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THE DAY AND ITS DUTIES.

An Appeal by The Governor.

Chapel Hill, N. C. May 26.—North Carolinians, the Fifth day of June draws nigh. It behooves us to put our house in order and be ready for its coming. All peoples in all climes have their eyes fixed on that day—the day whereon a mighty nation is to register its consecration to selfless service in the cause of universal justice and abiding peace. The day is destined to loom large in history, and will be forever linked with a world-wide acceptance of the rights of man first declared at Philadelphia and made secure at Yorktown.

Happily in North Carolina there is no longer division or debate. With a faith that casts out fear we go forth to register a stern challenge to the blood red prestige of a band of hereditary autocrats who have made unto themselves and unto their people an Iron Image and called it God.

But the registration in a single day of all the men in the State between the ages of twenty-one and thirty calls for persistent and systematic work. I therefore urge,

That all ministers of the gospel of every race and creed call attention to every service conducted by them between now and the Fifth of June to the following duties, of citizenship and commands of the law,

1. That the registration books will be open at 7 A. M. on Tuesday, the 5th day of June and close at 9 P. M.

2. That it is important to register early in the day in order to avoid congestion in the closing hours.

3. That the law applies to white and black alike. Ministers and teachers of the colored race are requested to emphasize the fact that all colored men between the prescribed ages are required to register in precisely the same manner as the whites.

4. That no physical disability will excuse a man for failing to register. If he is between twenty-one and thirty-one years of age he must register in person or send his card no matter what his physical condition may be. The question of exempting him from service on account of physical unfitness will be determined at a later day. It in no way affects the obligation imposed upon him to register.

5. That if a party willfully fails to register he will forthwith be arrested. Our people must be given to understand that they have no discretion in this matter. If their names do not appear on the registration cards when they are canvassed, a warrant will be sworn out against them at once. I sincerely trust that not a man in North Carolina will be arrested for failing to do his duty.

6. That of the men who register on the 5th day of June probably not more than one out of twelve will be drawn for service in the first call. But if a man shows any disposition to avoid or evade his responsibility he will in all probability be the first man who will be sent to the training camps. In every conceivable aspect it will pay the citizen to cheerfully comply with the law.

I urge every newspaper in the State to call attention to the six matters above mentioned in every issue of the paper from now until registration day.

I urge all traveling men, rural mail carriers, physicians who practice in the country, all merchants and bankers and employers of men, and all landlords to call the attention of their customers, employees, and tenants to the requirements of the law.

I urge every man who knows about registration duty to see to it that every man in the State take pleasure and pride in seeing to it that no man in that precinct shall be arrested for failure to do his duty.

I suggest that on Sunday afternoon, June 3rd, or on the night of June 4th, there be held in every town and city in the State a patriotic rally. Let there be music and flags, and a great outpouring of the people and then let some one briefly and clearly state the requirements of the law.

I do not ask that June 5th be made a holiday. That question may be safely left to the judgment of each community and to those in charge of the industries of the State. If a field needs cultivation, if machinery needs to be kept running in order to meet the exigencies of the times, work ought not to be suspended in order to make a holiday. But I earnestly trust that throughout the State the day may be made one of consecration and prayer. I do urge that every man who can spare time will turn out on registration day and assist in every possible way in securing a complete registration in every precinct.

Let the women and children, together with the older members of the family, go to the place of registration with the boy who is to record his name as a champion of justice to all men and of peace for all time.

T. W. Bickett,
Governor.

50 PEOPLE KILLED BY TORNADO.

Entire Business Section of Illinois Town Wiped Out.

Chicago, May 26.—Spring tornadoes, making their appearance earlier than usual in the central west, caused the deaths of more than 100 persons today and yesterday, the injury of several more and property damage which cannot be estimated because of serious loss in growing food crops.

Mattoon, Ill., was the heaviest sufferer in the storms, from 50 to 70 persons being killed there late today. This was more than twice as many killed in Kansas on Friday when the village of Andale virtually was wiped out and heavy toll taken in the surrounding country, the dead being estimated at from 24 to 30 people.

