

ADMITTED TO BIRTH REGISTRATION AREA

DIRECTOR OF CENSUS S. L. ROGERS CONGRATULATES NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH BUREAU.

DISPATCHES FROM RALEIGH

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of North Carolina People, Gathered Around the State Capital, Raleigh.

That North Carolina has been admitted to the birth registration area of the United States, beginning January 1, 1917...

The letter reads: "It gives me great pleasure to inform you that North Carolina measured well over 90 per cent and has been admitted to the registration area for birth for the year 1917."

This means, according to the State Board of Health, that North Carolina is reporting all, or at least over 90 per cent of her births and that birth statistics as well as her death statistics will be accepted by the United States and foreign governments.

The other States that have preceded North Carolina into the birth registration area are the six New England States—New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Minnesota, Virginia and Kentucky.

Kerosene Menace Looms Large. James R. Young, Commissioner of Insurance, is calling attention to the greatly increased number of deaths and fires caused by carelessness in the use of kerosene to start fires.

Week after week the casualties reported to the North Carolina Insurance Department show signs of gross carelessness and add to the already far too long list of dead and injured who have been sacrificed on the altar of negligence.

Governor Bickett quoted at length from a letter he has received from "one of the most intelligent officers at Camp Sevier, in which the officer called attention to the need of encouraging the people back home."

Housewives have been warned against persons, who, it is reported, have attempted to buy, tax or carry away home-canned products, claiming that they are representatives of the food administrator.

New Charters Are Issued. A charter was issued for the McLeansville Mill (Inc.) of McLeansville, Guilford county. The company proposes a general grain milling and mercantile business.

Peterson Case Continued. Maj. George L. Peterson, under indictment on the charge of \$7,600 shortage in accounts as property and disbursing officer of the North Carolina national guard, procured the continuance of his case in Wake county superior court this afternoon, renewed his \$10,000 bond and returned to Camp Sevier, where he is on the quartermaster's staff of the Thirtieth division.

To Offer High Grade Beef Cattle. Four sales of pure-bred beef cattle are now assured for the meeting of the North Carolina Live Stock Association at Wilson, N. C., January 14, 1918.

Organize Peanut Growers. Mr. W. R. Camp has returned to his office from a trip made to a meeting of the peanut growers of North Carolina and Virginia at Suffolk...

Mr. C. W. Mitchell of Ashtander, a member of the State Board of Agriculture, was elected president of the association; Mr. Frank Shields of Scotland Neck, vice-president; and Mr. George M. Inman, of Waverly, Va., secretary-treasurer.

In general, the objects of the association are to promote the mutual interests of growers in producing, handling and marketing of the peanut crop.

It is of interest to know, says Mr. Camp, that not more than 50 per cent of a crop will be made in North Carolina and Virginia, according to reports made at the meeting by visiting delegates from peanut counties.

Camps Buy Local Products. Director B. W. Kilgore, of the Extension Service, announced that from information received from the Department of Agriculture at Washington, local trucks in the vicinity of National Guard Camp and National Army cantonment will be called upon to supply to some extent the vegetables needed by these establishments.

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It is estimated that the government will purchase vegetables after sending out circular proposals and that the award will be made to grower or firm who offers the vegetables at the lowest price.

Reports will be made to this office, with the least practicable delay showing the approximate quantities of the various vegetables, which it is thought will be required at your camp for the winter and spring period.

Governor Bickett appealed to the chairman of the County Councils of National Defense asking them to take steps at once to look after the families of soldiers, and especially to see to it that where there is poverty and sickness that these people are extended not only whatever financial aid is necessary but also given human sympathy.

Governor Bickett also urged that attention be given to the matter of allowances which the government has provided for the dependents of soldiers, asking that the county councils give advice and instruction as to the manner of making up claims against the government for these allowances.

