

MORE SPRING WHEAT ASKED OF FARMERS

Large Supply of Food and Feed-
stuffs Needed in 1918.

Agricultural Department Asks Increased
Pork Production and Larger
Acreage of Grain Crops.

Washington, D. C.—The planting of an increased acreage to spring wheat and the production of an increased supply of other food products and of live stock, especially hogs, is recommended in a supplementary food production program issued by the United States department of agriculture.

This program re-emphasizes and amplifies the food-production program for 1918 issued by the department in August, 1917, and other suggestions made in the fall and the first of this year regarding increased pork production and increased production of food-stuffs in the South. Taken in connection with the recommendations previously made, it suggests in full the proposals which the department thinks it desirable to offer with a view to secure enough meat and dairy products, cereals, sugar and other staples and perishable foods, wool and cotton for the nation, its armies, and the allies. It gives suggestions for the approaching spring operations, based upon the latest available information as to the condition of the fall-planted crops of winter wheat and rye and as to the number of meat and dairy animals reported for 1917. It represents the best thought of the specialists of the department who have had the benefit of advice from agricultural leaders throughout the country.

Our Best Efforts Required.

"Notwithstanding an increased production of staple crops in the United States in 1917, there is need for more food," the program states. "Taking into account our own needs, the needs of the nations associated with us in this war, and the needs of friendly neutral nations, our best efforts will be required to provide enough food in 1918. Whether the war continues or not, the demands on this country, because of the increasing population and the needs of Europe will be great. An especially strong demand will be made on this country for meats and live stock. In 1917, notwithstanding the many difficulties encountered, the farmers planted the largest acreages in the history of the nation, harvested record crops of most things except wheat, and succeeded in greatly increasing the number of live stock."

"The situation is such that chief emphasis should be given to the production of the great staple food products, with special stress on wheat and hogs, the leading war foods."

"The South is urged to provide food for its own people and feed for its live stock and then to plant as much cotton as can well be cultivated and harvested. To raise more hogs and beef animals the world need for meats and fats is made clear. Farmers are urged to join with the men on the ranges in providing sheep whose wool is needed to equip soldiers."

"The program discusses the farm labor problem, points out the lines of effort for relief, and outlines the activities of the federal and state agencies to furnish assistance."

Spring Wheat.

"In dealing with the question of spring wheat, the program states: 'The acreage of spring wheat should be increased in order to make certain that we shall have an adequate supply of wheat for our own uses and to meet the needs of the allies.'

"While the area of winter wheat sown in 1917 was the largest on record, the condition of the crop, as reported on December 1, was the lowest ever recorded, indicating a probable production of only 540,000,000 bushels. Whether the actual production will be greater or less than the estimate will depend upon conditions prevailing between now and the time of harvest. If there were planted to spring wheat in the United States this year an acreage equal to the sum of the record planting in each spring wheat state within the last ten years, there would be sown approximately 25,300,000 acres. If there should be planted an acreage equal to the sum of the record planting for each state within the last five years there would be sown approximately 21,000,000 acres. The record planting for any year was 20,381,000 in 1910. The acreage for 1917 was 15,511,000."

"The department of agriculture has carefully studied all these records and other data in connection with the present war conditions and needs, and believes that it will be possible this year to secure an acreage in excess of the record acreage which was planted in 1911. It is believed that increased acreages can be secured in areas and sections where spring wheat production is known to be reasonably promising, and that such increases can be made without upsetting farm plans."

It is hoped that many farmers, especially in the northern part of the country, will find it possible to plant five to ten acres additional in wheat. In some cases they will plant more. In

a number of states in the eastern and central portions of the country where spring wheat has not been grown in recent years, the crop is now being re-established and it is recommended that this movement be encouraged.

To a small extent the acreage in oats, if necessary, could be reduced in the interest of wheat. Likewise, a very small portion of the acreage which normally would be planted to corn in the northern part of the corn belt might be sown to spring wheat.

If the acreage of spring wheat indicated for some of the states cannot be planted, the barley acreage, which is known to grow better in some localities, might be increased. The use of barley for food is increasing in this country and it is a welcome food in Europe.

Summary of Other Recommendations.

Following is a summary of other important recommendations regarding cereals, meat, poultry, and perishables.

Hogs. The number of hogs should be increased by at least 15 per cent during the year 1918.