The storm today wrecked the northern half of Mattoon, including nearly all the business section and rendered 2,000 persons homeless.

While the principal force of the storm struck Mattoon, other sections of Illinois were visited by vagrant tornadoes which left death and destruction as they twisted through a rich farming territory. Casualties were reported as follows: Westervelt, five dead, 21 injured, three of whom will die; Manhattan, 1 dead, 6 injured; Joliet, 2 injured; Elwood 4 injured; Modesto, one dead, nine fatally hurt; Pearl, one fatally injured, four hurt; Charleston, many reported injured, but definite information lacking until wire communication is restored.

Early reports of property losses indicated that serious damage had been done to many towns. Substantial factories were blown to splinters in Mattoon. Joliet estimated a half million dollars' damage in Will county alone.

Hail followed the wind in many places, beating growing crops to the ground.

Nine of Twelve Training

Camp Sites are Selected.

Charleston, S. C., May 29.—Nine of the 12 sites for training in the southeastern department have been recommended to the war department, according to a statement given out at the headquarters of Maj-Gen. Wood here today. They are Spartanburg, Greenville, and Columbia, S. C.; Augusta, Macon, and Atlanta, Ga.; and Anniston, Ala. Two divisions will be trained both at Macon and Atlanta. Sites for the other three camps have not been recommended.

LONGEST AND TRESSIER ENTERED BANKRUPTCY.

Advancing Price of Materials Makes it Impossible for Them To Pay Their Obligations.

Longest and Tessier, of Greensboro, one of the largest construction concerns in North Carolina, yesterday entered the court of the United States here with a voluntary petition for a decree of bankruptcy. Judge James E. Boyd adjudged the company bankrupt and appointed J. M. Millikan, who has just resigned his office of clerk of the court, as receiver. The petition was filed for the company by C. L. Shuping, a local attorney. The assets were given as approximately \$210,000 and the liabilities as \$219,000.

The president of the company is J. N. Longest; E. M. Tessier is secretary-treasurer and E. D. Tessier is the vice-president. These three own the stock of the closed corporation.

Longest and Tessier have been building throughout the South Atlantic states and to a degree elsewhere for a number of years, their contracts being among the larger ones of the section. Last night President Longest was asked what was the trouble which had caused the action of yesterday. He said that the advancing prices of material had made bankruptcy the only course out. Pressed on all sides for payment of material bills and with many of the dealers demanding cash the company found it was impossible to go ahead with its building.

Mr. Longest believes it possible that under the receivership the assets can be made to virtually cover the liabilities of the company.

At the present time the company has in process of construction a number of important public and business buildings. Among the larger contracts on hand are the following:

The high school of Asheville, which is to cost \$175,000 according to the contract.

The courthouse of Surry County, located at Dobson, contracted for \$100,000.

A bank building at Covington, Va., which was taken at \$40,000.

A church at Huntington, W. Va., which was contracted for at \$92,000.

A school at Industrial, W. Va., which was to cost \$50,000.

Tobacco Prices Sure to Go Up; Due to Tax.

Washington, May 27.—Cigars, cigarettes and tobacco are going up in price with in the next ten days.

According to E. H. Graves, local manager for the United Cigar stores, it is all due to the war tax.

"Cigars probably will jump about 10 per cent," said the manager. "Tobacco will jump too. I can't say just how much, but it is more than probable that the sizes of packages will be cut."

"Cigarettes will come eight in a pack instead of ten, and in packages which now containing twenty smokes five will be missing."

"We strongly advise advance purchases of all tobacco before the raise comes."

According to advices received today, the boost in tobacco prices will prevail throughout the country. In New York it already has been announced.

The P. Lorillard Tobacco company yesterday raised the price about 10 per cent on all their products. The American Tobacco company increased prices from 5 to 10 per cent on two of its more popular brands.

Petrograd, via London, May 26.—During the last few days German aircraft have dropped bombs on towns situated in the Danube region, inflicting many casualties.

