

## All Talk of Food Famine Is Mere Hysteria and Beyond Real Point

By HERBERT HOOVER, United States Food Administrator



There is an abundance of food accessible to the seas, but there are not the ships to carry it from every point and to still conduct the war.

There are today abundant stores of food in Australia, the East and in South America. Ours and Canada's are the nearest supplies to the allies, and better protection from submarines can be given to ships on the Atlantic lane than on other sea routes.

Roughly, every 5,000 tons of food to the allies requires 15,000 tons of shipping from Australia, 10,000 tons from the Argentine and 5,000 tons from North

America. Every steamer we can save from these long journeys means the possibility of an additional shipload of soldiers and munitions to France. If the allies were compelled to go to these more remote markets for their whole food supply today it would require over 2,500,000 tons more shipping than at present in use for this purpose. If North America could next year provide the whole of allied necessities we could save 1,500,000 tons of shipping. Every ship we save is a ship built. The weight of our blow against the Germans will be limited not alone by the ships we build but by the ships that we save.

If the allies were forced to rely wholly on the remote markets for their food we would have no soldiers in France today. Nor will the burden grow less in the near future, for every ship we build will be needed to replace losses and to increase our army at the front.

Therefore the whole war-food problem is simply and solely a determination of the amount of food that can be spared from North America. The marginal amount must be drawn from the more remote markets.

Our ability to supply the allied world with food lies in four directions: First. The United States usually produces a small surplus of food for export over and above our normal consumption. This surplus we can export without economic disturbance.

Second. We have for years exported to other countries than the allies. By partial or complete embargo of these shipments we can slightly increase the supplies available to the allies.

Third. We can expand the area planted, and if our harvests are normal we can thereby enlarge the surplus for export through increasing production.

Fourth. Our normal consumption and waste of food are anywhere from 15 to 20 per cent more than is necessary to maintain our own public health and strength, and we can in an emergency restrict the national consumption to our need and thereby increase our exports.

We have thus, so far as the allies are concerned, four marginal resources—our small normal surplus, the embargo, an abnormal surplus to be created by stimulated production and a further surplus to be created by a reduction in our consumption. Our resiliency of resources in these four directions, principally the latter, is such that we can, if we have the will to do so, maintain the strength of the allies and our own people, and all talk of famine is mere hysteria. Our world food situation is not to be interpreted as famine; at worst it is to be interpreted in terms of soldiers to France, or alternatively it can be interpreted in terms of larger ship-building programs.

## Objection to Farms By Returned Soldiers Is Cause of Worry

By DR. J. T. SIMMONS of Toronto

Provision for the soldiers returning from the war and the suggestion that a plan be evolved to place them on farms is being given serious attention among students. A great deal has been written in the press about this problem in a purely academic manner. It has been suggested that the soldier has lived so long out of doors that he will be loath to return to the desk or factory. In a way there is a lot of truth in this, but it does not balance the desire of the soldier to be in constant contact with his comrades.

Not long ago a survey of some two hundred soldiers who were in convalescent homes was made by an expert in Canada. It showed that about 50 per cent had been brought up on farms but only about 10 per cent had remained there. A very small proportion owned farms and only about 4 per cent declared they wanted to return to agriculture. This, of course, is to be regretted, but it does not look very promising for the plan to send the soldiers to the farms.

We know that a great many men from the farms, since the war began, have gone into the cities and entered factories at greatly advanced wages. They have had a taste of the city life and it will be difficult to get them to go back to the farms. It is therefore going to be a very serious problem. We have got to have men to till the soil if we are to feed the people in the cities. The farm tractor and other improved farm machinery will help to make up for the lack of men, but machinery cannot be run without the help of men and the population is increasing all the time, making increased production of food products absolutely necessary. This is one of the most difficult results of the war and one which will require a great deal of study and planning to meet.

## High Tribute Paid to American Women for Wonderful War Work

By MISS HELEN FRAZER, English Suffragist

The American women are wonderful, and it is a pity our people know so little of what they are doing. Do you know, for example, that there are 5,000,000 American women engaged in war work, that their Red Cross supplies work is simply admirable, that their war savings organization has raised a third of the Liberty loan?

Do people here understand that ever since America came in, and even before, millions of American women voluntarily stinted themselves of beef, flour and wheat in order to save it for us?

They feel that this war for the first time in history is a woman's war as well as a man's war. I am returning to the United States for another series of conferences in the autumn. The more the women of the two nations understand one another the better it will be for us. It was a man's work that separated Great Britain and America in the old days. It is for the women now to bring them together again.

## REMARKABLE REMARKS

Germans are regarded as blackguards the world over.—Cologne Gazette.

You can't fuel all the people all the time.—Fuel Administrator Garfield.

While the world has France, the world will have liberty.—Admiral Sims.

If a fellow sits in a park and spoons with a girl, he's a war slacker.—An Indianapolis Policeman.

The Bible is the best preparation an American soldier can have to go into battle.—Field Marshal Foch.

Our position is favorable, although we lately have happened to have been set back.—Field Marshal Hindenburg.