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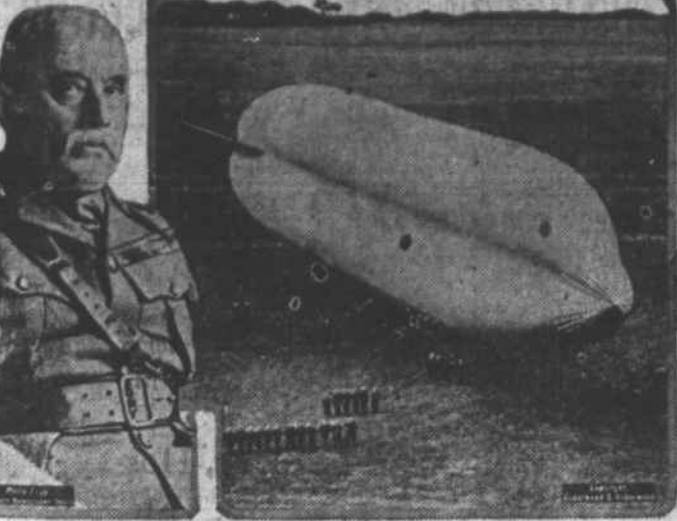
According to an English dispatch, bacon is not procurable in many butcher shops in London. In shops able to secure supplies, the prices range as high as 50 cents per pound for grades sold before the war for 30 cents.

Reports indicate that the new winter wheat crop, just planted, is nearly one fourth larger in area than that planted a year ago.

Kill Rats and Save Food. The many economies being practised by North Carolina farmers to save all food possible is of no avail if he is to allow the rats and mice to make way with more food and feedstuffs than he can save by careful economy.

El Paso, Tex.—At least one American did not know there was a war in progress in which the United States is participating until he appeared at the local navy recruiting office to enlist. He is from Pinedale, Ariz., and gave his name as Hyrum Smith Hanson. He had been in Pinedale, a small mountain town, for five years, and said no one there knew there was a war in progress when he left. He was accepted for the navy.

DEFENDING ENGLAND AGAINST RAIDERS



This massive dirigible balloon is but one of the great number of similar craft guarding the coasts of Great Britain from attacks by Zeppelins and German airplanes. At the left is Field Marshal Sir John French, at the head of the British home defense forces.

NEWSPAPER MAN DESCRIBES VISIT TO HEADQUARTERS

Nerve Centers of British and Canadian Armies Peaceful Even in Battle.

IS LIKE BUSINESS HOUSE.

Function Calmly and Efficiently Without Turmoil or Slightest Disorder—Young Staff Officers Complain Because They Must Stay Out of the Show.

London.—During the past three years of warfare there have been daily communications emanating from a mysterious place called general headquarters, whose location or surroundings have never been mentioned.

The fact of the matter is that British general headquarters is perhaps the most peaceful and orderly place that one could imagine. The roads approaching the main buildings are not lined with troops and paraphernalia of war, nor is there any of the much-talked-of dramatics of fighting.

It is a business house, conducted on the most advanced systems of efficiency. The traffic coming up to the heart of the gigantic chain of fighting units is regulated by military policemen who know their business and keep motorists and pedestrians going in the right direction.

The soldiers on duty in front of the building visited by the correspondent were unarmed and directed the arriving officers in a manner as courteous as that displayed by the commissionaire at the war office in London.

When the game broke up and we re-entered the headquarters building we were presented to a man whose name is famous the length and breadth of the British front. His keen stratagems and forceful work have won for him the praise and admiration of every Canadian fighting in France and his record as a fighter would fill several books.

Well, I'm glad you're here, boys, he said. "I'll just arrange to have a couple of places set for you at dinner. How are things over in the U. S. A.?" We had been talking with him only a few minutes when an officer brought to him word that an S. O. S. signal had been received from a certain point indicating that the Germans were preparing to attack. There was no bluster. The information was given in a low, steady voice and the orders for certain counter-measures were given in an equally unflinching manner.

From time to time an officer would appear at the door and report the progress of various movements under way, and throughout the evening there was no letup in the handling of business. The whole procedure of this work of directing armies seemed to operate as smoothly as the service at the dinner table to which we were shown.

When the meal was finished and we were comfortably seated in the main room we heard from the lips of one of the officers a story of the thoughts and feelings of a man directing an offensive.

