

Mount Airy News.

J. E. JOHNSON, Editor and Publisher.

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THE LOCAL FOOD PROBLEM.

Since the war with Germany was declared the problem of food for this section has become a live one. All of us have known all along that, while this is a farming section, the supply of food is largely furnished us by other sections of the country. Corn, hay, flour, wheat, meat and many other articles of food are actually shipped here weekly by the solid car load. The reason for this is that the farmers give much of their time to the growing of tobacco, and the people in towns are employed in various forms of manufacturing. The result is that we are not a self feeding people, so far as producing here our food supplies.

Now that the prices of every form of food have advanced to unheard-of prices we are amazed at the problem of just what we are to do as a people. Of course the man who has plenty of money or can get it, is all right, but the great multitudes who are not ahead financially and have no credit and no property with which to secure credit, these are facing a different problem.

Now we would not alarm any one, but the time has come for us as a people to get down to cold facts about the situation we are facing. The Mills of this city will pay the farmer \$1.70 for corn. This means that the man who eats or feeds the corn must pay not less than \$1.80 per bushel for it. Farmers about in this section are holding their surplus corn for the price of \$2.00, so reports say. Other food products are going up in proportion.

Now at the present prices of labor how to feed a family is a live question. And it is one that cannot be put aside for some other day. It must be met now.

In passing it may not be out of the way to say that the citizen who takes advantage to his neighbor and gets a too high price for what he has and what his neighbor must have, can in this way make a name for himself that will cause his grandchildren to shun it. We recall stories of years ago, as far back as the civil war, when men about in this section made money at the expense of their neighbor and his misfortune. The man who speculates on the misfortunes of the people now will go down as one who is no friend of mankind.

And the man who has a heart in him large enough to see the other man's need and aid as he can, will live to know that he has the love and respect of all who live about him.

They are already telling of how some are asking too much for vacant lots and would collect more rent than the land will produce food. Naturally there will be some few people who will turn speculator in these times, but the general public should discourage this as much as possible. If there was ever a time when we should be brethren and stand together this is the time. Let no man think a selfish course in his dealing with others can bring anything but unhappiness, while it may bring some little or much property.

Here in this town the citizens are wide awake to the situation and at a meeting last Monday night of the Town Commissioners hundreds of people attended to consider what steps can be taken to bring about the production of the largest amount of food here on the city lots and gardens.

To encourage the work the Town will plow the ground the first time and thus get the work started well where the citizen is not able to get this work done. The Town will make no charge for its teams in doing this work. There are three large teams of mules here and a few days with them in the gardens will make a good showing and cause a greatly increased interest in the subject of food production.

It is admitted by everyone that the citizen who this year fails to produce his supplies at home is acting unwisely. We have been told that Banks are not disposed to extend credit to those who are not willing to do their part in the production of food supplies.

Of all the citizens in the country who see this need most the Banker is in the best position to know of the facts. Banks the country over are doing what they can to arouse interest in this subject and will go the limit in extending credit to the farmer who is going to produce food.

This war is making prominent the fact that certain kinds of food mean much more than other kinds. The potato seems to come in for first mention. Beans and corn are in fact all grades are of even greater importance.

The man now who will kill a calf

ought to be locked up in jail, for the country is certain to be short of meats of all kinds, and every animal should be properly cared for and be allowed to grow up and be useful to mankind. And there are a lot of old worthless horses in the country that the people should chloroform and end their worthless existence. These and many other problems are now facing us in a way to make a sensible man have sober thoughts, as to what his duty is in these times.

ONE MAN AWAKE.

Mr. Bud Brannock, assistant chief of the Fire Department of this city, is one man who is awake to the food problem the country is facing. He has already plowed up his front yard and planted it in potatoes as Lord Kitchener of England advised his people to do months ago. Before this war ends it is probable that many people will be impressed that Mr. Brannock acted wisely when he turned his yard into a garden.

Beans and Corn.

