DOVER TELLS OF FOOD SITUATION

ninistrator Issues Message on Conservation.

GREAT PROBLEM OF WAR Barley

ica's Production and Needs of the lied Nations Set Forth-What We Must Do to Keep Wolf From the Door.

shington, Aug. 20.—Herbert C. er. United States food administoday issued to the American chis statement covering the food ion as it now exists and the neof conserving the food rees of the nation to provide for oture during the continuance of mr. The statement follows: is always more or less of a m in every phase of its produc-

andling and consumption. It is em with every farmer, every arter and seller, every house It is a problem with every state and nation. And now, very lenously, it is a problem with reat groups of nations, namely, es, the central empires and the s; in a word it is a great internal problem.

ood problem today of our own therefore has as its most cons phase an international characsufficient and regular supply for the maintenance of the field armies of our fighting allies their no less great armies of men and working women in r industries, and finally for the mce of the women and chilthe home, is an absolute nesecond to no other, for the ful prosecution of the war for In the providing of this food great allied food pool, the Units plays a predominant part.

he present diversion of tens of of men from the farms into ing and industrial armies, rea a marked lessening of food on and the present necessity ing the daily ration of other of men turned from sedentary as into those of strenuous labor, resulting in a marked of consumption, this deficiency the food needs and the food on of the allies becomes greatever, with the consequence of screase in the food quantities ely needed from the United the allied armies are to be carry on.

forld's Larder Examined.

a general statement of a conh only needs to be elaborletail to show just what we . The time has come when ed statement can be made. est and the harvests of Eunow be forecast. We can y our combined stocks of als; in other words, the size orids larder on and the allies can draw for elve months can now be es-This estimate shows at once

tains too little for our own illes use unless we all adhe supply with the greatest wisdom. The allied peoples ically undertaking this adii. It lies now with us to rt. If we fail, the people of annot be maintained at war. ddiers cannot fight without certain definitely determina-I that food must come from is then examine carefully the rder as it appears today, or of it as is at our disposal.

e to review the 'situation gards the cereals, second, as od animals and their prodd, as regards sugar, fourth, vegetables, fifth, as regards a foods, and, finally, as reluty in the matter,

Cereals. 7 harvest is now so far ad-

we may compare it with oduction, and with the deich are going to be made on

a. I is given to show the e sources of the annual of France, Italy, the United ad Belgium, being an averthree-year pre-war period. seen from this table that imports of wheat are 381,shels and of other cereals bushels. The estimate of arvest in the allied countries crop reports from these as follows:

Av. nor- Deficiency mal pro- in prod'n. duction, due to war. 196,905,000 121,109,000 570,890,000 230,055,000 21,616.00 78,573,000 36,841,000

95,000 1,486,448,000 525,662,000 provide normal consumptherefore be necessary to next 12 months a total 000 bushels of wheat and bushels of other cereals, ective position of our own nadian harvest is given in

especially our corn crop. be considered as certain, ature safely, North Amere an apparent surplus of 08,000,000 bushels and of als of about 950,000,000

and on Our Crops. are isolated from those er than Canada and the lies the demand outruns further every

kyo Yorodzu;

shal Prince Yamagata, foremost of Japan's elder statesmen, some years ago a suburb of the capital, and upon a site that commanded a superb view of Mount Fujiyama. Now, this Saito has paid a fabulous price for a large estate located on the Iriyama hill, higher about this class apwho had amussed a forock market, developed a

TABLE NO. 1. Imports Net Imports Production .590,575.000 79,426,000 88,478,000 112,900,000 . 121,109,000 . 570,890,000 10,811,000 135,675,500 266,596,000 16.580,000 88,612,000 642 965 00 . 125,201,000 4.946,000 367,000 90,000 11,337,000 90,527,000 102,533,000 487, 134, 900 2, 214, 276, 000 TABLE NO. 2. Average Probable Normal U. S. Consumption Probable U.S. Canadian U. S 1917 678,000,000 Surplus Surplus 88,000,000 470,000,000 520,304,000 2,653,698,000 1,148,713,000 3.124.000.000 63,000,000 304,000,000 39,000,003 178,829,000 59,100,000 20,200,000 18,000,000 ...5,525,100,000 4,607,410,000

United States, on which they were accustomed to rely before the war. The Russian supply cannot be got out. Bulgarian and Roumanian supplies are in the hands of the central empires The voyage from Australia and India is three times as long and therefore requires three times as many tons of shipping as is required from North Atlantic ports. It is also twice as dangerous because of the longer exposure to submarine attack. There has been a large failure in the South American countries and the new harvest from that quarter will not be available in Europe until next spring. As already said, all the allied countries are and have been for some time rigorously administering and economizing their food. In Belgium, the relief commis sion has been compelled to reduce the consumption of cereals by nearly 50 per cent; this brings the food supply so low that the population are incapable of labor.