If nature doesn't make an ass out of a man, he is almost certain to chase some woman and let her correct the mistake.—Luke McLuke.

You will hear nothing but facts from me, but I cannot always give you all the facts. The entire truth at certain times does not serve, but harms.—Admiral von Hintze, German Foreign Secretary.

Good Lord, deliver us from the hyphenated American, the pro-German, the profiteer, the pacifist, the slacker and all who would retard the prosecution of the war for human rights, human happiness and the establishment of a permanent world-wide peace.—Chaplain Henry N. Couden, House of Representatives.

## STRAY PLANTS

And it seems like a cruel whim of nature that even laziness gets hungry.

Never push your physical machinery beyond its capacity, but keep it busy.

Man may be the surface anchor between deep thought and high attainment.

Germany in some other analysis might live to bless the graves France gave it.

We cannot be as young as ever, but how we do love to throw off the years and lie about it!

Some people spend their time combing the infinite when they ought to be raking the garden.

If all the sighs and complaining expletives were emitted at once, it might blow the bottom out of the universe.

Humanity is much alike—but America excels because God gave it vast territory, broad and free thought, and the product of these.—J. H. Mackley in Farm Progress.

## POPULAR SCIENCE

Bell metal is made of 77 parts of copper and 23 of tin.

Seven hundred British subjects are yearly born at sea.

Iron is seven times as heavy as water, bulk for bulk, and gold 19 times.

Representative Snell of New York says that because of restrictive federal water power laws only 8 per cent or 10 per cent of the 60,000,000 horse power available for development in this country has been utilized.

## FROM COMMERCE REPORTS

There is a growing demand for brick-making machinery in South America.

The great majority of all buildings in Uruguay are constructed of brick with a cement plaster finish.

Motor boating for pleasure has been prohibited in Denmark, probably until the close of the war, on account of the shortage of gasoline.

There were 467 business failures in Holland during the first six months of 1918, compared with 456 during the same period last year.

Great Britain is taking steps to establish its dye industry upon a firm basis within a reasonable time after the cessation of hostilities.

Canada's total trade for the first four months of 1918 suffered a loss of \$198,812,079 over the corresponding period last year, the figures being \$702,748,065 and \$901,560,144 respectively.

## WORDS OF WISE MEN

Novelties please less than they impress.—Dickens.

Passions are likened best to floods and streams. The shallow murmur, but the deep are dumb.—Raleigh.

I have lived to know that the secret of happiness is never to allow your energies to become stagnant.—Adam Clarke.

Every man has some peculiar train of thought which he falls back upon when alone. This, to a great degree, molds the man.—Dugald Stewart.

## Adrift with Humor



### A COMPROMISE.

Patience—Has Peggy got her divorce yet?

Patrice—Not yet.

"Why, she expected to get it last week. Hasn't the case got in court yet?"

"Oh, yes."

"She asked for \$25,000, didn't she?"

"Yes, I believe so, but the amount asked was so large the case was compromised."

"Compromised? She'd never take a penny less than \$25,000, I hope."

"Well, her husband said he couldn't pay that much."

"How much did he pay?"

"Nothing; it seems they just kissed and made up."

### A Fighting Top.

"And what is that up there?" asked the lady visiting the battleship.

"That's what is called a fighting top," replied the sailor showing her around.

"What is it for?"

"Well, you see, lady, we have a great many mice and rats on this ship, and when a lady comes aboard and the rodents make their appearance, the lady climbs up there and throws things at 'em."

### CONDITION OF THE MARKET.



Mrs. Tonguesmith—It won't do you any good to say a word. Talk is cheap.

Mr. Tonguesmith—Yes, my dear. The supply is so far in excess of the demand.

### Gosh.

In days of old, when knights were bold Book agents were in fettle: You darsent kick a man, I'm told, His pants were made of metal.

### Not So Long as It Seemed.

Nell—Miss Passay says Mr. Golden proposed to her on Wednesday night, but she didn't give him her answer until Thursday.

Bell—If that's true, I'll wager he proposed at 11:59 p. m. and was accepted at 12:01 a. m.—London Tit-Bits.

### Resemblance.

"What kind of a golf game does Plute Pete play?"

"Good deal same as his poker game," replied Broncho Bob. "A whole lot o' conversation that you mostly can't believe a word of."

### Rather Interesting.

"I find the professor's statistics stupid."

"I don't. He told me there were 400,000,000 people in the world, and that I was the prettiest girl in the lot."—Peanut's weekly.

### He Sure Must.

"Say, Albert," said his wife, "who was it that said he'd rather be right than president?"

"I dunno," explained Albert, "but he musta been some guy what had a mighty poor opinion of president's."

### His Method.

Wigg—Young Gotrox is a mighty entertaining fellow. He can perform a lot of tricks of magic.

Wagg—Yes, I have frequently seen him make a twenty-dollar bill look like thirty cents.

### Too Much.

The Club Man—What's this I hear about you and your wife having trouble? Before you were married you told me you would go to the ends of the earth together.

The Married Man—Yes, but I didn't know she wanted to go there in a taxicab.