Mr. M. B. Phillips who lives four miles west of this city is wide awake on the subject of food production. He has a plant bed of about 140 square yards that will produce enough plants to set several acres in tobacco. But Mr. Phillips has decided that the proper thing to do is to sell this plant bed so some other farmer and plant his land in corn and beans. He is not willing to risk raising tobacco this good year and leave off the corn and beans. And so if any citizen in these parts needs these plants he can see Mr. Phillips who is anxious to get what he can for the bed.

That Poll Tax.

The first of May is not far off and every citizen who cares to participate in the elections of this year needs to get busy and pay the state and county poll tax at once. There is talk of a bond election here this year for the benefit of schools and only those who pay this tax will be allowed to vote in this or any other election.

Bees and Ten Cent Sugar.

Fred Johnson is now busy with the 500 colonies of bees that are run in connection to some extent with the publishing of this newspaper. He is going over the yards with a view to assisting the little rascals every way he can in their effort to get strong and in condition to gather a crop of honey if it is in the flowers this year. He finds that most of the colonies are in bad shape as to honey and is making this up by resorting to the sugar barrel and sugar at nine cents wholesale. The keeping of bees in these modern days means that in the fall, before the winter months, they must be fed, and it also means that in the spring when they begin to build up fast they must be fed again. We are now giving each colony a half gallon of sugar syrup made by mixing water and granulated sugar in equal parts. And it takes some sugar to thus feed 500 colonies. These facts are given for the benefit of farmers who may have bees and who are possibly neglecting them at this season of the year. A little feed now may mean that the colony will be strong enough to gather honey in a way to be profitable, when if let alone it would barely get strong enough to make a living and no surplus.

Death of Mr. Harris.

Mr. Robert S. Harris died of paralysis Saturday at the home of his son-in-law Mr. George Hutchison on south Main street, aged nearly seventy-five years. Mr. Harris was a miller by trade but was made almost helpless by a stroke of paralysis about five years ago. He was veteran of the Civil war, was a good citizen, a devoted husband and father and a consistent member of the M. E. church.

His life companion was called to her reward just about nine days before he responded to the last roll call. Both had been in poor health for several years. The funeral was conducted from the home Sunday afternoon by Rev. Bales and interment made at Oakdale cemetery.

He is survived by one son Mr. Jason Harris, and three daughters Mrs. George Hutchison, and Misses Helen and Alma Harris.

New York Raises First Regiment for The Army

Washington, April 16.—New York has won the honor of first raising a regiment for the regular army after the United States went to war. The organization will be designated the first reserve engineers, and will be officered almost entirely by men taken from the engineer officer's reserve corps. Its 1,200 members got their training in police construction work in New York.

Unselfish.

"He is always thinking of others, isn't he?"
 "Yes—planning how he can get them to do something for him."

HOW GERMANY WILL SETTLE.

The leaders in Germany are already planning far ahead as to how they will rebuild their lost property. And they are planning to get plenty from their enemies for all losses. Read the following and see the way they have it all fixed.

The Deutsche Tageszeitung recently published a memorandum concerning the future peace in which it is argued that the war indemnity claimed by Germany must be paid partly in kind.

The document compares Germany to a sold-out store. Everything, it says, is lacking, and the fact constitutes a serious danger because it means that the State would not be capable of conducting another war until it had recovered its strength. And yet, it reads, the next war is perhaps already at the door. Who can say that a sudden calm will follow upon a conclusion of peace? We hope it will be so, but cannot tell. Hence, the document continues, the victors in the great struggle, that is the Central Powers, must demand that a part of the war indemnity be paid in raw materials, and that immediately, and before others are served. The victor must come first. Thus England must deliver tin and wool; those of her colonies such as Canada copper, nickel and preserved meat; her other colonies jute, leather, fats and oils, raw rubber, rice and so on; South Africa gold; and Egypt, supposing it remains under British rule, cotton. France, meanwhile, must provide olive oil, silks, phosphates and cork from Algiers, and other colonial products; Italy vegetables, sulphur, hemp and oil; Russia wheat, barley, flax, oil-cake, leather, eggs platinum and bismuth.

