

Better Farming in the South



Will The American Farmer Kill The Kaiser's Wolf—Famine

Chas. A. Whittle, Editorial Manager, Farm Service Bureau, Atlanta, Ga. The farmer can win this war. Only by famine does the Kaiser hope to conquer—famine by force of the submarine. If the submarine brings England and France to their knees, begging bread in the humiliation of defeat, the Kaiser will then turn upon the United States. England and France can be saved from famine by the farmers of the United States and Canada in spite of the submarine, if they will. The submarine will sink food that England and France so sorely needs but the submarine can not sink enough to starve our allies, if the farmer of the United States will raise maximum crops, raise every pound and save every pound of foods he possibly can. It's a fight, therefore, between the farmer of the United States on the one hand and the gaunt wolf of the Kaiser, famine, on the other hand. If the American farmer can raise enough to allow for the submarine toll and enough more food to place "over there" to feed those who are fighting, then victory is ours. But it's a narrow margin. The whole world is on the verge of starvation. If even a normal crop is produced in this country it is not going to be enough to feed everybody dependent upon this country, a full ration. At best there is going to be lack. The American farmer must awaken to a serious realization that this is no small task, in fact, it is only a fighting chance. If the American farmer will only realize this, then he must recognize that every blow he makes must count for the utmost. Maximum yields must be striven for as never before. This is no time to leave anything unemphasized that will count for greater yields. Efficiency must operate with every act on the farm from breaking the soil deeply to garnering the crops with a saving hand. Thorough preparation of the seed bed may be accomplished with less labor than is customary, by the use of labor saving farm machinery. Liberal and rational applications of plant food should be made this year. Farmers who never used commercial fertilizers before should certainly do so now for the nation's sake. The same modern, labor saving farm machinery that will enable a farm hand to plow two rows while plowing one heretofore—and plow them better—must be made use of. It's a hard fight all spring, summer and fall for the American farmer. Will he win?

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