DIRECTOR OF CENSUS S. L. ROG-ERS CONGRATULATES NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH BUREAU.

Doings and Happenings That Mark the Progress of North Carolina Peo-ple, Gathered Around the State Capital.

Raleign.

That North Carolina has been admitted to the birth registration area of the United States, beginning Janthirteenth State in the Union and one of three Southern States is according to a letter received by Dr. W. S. Rankin, secretary of the State Board of Camp, "that not more than 50 per cent Health, from Sam L. Rogers, director of a crop will be made in North Can of the Federal census bureau.

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 births for the year 1917. A detailed report of the test will be sent you shortly. Our special agents have returned from North Carolina and have nothing but glowing accounts to give of the cordial reception given them and of the efficiency of your registration sys-

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 fleath statistics will be accepted by the United States and foreign governments. For the past month two special agents from the Federal Census Department officially inspected the completeness of and found that the State was not only reporting far above the required per-centage, but that the work was done most efficiently.

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. The latter two were admitted this year.

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. He has just sent out the following:

"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. Looming large among habit of using kerosene to start fires. In spite of warnings and citations of the horrible results, people are still observing this reckless practice in many parts of North Carolina. The following item is taken from a recent

issue of one of the state papers;
"A frame dwelling opposite the
Southern depot at Advance, Davie County, was burned this morning at at Camp Sevier, in which the officer 5:30 o'clock, and Mr. and Mrs. H.-R. Williams and Mr. Williams' aged mother were probably fatally burned. Two small children , rescued, were not burned so badly. It is stated that Mr. struck to light the fire when by some means the can exploded, throwing oil on Mr. Williams. The flames spread over his clothing and in trying to extinguish them Mrs. Williams caught on fire.

"The aged mother of Mr. Williams rushed to the bed and picked up her the manner of making up claims' room her clothing became ig- lowancesnited and she-fell in a faint. The 6year-old daughter of Mr. Williams took the child and carried it outside the

New Charters Are Issued

A chrater was issued for the Me-Leansville Mill (Inc.), of McLeansville, Guilford county. The company proposes a general grain milling and nercantile business. The capital is \$8,000 authorized and \$5,500 subscribed by Chas. D. Cobb. J. M. Morehead.

Another charter is for the National Products corporation, of Sylva, N. C. canital \$150,000 authorized and \$15,000 subscribed by Frank B. Allen, W. M. Hoffman, John A. Presley, for timber land development, furniture and gen-eral wood working.

Peterson Case Continued.

Maj. George L. Peterson, under indietment on the charge of \$7,600 shortage, in accounts as property and disbursing officer of the North Carolinanational guard, procured the continu-ance of his case in Wake county superior court this afternoon, renewed Sevier, where he is on the quartermas-ter's staff of the Thirtieth division. The grand jury made the formal re turn of a true bill, but the trial of the

To Offer High Grade Beef Cattle.

Four sales of pure-bred beef cattle are now assured for the meeting of million dollars. This being the case, it the North Carolina Live Stock Asse- I shigh time for farmers and citizens ciations at Wilson, N. C., January 14, generally over North Carolina to be 1918. From 20 to 25 head each of gin a campaign of extermination says
Herefords. Shorthorn and Aberdeen.
Angus will be sold; and, in addition,
Service. "For centuries the world embers of the North Carolina Beef has been fighting rats without organi-bave consigned enough home-raised crefully feeding them by using storstock to assure of a sale of pure-bred age places for grain and food that are list. He is from Pinedale, Ariz., and stock to assure of a sale of pure-bred age places for grain and food that are list. He is from Pinedale, Ariz., and stock to assure of a sale of pure-bred age places for grain and food that are list. He is from Pinedale, Ariz., and Billings, Mont.—Ten acres is enough en yards and about the fields. Bees consists wholly of State-bred animals, them to live and multiply."