This process, write the authors of the memorandum, must be continued until the whole of the war indemnity is paid, unless it is paid in cash meanwhile. It would be a crime committed against ourselves and our German descendants, they observe, if we failed out of false generosity, or feeble hesitation, to determine to reach out for the price of victory.

First Baptist Church News.

Reported for The News.
 Pastor T. H. King preached a strong sermon last Sunday morning on "The Call to the Colors," in which he strongly emphasized our duty to stand by the colors, both in a national and in a religious sense.

Dr. R. T. Vann of Raleigh is expected to occupy the pulpit next Sunday, the 22, at both morning and evening services. In addition to being one of the most eloquent men in the state, Dr. Vann is unique, in that though he lost both arms in his youth, yet he can do most things that other folks use arms for, such as writing, turning the pages of books, shooting etc. All who possibly can should hear him.

On May 6th comes Dr. B. W. Spilman, the "Apostle of Sunshine," "The man without a frown," who is a world wide Sunday School worker.

The Church is looking forward with great pleasure to the coming on June the 11th of Dr. W. W. Hamilton and singer, E. L. Wolslagel, neither of whom need any introduction to the people of Mt. Airy.

Our meeting starts at that date and it is hoped that all who can possibly do so, those of all churches, and those belonging to no church, will attend as regularly as they can.

WILL URGE LIVING PAY FOR ENLISTED SOLDIER.

Washington, April 16.—Congressman Robinson announced today that he proposes to make a fight for a living salary for the enlisted men in the army. He took the position that these men cannot live on the average salary of \$15 per month and even make a pretense at supporting their dependents. Mr. Robinson proposes to introduce a bill reducing the commissioned officers' salary something like 15 per cent and increasing the pay of the enlisted men to \$40 per month.

The lowest salary paid a commissioned officer in the army—second lieutenant—is \$1,700 a year. The allowances for heat, light, and horse, feed, amounts to a great deal for the officer who gets the pay of a captain. In these times when the very heart of the nation is being taxed to the last penny in order to pay the war expense and when the President of the United States is urging the people to economize, Mr. Robinson thinks it would not be a bad idea to let charity begin at home and help the enlisted men and at the same time leave a plenty for the commissioned officer.

That Robinson's plan will meet with popular favor among many members of the house goes without saying. He may not get his amendment through at this time, but he will have started a movement that will some day bear fruit and one that will appeal to the average man who must go to war on a salary so small that it would not enable his family to buy milk for a pair of babies, should he live anywhere around the national capital.

Most Powerful CHEVROLET Most Economical
EASE AT THE WHEEL

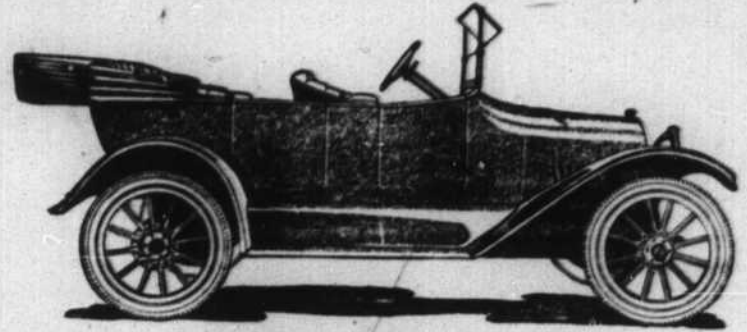
In the journey of life there are many short turns, and unless you have self-control you're likely to get into trouble. And as it is in life so it is in an automobile. You must have your controls simple, and colse at hand.

Place yourself at the wheel of the Chevrolet. You will see at once that to shift your gears you don't have to shift your position. You will find ignition and lighting convenient neighbors and the emergency brake ready for instant use.

