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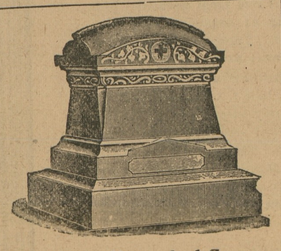

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References: Merchants-Mechanics Nations Bank Baltimore. all Commercial Agencies

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FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS VISIT THE CAPITOL

February 8, 1918.

Sixteen national farm organizations, and many smaller ones, united today in a request to President Wilson for more definite measures in speeding up agricultural production. They urged a farm commission satisfactory to the large farm organizations, to be appointed by the President, to advise in important agricultural matters and to represent the viewpoint of the farming community. They pledged hearty support of vigorous execution of plans to increase production, and for the winning of the war.

The President received the farm leaders in the executive offices at 4.00 this afternoon, when they presented their request.

The meeting was called by the Federal Board of Farm Organizations, which is also holding its first annual meeting. This board is an overhead federation of great farm bodies. It now comprises eight farmers' organizations. Leaders of the National Grange are taking a prominent part in the general meetings.

Following is the text of the request:

The President:

Desiring earnestly to support and assist the Government of the United States in winning the war, we, representatives of the Federal Board of Farm Organizations and other farmers' organizations, whose names will be found appended, including in all more than a million organized farmers, have assembled in Washington to discuss ways and means for increasing the production of food at the coming harvest.

As set forth in the memorial of the Federal Board of Farm Organzations, submitted to you on January 22, 1918, a reduction in the amount of the coming crop is certain and unavoidable unless certain causes, all of them beyond the control of the farmers, are recognized and removed. We speak with all respect, but definitely, because we know the facts of our own knowledge, and because the time during which effective action can still be taken to increase the coming crop is short.

The chief obstacles which must be removed before the farmers of America can equal or surpass this year the crop of 1917 are:

1. Shortage of farm labor.
2. Shortage of seed, feed, fertilizers, farm implements, and other agriculture supplies.
3. Lack of reasonable credit.
4. Prices often below the cost of production.
5. The justified belief of the farmer that he is not regarded as a partner in the great enterprise of winning the war.

Farmers by themselves are powerless to remove these obstacles. Unless the Government grasps the vital seriousness of the situation and forthwith takes steps to help, a crop shortage is certain in spite of any and all things farmers can do to prevent it.

The Govenrment, we understand, will spend some four billion dollars to assist commercial enterprise to produce munitions of war. We approve of this action, recognizing that it is necessary. Assistance for food production in this crisis does not involve any such vast expenditure. But without such assistance, vigorously and promptly given, it will remain impossible for farmers to grow the crops required. The Government should not hesitate to assist in the production of one sort of supplies essential to win the war when it has already spent vast sums to assist in the production of others.

We deem it our duty to advise the nation of these facts, in order that the threatened danger may be minimized if not entirely prevented, and we respectfully suggest the followng remedies:

1. As to labor, the parole of trained farm workers back to the farm, to remain there so long as their services are considered by the Government to be more useful in productive agriculture than in the Army. The last classification of registrants under the present selective draft, we are informed, is not being uniformly enforced, and in particular we understand that skilled farm workers, farm foremen, and bona fide farmers are being placed in Class 1. We ask for such an interpretation of the rule as will make such cases impossible. We welcome the assistance of all organizations that are helping to furnish labor in the production of food, and we believe that their services should be employed as fully as possible.

We ask for such interpretation of the selective draft as will secure to the nation the services of all of its citizenship where those services are of most value to the nation, and for binding instructions to be issued to all boards to that effect. Especially do we ask that the definition of a skilled farm laborer be a man who is actually engaged in productive agriculture, and is supporting himself in it, without regard to college or university training.

2. As to farm supplies, provision should be made for furnishing to producing farmers who need them such seeds, feeds, fertilizers, and farm machinery at cost as may be actually necessary to maintain their production or to increase it within practicable limits. We urge the transportation of farm products and supplies by the most economic routes and the prompt movement of perishable crops in their season.

We urge that carrying out the measures to win the war farmers' co-operative societies be given the same consideration that is given to other commercial organizations.

3. As to credit, steps should be taken by the Government to promote aggressively and in all practicable ways short time loans to farmers for the purpose of financing the production of crops.

