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# The Mount Airy News.

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## TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS:

There is no line of enterprise that has not been put on a new basis by the war. The news paper is by no means an exception. Today the cost of getting a newspaper into the homes of the people is greatly increased from what it was even a year ago. The price of the white paper on which The News is printed is more than double what it was before the war started.

In the light of these facts publishers have had to make changes to meet the demand. Many publishers have increased the price of their subscription. Most publishers have advanced the rates for advertising.

In our case we have not put up rates, but we are trying to stop the waste in every way, especially in the way of accounts. We are not sending The News to new subscribers, only in exceptional cases, on a credit. We are not able to see our way to continue the paper any great length of time to any subscriber on credit, for it is well known that the loss on small accounts is large. This is true of every business as well as it is of the news paper business. And so those of our subscribers who have been getting the paper all the year are expected to pay up and not ask us to wait until every other debt is paid.

We are adding to our list a large number of new subscribers each week, and that without soliciting, too. It should not be forgotten that at the present price of The News, there is but a small margin of profit in publishing a paper, and the only way it can be done is for subscribers to pay up and not cause the publisher to lose on subscription accounts.

In almost every mail we get letters asking that The News be started, and the promise is made that the party will pay sometime when it is convenient. This kind of business would go in the years past, but no publisher can now keep to such business methods. And so we expect the pay along with new subscribers.

It is the desire of the publishers of The News to keep the business on a basis that the paper will continue, as it has for years, to give the facts about Surry County and the world in general, in a way to appeal to intelligent people, and to do this we must keep a close watch on the financial end of the business, especially during these strange times. If our subscribers will pay us promptly we will not have to increase the price of our subscription, and we will not have to adopt the inconvenient system of a strict pay in advance rate. The label on each paper sent out shows the standing of the account. And we desire that each subscriber look at the label and if the paper is in arrears send or bring a payment, and not wait until we have to go to the expense of sending a statement. Once we drop a name from the list we expect pay in advance.

## Plans Perfected For Big Troop Movement.

New York, Aug. 19.—Plans for the most important troop movement ever attempted in this country, involving transportation of 680,000 men are being perfected by the American Railway association at the request of the federal government, according to an announcement made here tonight by Fairfax Harrison, chairman of the railroads war board.

"The movement of troops from the various states to the army cantonments will start September 5," said Mr. Harrison, "and between that date and September 9, the railroads will complete the entrainment of 200,000 men, approximately 30 per cent of the total number to be moved.

"It is expected that a second movement of 200,000 men will begin September 18, continuing for four days, and a third movement of the same size on October 3.

"Some conception of the task which confronts the association may be gleaned from the fact that 6,229 cars, made up in 366 trains, with as many locomotives and train crews, are required to move one field army of 80,000.

"The railroads have also been asked to supply transportation for 350,000 soldiers of the national guard to their training camps. This has already been started and will continue in increasing volume until all have been moved.

## Urge Advertising of

### Second Liberty Loan.

Washington, Aug. 16.—The national advertising advisory board of the Associated Advertising clubs of the World, today sent a delegation to Washington, headed by Herbert S. Houston, of New York, to urge Secretary McAdoo to spend from \$1,000,000 to 2,000,000 in advertising the next issue of liberty loan bonds.

A detailed plan, originally outlined before the issuance of the first liberty loan bonds, was presented to Secretary McAdoo, calling for a division of the advertising among daily, weekly and monthly newspapers, in addition to the utilization of magazines, printed posters, circulars, billboards and other agencies. A program involving an expenditure of approximately \$1,250,000 was outlined.

No decision was reached.

## ALL LIQUOR DISTILLATION STOP SEPTEMBER 8

Limitation is set by Section 15 of the Food Control Law, Approved on August 10.

Washington, Aug. 16.—All processes in the production of distilled spirits for beverage purposes, according to a ruling issued by the United States food administration today, must cease at 11 o'clock p. m. on Saturday, September 8.