For the moment we saw a series of pictures thrown on the screen of our imagination. The officer asleep in his room, a servant calls him in the small hours. He dresses and walks slowly to

small mountain town, for five years, and said no one there knew there was a war in progress when he left. He was accepted for the navy.

Montana Woman Says It Is Sufficient and She Has Tried It Also. Billings, Mont.—Ten acres is enough to support a family, according to

TEN ACRES FOR ONE FAMILY. Montana Woman Says It Is Sufficient and She Has Tried It Also.

Billings, Mont.—Ten acres is enough to support a family, according to

his office, where a number of telegraph and telephone operators sit at keys and switchboards. A cup of coffee is steaming at his desk, a round, flat table, upon which is spread a great detail map with flags marking the line of attack. He drinks the coffee, lights his pipe and turns to greet his brother officers.

Men Go Over the Top. The hour of the attack is marked by a general glance at watches and then the phone rings. The men are over the top! Several phones ring. A number of objectives have been reached. An S. O. S. signal from "A" section. All reports are marked upon the big map by flags, and as each objective is reached a new flag is added.

Finally the picture reverts to headquarters, where we see the officer, tired eyed but smiling, reading the congratulations from all along the line and transmitting them to the victorious men out in the shell holes and trenches.

Along dawn midnight our disabled car came limping up to headquarters for us and our farewells were said outside the door in the lanky blackness of a rainy night. We shook hands there in the darkness with these men who had been our hosts.

"We never let up on them," said a voice from the steps. "It has been just as you hear it now for months, and we'll keep on until we finish the job. We are going to win."

And that is the spirit that pervades not only the headquarters staff but every camp and every dugout on the British front.

PROUD OF HER RECORD.



Members of the National Guard, representing the suggestion that their White House pickets are not as patriotic as some of their less militant sisters, are pointing out the record of Miss Eleanor Hill Weed, granddaughter of the late Representative Ebenezer J. Hill of Connecticut. Miss Weed, who assisted in picking last spring, was one of the 12 Vassar college girls who spent last summer on a farm, accomplishing a sum total of products sufficient to feed 1,500 persons all winter and 20 head of live stock until next year's crops are ripe.

DESCENDS IN BURNING PLANE

British Airman Recovers From Injuries Received After 1,000 Feet Drop.

London.—After one of the most miraculous escapes of the war, Major Bannatyne, D. S. O. is today recovering from his injuries in the Creechener hospital. While flying alone at a height of more than 1,000 feet his engine caught fire. He headed the machine toward the ground. Soon the flames reached his feet. He climbed out of the seat and crawled along the body of the plane toward the tail while the blazing plane plucked toward the earth. The flames rained him again. He swung himself off the frame and hung by his hands under the machine—now a mass of flames. He fell into a plowed field and was picked up suffering from a broken arm, scores of cuts and with all his hair scorched to a crisp.

Miss Mattie Johnson, who has tried it. She has divided her ten acres as follows: Two acres for strawberries and raspberries; two acres for wheat for chickens; three acres for alfalfa for cattle, hogs and horses; one acre for corn for chickens and hogs; one-half acre for vegetable gardens; one-half acre for yards for 100 or 200 chickens; one-half acre for home, barn and yards. Apple, plum and cherry trees are planted in the chicken yards and about the fields. Bees also may be kept at a profit, she says.

WHO'S WHO—AND WHEREFORE

CONTROLS ALL NAVAL OPERATIONS



The most important man in the navy today is Admiral William S. Benson, ranking officer in the service and chief of naval operations. Yet little is heard of him outside naval circles.

Outwardly or officially, Admiral Benson is "charged with the operations of the fleet and with the preparation and readiness of plans for its use in war." When congress created the particular billet which he now fills on May 11, 1915, the duties of the chief of naval operations were thus defined. Admiral Benson, then a rear admiral, took the job and the public promptly forgot he was there.

Outside his door on the second floor of the navy department is a "positively no admittance" sign. A distinguished visitor to Washington inquired the other day whose office it was and when informed blandly inquired, "Who is Benson?" Had he entered the office he would have found himself facing a middle-aged, trim-looking man in uniform, rather slight of build, seated at a very neatly arranged desk in the center of the room and examining copies of cablegrams.

