

HOW KANSAS COUNTRY ORGANIZED TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION

A hint to the Louisiana Food Preparedness Commission may be contained in the following description given by the Kansas City Star of how one county in Kansas has been organized to increase its output of food products:

Woodson county, with one of the largest German populations of any of the Kansas counties, is organizing to do a bit in helping to raise a food army. While the "city farmers" have been theorizing on the agricultural steps that should be taken, the real farmers "down state" have been adopting practical measures, and one of these measures is the active co-operation of every rural dweller in the county.

Governor Capper, in appointing his Council of Defense for Kansas, selected W. T. Mathews, a merchant and progressive Republican, for commissioner in Woodson county. Mathews is an efficient business man with a wide acquaintance among the farmers of the country. He at once called into conference a number of the leading agriculturists from various sections of the county. These met a few days ago at Yates Center and decided on a campaign to eliminate all idle acreage in the county.

Mathews has named one farmer to look after each township, and he will retain supervision over the whole organization. Their plan is co-operation pure and simple. Where any farmer is found to have more acreage than he can handle it is proposed that the other farmers in the township shall help him till his excess land. All who are needed will join in the work, and they will share in the crop. The farms vary greatly in size, and it has happened often that the man with 400 acres has been unable to utilize all of it while his neighbor with only eighty acres has had some superfluous time on his hands. It is this situation the Woodson county organization intends to counteract. "No idle acre" is the rallying cry.

Farmers and bankers and merchants alike have joined in the movement. Mathews stated the other day that the three Yates Center banks are putting their resources completely at the disposal of the farmers. The merchants are cutting their profits on seeds and other agricultural necessities to a minimum of profit.

In the towns of Toronto, Yates Center and Neosho Falls there is virtually not a single vacant lot going unused; there are gardens everywhere.

One of the unusual sights in this county to be seen this spring for the first time is that of farmers busy in their fields on Sundays. Mathews, himself a church worker, has urged the farmers to put in every Sunday when the weather is suitable for work. To allow the loss of a single acre would be a bigger sin than to work on the Sabbath, he declares. The townfolk are taking the same attitude, too, and hoes and rakes are in use Sundays as well as other days in the week. None of the ministers has opposed this step, and several unofficially have approved it.

Many of the large farm owners of the county are of German descent—more than a third probably. They have joined in the "no idle land" movement as wholeheartedly as have the others. As a matter of fact, though they speak with a German accent and attend the German Evangelical Church, this is the limit of the German affiliations of these folks. They are Americans in aims and ideals; good citizens who deal fairly with their neighbors and who own fine farms with big, roomy houses and spacious barns. One of the largest hay dealers in the county, a man owning leases on thousands of acres, is Ernest Storkbrand, a German-American. He is just as ardent a worker in the defense campaign as is Ed Kimball, the largest stock raiser in the county and a man who came from England when a boy.

In other words Woodson county has depended almost entirely upon two crops—hay and corn. There will be a change this year. Acres of ground are being planted in fescue, kaffir and alfalfa, and the potato is receiving more attention than ever before. The crop prospects as a whole are the best in several years, and with the increased efficiency in planting and harvesting record yields are probable. But of almost as much worth as these enhanced crops will be the spirit of co-operation among the farmers themselves, the realization that the interests of each one are the interests of all.

OFFICERS TRAINING CAMPS OPEN 10 DAYS HENCE WITH 35,000 PRESENT

Washington, May 4.—Thirty-five thousand bright, energetic, earnest young Americans are preparing to assemble at fourteen camps, scattered throughout the country, to form the nucleus of Uncle Sam's new armies.

From them will be chosen three months hence the 10,000 subalterns needed for the first army increment of 500,000, who will begin training about the first of August. The War Department called for the "most experienced natural leaders" the country possesses to fill the officers' training camps, which start regular work Monday, May 11, and high military officials here today agreed as to the calibre of the material obtained.