This limitation is placed by section 15 of the food control law which reads:

"That from and after 30 days from the date of the approval of this act no food fruits food materials or feeds shall be used in the production of distilled spirits for beverage purposes."

The act was approved August 10. The 30-day period named will expire at midnight September 9. As this date falls on Sunday, and as the internal revenue laws prevent the operation of distilleries after 11 o'clock at night on Saturday until the following Monday at 1 a. m., it was ruled by the food administration that the provisions of section 15 will become effective at 11 p. m. Saturday, September 8.

The law contemplates that all steps in the process of distillation shall cease at the point of time indicated in the ruling, it was said by the food administration. So far as the utilization of foods, fruits, and food materials for feeds for the production of distilled spirits for beverage purposes is concerned the act has been construed to inhibit the initiation of any step, unless the entire process may be fully completed prior to 11 p. m. of September 8, 1917.

## Prepare for Financing

### Second Liberty Loan.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Another issue of treasury certificates of indebtedness, totalling \$250,000,000 and payable November 30, was launched today in furtherance of the preparations for financing the second liberty loan. A \$300,000,000 issue of certificates for that purpose recently was offered and largely oversubscribed.

Subscriptions are to close at noon next Saturday, August 25, and the certificates will bear interest at 3 1/2 per cent.

## ANY FAILURE TO REPORT CLASSED AS DESERTION

Renewed Instruction to this Effect Sent to United States Attorneys.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Renewed instructions that drafted men who fail to report for service will be classed and punished as deserters were sent to United States district attorneys and agents of the department of justice tonight by Attorney General Gregory.

Provost Marshal General Crowder has ruled that persons who neglect to appear for examination will be accepted automatically and that the privilege of claiming exemption then will be denied. It was to help carry this policy into effect that the attorney general acted. His instructions follow:

"It has been determined by the provost marshal general that persons who failed to appear for their physical examination after having received their notices to do so from the local boards, by such failure waived their right to physical examination and are accepted by the board without any such examination. Their names will be certified to the district boards as chosen by the local boards for the national army.

"If they do not then appear to claim exemptions, they will waive thereby the right to such exemptions as they might have claimed and their names will be certified by the district boards to the adjutant general of their respective states as persons for the national army. The adjutant general will then mail them a notice to report for duty at a specified time and place, and such notices will be given publicly according to the regulations of the conscription act.

"Such persons then become subject to the military authorities at the time designated by the adjutant general for them to report. Should they fail to comply with this notice, they become deserters from the army, and will be treated as such by the military authorities.

"It is therefore a matter of vital concern not so much to the government as to the persons themselves to see that they give the correct address for their notices to be mailed to them. Should they fail to comply with these notices after receiving them, they become automatically drafted without regard to physical examination or to exemption or discharge.

"When persons are known to be willfully refusing to comply with the requests of the local boards and are so conducting themselves as to be a menace to the proper enforcement of the conscription act, and their whereabouts are known, they should be detained in jail on complaints charging violations of Section 6 of the conscription act until the time when they are ordered by the adjutant general to report for duty in the national army. They should, at that date, be turned over to the military authorities. No prosecution need be had, as it would be unnecessarily expensive and little is to be gained therefrom."

## Man and Bride Struck and killed by Train.

Gastonia, Aug. 19.—Horace Smith and his bride of a week were struck and killed by an eastbound Southern train at the Lory grade crossing in West Gastonia about 11 o'clock last night. Smith was killed instantly, his body being badly mangled. His wife was taken to a local hospital where she died a few hours later. The couple lived at Rutherfordton where they were married a week ago. They were visiting relatives here. The bodies were shipped to Rutherfordton today.

## Record Corn Yields.

Tulsa, Okla.—Northeastern Oklahoma and a large section of western Arkansas will harvest the greatest crop of corn in history of the two states. Hundreds of fields will yield 50 to 75 bushels per acre.

## COULD NOT STARVE THE BRITISH, PREMIER SAYS.

Lloyd George Says Britain's Stock of Wheat Has Increased Greatly.