A raid on the town of Ithmail, Bessarabia, was particularly destructive, a large number of women and children being killed and wounded.

MARRIED MEN ARE TO BE EXEMPT FROM THE FIRST CALL FOR ARMY.

No Specified Industries or Occupations are Exempt.

Washington, May 27.—Married men will be exempt from conscription for the raising of the first national army of 500,000 men, according to a reported preliminary plan of the war department. No specified industries or occupations will be exempt.

These are the two principal decisions reached so far by the officials who conferred on the plan. All that remains now is for the President to ratify them.

The exemption of men with dependents and those needed in the industries of the country has proved the most difficult problem to work out in a way to secure anything like justice in operation. The difficulty of determining whether or not a married man has actually needed to support his family at home was the consideration that finally determined the officials to exempt all married men. As to men with other dependent relatives, such as an aged mother or father, the decision will be left to the local county or city board, subject to appeal to the higher board in each federal judicial district. Appeal from the district board may, in turn, be made to the President of the United States.

The question of industrial exemptions is even more difficult. For example, it is agreed among the officials that the mere fact that a man is a farmer, munitions maker, or even a railroad engineer does not necessarily imply that he would be of much more use at home than in the army.

It may be possible to spare many men from the farms and the factories making war goods, and there will be need for a considerable number of locomotive engineers—possibly for all such engineers in the country under 31 years of age—with an army in France.

After consideration of the question from every angle it was decided that there is no industrial class that can be exempted, as such.

It was determined that there is no way to make general industrial exemptions but to take up each individual man and group of workmen in a specific industry or a specific agricultural community and decide that case separately.

In the case of a man with dependents, he himself may ask exemption. He can appeal from the decision of the local board, if it fails to exempt him. It is not necessary for him, however, to ask personally to be left at home. A person dependent upon him or any other person may ask for his exemption. On this point the rules will be most liberal, for the reason that many men who should remain at home will hesitate to ask exemption for themselves and many dependents may be too proud to ask that their provider be excused from service.

In all matters of exemption the widest discretion will be left to the local boards.

Many Americans are Still Held Prisoner in Germany.

Geneva via Paris May 26.—The Associated Press is informed that the Geneva Red Cross has received thus far the names of 97 American prisoners in Germany. The list has been forwarded to Washington. The majority of the American prisoners are sailors from captured ships taken before the declaration of war, and therefore, it is claimed, should, according to international law, be released.

Nevertheless, Germany is retaining them as hostages. The American prisoners are interned in two camps and are treated under the same severe regime as are British prisoners. The Americans are suffering from hunger and from lack of necessities. It is claimed they are treated badly.

CHEERS FOR AMERICANS AS THEY GO TO BATTLE.

Several American Colleges Represented in Contingent Now Fighting in France.

From a Staff Correspondent of the Associated Press in France, May 24.—The first American combatant corps went to the front today under Capt. E. I. Tinkhaf and Lieutenant Schully, of Princeton. Captain Tinkhaf won the war cross at Verdun.

It was a proud moment when the first detachment of the American field service, consisting mainly of Cornell under-graduates, departed for the Aisne battlefield. They were armed with carbines, attired in khaki uniforms and drove American five-ton motor cars. As they left the Stars and Stripes floating over the cantonment in an historic French forest, spread out in the breeze and other contingents cheered them on their way. Clarence Mackay presented the camp with the American flag which now flies beside the tri-color.

The correspondent of the Associated Press watched other American sections drilling in preparation for active participation in the fighting. Among them were detachments from Andover, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Yale, Chicago and Williams colleges, while a large body from Princeton was awaiting organization. Lieutenant Daly, captain of the Yale football team of 1910, and Lieut. Wm. Taylor, of New York, were busy putting one section into shape while Lieutenant Kennedy supervised another.