Sugar. Effort should be made to maintain the acreage of sugar cane and sugar beets, and to increase these areas in so far as these crops are well established or are necessary to sound agricultural practice.

Production of satisfactory substitutes for sugar, including sorghum, corn and cane sirup, maple products, and honey can and should be increased.

Sorghum sirup. It is pointed out, may be produced in nearly every state in the Union, and increased production of sorghum sirup would enable the public to conserve still further the sugar supply in the form most available for transportation to our soldiers.

Dairy Production. The supply of dairy products should be maintained to help the needs of this country and to help supply the increasing demands of the allies.

Poultry. Poultry production should be increased greatly, especially in back yards and on farms where waste material is available and the purchase of expensive grains and other material is not required.

Corn. An acreage of corn approximately equal to that of 1917 should be planted, with possible slight reductions in certain sections to free areas for spring wheat.

Corn, Barley, Rice, Duckwheat and Flaxseed. The area of crops should be maintained, especially in regions and on soils which are not so well adapted to other grains, but will yield good crops in regions where they are well adapted. Barley production should be increased in regions where it grows best, especially in the northern part of the corn belt and in the north and west of the belt; and rice, duckwheat and flaxseed production should be maintained and, if possible, increased.

Grain Sorghums. The production of grain sorghums (bair, milo, feterita, etc.) should be increased greatly throughout the drier portion of the Plains region. Kaffir is the most certain grain crops in this section and they can be made to supplement wheat as human food, and to replace corn as animal food.

Potatoes. The normal acreage of Irish and sweet potatoes should be maintained in 1918, notwithstanding the large crops in 1917.

Clay, Forage and Pastures. Wherever feasible, the area devoted to horse, forage and silage crops should be increased, and these products should be used to a greater extent in place of grains and other concentrates.

Beef Animals. The number of beef animals should be maintained and, in areas where it is clearly the best range and farm practice, should be increased.

Beans, Peas and Peanuts. The production of beans and peas should be increased in regions in which they are adapted, because of their high food value, keeping qualities, and availability for domestic or export trade. Soybeans and peanuts should be increased in order to supplement beans and peas as human food, as a source of much needed oil, and as animal feeds.

Perishables. (a) Market gardens near large consuming centers should be increased as far as possible, and, in order to obviate the necessity of transporting such products from distant points.

(b) It is important to do all that is possible to relieve the strain upon transportation facilities.

(c) The planting of home gardens, especially for family needs and for preserving food for future use, again should be emphasized.

(d) The commercial production of perishables generally should be increased above normal when it is reasonably clear that transportation and marketing facilities will be available.

Literally. "We've got to get a good actor to play the role of Sator in that special regular performance."

Then there'll be the devil to pay."

Ineffective Dialogue.

"Do you like the electric-vary variety of people?"

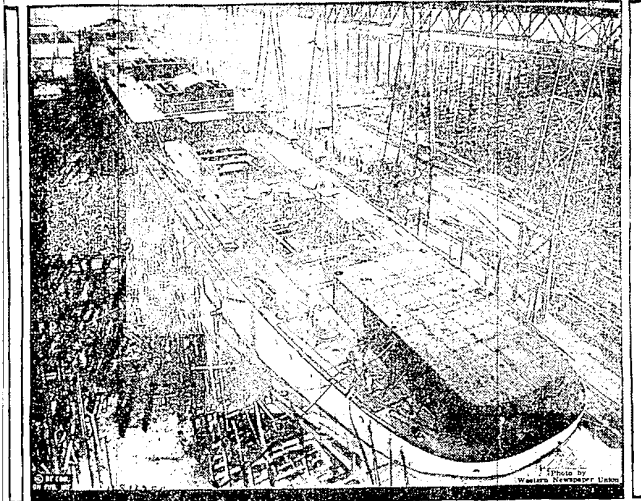
"Not much. They're too apt to be some kind of suckers."

Left-Handedness.

At least one human being in fifty is left-handed. This is the statistic given by some authorities say four in fifty. W. Franklin Jones declares that a per cent of the race are born left-handed, but that three-fourths of these are converted by training into more or less imperfect right-handers.