Every one of the 35,000, besides passing a rigid physical examination, is either a college graduate or has had a business career indicating his special intelligence, personality and capacity for organization and inspiring leadership. The 35,000 themselves are picked men. Even of those who passed the requirements only a part, those deemed most promising, can be accommodated in the camps. And when it is considered that only two out of every seven men attending the camps will be assigned a post in the new armies at the close of the three months' grueling study and drill, it is obvious no drones, no "boneheads" and no weaklings physically, mentally or morally, should get the coveted assignments.

But those who failed to obtain entrance to a camp, or who are not chosen at the end of the first three months need not give up hope of serving their country as officers. Another set of camps, probably larger than the first, will immediately follow these, and the facilities for training out leaders for the new troops will be expanded as America gradually develops the full force of her power.

Many of the young fellows hurrying to the mobilization points already have commissions in the officers' reserve corps, others have had good records in the National Guard or other military organizations, or school training for war work. These men have an advantage over the rest, for no one is barred from the camps by entire lack of direct military experience. The more experienced, however, are most likely to get their commissions first. The rest may attend a second or even a third camp and then be drafted into the new armies.

Training in the camps will be intensive as possible, but will be severely handicapped by a lack of suitable instructors. Officers of the British and French armies, some of them wounded, have been coming back from the western battle front in the last few weeks and it is expected the small corps of regular army instructors at each camp will be materially assisted by these veterans, who are fresh from the most awful struggles in history.

The eyes of the whole nation will be on these camps, a unique establishment in American history. Every town and almost every village has furnished a camp member, and his career will be closely watched by his friends and relatives.

The best account of how the camps will be conducted is given in an order issued by the adjutant-general at Washington, Brigadier-General H. B. McCain. The details will have to be worked out at each camp, and it will be a strenuous business, for minutes count. General McCain says:

"During the first month of the camp those in attendance will be divided into fifteen companies, regardless of the arm of the service for which the individuals are destined. During this month the qualifications of each man will be studied, with a view to assigning the necessary numbers for further instruction in the separate arms of the service.

"At the end of the first month men will be re-assigned in due proportion so as to form nine infantry companies, three batteries of artillery, two troops of cavalry and one company of engineers. Other men who will have been selected for the coast artillery will proceed to Fort Monroe, Va., or Fort Winfield Scott, Cal., for the remainder of their training. Those who remain at the division camps will receive two months' training after the reassignment mentioned above.

"At the end of the whole period the regular army officers in charge will select from each company, troop and battery the officers for one regiment of the corresponding arm. Thus we shall have carefully selected officers for sixteen infantry divisions and two cavalry divisions by the time that the supply department can furnish equipment for these troops and by the time the necessary machinery can be put in

motion for procuring the enlisted men.

"Each company, troop and battery must furnish approximately forty-five officers. Those who are not selected for immediate use will nevertheless be commissioned in the officers' reserve corps, if found to be competent, and will be available for use in connection with any additional force that may be authorized.

"The total number of officers required for the sixteen infantry divisions and the two cavalry divisions is approximately 10,000. These should be preferably mature men and the most experienced natural leaders that the country possesses. It is recognized that there are thousands of men throughout the country between the ages of twenty-one and forty who have had more or less military experience, either in the regular army or National Guard or at military schools. With the basic experience supplemented by natural aptitude for handling men as demonstrated in business or otherwise, a splendid corps of 10,000 reserve officers should be available by the middle of July.

"It is necessary that the first ten thousand should be the best that the country has. In planning our military forces we must assume that the war is by no means drawing to a close, and that the country must expand its military forces as rapidly and effectively as the resources of the country permit. The sixteen infantry divisions and two cavalry divisions aggregate approximately half a million men. The officers of these forces must receive substantial promotion to meet the demands of forces to be raised later. It is conceivable that many men who are appointed in the first ten thousand must be promoted one grade with each successive addition to our military force. For this reason the War Department hopes that mature men will seek appointment in the first ten thousand.