Commodity.

Totals

From the above tables it will be seen that on normal bases of consumption the total allied wheat import requirements are 577,000,000 bushels against a North American surplus of 208,000,000 bushels-and from our United States supplies we must reserve a certain amount for neutrals from which we receive vital supplies and also an amount to protect our stocks better next year than this last. There is therefore on normal consumption a deficit of over 400,000,000 bushels. In the other cereals used in Europe mostly for animal feed, the import necessities of the allies on normal consumption basis are about 674, 000,000 against a North American surplus of 950,000,000. But again a reserve for neutrals and increased "carry over" will absorb all the margin. In any event it means we must multiply our exports of these cereals 20 times. However, upon the basis of our present crop prospects we should be able to supply their requirements in cereals other than wheat,

Wheat Situation Difficult.

The situation in wheat is one of great difficulty and concern, and must be met by an elimination of waste and reduction of consumption on the part of the allied peoples and ourselves, in one word, by an effective administration of the available supply.

The allies are unable to use other cereals alone for bread. They can use them only as added to wheat flour to make the war bread now in universal use in European countries. Except in Italy, whose people normally consume much corn, our allies have few corn mills and cornmeal is not a durable commodity and therefore cannot be shipped in great quantities.

Moreover, for generations they have bought bread from the bakeries; they have no equipment nor do they know how to bake in the household. Every American knows that it is infeasible to distribute corn bread from bakeries and it is therefore necessary for us to furnish our allies with sufficient wheat to enable them to have a wheat basis for the loaf. However, they can use and must use other cereals for mixture in their war brend, and by this substitution and by savings on their part a great deal can be accomplished. On the other hand, a deficit of 400,000,000 bushels can be at least partially overcome if we can increase our exports from 88,000,000 to 220,-000,000 or nearly triple. This can be accomplished if we will substitute one pound of other cereals for one pound of wheat flour weekly per person; that is, if we reduce our consumption of wheat flour from five pounds per week to four pounds per week per person. It will be no privation to us and will

reduce the privation of our allies. Food Animals.

Owing to the ascending standard of living, the world was already strained to supply enough animal products to meet the demand before the war began. The war has injected into an alrady difficult situation a number of vicious conditions which are jeopardizing the ultimate animal products supply of the world. The production of fodder in Europe has been diminished by the diversion of productive labor to war, and its import has been curtailed by shortage in shipping and by the isolation of markets by belligerent lines. From these causes not only are the actual numbers of animals de creasing in Europe, but the average weight and the annual output of dairy products per animal, are decreasing. A careful estimate of the world's

food animal position shows the following position: In other decrease Decrease countries United western including Total net States allies enemies decrease Cattle 7,090,000 8,420,000 28,750,000 28,080,000

Sheep 3,000,000 17,500,000 34,000,000 54,500,000

Hogs 6,275,000 7,100,000 31,600,000 32,425,000

33,020,000 92,350,000 115,005,000 The problem facing the American people is not only one of supplying the immediate demand of the allies, but one which is more far-reaching in its future significance. As the war goes on there will be a constant lessening of the capital stock of food animals of the world. Among our western al-

day the decreasing production as ship ping becomes further shortened by continued submarine destruction, less tonnage can be devoted to fodder, and further reduction of the herds must en-These destructive forces have

given rise to reactions in many directions. The world's supply of ment and dairy products, of animal fats and industrial fats, wool and hides, are all involved not only now, but for far into the future.

Meats. The immediate problem is to furnish increased meat supplies to the allies to maintain them during the war. An important factor contributing to the present situation lies in the disturb ance to the world's trade by destruction of shipping resulting in throwing a larger burden on North America, the nearest market. Shipments from the Australasian, South American and from the continental countries into the allied countries have been interfered with. Their contributions must be replaced by increased shipments from North America.