Drunnizo Pennut Growers of the peanut growers of North Caro line and Virginia at Suffolk, where in operation with the marketing offiials of the State of Virginia, he too steps to form the Virginia-Carolina

Peanut Growers Association for the purpose of securing for the growers just and equitable prices for

Mr. C. W. Mitchell of Aulander, a nember 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. The directors of the organization are A. F. Mathew. Waverly, Va., J. L. Wynne, Everefts, N. C.; J. T. Robertson, Wakefield, Va.; S. B. Winburn, Como, N. C.; E W. Crickton, Capron, Va.; E. N. Elliott. Tyner, N. C.

In general, the objects of the ass ciation are to promote the mutual in terests of growers in producing, handling and marketing of the peanut crop uary 1, 1917, and is admitted as the Any peanut grower in the State may become a member upon payment of the dues of one dollar per year.

"It is of interest to know," lina and Virginis, according to reports made at the meeting by visiting delegates from peanut counties, Earlier in the season, it was thought that twothirds of a crop would be made but later reports have shown this to be an over estimate.

Camps Buy Local Products.

Director B. W. Kilgore, of the Exten sion Service, announced that from in formation received from the Department of Agriculture at Washington, local truckers in the vicinity of National Guard Camp and National Army antonment will be called upon to supply to some extent the vegetables needd by these stablishmnts. In a let ter sent from the quartermaster's office at Charleston, S. C., to the camp quartermaster at each army camp in the southeastern department the fol-lowing informtion is given: "It is desired that the growers in the vicinity the birth reporting made to the Vital of your cantonment be informed of Statistics Department of the Board the approximate quantity of vegetables that will be required during a given period, and informed 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 vegeta-bles at the lowest price,

"In furnishing this information, all those interested must be impressed with the idea that if growers or firms in some other part of the country agree to furnish vegetables at a better price the government will, cours, purchase from the lowest bid-

"Report 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."

Suggests Ald For Families at Home. Governor Bickett appealed to the chairmen 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 quoted at length from a letter he has received from "one of the most intelligent officers called attention to th need of encouraging the people back home.

"The men here do not need Christmas presents or feasts," the officer in there was nothing to indicate the said, "they are all well cared for, have Williams rose about 5:30 and was in their friends and acquaintances, but the act of starting a fire with kerothey can not fully devote themselves sene oil. Indications are that the oil to their work because they are thinkback home."

Governor Bickett also urged that attention be given to the matter of allowences which the government has provided for the dependents of soldiers, asking that the county councils give advice and instruction as to his office immediately upon our arrival. little grandchild and in passing out against the government for these al-

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

> 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 Re

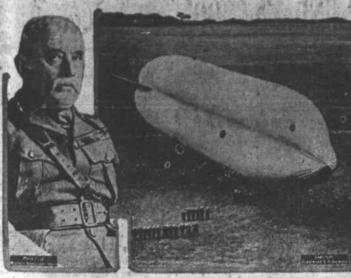
> Reports indicate that the new winter wheat crop, just planted, is nearly one fourth larger in area than that planted a year ago.

KIH Rats and Save Food.

The many economies being practised by North Carloina farmers to save all food possible is of no avail if he is to allow the rate and mice to make way with more food and feedstuffs than he can save by careful economy. It is estimated that the loss due to destruction by rats on the average North Carolina farm will pay the taxes of that farm with some to spars. According to a bulletin received from the United States Department of Agriculture, the destruction of food and property in the United States amounts to millions.

"Rata and mice destroy more than 200,000 men can earn, or in dollars and cents mounting to two hundred

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.

Function Calmiy 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 numunications emapating from mysterious place called general bead quarters, whose location or surroundings have never been mentioned, in fact are not known to the average so dier fighting in France, writes Hal O'Flaherty in the New York Sun.

To the citizen unacquainted with th affairs of giant armies the mention of the term general beadquarters brings up a picture of a building in the heart of the great army activities, with mudsplattered couriers dashing up on horse or cycle and with sentries pacing to and fro armed to the teeth, while wor ried generals sit about great tables within tracing upon their maps the various positions in the front line.

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. Guards Are Unarmed.