This hand brake enables you to control your car, comfortably and expeditiously, without lifting your foot from the accelerator. It is an ever-ready every-day brake, emergency or no emergency.

The Chevrolet is as easy to manage as a kodak is to snap. It starts without a jump and it stops without a jar. It responds to the wheel's slightest hint, and, regardless of speed, holds snug to the road.

This spells economy in maintenance and efficiency in operation. And it gives to the hand at the wheel that assured sense of perfect control which makes driving not a strain but a relaxation; not a task but a pleasure.



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From Mountain Park.

By Rev. D. S. Hubbell.

The newest news of Mountain Park for this week are the visit of the D. W. Y. P. Club of Dobson and the coming of Rev. C. H. Utly. Mr. Utley is not a stranger in Surry, having served as pastor of Elkin Baptist Church several years ago. He is up to take a look at our School plant with a view to teaching the two months Normal term here and probably he will be Principal of the school next year, we are hoping so. He is an experienced teacher and stands in high favor as such.

The Normal begins the first of May and runs for two months instead of three as formerly.

As to the Dobson Troupe of players just a few remarks: In the first place we regret we could not give them a larger audience. The weather was cold—our farmer folks have not been thoroughly broken into attendance of dramatic performances, but we are coming along. As to the play and its rendering we can have no words except words of pleasure and praise. "Dot: The Miner's Daughter" was perfectly and pleasingly impersonated by Miss Reece and all the actors did passingly well. They ought to take the play to other towns before they get out of practice. Yes, it was a piece of art and well done; but we heard and looked on with a tincture of jealousy and of admiring despair.

Our School commencement will be on the 26-27 of April. We cordially invite all to attend.

April 26, 8 p. m., A Musical.

April 27, 10 o'clock a. m. Graduating exercises. Eleven o'clock a. m. Com-

Workmen's B. & L. Association

Is now offering for sale its 15th series of stock, the first payment to be made Saturday, May 5th, 1917.

Applications for stock may be filed during April and May.

25c weekly for each \$100.00 share.

\$39,800.00 stock has been matured and paid in cash.

ment address, Dr. A. E. Brown. Three o'clock p. m. Meeting of Board of Trustees. Eight o'clock p. m. Play: Brac; The Poor House Girl.

Soldiers Guarding Tunnels.

A company of the Second regiment North Carolina troops, were in a special car attached to No. 21 Tuesday afternoon. They were assigned to duty guarding the tunnels on the mountain section of the Southern between Old Fort and Black Mountain. A car-load of soldiers came in on the Charlotte train Tuesday morning and were sent west on No. 11.

Companies of the Second regiment and other companies of State troops are now doing police duty in various sections of the State. On all the main lines of the railroads important bridges, etc., are being guarded. German sympathizers—or folks who are just mean and would take advantage of the war excitement to do something, might wreck these bridges, and it is especially important that all important lines of railroad be kept open for traffic in war times.—Statesville Landmark.

Some Good Advice.

"Don't think too much of your own methods. Watch other people's ways and learn from them." This is good advice, especially when bilious or constipated. You will find many people who use Chamberlain's Tablets for these ailments with the best results, and will do well to follow their example.

Tax Notice.

All persons owing taxes will please take notice that I am forced to advertise and levy if not paid. The law has been amended so that the sheriff is required to levy after November the 1st. I have indulged the collection of Taxes since last November. I cannot hold the matter up longer. Take due notice that unless your taxes are paid that I will proceed to advertise. This is positively my last notice. This the 27th day of March 1917.

T. W. Davis, Ex-sheriff.

"IN TIME OF LIFE PREPARE"

To-day you are thinking Preparedness. Is your life valuable? Would some one suffer a loss if you were called away on a long, long journey—or to war? Are you sufficiently insured to protect your credit, conserve your estate, and provide for those you love most?

Do you need insurance? Have you a boy or a brother who should be insured to-day? See or write us without delay.

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GRADY FULTON, Special Agent,

MOUNT AIRY, N. C.