

THE WAR, THE FARM AND THE FARMER

By Herbert Quick
Member Federal Farm Loan Board

What the Imperial German government offered the farmers of America in its ruthless submarine warfare was not the loss of profits, but slavery to the sabre-rattler of Potsdam. He purposed to make us slaves by murdering the people who took our products to market. By all the laws of civilized warfare, commerce under a neutral flag was free from any hindrance except the legal interference justified by war. But the Germans not only stopped merchant vessels, they sank them. Sank them without warning, without trace—the most devilish thing war has seen since the savages scalped our ancestors and threw screaming babies into the flames of burning cabins.

The German plan of sinking merchant vessels without trace is based on the murderer's maxim that "dead men tell no tales." It was executed by the massacre of men, women and children, who, having committed themselves to small boats in the open sea after their ships were torpedoed, were mercilessly raked with gunfire, and exterminated to the last unprotected, unprotected soul! These are the murders that stain the hands of the Kaiser, his advisers and minions. These outrages were perpetrated on neutral vessels when all that civilized warfare gave the Germans a right to do even with the merchant vessel under a hostile flag, was to stop it at sea and make it a prize of war.

To kill the civilians on board, even under a hostile flag, was nothing but unmitigated murder. And these murders were committed in order that we might be enslaved! Having the right to take the sea with his fleet, but being afraid to do so for fear he might lose it, and being unable by fair means to stop the selling of our products to his enemies, the Kaiser declared that he would do it by the foulest methods ever resorted to in war. He declared the sea closed, and that he would keep it closed, not by war, but by murder.

To have submitted would have cost us dear in prosperity but that would have been the least of our loss.

We should have had to grovel before the German government.

We should have had to accept mur-

(This is the second of three articles. The third to be published next week.)

der as a thing against which we could not defend ourselves.

We should have allowed this new horror to become a part of all future wars, and have been responsible for its incorporation into international law.

We should have proved that because the fire which burns up our farms' usefulness is beyond the horizon, we would submit to the kindling of it.

We might have accepted the seventy cents for wheat and the six cents for cotton, but we could not have done it merely because we were commanded to do it. By so doing we should have accepted degradation. We should have begun, after winning our freedom in our own revolution and establishing a union on the foundation of liberty in the blood and tears of our war between the states, to knuckle under to autocracy! We should have basely yielded up our birthright as Americans.

Such a thought is intolerable. Peace at such a price would not be peace, but only a preparation for a future revolt against subjugation. Better any sort of war; better war forever, that that.

Whenever the time comes for new sacrifices, let us remember that we fight, not for our liberties tomorrow, or next year or twenty years from now, but for our freedom today. Not for the right to live in the future, but for the right to make a living this year.

German oppression had begun to pinch us before we entered the war. If we had not declared war, but had accepted the conditions of life ordered for us by the Kaiser, we should today be a poverty-stricken people. Our factories would be shut down, our workmen unemployed, our people starving, our farmers ruined by the poverty of those for whose consumption they grow their crops. There is loss and sacrifice in the war, but there would have been far more of loss and sacrifice in accepting the German terms. We should have lost more in money than we have spent in the war, but we should have lost something far more precious. We should have lost our souls.

WAR FOR HUMANITY.

War, in a good cause, is not the greatest evil which a nation can suffer. War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things; the decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks nothing worth a war is worse. When a people are used as mere human instruments for firing cannon or thrusting bayonets, in the service for the selfish purposes of a master, such war degrades a people. A war to protect other human beings against tyrannical injustice; a war to give victory to their own ideas of right and good, and which is their own war, carried on for an honest purpose by their free choice, is often the means of their regeneration. A man who has nothing which he is willing to fight for, nothing which he cares about than he does about his personal safety, is a miserable creature, who has no chance of being free, unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself. As long as justice and injustice have not terminated their ever-renewing fight for ascendancy in the affairs of mankind, human beings must be willing, when need is, to do battle for the one against the other.—John Stuart Mill.

This was written a half century and more ago, but it might have been written yesterday, it applies so well to to-day's conditions. The truth is the same yesterday, to-day, and to-morrow.

1776-1918.

The descendants of the compatriots of Washington and Paul Jones are fighting once again side by side with the descendants of the compatriots of Lafayette and Rochambeau. The time and opportunity have come for a nation to pay a great debt of gratitude for service rendered in great national need and America is paying France the debt she long has owed.

The Revolutionary War for the freedom of America the French fought on American soil under the command of an American. To-day in the war for the freedom of France and for the preservation of liberty to America, and indeed to all the world, Americans fight on French soil under the supreme command of a Frenchman. The honors are even and the honors are great.

So true American who knows the history of his country and loves the honor of his country but thrills at the thought of the American Army in France. The invincible Americans will turn the tide of war; they will bring to France and her allies a victory for liberty such as France assisted us to win, and repay with interest a debt to liberty and to France long owing and honorably acknowledged.