"Other similar camps must follow this first camp. Young men must be admitted to the first camp, but not to the exclusion of mature men. In the second and following camps young men will predominate.

"In making provision for instructors at these training camps the resources of the war Department have been taxed to the utmost. The number of instructors is not nearly as great as it should be, but it is hoped and believed that many reserve officers and candidates for appointment as such who would be in attendance at these camps will have special qualifications to teach certain subjects and in this way they will be of material assistance to the regular army officers. This depends so much upon the personnel of each instruction company that the matter must be regulated by the regular army officers in charge of each company.

"The outline of the entire course of instruction will be prepared in the War Department and furnished to the commanding officers of the camps.

"Books, maps and printed matter in general will be furnished by the government. Those who attend the camps should bring whatever books they possess, but the authorized and necessary books for individuals will be furnished on arrival in camp.

"The minimum age of those who attend is twenty years and nine months. This enables the War Department to appoint suitable young men who are twenty-one years of age at the end of the training period. The maximum age is forty-four years. It is expected that students at colleges who are members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps and who are especially fitted to become members of the first ten thousand, will be selected by the regular army officer on duty at the college and admitted to these camps. Such students should preferably go to the camp that pertains to their home states. It is believed that colleges in general will graduate seniors who attend these camps."

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7:30 p. m.—Fast Mail, Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville and Cincinnati 4:05 a. m.
6:30 a. m.—Local Mail 4:00 p. m.
3:00 p. m.—Northern Express 8:10 a. m.
1:40 p. m.—St. Louis Accommodation 8:45 a. m.
3:00 a. m.—The Merry Widow 10:10 p. m.
Vener Motor Car leaves Union Station 5:30 p. m., 6:15 p. m., 9:30 p. m., and 11:25 p. m.

Yazoo and Mississippi Valley. Arrive.
*9:00 a. m.—Delta Express 5:50 p. m.
4:30 a. m.—Baton Rouge Limited 8:35 p. m.
1:35 p. m.—Memphis Fast Express 7:35 a. m.
1:15 p. m.—Baton Rouge and Woodville Passenger 9:50 a. m.
8:00 p. m.—Baton Rouge Special 7:45 a. m.
DeLachan Motor Car leaves Union Station 5:30 a. m., 10 a. m., 6:15 p. m. and 11:25 p. m.

Southern Pacific Lines. Arrive.
5:55 a. m.—TEXAS LOCAL for Houston and all station intermediate Galveston, Austin, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, El Paso, New Mexico, Abilene, Apache Trail and California. Arrive 8:00 p. m.
11:30 a. m.—SUNSET LIMITED for San Antonio, El Paso, New Mexico, Abilene, Apache Trail and California. Arrive 8:00 p. m.
12:30 Noon—SUNSET MAIL for Houston, Galveston, Austin, Waco, Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, Del Rio and Intermediate. Arrive 7:30 a. m.
9:05 p. m.—LAFAYETTE LOCAL for Lafayette and Acadiana Intermediate. Arrive 11:10 a. m.
8:15 p. m.—TEXAS LIMITED for Houston, Galveston, Austin, Fort Worth, Dallas and other North Texas points. Arrive 6:50 a. m.
11:30 p. m.—SUNSET EXPRESS for Houston, Galveston, Waco, Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, El Paso, Apache Trail, California and Intermediate points. Arrive 6:45 p. m.

Gulf Coast Lines. (Union Station) Arrive.
8:00 p. m.—California Special. Arrive.
For Grand Canyon, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Phoenix, Houston and Galveston. Arrive 8:35 p. m.
8:30 p. m.—Texas Daylight for Baton Rouge, Opelousas, Eunice, Beaumont, Houston, Brownsville and North Texas. Arrive 8:35 p. m.
8:20 a. m.—For Houston, Galveston, Brownsville and other Texas points. Arrive 7:45 a. m.

LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE R. R. (Station Foot of Canal Street) Arrive.
9:35 p. m.—N. Y. & N. O. Limited 7:30 a. m.
8:30 a. m.—Wash. & N. Y. Mail 8:35 p. m.
9:35 p. m.—Birmingham Limited 7:30 a. m.
9:30 p. m.—Birmingham & Cincinnati Limited 7:05 a. m.
8:30 p. m.—Ashville Express 8:55 p. m.
8:30 p. m.—Birmingham & Cincinnati Limited 7:05 a. m.
9:50 p. m.—Pensacola & Jackson 7:05 a. m.
1:15 p. m.—Mobile Accommodation 11:45 a. m.
1:00 a. m.—Montgomery Accommodation 7:05 p. m.
7:25 p. m.—Mobile Accommodation (daily except Sunday) 8:50 a. m.
1:00 p. m.—Sunday Gulf Coast Excursion 8:25 p. m.

FOOD ROBBERS SHOULD BE CLASSED AS TRAITORS, SAID GOV. CAPPER

Topeka, May 3.—Governor Capper would make it treason for speculators to manipulate the markets on foodstuffs, in an address before the Fraternal Aid Union here the governor told of the activities of speculators.

"This sort of manipulation is criminal," the governor said. "It is a crime against the consumer and the producer, for it lessens consumption and causes unstable markets. It is a crime against the public welfare, for it causes deprivation and suffering to those least able to bear it, the small wage-earner and his family, a class comprising about half the population of the United States. It is a crime against government, for it incites food riots and other disorder, having grave consequences. I am not in favor of capital punishment, but prison is too good for such men.

"It is important for town people to know that the farmer gets none of the high profits in foodstuffs. A 50 per cent increase is always tacked on his products as soon as they leave his hands, and the speculators double and triple this price. The producer has no hand in the present holdup.

"We must put some limit on human greed in this country. I have made an urgent appeal to the President and to the Federal Trade Commission for action to stop this exploiting of the necessities of life. In the meantime I shall use all the power and prestige of the governor's office to check such holdups, so far as the state of Kansas can check them. I believe the government should seize and dispose of all large stocks of foodstuffs held for speculative purposes in times of stress, paying the speculator the price he paid and not more, and punishing the speculator by both fine and imprisonment. He would be bound to get in jail then, because no judge could let him off with a fine and a moral lecture. How much do such fellows care for court lectures? It may be, too, we should limit profit, making it unlawful to hold food stocks beyond a certain percentage of rise.

"It ought to be accounted treason in time of war, if at no other time, for speculators to starve the people by putting prices on products impossible for anyone to pay except the wealthy. Resigning armies frequently starve an enemy people into submission, but then the people have only to surrender to get food.

The American food gambler, whom the country defends and protects in time of war, shows his compatriots less mercy. He gives them no alternative. They must starve or pay. He treats them worse than a foe would treat them and he is a greater enemy to his country. He is the real Benedict Arnold. In time of war many a man has been hanged for less to the great benefit of the country."

AFTER LIFE OF USEFULNESS

Paul Delord, Native of France and Old Citizen, Passes Away

Mr. Paul Delord died at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Alex Mazoue, 1226 Carrollton, avenue, Thursday, May 3. The deceased was born in Commune D'Eyeuil, Canton de St. Gerons, Department Ariège, France, on Jan. 4, 1813, and was married in the year 1867 to Miss Françoise Louise Dulon, Commune de Miramont. This coming July, 1917, the couple would have celebrated their fiftieth anniversary of marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Delord came to New Orleans forty-four years ago, immediately began work as a marble cutter, then engaged in the grocery business, where he made friends. He retired from the business several years ago after having successfully provided for his future.

The deceased leaves a wife, three sons, Omer, Albert, Maurice, and four married daughters, Mrs. A. Tangzua, Mrs. A. Mazoue, Mrs. V. Galliard and Mrs. W. J. Arnaud, also his grandchildren and numerous friends to mourn his death. Interment took place yesterday his remains being laid to rest in Greenwood Cemetery.

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