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FARM LABOR IS "SKILLED LABOR."

Another thing the war is teaching Americans, who are not farmers is that farm labor is skilled labor. It used to be considered that anyone who did not know enough to do anything else could work on a farm. This they have found out, especially the few who have tried. They have found out, especially the few who have tried working on a farm since the war started "to help out," that the work required considerable besides main strength. It looks simple enough to hold a plow, but the fellow who never tried it will soon find there is a knack about it which lacking, will wear the greenhorn to a frazzle in a few hours. The beginner will imagine the first few hours he holds a plow that he is doing more and harder work than the team--and he is. He will find that pitching hay and forking wheat bundles is not only hard work but requires plenty of skill to do it easily and satisfactorily. The tyro who tackles the gentle bossy will soon discover that she knows the difference between the skilled work of the farmer and himself and resents being tackled by one who does not understand the work, by kicking. The swinging of a scythe, binding of grain, stacking of wheat or hay, building fences and all the varied and multitudinous work there is on every farm, it will be found by one who has never tried it, requires brains and skill. A story in the Capital Journal yesterday from some of the big farmers of the country shows they realize what they are up against in the way of labor shortage, and the poor opinion they have of the make-shift labor from the cities, no matter how much that same labor and the patriotism behind it was appreciated. This farmer says many of the large farms that are devoted to growing wheat will not be seeded the coming year unless the labor outlook brightens. This would be a calamity, especially if the war is not ended next year, for it would leave the allies as well as our own boys on short rations provided the failure to seed was at all general. It emphasizes the necessity of exempting as far as possible, farm labor from the coming draft, for the men on the farms are needed there as badly as are the boys in the trenches.

President Wilson yesterday fixed the price of No. 1 Northern Spring wheat at the same prices as have been maintained during the year. The government guarantees this price to the grower, and at the same time it is promised that any changes necessary will be made next spring. As the government guarantees the price, if the war should end suddenly it might stand to lose half a billion dollars, for in that case our allies would buy in the markets where wheat is cheapest and most abundant. This would compel the government to either lose as has been stated or to keep the price of wheat products up until the crop was used up, which would be the same thing as everybody who uses bread would help pay the bill. At the same time the necessity of guaranteeing a minimum price compels this action as without it the production might be greatly reduced, and if the war is not ended next year this would be calamitous. It seems about the only solution, and makes the farmer safe in growing wheat next year.

Reports from neutral countries are to the effect that the Germans are feverishly increasing the fortifications along the Rhine. This is the strongest evidence that Hindenburg and Ludendorff have but little faith in their ability to stop the allied advance at the Hindenburg line, or at any point short of the German border. There is a fair chance of the soil of France being cleared of the pollution of the kaiser's soldiers before the year is out. This in itself would be a wonderful achievement, and on top of this much of the territory of Belgium may likewise be freed from the presence of the German invaders.

War Correspondent Lowell Mellett puts the matter epigrammatically when he says "the latest battle of the Somme is definitely won. There is no question of the direction the Germans are now going but only of the speed at which they will travel."

LADD & BUSH, Bankers
ALL THE THIRD LIBERTY BONDS ARE NOW
HERE.
THOSE INTERESTED PLEASE CALL
AT THE BANK

How little the Prussians and military leaders of Germany understand the American people is shown by the attempt being made to show them by dropping made-in-Germany arguments showing why Germany was right in starting the war, has been sorely persecuted and earnestly desires peace such as the allies can accept." These pamphlets dropped by German airmen in the American camps also prove satisfactorily to the German mind that the United States was entirely wrong in entering the war against her "best and oldest friend, Germany." This sort of balderdash caught the ignorant Russian peasant, and for a short time deceived some of the Italian soldiers. If the Hun leaders had the least real understanding of the American character, he would know he is wasting time and paper in trying to deceive them. In the first place the American soldier or other, thoroughly understands that the word or promise of a Prussian or a member of the military party is not "to be taken at anything on the dollar." It is only a minus quantity, and when the American soldier reads a statement made by any of this gang, he knows at once that it is not so.

There were three reports concerning Lenine yesterday. One stated he had died of the wounds received when he was attacked by an assassin; another that he was not dead but in grave danger from these same wounds, while the third dispatch said he had almost entirely recovered. The dispatches are all "reliable" and you can take your choice. Most people prefer first choice and in this case that would be the one we would pick for the truth as well as for being the most satisfying.

It is a moral certainty that Hindenburg's army will not occupy the trenches of the old Hindenburg line, or at least not all of them for the British are in possession of them at several points and the French and Americans are pressing them hard at several other places. Apparently by the time the Germans reach the line at all points at least half of it will be in possession of the allies.