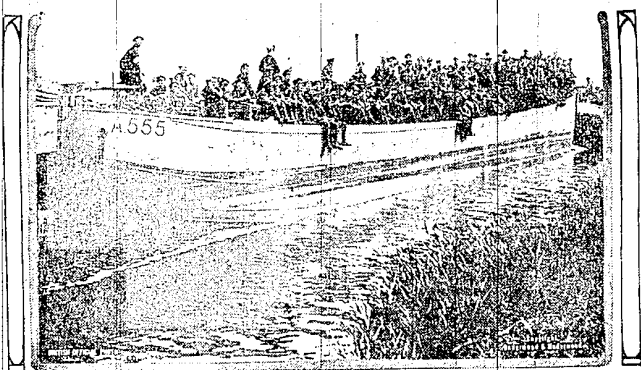
On the other hand, about 1 per cent of the race, though born right-handed, are trained to use the left hand because of precedents in the right—Scientific City.

BUILDING ONE OF AMERICA'S IMMENSE VICTORY-BEARERS



One of the immense freighters being built for the United States government to carry supplies abroad to our troops and our allies. This vessel is nearly completed, and there are hundreds of others in the many yards throughout the United States. Many ships are being built, but still more must be had to carry our troops and supplies overseas. Skilled workmen are being formed into a huge industrial army under the department of labor, and each worker will receive a certificate and a button showing him to be a volunteer in this work upon which directly rests the fate of world-wide democracy.

BRITISH TROOPS MOVED ON FRENCH CANAL BARGES



Photographs have arrived in this country showing troops being moved to the front on motorcories, on light railways and on road, but perhaps never before have a dozen canoes showing troops being moved to the front on barges in canals, which bring them a short distance from the front. The rest of the journey is made on foot. These barges are loaded with the heavy Tommies, and they make reasonably fast progress by the front, though of course not as fast as motorcories or light railways. The Tommies enjoy this method of travel, as it gives them a good opportunity to view the prettier sections of France.

FIERCEST OF FIGHTERS

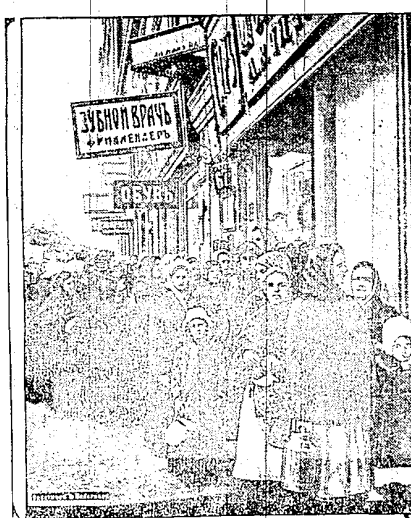


The French soldiers are probably the fiercest fighters in the French army. The Germans of any race find them more than anything else on earth. It is said that those "redoubtable" never take a prisoner.

Frank Otten.

Harold Mueller, a young civil engineer of Richmond, who works for the city in the country, and in association with a good many farmers, tells us that he has been told that he is on the lookout for any bargains the farmers might offer him. While driving along the road one day in his car he noticed a sign on the fence which read: "Take home all the pumpkins you want—free." Mueller thought to himself, "There is a farmer after my own heart, who is not a dignified." He got out of the car and went to the farmer's house. He was quite proud of his find, and a few days later he inquired of his mother when he could have for a nice pumpkin pie. His heart was set on it, and he returned home with his find. The free pumpkins had been frostbitten—Indiana News.

PETROGRAD'S LONG MILK LINES



Long line of women and children waiting to buy milk in Petrograd. Most of them carry babies, but the supply is so limited that they get very little. This line of people eager to buy necessities can be found at almost all the stores, but the supply is very scarce.

CONDENSATIONS

More than 2,000 motorists who failed to stop, look and listen, were killed or made crossing in 1916, and many more were injured. The number of the killed and injured in these accidents is increasing 25 per cent a year. The houses, streets and roads in New Zealand in 1917 consist of a mass of built of utterly white stone, and during the summer months these reflect the sun's rays so strongly that colored glasses are largely worn by both the native population and foreigners. Many sizes and forms of frames and many different colors of glass are used.

A demand for trunks and valises of American make can be created in Paraguay. These now in general use are of local manufacture and are of an inferior grade. The foreign and domestic commerce bureau will supply a list of importers to firms interested in securing this business.

TO SPEED NEW FLEET

Call Is Issued for 250,000 Volunteers to Aid in Work.

Reserve Organization of American Mechanics Is Formed to Complete Great Shipbuilding Program Planned to Win the War.

