

—the war industry—that presents itself on the other side of the water. . . . Now, there are two ways of dealing with a problem of this kind. One way is by the hearty cooperation of the men already engaged in the industry. The other way is by compulsion. My experience in the Interstate Commerce Commission led me to believe that the larger men in the railroad industry had quite as much vision as I had, and if I could show them the importance of an occasion they would try to meet it. So, instead of resorting to compulsion, instead of taking over mines and great operating plants we are endeavoring to put you men at your best. This war is a challenge to us.

The chairman of the committee writes:

Notwithstanding the increased production of coal from practically every district, the increasing requirements to meet the needs of all classes of industry, as well as for the comfort and welfare of the people and the transportation of troops, munitions, food and other products, together with the supplying of our allies, and for our national protection—all these demands are liable to surpass the capacity of our mines unless the full cooperation of the mining, transporting and distributing agents of this country is secured. This emergency requires not only the development of the highest efficiency, especially on account of a diminished supply of labor used in the production of coal, but also in more comprehensive methods of cooperation by the coal producers with the transporting and distributing agencies, so that not only a full production will be secured, but also that this production finds its way over our railroads into those centers where the most urgent need exists. If the demand for this product continues to increase it may be necessary that active steps be taken to so far as possible confine the distribution and use of it to those activities which are more nearly vital to the welfare and protection of the nation. That this may not effect an unnecessary hardship upon the domestic welfare of our people it is necessary to promote the closest cooperation, and because of the duty laid upon us to promote this welfare we urge upon you that you cooperate with this committee in its efforts to promote the largest production, the most equitable distribution and the highest use to produce the best economic results. No doubt an emergency exists, but it is the belief of this committee that with your hearty support and the assistance of the public in conserving supply, sufficient fuel can be had to meet public necessity.

#### FOOD EXHIBITS AT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

MANY foods, hitherto not eaten by the people of the United States, or which have only a limited vogue, are shown at the Food Values and Economies Exhibition opened on May 23 in the American Museum of Natural History.

An especially interesting feature of the exhibition is the division devoted to unutilized seashore foods, such as filet of shark, gray fish, mussels, skate, many kinds of edible seaweeds and periwinkles. The history and usefulness of the king of American cereals—corn—is graphically demonstrated. There are numerous products of corn and also cornmeal dishes and preparations.

The values by calories of portions in the popular restaurants are visualized and there are specimen meals suitable for serving in the home. How the population fares in lands beyond the sea will be shown by samples of war bread and of the rations prescribed by European food dictators. The housewife may also obtain from this exhibition many practical suggestions as to how to stop the leaks and to promote table economy. Several hotels of the city are to exhibit new dishes specially adapted for the conditions of the present day and from them many helpful hints may be obtained by the general public.

The exhibition will be open for about one month. It was introduced by a special meeting devoted to conservation for war, held in the auditorium of the museum on Wednesday. According to the program the president of the institution, Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn, presided and addresses were to be delivered by Mr. George W. Perkins, chairman of the Mayor's Food Commission; Dr. Graham Lusk, professor of physiology, Medical College of Cornell University; Dr. Hermann N. Biggs, New York State commissioner of health; and Dr. Walter B. James, president, New York Academy of Medicine.

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#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. CHARLES R. CROSS, Thayer professor of physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will become professor emeritus at the