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 motors and pedestrians going in the right di-

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 commission aire at the war office in London. Withpresence of the greatest army chieftains. The furnishings were nigdest, almost homely, and the atmosphere of the whole place was that of a peaceful

To secure an interview with one of the men who conduct the affairs of the British armies was simplicity itself. A telephone call sufficed to tell him of our coming and we were ushered into

An officer of the United States army, known as a "liaison officer," had quarters nearby. He has been working as hard as any man of affairs at home could work and his surroundings showed he wasn't in the habit of en tertaining visitors.

"Take that rocking chair oversin the corner." he said as we entered, and one of the party went over as directed and sat on the wooden box that had held his typewriter. A wooden table, two chairs and a rack for books made up the furnishings of his office.

On his table was a stack of corre nce a foot high, which if it could be read by the German high command would probably give them heart fullure. There was something significant in that stack of letters. It was probably the first nucleus of a correspond-ence between the directing officials of the American army and the British upon whom they are depending for advice and information. Some day that little pile will have grown into an en tire library of documents that will fill long ranks of filing cases. It is pioneer correspondence under the new order of things between Britain and

The following afternoon brought a by a lucky chance to Canadian headquarters, where we had the privilege men who are conducting operations. It was more than a lucky chance that ought us to Canadian headquarters almost at the same hour that the Ger-

Recruit Says His Home Town in Ari-

zona Also in Dark About World Affairs.

El Paso, Tex.-At least one Ameri

can did not know there was a war in progress in which the United States is participating until he appeared at

mans began an attack-it was an act

Lighted by Lamps and Candles. It can be set down here without further parley that two newspaper men were never treated more royally

than we were by these men who at S LIKE BUSINESS HOUSE, the moment we entered their quarters were directing a barrage against a strong German attack. In the midst of tea the door opener and for a few minutes we were under

the impression that every general on the western front had been deluged in to our presence. It was a party of officers who had dropped in for ten and a chat with the army commanders. Instead they had a rather amusing talk with two American corre spondents, who were found interest-ing because they had been with the American army on the Mexican border and in France and had some idea of what the United States troops could do. Their intense interest in preparations of the United States for war manifested in every question, and their friendliness toward everything American was more than evident.

in two minutes the formality of introduction was over with and for fully halfs an hour the Canadian genera staff dropped their heavy responsibilities and enjoyed the unique experience of entertaining two Americans It was the first time that such a gathering had ever assembled in this particular building and all made the most

The staff captain who had intro duced us suggested that we get a little exercise, explaining that the staff officers usually spent an hour in the evening playing badminton or some other game just to keep in condition. We vent out to a well constructed court similar to a tennis court and taped off in the same manner. For an hour we watched four officers but the feathered shuttlecock across the net with a display of skill and strategy that was worthy of men who used strategy in a greater and more deadly manner. We took a hand in the game for a time and then watched four others play off the staff championship

Meet Famous Strategist. When the game broke up and we reentered the headquarters building we were presented to a man whose name Inmous 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 books. We were fortunate in naving an opportunity of talking with him. for he, like the late General Funston. is keenly interested in newspaper work and it gave us a good start on the right plane. We explained to him our reasons for coming to headquarters and how the car that was to meet us had broken down.

"Well, I'm glad you're here, Doys, he said. "I'll just arrange to have a couple of places set for you at dinner. are things over in the U. S. A.?" We had been talking with him only 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 bluslow, steady voice and the orders for certain counter-measures were an equally unruffled mander. An hour later it was learned that the Germans British Airman Recovers From juries Received After 1,000. fire which our host had turned loose.

From time to time an officer would opear 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 moothly as the service at the dinner table to which we were shown.