All states have been requested to contribute their quota of volunteer shipyard workmen to speed America's new merchant fleet to rapid completion. The United States Shipyard Volunteers of the Public Service Reserve have been formed, embracing skilled workers in many trades. Two hundred and fifty thousand workmen will be enrolled, all of whom will stand ready to respond when they are called to go to shipyards for service.

An appeal for volunteers has been made by the department of labor, the council of national defense, the shipping board, the 20,000 four-minute men, governors of the various states, organized labor and business men. The aim is to fill all the present and future needs of the government's shipyards.

Pay of volunteers will be in accordance with the prevailing wage in the shipyards at the time they are called. Construction of houses for the workers is being pushed with energy, and the necessary homes will be ready when the men are called.

Preliminaries Are Arranged.

All preliminary work, such as the building of shipyard and shipyard, construction of housing facilities, preparation and transportation of material, and the training of workmen, is being pushed to completion. Thus the organization of the shipyard volunteers is being hastened with energy and enthusiasm.

Volunteers are requested to go to the nearest enrollment agent of the public service reserve or state council of defense and sign up. Should there be no enrolling agent in the vicinity, they are asked to write to Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the United States Shipping board, Washington.

Cards are issued to all applicants, bearing statements of the purpose of the shipyard volunteers, classifying them according to trades and asking signers to respond when called. Returning the inscription, "U. S. Shipyard Volunteers." In addition, the worker will receive a certificate signed by Chairman Hurley, which reads:

"This is to certify (name of volunteer) of (city, state), has enrolled in the United States Shipyard Volunteers of the Public Service Reserve to aid the nation in its imperative need for merchant ships with which to overcome the submarine menace and maintain our forces at the front."

Shipyards to Win or Lose.

"The world war will be won or lost in the American shipyards. Every rivet driven is a blow at the Kaiser. Every ship turned out brings America nearer to victory."

"Those who give their strength and influence to the speedy construction of ships render service that is patriotic and highly essential to the successful termination of the war."

Quota of Each State.

Each state has been assigned a quota, based upon the population and industries. The quota is as follows:

Maine.....2,872	New Jersey.....11,748
New Hampshire.....1,493	Pennsylvania.....5,771
Vermont.....1,393	Ohio.....25,917
Massachusetts.....14,121	Indiana.....20,417
Rhode Island.....2,335	Illinois.....10,721
Connecticut.....1,782	Michigan.....8,268
New York.....25,125	Wisconsin.....5,713
Minnesota.....5,713	Alabama.....2,682
Iowa.....2,682	Mississippi.....7,683
Missouri.....11,812	Arkansas.....2,682
South Dakota.....2,682	Louisiana.....2,682
Nebraska.....2,682	Oklahoma.....2,682
Kansas.....2,682	Texas.....15,743
Delaware.....811	Idaho.....1,682
Maryland.....1,682	Wyoming.....1,682
Dist. of Columbia.....1,682	Colorado.....1,682
Virginia.....3,265	New Mexico.....1,682
West Virginia.....1,682	Arizona.....1,682
N. Carolina.....3,265	Utah.....1,682
S. Carolina.....1,682	Nevada.....1,682
Georgia.....1,682	Washington.....3,265
Florida.....1,682	Oregon.....1,682
Kentucky.....1,682	California.....15,743
Tennessee.....1,682	

Trades Needed in Shipbuilding.

The department of labor has provided the following list showing the kind of trades most needed in shipbuilding, and a special appeal is addressed to men in those occupations to enroll in the United States Shipyard volunteers:

Acetylene and electrical welders, anastomists, workers, blacksmiths, angle-iron, drop-forge men, flange turners, furnace men, boiler-makers, riveters, resamers, carpenters, ship carpenters, clock builders, chipmunks and callers, electrical workers, electricians, wiremen, crane operators, foundry workers, laborers (all kinds), liftmen, template makers, machinists and machine hands (all sorts), helpers, painters, plumbers and pipe fitters, sheet metal workers, cooper-smiths, shipfitters, structural iron workers, erectors, bolters up, cementers and crane men.

Everybody Does It.

One form which our national lines not infrequently takes is to say, when a prominent friend finally does come around and pay back what he owes you, that it is: "Why, I'd forgotten all about it!"—Ohio State Journal.

Worth While Question.

"Some people seem to take up at the sorrow of the past; to take up the burden of the present; they add the burden of the future; they look ahead and anticipate a great many more trials than they will ever experience in the future."