The state fair board will spend many thousands of dollars in the construction of second unit of the coliseum at the state fair grounds in spite of the wide spread sentiment that such an enterprise is at this time most unnecessary. The selfish desire "to make a record" still persists in "these times that try men's souls." This is no time to spend large sums of public money on such enterprises.

AURORA TEAM WINS

The ball game at the school grounds Friday afternoon resulted in a victory for the Aurora school team over the Macksburg team by a score of 15 to 2.

The Aurora players were "Jack" Bents, Walter Uppendahl, "Cap" Broyles, Lester Cole, Abe Loveall, Robert Uppendahl, Carl Ehlen, B. Johnson, Carl Berg.

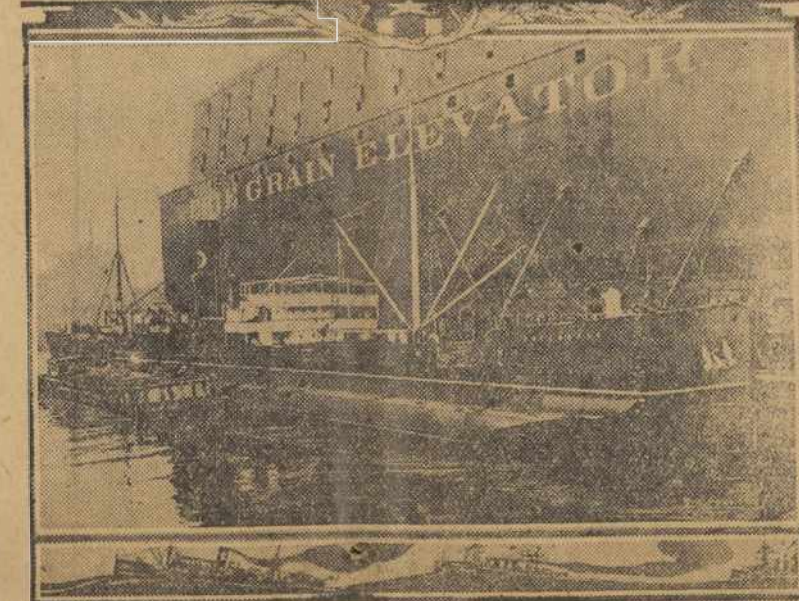
C. F. Grover, principal of the Aurora High School, umpired the game. The next game will be at Hubbard tomorrow afternoon.



UR delay in getting this wheat started across the world was occasioned by the uncertain judgment of the manager. He sent a sample on to the St. Louis zone agent for test, which verified his judgment as to grade. He then went about his usual duties, cleaning the grain, filling his bins, and shipping out as regularly as he could in maximum carload quantities, in order to economize the use of cars in time of congestion. He was careful to keep his records very straight as to dates and quantities of wheat purchased, on hand, and shipped out, for the Grain Corporation requires weekly reports and full details of transactions.

Selling Wheat to Government.

ABOUT 29 days after the farmer brought in his wheat there came a request to this elevator for a carload to be purchased by the Grain Corporation. So one of our wheat bushels was poured into a car which miraculously had appeared on the siding at a time when car shortage was troubling the entire commercial world. Inquiry might have shown that



Loading Wheat at an Atlantic Port for the Allies.

the Grain Corporation was making a large purchase for the Allies and was utilizing its knowledge of available stocks by having on the job a transportation strategist—Edward Chambers, vice president of the Santa Fe. Mr. Chambers was assisting the Food Administration and has a remarkable "way with him." Even before he was called to assist Mr. McAdoo, the Director General, his suggestions to the railroads had a wonderful effect in discouraging their hesitancy as to finding available cars and in clearing up congestions that looked as though they never could be uncongested.

How Uncle Sam Keeps the Whip

Ease in getting the needed cars was one of the advantages enjoyed by this particular elevator after signing the voluntary agreement which ceded to the Grain Corporation the right to control storage and direct shipments and sales of all wheat bought by the proprietor.

While voluntary, this agreement is almost compulsory since railroads give priority recognition to Grain Corporation requests for cars; and elevators or mills outside the official fold must "rustle" for themselves. In return the Government guarantees the elevator proprietor against losses and protects him in every way as to price and pays him rentals for all storage space requisitioned by it.

All elevators, local and terminal, must take out licenses or face a shutdown. What is the power of the license? It requires the operator to lay all cards on the table as to his business dealings. For the time of the war the elevator becomes a public utility and its proprietor must furnish information as to his business at any time when required by the Grain Corporation. Each week he must make and mail reports showing the amount of wheat, rye, or their derivatives, purchased, stored, and shipped.

Under present license terms, the licensee can keep on hand for only 30 days, unless he obtains a special permit, any stocks of these grains or their derivatives. He is also forbidden to contract for the sale of any product which can not be delivered within 30 days after the contract is made.