Ten thousand prisoners taken yesterday besides heavy casualties, coupled with arrival of ten thousand more Americans on the shores of France shows how the German force is weakening as compared to that of the allies. The change in favor of the allies for the day is at least 25,000 men.

Rippling Rhymes

by Walt Mason

USEFUL LABOR.

I often hear a fellow say, when pointing to a neighbor, "I really think that idle jay should do some useful labor. He tramps the village selling books, and boring thus his betters; and in these times of war, gadzooks, we have small use for letters. He ought to beg or steal a hoe, and work out his salvation, and make a hill of spinach grow, to help to feed the nation." Perhaps the neighbor's wearing bells, as on his path he's drifting; perhaps the clothbound books he sells are loyal and uplifting. It may chance his helpful tomes inspire some husky critter to go and cleave some Teuton domes, and make the kaiser bitter. I've never found it safe or sane to judge the other fellow, to say his motives all are vain, or that his course is yellow. We all can't labor with our hands, with energy untiring; we can't hew wood or till the lands, or keep the forge fires burning. For some must clerk and some must preach; or run the railway station, and some must "ake their clubs and teach the rising generation. The doctor cannot leave his sick who look to him for healing, because some loud offensive hick of slackers still is spieling. Before I'd throw out darksome hints, or whisper things abusive, I'd have to have the charts and prints and diagrams conclusive.

THE WIFE

By JANE PHELPS

THE HEAD CLERK AT MANDEL'S INSTRUCTS RUTH AS TO HER DUTIES.

CHAPTER XXII
Ruth's lip quivered when she realized that Brian had gone without the usual escort, but she choked back the tears and went about her work. Now that she had planned to have someone to do the distasteful tasks, they seemed more hateful than ever. Somehow, too she could not hurry, but kept thinking of Brian, his displeasure. Finally she decided not to wash the dishes, but to clear the table, make the bed, and do the dishes when she prepared dinner.
"I know I shall just hate to see them when I come home but I haven't time to do them now," she said aloud as she looked at the clock. There was but an hour in which to dress and reach the shop.
Promptly at quarter to nine she walked into the door of the decorator's. Mr. Mandel had not yet arrived, so the clerk, an innocuous-looking youth, told her--she found out at-

Elmer Wienert Writes Of Experience On The Ocean Wave

Elmer Wienert, son of August Wienert route 9, is now in the navy and has done considerable travelling since leaving home. After leaving Salem his tour of the world was something like this: Seattle to Panama; Panama to Charleston; Charleston to New York; New York to Halifax; Halifax to Brest, France; Brest to St. Nazaire, where the American soldier first landed; St. Nazaire to Nantes, and returning thence to Verdun Bay and from there to New York City. Of his travels he writes in part:
"Arriving in France, at Brest, we an ebored over night, proceeding southward the next day. That is the way they sail along the coast of France as it is rather dangerous to go out at night.
"St. Nazaire is one of those American towns in France where the charges are top price for everything. If you are able to talk French the prices drop a little. At St. Nazaire they must have a regiment of negro stevedores. Talk about work! When about a thousand of those black boys got going, something is going to move.
"Nantes is one of the best towns in France for an American, not that we do not have to pay for being an American though. Coming back up the coast of France, we waited a week for a convoy at Verdun Bay. A few days out the convoy ran away from this old boat of ours and although it worried the skipper a good deal, we managed to have a rather pleasant trip. It did blow for a few days and we lost quite a little chumware.
"This boat may be a little old but it takes to wave like a duck. Coming across empty and running into a big blow.
"We managed to have enough rolling and pitching and tossing to have a real taste of the sea.

Ruth knew of business or its ethics. "I shall be only a few moments, Mrs. Hackett," Mr. La Monte said as he turned from her. Suppose you look around until I return."

"Thank you, I will," rising, Ruth sauntered thru the shop--rather, the street floor. They occupied two stories, but she did not feel free to go upstairs on her own initiative.

As she passed from one wonderful art object to another, as she allowed her fingers to touch curiously the soft Oriental fabrics she breathed a sigh of pure happiness and satisfaction. She had forgotten Brian's displeasure she had even forgotten Brian himself, in her delight at her surroundings.

She had walked toward the front of the shop. Passing, was a man who reminded her of Brian. His walk, the set of his shoulders, his way of carrying his chin. She immediately felt guilty. She really loved her handsome husband, and that the beauty around her could cause her to forget him made her unhappy for a moment. Then came the thought of the four little rooms--the kitchen with the soiled dishes in a pan, covered by a towel. All the sorrows of her life as she lived it during the day, when Brian was at the office, came to her, causing her to again regain her placid manner before La Monte returned to her.