French officers and Lieut. J. W. Osheimer, of Philadelphia, who won his rank in the French army in which he enlisted at the outbreak of the war, have been appointed instructors of the Americans at the central training school. Some sections are drilled according to the French method and others according to the American. All officers attached to the corps express the utmost satisfaction with the men who display readiness to perform any task. They are all strong young men, many of them civil engineers.

Most of them intended to serve with the American ambulance but selected the fighting corps after the United States decided to enter the war. They have already been undergoing some of the hardships of campaigning, sleeping in tents in the forest encampment, but they know that this war is no parade and entails the hardest and most trying work day and night with many privations.

The military fashion of taking meals in France has been somewhat changed to meet the requirements of the Americans. Breakfast, which is scanty for the Frenchman, has been augmented and the hours of other repasts have been modified.

A French officer of high grade told the Associated Press correspondent that the arrival of the Americans was greatly appreciated and that he was confident that they would render an immense service to the allies.

Hoover Defines His Stand On The Use of Foodstuffs.

Washington, May 26.—Herbert C. Hoover, chosen by President Wilson to become food administrator when the pending legislation is perfected, today defined his attitude on the prohibition of use of foodstuffs in brewing and distilling. Mr. Hoover said it always must be born in mind that the proposed food administration is purely a war measure designed and intended for no other purpose except the mobilization of the country's food resources to the most efficient contribution to success in war and that the food administration would hold its eyes straight on its true objective and take no interest in ethical questions involved in temperance or non-temperance, or any other question.

SUBMARINE WARFARE SHOWS IMPROVEMENT.

British Premier Pays Tribute to American Navy for Assistance in Fighting U-boats.

London, May 25.—Premier Lloyd George, on announcing in the house of commons today that more effective blows had been dealt against submarines in the last three weeks than during any corresponding period of the war, paid a tribute to the assistance rendered by the American navy, saying:

"We owe a very considerable debt of gratitude to the great American people for the effective assistance they have rendered and the craft they have placed at our disposal. Now that the American nation is in the war it is easier to make arrangements for the protection of our mercantile marine than it was before."

The premier's statement on submarine warfare was altogether the most satisfactory heard in England in many months. "It is much more difficult," he said, "for me to give a public answer on this than on any other topic. It is very difficult for me to give information without to a certain extent revealing things which we had better keep to ourselves. All I can say is that we are making substantial progress."

"During the last three weeks or month we have dealt more effectively with submarines than during any corresponding period of the war. This is true of this week as well as of the preceding weeks. There is no doubt considerable reduction of our shipping losses."

"It is true we are not through the month of May, but if the ratio of losses during the last 25 days is not exceeded then the reduction upon April will be very considerable. Indeed, there does not seem to be any reason to anticipate any worse figures in the coming week. The arrangements the effect will be made manifest in a made for dealing with submarines have been increasingly efficient."

The premier then made his reference to American assistance which was loudly cheered.

Turning to the food supply the premier said:

"There is a distinct improvement in our food prospects as a result of the improvement in the submarine situation. It is very difficult, however, to give a favorable answer which would not be mischievous. If I were to say there is no danger of starvation of the people I would be saying 'what's the good of cutting up our grass land, and what's the good of rationing?'"

"If the nation economizes and is not guilty of waste; if those who have got lands favorable for the production of food make the best use of them; if the workmen turn out tractors to enable us to plough; if the army helps with the men available—if, in fact, we all behave like reasonable human beings who want to save their country from disaster, privation and distress, the submarine menace is not one that need cause us any fear that the war is going to be lost for that reason."

Catawba Farmers to Plow Up Cotton and Plant Corn.

Newton, May 29.—Reports are multiplying of farmers who will wait no longer for their cotton to sprout or make a showing, but will plow it up and plant corn in the abundant rich fertilizer which they used for the cotton. The weather has been so unfavorable to cotton that even where it has sprouted, it makes no promise of a satisfactory crop. The result will be that the corn and pea and bean yield of the county will be greatly increased. A number of farmers are studying beans with novel interest, and hope to recoup themselves for possible cotton losses by producing hard beans for winter sale.