If the visitor explained that he had made a mistake and was looking for some other office, the admiral would probably have left his work, and accompanied him to the right door, at the same time commenting in his usual mild manner on the inconvenience which the present arrangement of offices necessarily causes visitors.

When the visitor expressed his thanks and ended with the proverbial, "Hope I haven't disturbed you," the admiral would have probably remarked: "Not in the least, sir. Glad to be of service."

Deciding matters of naval strategy in home and foreign waters, looking after the details of every phase of America's naval war program ashore or afloat, and supervising all matters relating directly or indirectly to naval war plans, these are the most important of the duties which Admiral Benson has to perform. From a practical viewpoint he is commander in chief of the navy ashore and afloat. He is to the navy what the chief of staff is to the army.

MAY REVOLUTIONIZE MOTOR POWER

Scientific tests are still being made under authorization of congress of a wonderful device of Garabed T. Giragosian, an Armenian inventor and mechanic of Boston, which if all that is claimed for it proves true, will revolutionize the motor power of the world.

The inventor calls his device a "free energy" generator and it is significant that congress deemed the matter worthy of scientific tests. Just what the engine is, is not made known. It is claimed by the inventor that it can drive a battleship any distance without stop for fuel, for this strange device uses no fuel; that it can propel an airplane around the world with armor heavy enough to turn aside the heaviest shells, and perform other feats that seem most uncanny.

In speaking of his invention, Mr. Giragosian says: "I have not overcome gravity or anything of that kind. The source of the energy is already existent and I am going to utilize it by means I have discovered. It is concentrated. If we want to make use of electricity out of the earth we concentrate on that. It is necessary to build boilers and engines to produce thousands of horse power out of coal. My device is utilized in such a way that it is almost condensed energy. The source of the energy is very great. It is portable and you can carry it from place to place.

"My engine will produce power to turn something, that is all. It does not require any heat. It can be put in any room, in any cellar. The principle is so extremely simple that the minute you see it you will say to yourself: 'Well, why didn't I think of that before?'"

LOOKS AFTER COUNTRY'S REVENUE

"He is always good at figures," said Danny's teacher, when talking with his mother after she had called at the school. This happened in 1877, and 40 years has not changed Daniel C. Roper. At least Uncle Sam doesn't think so, because he appointed him, probably the hardest job of a non-military nature to be found in Washington. His office door reads, "Collector of Internal Revenue," and as the revenue has been increased several times it is going to be some job. He began his preparation for this career by attending Trinity college, and after he was graduated from that North Carolina institution he continued by attending the National university of Washington, D. C., from which he emerged four years later ready for a fight with the world.

Soon after his college work ended he became very much interested in the cotton and weaving industries. It was Mr. Roper who developed a scheme of collecting cotton statistics by a count at frequent intervals during the harvesting period of the number of bales turned out at the gins. This in itself was quite an achievement, and the government recognized his merit by sending him on a survey of the textile industries in America and in Europe. From this data he was enabled to compile a textbook, which has been used as authentic information by experts in this country, as well as abroad.

CUSTODIAN OF ENEMY PROPERTY

Arrangements were made at a conference between President Wilson and A. Mitchell Palmer, custodian of enemy property, to put into complete operation the provisions of the trading-with-the-enemy law for custody of property in this country of German citizens and those of countries allied with Germany.

Receipts of enemy property already has begun, the first receipts being a draft for \$100,000 voluntarily tendered the custodian, who promptly invested it in Liberty bonds.

Within a short time property worth millions of dollars will be in the custodian's hands. President Wilson soon will issue an executive order which will authorize opening of branch bureaus for receipt of enemy property. The ultimate disposition of property taken over by his office, Mr. Palmer explained, rests with congress, which must decide whether it shall be confiscated or merely held in trust during the war by the custodian as a trustee. An executive order fixes the salary of Mr. Palmer at \$5,000 a year and directs that he give a bond of \$100,000.