The growth of American meat exports since the war began, most of which have been supplied by allied nations, is revealed by the following fig-

Three-year pre-war average, 493,-\$48,000 pounds.

Year ending June 30, 1916, 1,339 193,000 pounds.

The impact of European demand upon our animal products will be maintained for a long period of years after peace. We can contemplate a high range of prices, for meat and for animal products for many years to come. We must undertake to meet the demand not only during the war, so as to enable our allies to continue to fight. but we must be prepared to meet the demand after the war. Our herd cannot be increased in a single night or in a single year. Our producers will not only be working in their own ultimate interest in laying the foundation of larger herds and flocks, but will serve our national interest and the interest of humanity, for years to come, if the best strains of young animals are preserved. The increase in herds can only be accomplished if we save more of our roughage and raise more fodder grains. It is worth noting that after the war Europe with lessened herds will, pending their recuperation, require less fodder and will therefore produce more bread grains and import less of them, so that we can after the war safely reduce our bread grain production to increase our fodder. But we must lay our foundation in the

There is only one immediate solution to the short supply of meat for export pending the increase in our herds and flocks which will take years. During the course of the war, we can, just as with the cerenls, reduce the consumption and eliminate the waste particularly among those classes which can best afford It. In the meantime, in order to protect all of our people, we must carefully control our meat exports in order that the people shall not be denied this prime necessity of life.

Dairy Products. The world's dairy supplies are de creasing rapidly for two important reasons. First, the dairy cattle of Europe are diminishing, for Europe is being driven to eat its cattle for meat second the diversion of labor to war has decreased the fodder supplies and the shortage of shipping has limited the amount of imported fodder and therefore the cattle which can be supported and the productivity of the individual cow have been reduced. Even our own dairy supplies are not keeping pace with our growth of population, for our per capita milk supply has fallen from 90 to 75 gallons annually in the past 15 years. Yet today we must ship increasing amounts of dairy products

to our allies. The dairy supplies of the allies in normal times came to a considerable degree from western Scandinavia, Holland and Switzerland, but under German pressure these supplies are now partly diverted to Germany. The men under arms and the wounded must be supplied with condensed milk in large quantities. The net result of these conditions, despite rigorous reduction of consumption among the adults of the civil population in Europe, is that our allies are still short of large quantities and again the burden of the replacement of this shortage must fall on North America. The growing exports of dairy products from the United States to the allies are shown in the

following table: Three year June 30,1913. Butter 4,457,000 lbs. 13,487,000 lbs .. 3,780,000 lbs. 44,394,000 lbs Cond. milk 17,792,000 lbs. 159,577,000 Ibs

The high price of fodder and meat in the United States during the past few months induced by the pressing European demand has set up dangerous cur rents in this country, especially in those regions dependent upon butter and the sale of milk to municipalities having made it more profitable to sell the cattle for meat than to keep them and produce dairy products. There

which dairy products have had a rise in price in appropriate proportion to the increase in most of feeds are those producing condensed milk and cheese,

Our home milk and butter supplies are therefore looked at in a broad way, decreasing while our population is increasing. This deficiency of dairy butter is shown by the increased sales of margarine, which show an increase of several million pounds per month over similar periods in 1915. Dairy butter, however, has qualities which render it vitally necessary for children. Milk has no substitute and is not only intrinsically one of our cheapest animal foods, but is absolutely fundamental to the rearing of the children.

The dairy situation resolves itself into several phases. First, it is to be hoped that the forthcoming abundant harvest together with a proper restriction upon exports of feeding stuffs will result in lower prices of feed and diminish the impetus to sell the cattle for meat. Second, the industry needs encouragement so as to increase the dairy herd and thus our dairy supplies, for the sake first of our own people and second of the allies. The people must realize the vital dependence of the well-being of their children, and thus of the nation, upon the encouragement and upbuilding of the industry. Third, we must save the wastes in milk and butter during the war if we are to provide milk supplies to all. We waste arge quantities of our milk value from our lack of national demand for prodacts of akimmed and sour milk.

Pork Products. The hog is the most efficient of machines for the production of animal fat. The hog not only makes more fat from a given amount of feed, but also the products made are specially capable of preservation and most economical for

commercial handling. The swine of Europe are rapidly decreasing and the consumption demand aduced by the war is much increased. this particularly because bacon, ham and lard are so adaptable for military supplies. Moreover, our allies are isoated from many markets and a large amount from northern neutrals is

eing diverted to Germany. While our hogs have increased in number by 3,000,000 animals, the average weight at slaughter is falling and our production is probably only about maintained. The increasing demand upon us since the war began is shown by the follow ar figures of comparative

exports: Three-year, . -- war period, 1,055,-

614,000 pounds. Year ending Jun. 30, 1916, 1,512,-376,000 pounds.