When the meni was finished and we

were comfortably seated in the muln

pictures thrown on the screen of our imagination. The officer asleep in his room. A pervant calls him in the small hours. He dresses and walks slowly to

and said no one there knew there was a war in progress when he left. He

TEN ACRES FOR ONE FAMILY

Montana Woman Says It Is Sufficient,

and She Has Tried

It Also.

was accepted for the navy.

his office, where a number of telegraph and telephone operators sit at keys and switchboards. A cup of coffee is steaming at his deak, a broad, flat table, upon which is sprend a great de-tall map with flags marking the line of strack. He drinks the coffce, lights his pipe and turns to greet his brother

The hour of the attack is marked by a general giance at watches and then the phone rings. The men are over the 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. As re-

ports of trouble come from different points certain barrages are instructed to cut loose with everything they have. "cht-in" shows the men lying by

their guns, which are loaded trained upon certain points. The S. O. S. signal comes to the gunner nearest the string, who reaches out and gives it a yank while the other gunners jump into action. Before the first shell has reached its destination show is on in full swing. We see the men bombing the Germans out of dugouts; fighting hand to hand in the open ground with vicious thrusting of

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

"I don't believe there's a one of us that wouldn't have given a great deal to be right down there with our men. he said. "That's the worst of having a staff Job. One must take a distant view of things and stay out of the show, which isn't a pleasant task, especially for that young officer who just handed me this report. I'll venture to say that he'd yell with joy if he got orders to go back to his regiment to night."

Along ward midnight our disabled car came limping up to beadquarters for us and our farewells were said outside the door in the laky blackness of a rainy night. We shook hands there in the darkness with these men who had been our hosts. From the distance came the deep-throated growl of heavy guns.

"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 antil we finish the

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 party. senting 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 picketing 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 antil next year's crops are ripe. Miss Weed is a sopho more at Vassar this year.

DESCENDS IN BURNING PLANE

Feet Drop.

London.—After one of the most miraculous escapes of the war, Major Bannatyne, D. S. O., is today recovercenter hospital. While fiving alone at a height of more than 1,000 feet his engine caught fire. He hended the madames reached his feet. He climbed out of the seat and crawled along the officers a story of the thoughts and feelings of a man directing an offen him again. He sweet toward the tall frame and hung by his hands under

IGNORANT NATION IS AT WAR | small mountain town, for five years, | Miss Mattle Johnson, who has tried She has divided her ten acres as follows: Two acres for strawberries ind 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 nere for vegetable gardens; one half acre for yards for 100 or 200 chickens; one-hulf acre for home barns, and yards, Apple, plum and

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 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. When the war came there were so many other things to occupy the public mind that no one apparently has sought to disturb Admiral Benson's official seclusion.

Outside his door on the second floor of the navy department is a "positively ne admittance" sign. A distinguished visitor to Washington in-

quired the other day whose office it was and when informed blandly inquired Who is Benson?" Had he entered the office he would have found 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 exami copies of cablegrams. The unusual incident of a stranger coming una nounced would not have disturbed Admiral Benson in the least. He would probably have looked up from his work and courteously inquired what

. If the visitor explained that he had made a mistake and was in 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 ne sarily causes visitors.

And when the visitor expressed his thanks and ended with the prover "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 navai war program ashore or affont, and sepervising 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 affont. He is to the navy what the chief of staff is to the ar

MAY REVOLUTIONIZE MOTOR POWER



Scientific tests are still being made under authorization of congress of a wonderful device of Garabed T. Giragossian, an Armenian inventor and me chanic of Boston, which if all that in claimed for it proves true, will revolutionize the motor power of the world. The inventor calls his device

"free energy" generator and it is significant that congress deemed the mat-ter worthy of scientific tests. Just what the engine is, is not made known. It is claimed by the inventor that the 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 fents that seem most uncanny.
In speaking of his invention, Mr.

Giragossian 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 coadensed energy. The source of the energy is very great. It is portable and you can carry it from place

"My engine will produce power to turn something, that is all, It do 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 to probably the hardest job of a non-milltary 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 rendy for a fight with the world

Soon after his college work ended he became very much interested in the tton 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 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 embled to compile a textbook, which has been used as suthentic 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 affied with Germany.

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

Within a short time property worth millions of dollars will be in the cusodian's bands. President Wilson soon will authorize opening of branch bareans 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 cus trustee. An executive order fixes the salary of Mr. Palmer at \$5,000 a g and directs that he give a bond of \$100,000.

