special patriotic exercises will be held in all the public schools of the United States, and a special message from Mr. Hoover to the boys and girls of America will be the central feature of the program. Throughout the entire week meetings and parades will be held, and efforts of war workers will be centered upon the task of wakening the public to an alert realization of the after-war need for greater conservation than ever.

Preliminary to the inauguration of "Conservation Week", meetings of all county feed administrators, together with a leading club woman from each county, will be held in each state, and this gathering will be addressed by a member who will bring a personal message direct from Mr. Hoover. Instructions for the campaign and material for the work will be given out at these gatherings. The meeting of Oregon's county food administrators and representative club-women has been called by State Food Administrator W. B. Ayer for Tuesday, November 26th.

The original pledge made by the Food Administration on behalf of the people of the United States was 17½ million tons of food to be shipped overseas by July 1, 1919, an amount greater by 50 per cent than last year. Now that France and Belgium are liberated and millions of people in South Central Europe clamoring for food, the United States is undertaking to increase its exports from 17½ million tons to 20 million tons.

NEWS PAPER A DIRECTORY

No business man in any town should allow a newspaper published in his town to go without his name and business being mentioned somewhere in its columns, says an exchange. This applies to all kinds of business—general stores, drygoods, groceries, furniture dealers, manufacturing establishments, automobile dealers, mechanics, professional men and in fact all classes of business men. This does not mean that you should have a whole or a half or even a quarter page ad in every issue of the paper, but your name and business should be mentioned if you do not use more than a two line space. A stranger picking up a newspaper should be able to tell just what business is represented in a town by looking at the business mentioned in the paper. This is the best possible town advertiser. The man who does not advertise his business does an injustice to himself and his city. He is the man who expects the newspaper to do the most free advertising for his town. The man who insists on sharing the business that comes to town but refuses to advertise his business is not a valuable addition to any town. The life of any town depends upon the live, wide-awake and liberal advertising business men.

The voices of Germany and Austria crying "Bread, Bread" must be heeded and answered. Would it not be a good plan, however, to answer them with war bread? We can spare it.

Of course when the armistice was signed President Wilson could not join the wild crowds in the street. But if on receiving the news he had relaxed his dignity by a little private song and dance of his own, who could blame him?

INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC STILL GETTING READY FOR DEVELOPMENT.

Although the latter part of last week it appeared that Burns was almost free from influenza, several new cases developed during the week and two deaths have resulted here. James Kribs died Tuesday night at his home in this city, and Clifford Dickenson, son of B. A. Dickenson, died late this afternoon at the emergency hospital, both of these victims had developed pneumonia. In all there were nine cases at the hospital this week.

Two additional nurses were brought in from the Egli section the first of this week to assist Mrs. Donovan and Mrs. Thos Hutton. The latter is reported to have contracted the disease and is under the care of the attending physician.

Crane has 30 cases according to information from there and one man, H. L. Bunnell, died there from the effects of it yesterday afternoon.

Information was telegraphed from Red Cross headquarters at Seattle yesterday that a Red Cross nurse who had been sent out from there was reported sick at Denio. The local Chapter authorities were asked to see what could be done for her. An Executive Committee meeting was held that evening and an attempt made to get in touch with Denio by wire but up to the time of going to press there had been no response from that source. However, it was learned from parties coming up from that territory that there are about 40 cases of influenza between Andrews and Denio and that the nurse was really ill, possibly from overwork. Harney County Chapter is bending every effort to secure volunteers to go down into that territory and aid the trained nurse. Every available person in this vicinity is active in the work and since it is impossible to get trained nurses any one who has had any experience is urged to help.

Present indications are that Burns will have no schools until after the holidays at least. Other places that have raised the restrictions and permitted gatherings have experienced a recurrence of the epidemic.

BOY SERIOUSLY HURT BY HORSE FALLING.

Telephone word was received this evening that the six-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Culp had been dangerously hurt at the family home below Lawen by his horse falling with him. Dr. Smith made a hurried trip down and found the little fellow suffering from concussion of the brain and unconscious. It is a serious case.

Do your Christmas shopping early.

Lloyd Johnson and Bill Catterson were in town for a couple of days this week completing the necessary arrangements and filling the papers relative to forming an irrigation district in the Lawen neighborhood.

With but one exception every individual in the proposed district signed a petition to the county court asking permission to form the district. We understand the matter was placed before Mr. Olson of the P. L. S. Co., who had no authority to sign it, however, but he told the men to go right on with the organization. The proposed district covers some valuable land in the Lawen country and a consistent boundary was made in order that there could be no objections as to the class or character of the lands embraced.

The petition was filed with the necessary bond and the court is to act upon it at the regular January term.

HOW TO MAKE SMITHFIELD HAMS

The hams are placed in a large tray of fine Liverpool salt, then the flesh surface is sprinkled with finely ground crude saltpeter until the hams are as white as though covered by a moderate frost—or, say, use three to four pounds of the powdered saltpeter to the thousand pounds of green hams.

After applying the saltpeter, salt immediately with the Liverpool fine salt, covering well the entire surface. Now pack the hams in bulk, but not in piles more than three feet high. In ordinary weather the hams should remain thus for three days.

Then break bulk and resalt with the fine salt. The hams thus salted and resalted should now remain in salt in bulk one day for each and every pound each ham weighs—that is, a 16-pound ham should remain ten days, and in like proportion of time for larger and smaller sizes.

Next wash with tepid water until the hams are thoroughly cleaned, and, after partially drying, rub the entire surface with finely ground black pepper.

Now the hams should be hung in the smokehouse and the important operation of smoking begun. The smoking should be done very gradually and slowly, lasting 39 to 40 days.