Wool and Leather.

Our national supply of both wool and leather are less than our needs, and we are importing them more and more largely, as shown by the following figures:

Importations of wool and manufactures of wool (value) for the threeyear pre-war period, 862,457,965; for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, \$158,078,271. Importations (value) of hides, leath-

er, and manufactures of leather average of the three-year pre-war period, \$133,171,398; for the year ending June 30, 1916, \$177,880,902. At the present time the world's de-

mand for these products has increased far above the peace level owing to the extra consumption in supplying the armies. This demand is now again increased by the mobilization of a large American army. In the face of this, not only is the European herd decreasing, but also American sheep have decreased about 3,000,000 since the war began. After the war is over, the various countries of the world from which we formerly drew our wool are likely to retain it for their own use until their flocks again become normal Sugar.

The sugar supply on which our allies in Europe normally draw has been tremendously reduced, so that they must have recourse to other sources. In consequence of the shipping situation the area from which they must draw is also curtailed and, as a result, they are driven into those markets from which our own supply normally arises. Furthermore, their own production has been greatly diminished. Before the war, Europe supplied in a large measure its own needs, through the production of beet sugar, as will appear from the following table showing the average yearly production and consumption for the five years before the war (1909-1913), in some of the chief countries of Europe:

Prod'n, Consump Surp. (†) (short or defi-Germany2,525,899 Austria1,651,889 1,299,585 679,204 Russin1,629,947 1,302,285 United 2.058,000 Kingdom. 704,830 France 211,050 190,000 130,358 Holland 246,146 131,538 † 114,00S

As appears from the table, France, Italy, Russia and Belgium were selfsupporting, while the United Kingdom drew its entire sugar supply from exterior sources. The supply of the United Kingdom came to the amount of about 70 per cent from countries from which it is now cut off by the war. Ten per cent came from the East Indies and 20 per cent from the United

States and the West Indies. The prospective 1918 crop in France has diminished to 207,000 tons and that of Italy to 75,000 tons, and they are therefore short 590,000 tons. The displacement of United Kingdom supplies amounts to 1.435,000 tons; and therefore, in total, these three allied countries must import about 2,700,000 tons in order to maintain their normal consumption. Of this, 2,000,000 tons must come from new sources.

The disturbance of shipping reduces the tonage available and drives

in some sections. The only sections in nearest markets, the United States | the great majority of thrifty people and the West Indies. This field has since the war increased its production by 1,000,000 tons per annum. How far this demand will interfere with the American supply of 4,000,000 tons is difficult to forecast, first, because some increased supplies may be obtained by the allies from the East Indies, and, second, because the allies have reduced their consumption to some ex-

In any event, if all the enemies of Germany are to be supplied, there must be economy in consumption everywhere. The normal American consumption is about 90 pounds per person per annum and is just double the French consumption.

Vegetables.

We have this year a most abundant crop of vegetables for our use as a result of a patriotic endeavor almost universal throughout the country. Our potato harvest alone promises an increase from 285,000,000 bushels last year to over 400,000,000 bushels this year. The other vegetables are likewise enormously increased through the planting and extension of millions of gardens. The sweet potato crop promises to be from 10 to 20 per cent above what it was last year, and the commercial crop of sweet corn for canning purposes is estimated to be from 20 to 30 per cent above that of last year. The commercial crop of tomatoes for canning purposes will probably be somewhere between 10 and 20 per cent above what it was last year. There is an increase in the acreage of late onions of about 54 per cent over the area harvested in 1916.

Fish and Sea Foods.

The waters of our coasts and lakes are enormously rich in food fish and shell fish. Our streams, too, contribute a great quantity of fish. Many varieties are now not used for human food. but are thrown away or used for fertilizer. Habit has confined our use of fish to a few varieties, and inadequate methods of commercial handling have limited our use of these largely to only certain days in the week. With better marketing facilities, with better understanding of how to use the most varieties, with proper preservation by

ing and salting and by establishing plants for frozen fish, we can increase greatly our supply and thus relieve largely the pressure due to the inadequate supply of meat. We only have to harvest our own fish supply. It feeds itself. Every fish eaten is that much gained in solving the present problem of living. The products of the land are conserved by eating those of the sea.