London, Aug. 16.—A message of hope and quiet confidence in the future was given to the British nation today in the house of commons by Premier Lloyd George. The people of the British Isles cannot be starved, notwithstanding the German submarine campaign, and the military situation grows more hopeful. The difficulties of the allies will grow less and their power increase, while the trouble of Germany will increase and her power fall away.

"This is the supreme hour for patience," the premier declared in conclusion, "for courage, for endurance, for hope, for unity. Let us go through this hour with a temper that will enable us to destroy a great military despotism. Let us go through this hour with the old temper of our race so that next year we shall begin, and the world shall begin, to reap the fruits of our valor."

The stock of wheat in Great Britain has increased by one-third within a year and this year's harvest promises well, but economy still is necessary.

German claims as to British shipping losses, the premier said, were exaggerated in the hope of cheering up the people of the central powers. Although the submarine losses in April had been 560,000 tons, they had decreased until the average for July and August would be 175,000 tons net each. Ship building had been speeded up, vessels had been purchased abroad and the total tonnage acquired in 1917 would reach nearly 2,000,000 tons. The premier said he believed the losses would grow smaller and that the admiralty had met with success in combatting the submarine menace, while measures taken by the shipping controller had permitted vessels to carry increased tonnage.

"I do not think," the premier said "the time has come for a useful review of the military situation. The main facts are well known to the house and the country. I had anticipated this year a great converging moment against our foes. Russia was equipped for that part as she never before had been equipped. I venture to say that the nippers were beginning to grip, but to be quite frank, one claw of the nippers is out of repair for the moment and therefore, we have not got the same converging pressure we had anticipated.

"It is difficult even to dwell on the difference which the temporary collapse of the Russian military power has made in the task with which our soldiers are confronted."

Mr. Lloyd George said that British divisions which have been fighting and temporarily are exhausted pass behind the lines until they are reformed, but the German divisions in the same condition go to Russia and hold a front which does not impose severe military obligation, while fresh divisions from Russia come to the western front. That increases the number of Germans on the western front.

"The best Germany can do now," Mr. Lloyd George continued, "when what practically was her most powerful opponent at the beginning of the war is paralyzed by the internal difficulties, is to hold her own against the attacks of the British and French. And she isn't quite doing that. On the contrary in this year she has been beaten in several great battles with severe losses and with hundreds of her guns captured, which is not a bad test of winning or losing a battle.

"Russia recovered and America really in, with those fine troops of which we saw a specimen yesterday and which were a symbol of America coming into this world struggle with virile swing—those are the things the Germans and their allies have to think about."

## REORGANIZATION OF ALL PARTS OF ARMY.

Will Conform with European Standards

Washington, Aug. 16.—Complete reorganization of all branches of American army to conform with the European standards, as recommended by Major General Pershing, is provided for in army orders revealing that the recently announced divisional reorganization plan is to be carried down into the regiments and companies.

The administrative unit of the infantry arm hereafter will be a company with 250 enlisted men and six commissioned officers, in place of something over 100 men and three officers. The company will be divided into four platoons, each in command of a lieutenant. There will be two captains as first and second in command, one first lieutenant and three second lieutenants. Reports of the review of American troops in France yesterday showed that this plan already has been carried out in General Pershing's forces.

The object of assigning two captains to each company, it is understood, is to provide against disorganization of the unit through the loss of its commander. The second captain under the European system, does not go into battle line with the company if his senior is present. He is held as a reserve to reorganize the company if necessary.

Under the new plan, each regiment will have three battalions of four companies, making a total of 3,000 men. Supplemented by the regimental headquarters, supply and machine gun organizations, the strength of the new regiments will be brought up to approximately 3,600 men as against little more than 2,000 in existing war strength regiments.

The unit organization of the field artillery and other arms of the service has not been changed. As a result of reducing the number of regiments in a division, the division, instead of 28,000 men, will total hereafter about 19,000 men, 15,000 of them infantry.

The advantages of the system, in addition to the better adaptation of the divisional unit to trench warfare lies, chiefly, in the reduction in overhead expense. One colonel and his regimental staff, including his three battalion commanders, will now handle 3,600 men instead of a little more than 2,000.