After the hams are cured and smoked they should be repeppered, to guard against vermin, and then bagged. These hams improve with age and are in perfection when one year old.

Do your Christmas shopping early.

SAYS BLACK PLAGUE NOT THE INFUENZA

The Present Epidemic Similar to Black Plague Which Has Swept Earth at The Close of Other War. Becomes Endemic in a Day and Even Isolation Does Not Make One Immune

Howard S. Eckles of New York has taken a position entirely opposed to that of the medics. The Weston Leader publishes the following statement made by Mr. Eckles:

"Regardless of what death certificates say, the embalmer who has handled many of the cases in the epidemic knows that they are different from any that he has dealt with before this visitation. I know that I have found them so."

"During the past four weeks several thousands of bodies have been embalmed under my direction as special representative of the Council of National Defense in charge of this work in Philadelphia. Not only did nearby members of the Purple Cross respond promptly and heartily, but the War Department, at the request of the Mayor of Philadelphia, detailed to the Purple Cross a number of its members who were stationed at neighboring camps and cantonments. I have done enough of this work personally during the period and posted enough bodies to be thoroughly acquainted with the post-mortem symptoms, which resemble and probably are identical with those which history gives us of the Black Plague."

"The epidemic already in six weeks has cost America five times as many lives as we have lost on the battle-fields of Europe. Apparently, it is not the result of any one specific germ."

"It is not the influenza; it is not the Asiatic Cholera; it is not Bubonic Plague; it is not Pneumonia—although it frequently causes pneumonia, or at least a condition closely resembling it."

"It is the Black Plague of the Middle Ages, which so often in the past has swept the world."

"It is a cross breeding of bacteria in unembalmed bodies buried in ground which later is churned and reburied by the tramp of armies and the hail of shells, as the lines alternately advance and retreat."

The medical profession has identified Spanish influenza or la grippe epidemics that have swept the country at varying intervals, generally of a decade or more, since 1830. It claims to have identified the germ and to have discovered a way to combat it—or at least the pneumococcus often following its train—by means of a serum composed of like germs cultured and then killed. The development of this serum was reported to the University of Minnesota not long ago by Dr. William Mayo and is now in general and successful use.

So we have the medico and the embalmer fluty arrayed against each other on the flu issue—with the medics having the best of it, by reason of the gratifying results of his serum treatments in the cantonments.

Belike, however, the doctors will admit themselves stumped by one phase of the notorious and wicked wildfire, faster than the wind. With lightning speed it crosses oceans and continents and becomes endemic almost in a day. Simultaneously it appears in Canada to the north and Mexico to the south, how or why nobody knows. While it spreads by contact it also spreads without.

SULFUR PROFITABLE FERTILIZER.

Large shipments of sulfur for fertilizer use are being brought into Oregon. It is only recently that soil investigators have found how important sulfur is as a plant food, liberator of other mineral plant food, and aid to bacterial activity. The shipments are a result of several years of investigation conducted by the State Agricultural College at the central and several branch experi-

ment stations. The experimental findings have been verified by numerous field trials through county agents and farm owners.

Sulfur increases crop production with certain crops and soils for a value far in excess of the costs. Since it may be a plant stimulant its continued use is best safeguarded by feeding the crops on the farm and returning the manure to the land.

"In some cases a gain of two or even three tons of alfalfa were obtained by the use of 80 pounds head of the soils department at the college. "Grain crops have shown flowers of sulfur," says W. L. Powers, 20 per cent increase from sulfur fertilization."

Increased yields with some crops have run as high as 5000 per cent in Southern Oregon trials conducted by F. C. Reimer, superintendent of the branch station at Talent.

The effects of one application of flowers of sulfur lasts at least three years. Since the cost of application is \$2 to \$3 an acre the yearly cost, producing a gain of one ton of alfalfa an acre is but a dollar.

COOK DRIED FRUIT IN PROPER WAY

Unless dried fruit is prepared in a palatable fashion, families will tire of it and it will be wasted. This will react unfavorably on the gardens for next year and on the drying campaign.

The main difference between dried and fresh foods lies in the proportion of water they contain. Therefore the first step in preparation is to put back water about equal in amount to that lost during drying.

One reason why dried foods have been unpopular is that they so often have been undercooked and overcooked. When the time of soaking is long, and that of cooking short, the flavor will be more like that of fresh food.

Shape and texture must be considered, the more solid the article the longer the time required for drying, and hence the longer the period of soaking required. After washing, such foods should be put into three or four times their bulk of water and left covered in a cool place from three to forty-eight hours, according to their substance. Should any indication of fermentation appear, they must be scalded at once. Otherwise leave them until they regain their original size or lose most of the wrinkles in the surface; then the time of cooking will be but little longer than that needed by the same fruit or vegetables fresh from the garden.

The water in which fruits have soaked should be used to cook the food. In case of high flavored fruits, like the apricot, more water may be used for cooking and that in which it soaked will serve to give flavor to tasteless apples or a gelatine dessert.

EVIDENTLY A RABID COYOTE

Morris Schwartz killed a coyote in the yard of the I. Schwartz home this morning. The animal was evidently suffering from rabies as it would not otherwise have come into the yard.

Mrs. H. B. Macco heard the animal during the night around their porch but thought it was a dog. Early this morning Mr. Schwartz went out after some wood when Mrs. Macco called his attention to the animal which had gotten into the Schwartz yard. Upon going near Mr. Schwartz discovered it was a coyote instead of a dog and quickly dispatched it with a club. It was a lucky thing it was found before it had bitten any of the domestic animals or one of the children.



J. THOMAS