"This way, Mrs. Hackett!" he led her to the elevator. "Most of your work will be on the next floor," he explained.
An exclamation of delight broke from Ruth as she stepped from the lift. Piled in what seemed confusion, were silks and bronzes, glorious colorings, wonderful weaves. The Orient had been robbed, it seemed to her, to supply these beautiful stuffs. And she was to spend her days here, in this place, instead of in her dingy little kitchen. Her eyes filled.
"How lovely!" she murmured, blink-

LITTLE TALKS ON THRIFT

By S. W. STRAUS
President of the American Society for Thrift



Our present campaign for saving sugar brings out in graphic manner the value of saving on little things. G I a d stone once said, "A chancellor of the exchequer is not worth his salt if he is not ready to save candle-ends and cheese parings for his country."
In drinking tea or coffee, a great many people are in the habit of leaving a small amount of undissolved sugar at the bottom of the cup. It seems a very trivial amount, yet the aggregate waste of sugar in this respect alone is estimated at 1,700,000 lbs. daily, or 620,000,000 lbs. a year. These figures seem incredible, but we must remember that America drinks 100,000,000 cups of coffee and 70,000,000 cups of tea a day.

The practice of thrift means a constant and systematic elimination of waste, no matter how small, and a steady saving of resources, no matter how inconsequential the amounts may be. A great French banker was once asked the secret of French thrift and he replied, "Compound interest." Just as constant waste, even in little things, may change one's life from success to failure, so the steady saving of money will eventually bring independence, if not actual wealth.

Look back over the last ten years of your life. Be honest with yourself! Look facts squarely in the face! Could you not have saved 3c a day, or a quarter a day, or possibly a dollar a day? It might have pinched you now and then a little to do so; it might have meant the surrender of a few good times, a few luxuries or extravagances. But it would have meant a substantial sum behind you to-day--something that would add immeasurably to your peace, peace of mind and self-confidence.

The most common mistake made ordinarily is scorn of little things. At Wichita, Kansas, a drove of 1,500 hogs is fed from city garbage, which hitherto had been thrown away. With the use of a small amount of corn these hogs are increasing in weight 1,200 lbs. a day. In each ton of garbage there is enough food to produce 100 lbs. of good pork.

One of the greatest lessons Americans can learn, both to individual and national advantage, is that we must despise not the little things.

ing them back so that La Monte would not see her weakness. That he HAD seen, and seeing had said to himself: "She'll soon have Miss Candee's place." Ruth did not know until long afterward. An artist himself, he recognized the temperament in her.

Ruth listened carefully while he explained what would be expected of her. Often he led her on to express herself, and was surprised at her breadth of knowledge. He said nothing of this to her, however. Yet when, more than once, she had, in speaking of some article, placed the period at once, he had been surprised.
Before he left her he showed her a desk which was to be her very own. Then he left her, laying down the plan of a room to be decorated (an order received that morning) and a note giving her a general idea of the house.

Could Ruth have heard what he said when he reached Mr. Mandel's office, she would have been more delighted; she would have felt a great pride.
"That Mrs. Hackett is a find, Mr. Mandel. She knows fully as much of the technique of the business as Miss Candee did."

"That is saying a good deal, La Monte, but you only confirm my opinion."

To-morrow--Brian Accepts the Fact That Ruth is Working, But is Angry.

CHILL IS OFTIMES FATAL TO A SQUASH



SQUASHES ARE SUSCEPTIBLE TO COLD AND MOISTURE, AND FOR THIS REASON SHOULD BE STORED IN A DRY PLACE OF BETWEEN 50 TO 60 DEGREES F. SQUASHES MAY BE KEPT BY PLACING THEM IN A SINGLE LAYER ON A DRY FLOOR AND COVERING WITH RUGS OR CARPETS.

Care in storage is best explained in the free book that will be sent any reader of this paper who sends a two-cent stamp to the National War Garden Commission at Washington.

In the Back



German "Efficiency" has never reached a higher plane than in the foul desecration of the Red Cross emblem in the bombing of plainly marked hospitals in the allied lines.

"Here are many allied officers and men," says the Kaiser. "If they were not wounded, they might dodge our glorious airplanes as bombs are dropped. Being wounded, they cannot move, and so they are killed in their beds or in the air as their beds are blown out from under them."

"Gott being with us, let us blow up all the Red Cross hospitals we can."

So the "Greatest Mother in the World" remains a shining mark for the "Superbest" efficient elimination of his enemies. Since Allied airplanes have become regular visitors to German cities, the Kaiser has discovered such bombing to be a violation of international law.

Your subscription to the Fourth Liberty Loan will mark the earnestness of your approval of the building of great fleets of American airplanes to bring their frightfulness home to the Hun.

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