Our Duty.

I have endeavored to show in previous articles that the world is short of food; that Europe is confronted with the grim specter of starvation unless from our abundance and our waste we keep the wolf from the door. Not only must we have a proper use of our food supply in order that we may furnish our allies with the sinews with which they may fight our battles, but it is an act of humanity towards fellow men, women and children.

By the diversion of millions of men from production to war, by the occupation of land by armies, by the isolation of markets, by belligerent lines, submarines, not only has the home production of our allies fallen by over 500,000,000 bushels of grain, but they are thrown upon us for a much larger proportion of their normal imports for merly obtained from other markets.

They have reduced consumption at every point, but men in the trenches, men in the shops, and the millions of women placed at physical labor require more food than during peace times, and the incidence of their saving and any shortage which they may suffor falls first upon women and children. If this privation becomes too great, their peoples cannot be maintnined constant in the war, and we will be left alone to fight the battle of

democracy with Germany. The problem of food conservation is one of many complexions. We cannot, and we do not wish, with our free institutions and our large resources of food, to imitate Europe in its policed rationing, but we must voluntarily and intelligently assume the responsibility before us as one in which everyone has a direct and inescapable interest. We must increase our export of foods to the allies, and in the circumstances of our shipping situation, these exports must be of the most concentrated foods. These are wheat, flour, beef, pork and dairy products. We have other foods in great abundance which we can use instead of these commodities, and we can prevent wastes in a thousand directions. We must guard the drainage of exports from the United States, that we retain a proper supply for our own country, and we must adopt such measures as will ameliorate, so far as may be, the price conditions of our less fortunate. We might so drain the supplies from the country to Europe as by the high prices that would follow to for our people to shorten their consumption. This operation of "normal economic forces" would starve that element of the community to whom we owe the most protection. We must try to impose the burden equally upon all.

Action Must Be Voluntary.

There is no royal road to food conservation. We can only accomplish this by the voluntary action of our whole people, each element in proportion to its means. It is a matter of equality of burden; a matter of minute saving and substitution at every point in the 20,000,000 kitchens, on the 20,000,000 dinner tables and in the 2,-000,000 manufacturing, wholesale and retail establishments of the country. The task is thus in its essence the daily individual service of all the people, fore; the dairy cattle are decreasing | the demand to a large degree upon the | Every group can substitute and even | fare.

can save a little-and the more luxurious elements of the population can by reduction to simple living save much. The final result of substituting other products and saving one pound of wheat flour, two ounces of fats, seven ounces of sugar and seven ounces of meat weekly, by each person, will, when we have multiplied this by one hundred million, have increased our exports to the amounts absolutely required by our allies. This means no more than that we should ent plenty.

but eat wisely and without waste. Food conservation has other aspects of utmost importance. Wars must be paid for by savings. We must save in the consumption in commodities and the consumption of unproductive labor in order that we may divert our manhood to the army and to the shops. If by the reduction in consumption of labor and the commodities that it produces and the diversion of this saving to that labor and those commodities demanded by the war, we shall be able to fight to eternity. We can mortgage our future savings for a little while. but a piling up of mortgages is but a short step toward bankruptcy. Every atom that we save is available for subscription to Liberty bonds.

The whole of Europe has been engaged ever since the war began in the elimination of waste, the simplification of life, and the increase of its industrial capacity. When the war is over the consuming power of the world will be reduced by the loss of prosperity and man power, and we shall enter a period of competition without parallel in ferocity. After the war, we must maintain our foreign markets if our working people are to be employed. We shall be in no position to compete if we continue to live on the same basis of waste and extravagance on which we have lived hitherto. Simple, temperate living is a moral issue of the first order at any time, and any other basis of conduct during the war becomes a wrong against the interest of the country and the interest of

democracy. The impact of the food shortage of Europe has knocked at every door of the United States during the past three years. The prices of foodstuffs have nearly doubled, and the reverberations of Europe's increasing shortage would have thundered twice as loudly during the coming year even had we not entered the war, and it can now only be mitigated if we can exert a strong control and this in many directions.

We are today in an era of high prices. We must maintain prices at such a level as will stimulate production, for we are faced by a starving world and the value of a commodity to the hungry is greater than its price.