How the Wheat Was Milled.

Away went our bushel of wheat on its journey to the terminal, where it met other bushels of wheat from all parts of the territory that fed this market. There it was regarded for special requirements, marked for immediate milling and rolled on to a large mill in Illinois. The miller bought the wheat from the Grain Corporation, for each miller in the United States is under license also, and most of them have filled out another voluntary agreement which binds them either to purchase all supplies from the Grain Corporation or under its di-

ELWOOD HOUSE CELEBRATES

Elwood House celebrated his eighth birthday last week Wednesday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Asquith, to which the following playmates were invited: Roland Wurster, Ivan Blosser, Allen Ehlen, Henry Snyder, Don Johnson, Mannie Keil, Forrest Giesy, Norman Hurst, Lowell Gribble, Willard Hunt, Thomas Wescott, Winfield and Archibald Atkinson.

Refreshments were served and the little guests enjoyed the affair thoroughly.

rect supervision. The corporation charges each miller 1 per cent of the value of the wheat he grinds to cover the costs of administering the corporation; for the \$50,000,000 capital is to be returned to the United States Treasury, unimpaired.

The agreement has its compensation, however, for the policy of Uncle Sam is to provide each mill with all wheat possible. To do so, every mill signing up was required to furnish an estimate of its possible milling capacity for the season. This nation-wide survey of milling capacities, when balanced against the available supply of wheat, enables the Grain Corporation to equalize supplies in a way never done before. In fact, the schedule of prices arranged for the primary markets had for an object this equalization. For instance, if the proprietor of an elevator at Maryville, Mo., 40 miles northeast of St. Joseph, and 40 miles from Chicago, desires to market wheat he has available these markets: St. Joseph, Mo.; Kansas City, Mo.; St. Louis, Mo.; Chicago, Ill., and New York City, N. Y. To ascertain the most advantageous price for him, he would work it out on the basis of the following table:

From this table you can see what

wheat would bring at five different markets if shipped from Maryville, Mo.:

F. A. G. C. markets.	St. Joseph, Mo.	Kansas City, Mo.	St. Louis, Mo.	New York City, N. Y.
Base price	\$2.15	\$2.15	\$2.18	\$2.18
Rate per 100 pounds	.085	.095	.117	.117
Rate per bushel	.039	.055	.070	.070
Net price	2.111	2.095	2.109	2.109

Under these conditions the proprietor would probably sell at St. Joseph or Chicago, according to his inclination.

The table further illustrates the equalization of prices and indicates to what extent the miller is protected when buying wheat in any territory. Through this plan discrimination against the producer, the miller, and the consumer are eliminated so far as it seems humanly possible under a plan of such tremendous proportions.



THESE schedules arranged for the various markets are veritable "price dams" to prevent the overflowing of the stream of wheat at any single market. They also tend to correct many abuses prevalent in the past, such as cutthroat methods adopted by mills to secure supplies and indiscriminate moving of wheat to terminals.

For all practical purposes the wheat business of the country is apportioned, and whenever possible mills are supplied from wheat in the territory nearest them. This policy has for an object the saving of waste in transportation. In another way saving is made: Formerly large quantities of undergrade wheats have been difficult to dispose of on account of unco-ordinated purchase of the competing mills; but under Uncle Sam's domination each bushel of wheat must now go somewhere and the poorer wheat will move just as freely as the more desirable grades.

Limiting Millers' Profits.

The Illinois miller who received the carload containing our bushel of wheat milled it promptly and shipped its flour to a port for exportation. The miller was permitted by the Food Administration to make a fair profit, not exceeding a maximum of 25 cents per barrel on the flour and a maximum profit of 50 cents per ton on the feed stuffs left over. All mills, however, must furnish at regular intervals to the Milling Division full statements of manufacturing costs, which are scrutinized carefully. The derivatives of this wheat the miller sold for domestic consumption, as the policy of the Government is to keep in the United States all available feedstuffs in order to encourage live-stock production.

FOR GOVERNOR

Gus. R. Moser

REPUBLICAN

President Oregon State Senate

A Patriotic American
A Native of Wisconsin. Age 47
For 27 years a resident of Oregon
A vigorous champion of the people of Oregon.

For a vigorous prosecution of the war to a victorious conclusion.

For strict business principles in management of State affairs.

For Rural Credits Extension, Irrigation, Drainage and Development of all our resources.

For Assistance by Portland Capital and business to every section of our great State.

For the right of both Labor and Capital under a scheme of mutual co-operation.

For Good Roads!

But Fight the Paving Trust

We are paying about \$5000 MORE per 16 foot mile Bitulithic Pavement in Oregon than is being paid in Washington. Let us build good roads in every County in the State--

GIVE EVERY COUNTY A SQUARE DEAL

Elect MOSER and you will forever banish the subtle influence of the Paving Trust from Oregon Politics.

Aggressively Independent

(Pd. Adv.)