### A Futurity.

He—Don't you think my mustache becoming?

She—It may be, but it hasn't come yet.—Brunonia.



## Much-Married Man Might Tempt Fortune Again

ST. LOUIS.—Jesse Otley Gibbs hasn't had enough of women yet. And he's had six wives! Hearken to Jesse's answer to the query: "Do you think you might marry again?" Here's the answer:

"Well, I don't know. Maybe if the right kind of a girl came along—a country girl who could make pies— you know the kind of pies, with flaky crusts—and if she owned a farm and had no ear for music—and didn't object to a man's going out nights—well—maybe; who can tell?"

But chances are against any more wedding bells for Jesse for some time. Y'see, he's under \$5,000 bond pending a hearing because two of the previous six wives got together and ascertained there was a lack of divorces between Jesse's matrimonial alliances. But Jesse is no more changeable in his affections that he is in his statements. For a short time before he had admitted that he might "fall" for a country girl who can make pies, he had given vent to the following expression in his cell at the police station:

"Women! Help, heaven! Men their creation mar in profitting by them!"

"I read that in Shakespeare and ain't it the truth?"

"Yes, sir. I'm off 'em for good. If I ever get out of this I'm going to build me a nunnery—I mean a monastery—somewhere in Tibet and put a sign up: 'No Women Allowed!' But even then I suppose they'll find out where I am and want to marry me."

"Of all of my wives, I liked Rose Lynn the best. She was No. 5, you know. To tell the truth, we were never legally married. All the rest have got divorces and the only wife I know anything about now is Helma Swanberg, the last one, who caused all the trouble."

"Wives are the easiest things in the world to get—and the hardest to get rid of. Wink at a woman or chuck her under the chin and she thinks you're proposing. 'Oh, this is so sudden!' she cries, and the first thing you know you're nalled."

Yes, Jesse is considerably changeable.

## Chickens Caused Purchaser All Kinds of Trouble

NEW YORK.—This interesting police court tale concerns the chameleon-like tactics of three chickens that turned black in the ice box of their purchaser overnight and which caused



Lee ferry. Heithaus entered the store and told Schoenbach to wrap up the fowl.

The billiard man said he took them home and put them in the ice box and then the trouble started. He stated that early next morning a peculiar odor permeated the house and he and his wife traced the smell to the refrigerator. Heithaus told Judge Nolan that the chickens had turned black, and that he and his family had dined on chicken that day. He stated all became violently ill less than an hour after the dishes had been cleared away. He summoned the family doctor, and after putting the family to bed, had contracted a large physician's bill.

Magistrate Nolan decided that Heithaus should face trial for both charges and held him under \$500 bail for possessing a pistol without a permit and under \$1,000 on the attempted felonious assault complaint.

## Sad but Not Unusual Ending to Youthful Dreams

CHICAGO.—George Slove and Ernest Marmorstein, the twelve-year-old boys who set out to conquer the world with an air gun, will eat off the mantelpiece for a week. For yesterday, after a memorable night in an Elgin police station, the boys were turned over to their respective parents for further treatment.

The boys left Chicago two days ago, taking an electric train, which happened to be going to Elgin.

Simultaneous with their departure, \$100 that George Slove's father had put away for the winter coal disappeared.

It was while they were stocking up for their long trip with cans of sardines, sausage, matches, bread and other essentials of camping that the storekeeper, suspicious of their large roll of bills, notified the police.

The air guns, previously purchased, were returned to the dealer for \$4, something less than the purchase price.

Besides these the boys had bought boy scout blouses and hats, a hunting knife and innumerable sodas.

Ernest spoke lightly of the escapade and smiled at the memory of the ice cream he had consumed.

But George, the real instigator of the scheme, must bear the heavier punishment. He is held in solitary confinement by an indignant mother, who can't quite forgive him for being the first of her 11 children to break the law.

## Proving You Can't Keep a Good Man Down

KANSAS CITY.—When Uncle Sam gave up that early idea of organizing a "regiment of runts" for service in France, there wasn't an unhappier young man in the world than Frank Mills.

Already he had picked out a boy scout uniform to wear to war, and he had a notion that nowhere else in the service awaited a welcome for a man who'd fit into it.

But Frank did his best, anyhow. Army, navy, marine corps, tanks; aviation, signalers, intelligence; cavalry, infantry, artillery—Civilian Mills tried 'em all.

But even when he stood on tiptoe he rose to no grander height than 4 feet 11, and the recruiting officers would have none of him. Frank had registered for the draft from 328 West Sixty-third place and he began pestering local board 68. He became a daily visitor at the board's offices and each visit saw him with a brand new reason why that little matter of an inch or two shouldn't be permitted to make any difference in his case. Finally the board stationed a guard at the window and all doors were locked at Frank's approach.

One day he slipped past the lookout. The threshold passed, he made a most disrespectful sign at the exemptors.

"The last time I was here made 31 tries I'd made for France. You can't keep a good man out of this war. Today I made it 32 and the Red Cross took me."

"Hoo-ray!"

"Hoo-ray!"