As a result of the world shortage of supplies, our consumers have suffered from speculation and extortion. While wages for some kinds of labor have increased with the rise in food prices, in others, it has been difficult to maintain our high standard of nutrition.

By the elimination of waste in all classes, by the reduction in the consumption of foodstuffs by the more fortunate, we shall increase our supplies not only for export but for home, and by increased supplies we can help in the amelioration of prices.

For Better Distribution.

Beyond this the duty has been lafd upon the food administration to co-operate with the patriotic men in trades and commerce, that we may eliminate the evils which have grown into our system of distribution, that the burden may fall equitably upon all by restoration, so far as may be, of the normal course of trade. It is the purpose of the food administration to use its utmost power and the utmost ability that patriotism can assemble to ameliorate this situation to such a degree as may be possible.

The food administration is assembling the best expert advice in the country on home economics, on food utilization, on trade practices and trade wastes, and on the conduct of public eating places, and we shall outline from time to time detailed suggestions, which if honestly carried out by such individuals in the country, we believe will effect the result which we must attain. We are asking every home, every public eating place and many trades, to sign a pledge card to accept these directions, so far as their circumstances permit, and we are organizing various instrumentalities to ameliorate speculation. We are asking the men of the country who are not actually engaged in the handling of food to sign similar pledges that they shall see to it, so far as they are able, that these directions are followed. We are asking all who wish us well and who undertake our service to become actual members of the food administration, just as much volunteers in national service as we ourselves are. so that thus the food administration may not be composed of a small body of men in Washington and a small representation in each state, but may become a body of 50,000,000 people, devoted absolutely to the services of democracy. We hope to see the insignia of membership in every patriotic window in the country.

Autocracy finds its strength in Its ability to impose organization by force from the top. The essence of democracy consists in the application of the initiative in its own people. If individualism cannot be so organized as to defend itself, then democracy is a faith which cannot stand. We are seeking to impose no organization from the top. We are asking the American people to organize from the bottom up. and this is the essence of democracy itself.

The call of patriotism, of humanity and of duty rings clear and insistent. We must heed it if we are to defend our ideals, maintain our form of government, and safeguard our future wel-

foundland. For months, with his box decorated with the Blue Cross strapped to his collar, Prince ha served his king and country as faith

fully and as true as any subject of

George V, by petitioning alms for the

horses wounded and suffering in the

great war.

"A man should take the bull by the "Yes," agreed the fool. "The trouble

INTERNATIONAL **SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D. Tuacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)
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LESSON FOR AUGUST 26.

THE CAPTIVITY OF JUDAH.

LESSON TEXT-II Kings 25:1-21, GOLDEN TEXT-As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked.—Ezekiel 32:11.

Many years after the kingdom of Israel was taken captive by the Assyrians, Judah was carried away to Babylon. Judah's captivity was in three stages, covering about twenty years. The first deportation was while Jehoiakim was king. Daniel and his friends went into captivity at this time (Dan. 1:1-6). The seventy years captivity dates from this time. The second deportation was while Jeholakim reigned. Most likely Ezekiel was carried away with this second company (Ezekiel 1:1-2). The third deportation, some twelve years after the second, is the one described in our lesson. At this time the greater part of the nation was removed to Babylon. Only the poor and unimportant were left. Jerusalem itself was destroyed at this time.

I. Jerusalem Besieged (vv. 1-3). Zedekiah owed his kingship to the king of Babylon (chapter 24:17), who appointed him to the throne after the removal of Jehojakim. His name was changed from Mattaniah to Zedeklah. He was not a good man (24:19). Though having his position by the will of the king of Babylon, he rebelled against that king. He thought that by the aid of the surrounding nations, especially Egypt, he could throw off the yoke of Babylon. Jeremiah counseled submission, but the king refused. Nebuchadnezzar came in person with all his host and laid siege to Jerusalem, even building forts against it (v. 1). This siege lasted for about a year and a half. For a while during that period the Chaldean army withdrew because of the appearance of Pharaoh's army (Jer. 37:5). Shut off from help from without, the Jews soon were famishing for want of bread. The horrors of this famine were awful. For a description of it one should read the book of Lamentations. Mothers ate their own children (Lam. 4:10). The richest, even ladies in silken robes, wandered about searching for scraps in the dung heaps (Lam. 4:5-10). Their tongues clave to the roofs of their mouths, and their skins were dried up. Added to these horrors were murderous fights between parties among the Jews. Some wanted to surrender; others insisted upon holding out.