4. As to prices, should the policy of price control prevail, then we ask that it shall be applied as much to what the farmer buys as to what he sells, to the end that consumer and producer be protected from exploitation.

5. As to representation, we recommend the immediate appointment of a farm commission, to consist preferably of nine farmers actually engaged in the business, to be selected by the President from men representative of and satisfactory to the great farm organizations of America, and to report directly to him on all questions that affect the increase of agricultural production and distribution. Such a commission should be authorized to secure information from all Government sources, and all departmenes of the Government should be instructed to co-operate with it,. It should be in uninterrupted session at the City of Washington, and provision should be made for necessary quarters and expenses by Federal action. The Commission should be required, as its first task, to report at once unon all matters necessary in the immediate execution of recommendations numbers one to four above.

Such a commission is needed first of all to give to the farmers of America a sense of partnership in the conduct of the war, to which they have a right. The occasional consultation with farmers called to Washington or the occasional appointment of a farmer to a subordinate place does not amount to fitting participation in the conduct of the war on the part of one-third of the population of the United States, and the more when that third produces the one form of supplies which is the most essential.

This plan would be in harmony with the procedure already adopted by the Government in other essential industries. The creation of such a commission would convince all farmers that their viewpiont was fully represented in Washington and always accessible to the President, and would inspire and encourage them as nothing else could.

Immediate and vigorous action is imperative.

WHAT "CAMOUFLAGE" MEANS

This is a word that has come to us from the French, through the war, and it has jumped right into popularity as though it means to adopt us, permanently. "Camouflage" (pronounced Koom-ooflozh) means the art of merging an object with its surroundings: in other words, to make a thing "look like it ain't." For instance, "camouflage" is practiced when soldiers' uniforms are made dirt-colored to match the trenches, and warships are made gray to match up with their back-ground—a sort of chameleon proposition—and the little tree frog is a "camouflager" of the purest variety. The word, however, in its most popular use, is made to represent the use of deceit, or the obscuring of facts, and is likely to be popular with political campaigners.

WM. W. BECK, Solicitor.

Order of Publication

Katie Bradley
vs.
Edward Chandler Bradley.

In the Circuit Court for Kent County in Equity. No. 2044.

The object of this Bill is to procure a decree for the sale of the sale of certain real estate of which Edward Bradley, late of Kent county, Maryland, died, seized and possessed.

The Bill states:

1st. That Edward Bradley, late of Kent county, Maryland, deceased, was in his life time, and at the time of his death, seized and possessed in fee simple absolutely of a lot of land in the village of Kennedyville, in the Second Election District of Kent county, Maryland, containing Twenty-five square perches of land, more or less, which property is improved by a small frame dwelling and was conveyed to the said Edward Bradley by Margaret S. Kennedy, et al, by deed dated the 22nd day of August, 1881, and recorded among the Land Record Books for Kent county, in Liber S. B. No. 2, folio 357.

2nd. That being so seized and possessed, the said Edward Bradley departed this life on or about the — day of December, 1917, intestate without leaving a widow surviving him, but left surviving him as his only heirs at law, your oratrix, Katie Bradley, a daughter residing in Kent county, Maryland, and a grandson, the defendant, Edward Chandler Bradley, residing in the city of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania.

3rd. That the said Katie Bradley is an adult and unmarried.

4th. That his son, John Bradley, died in 1905, having married Alice Green Bradley and left surviving him the said Edward Chandler Bradley, who is now a minor.

5th. That the said Katie Bradley and Edward Chandler Bradley are the only heirs at law of the said Edw. Bradley.

6th. And that a partition of the said property among the parties entitled cannot be made without loss or injury to them and as the said Edward Chandler Bradley is an infant under the age of twenty-one years, a partition connot be made without the aid of this Court.

It is thereupon this 5th day of March, 1918, ordered by the Circuit Court of Kent county in Equity, that the Plaintiff by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper published in Kent county, once in each of four sucessive weeks before the 8th day of April next, giving notice to the said Edward Chandler Bradley, non-resident defendant, warning him to appear in this Court in person or by Solicitor on or before the 26th day of April next, to show cause, if any he has, why a decree ought not to be passed as prayed.

A. PARKS RASIN, Clerk.
True Copy—Test:
A. PARKS RASIN, Clerk.

Wm. Pepper Constable
Attorney-At-Law
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Baltimore, Maryland,
—AND—
Elkton, Maryland.

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HATS
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