II. Zedekiah's Flight (vv. 4-7). At length the city was broken up, and the king and his warriors fled by night. His thought was to escape to the country army overtook him, scattered his army, and carried Zedekiah to Riblah, where Nebuchadnezzar had his headquarters. Here judgment was passed upon him. In his trial it was shown that his solemn oath of allegiance to the Chaldeans had been broken, thus showing himself a traitor (II Chron, 36:13). As a punishment for his treachery his own sons were slain before him, his eyes put out (v. 7), and he himself carried to Babylon, where he remained a prisoner till his death (Jer. 52:11). In this we have a marvelous fulfillment of prophecy (Ezekiel 12:3), which says that Zedekiah shall be taken to Babylon and die there and yet not see the city. He could not see it because his eyes were out. Let us learn from this that that which God says will surely come to pass, even though we cannot explain its details.

III. The Destruction of the City (vv. 8-10). Not only were the people taken captive, but the city itself was subjected to the utmost rigors of war. They plundered the house of the Lord, the palace and the houses of the rich. and then consigned them to the flames (v. 9). They even broke down the walls of Jerusalem (v. 10) and massacred many of the people (Lam. 2:3, 4).

IV. Disposition of the Inhabitants and the Contents of the Temple (vv. 11-21). I. The inhabitants (vv. 11, 12). They were divided into two classes, those who had deserted to the Babylonians during the slege and those who were found inside of the city at the time it was taken. Many doubtless deserted to the Babylonians during this siege, as even Jeremiah was arrested on this charge (Jer. 38:13). The poor of the land were left to be vine dressers and husbandmen. The wealthy and influential were taken away, as they would be of value to the conquering nation; besides they would be a menace if left behind. The poor were left because pauper captives would be a burden.

Besides It was very undesirable for the land to lie in waste, as then they could not exact tribute from it. To that end encouragement was given by the Babylonians as "vineyards and fields" were given to the poor.

2. The contents of the temple (vv 13-21). From the temple which had been twice plundered before (II Chron. 36:7, 10), such of gold, silver and bronze vessels as still remained were taken, even the great pillars of the molten sea, The captives and the treasure were delivered to Nebuchadnezzar at Roblah, where more than threescore of men were killed (vv. 19-21).

Be Not Remiss.

The friendly word, the kindly usages of companionship and recollection, are never more acceptable than in strengous days like these. It is well to let conduct give the lie to the cynical proverb, "Out of sight out of mind."-Buffalo (N. Y.) Times,

Discord in Order.

Kerrigan-Do ye think, Kelly, that afther th' war th' wur-rkin' payple iv Europe will git a square deal? Kelly-They will iv they des th' kings, quanes an' knaves !- Life.

ICH DISTURB TOKYO er, Known in Japan as Thorn in the Side of nce Yamagata. ese have a word to dean riche type of stock ey call him a "narakin."

desire to get into the same atmosphere | shut out the view from the famous | prince hasn't visited Odawara this | authority on foot troubles and their | with the great people of Japan. Mar- Kokian or "house of rare age," by which name the prince's villa was known, of beloved and revered Mount erected a splendid house at Odawara, Fuji. To quote the vernacular journal: "The house of rare age," built when the prince had attained seventy years-described by Confucius as 'the rare age'-is no longer a quiet bower to which the aged Yamagata can reup than the mansion of the distin- pair at all seasons and enjoy rest from guished prince, and has crected there- the distracting worries of national polon a charming country house. His ities. His view is obstructed by the architect located the building so that it haikara house of the narikin. The

summer." Few Feet Are Perfect.

How many bones in your feet? Most likely you don't know. Few people do, and it is usually a surprise to learn that there are so many and that the foot is about the most complicated and delicately constructed part of the body. That is, perhaps, the reason why at least 75 per-cent of all adults

have some kind of foot trouble. Dr. William M. Scholl of Chicago, an patented a great number of appli ances for correcting defective conditions and giving comfort.

mechanical correction, says not one

adult in 100 has feet that are com-

pletely free from defects. He has made

a life study of the subject and has

In Victoria, British Columbia, there is a successful collector for the Blue horns," advised the sage. Cross fund for horses disabled in war, His name is Prince and he is a New- is to find a bull that will stand for it."