Today's orders show that provision has been made for organization of 32 new infantry divisions in addition to the regular divisions, out of troops already called to the colors, including the first increment of 687,000 drafted men. A system of numerical designations has been worked out under which any division numbered below 26 will be regulars; between 26 and 75 national guards, and 76 and above national army. Regular infantry brigades will be numbered from 51 to 150, and national army from 151 up. Regular regiments will be numbered from 1 to 100, national guard from 101 to 300, and national from 301 up.

Assignment of brigade, regimental or other numerical designation, will be in accordance with the numerical order of divisions, with the result that any person familiar with the system will know that the 335th infantry, for instance, is attached to the 167th brigade of the 84th infantry division, and that it is composed of national army troops, while 300th infantry regiment, by the same process, would be in the 150th brigade, and the 75th division, composed of national guard troops.

The department approved today color insignia to designate the three elements of the army. Regulars will wear the standard U. S. monogram. National guardsmen will wear a similar monogram with the initials N. G. superimposed, and national army men will have the initials N. A. superimposed on the N. S.

## ASSERTS GERMAN MONEY WAS BEHIND CONSPIRACY

McCoy and Phipps are Said to Have Been Offered \$10,000 to Lead in an Uprising.

Big Stone Gap, Va., Aug. 16.—W. V. McCoy and J. W. Phipps, on trial here for conspiracy against the government, attempted wholesale jail delivery early tonight. They and two other prisoners had sawed the bars to windows in the jail and were about to make their escape when the matter was reported by another prisoner.

Phipps and McCoy are under heavy guard tonight and other prisoners were carried to the county convict camps until repairs are made on the jail.

Phipps and McCoy were put on trial today and the first case will go to the jury some time tomorrow. A charge of "enlisting men for the purpose of waging war against the United States" was thrown out on instruction of the court this afternoon. The charge on which they are being tried is "conspiring to seize and destroy arms and munitions of war."

Witness Noah Johnson testified that he was in McCoy's shoe shop and saw two strange and suspicious looking men talking guardedly to McCoy. They had a gallon tin bucket full of something wrapped in paper.

He testified that he saw one of the men tear a corner of the paper and saw money, in large bills. He said that the bills he saw were of large denomination.

District Attorney Byrd in his opening address said the government was prepared to show that McCoy and Phipps were offered \$10,000 by German agents to lead the conspiracy against the government.

Johnson also testified that McCoy had told him that the Germans would give the conspirators under McCoy and Phipps \$20,000 for blowing up three important railroad bridges in this section. He said this statement was made to him by McCoy when he was in McCoy's shop and saw the money. He swore that he had been called to the shop by McCoy and solicited to join the conspiracy. He refused to have anything to do with the matter. It was before he had refused that he had seen the money in the bucket.

## Ex-Emperor Nicholas Is Living at Tobolsk.

Petrograd, Aug. 19.—It was officially announced today for the first time that the residence of Nicholas Romanoff, the deposed Russian emperor, is at Tobolsk, a western Siberian town, which recently achieved a dubious publicity in revolutionary Russia as the birthplace of Geogory Rasputin, the mystic monk, who wielded a remarkable influence over the ex-emperor's family up to the time of the priest's assassination in Petrograd last November. The official announcement says:

"Owing to reasons of state the government decided to transfer to a new residence the ex-emperor and ex-empress: who are detained under guard. The place selected was Tobolsk where they were taken after requisite measures to insure their safety. With them went of their own free will their children and certain of their entourage."

The train on which Nicholas Romanoff traveled to Tobolsk had a long delay on the journey owing to a breakdown of the locomotive.

According to some newspapers the ex-imperial family will reside permanently in the former governor's palace at Tobolsk which is a large house without modern improvements built in the eighteenth century for a local speculator. Nicholas spent a night there 1891. Other newspapers say the former emperor will stay at the ex-governor's palace only one week, and then will be sent to the Apatk monastery in a forest 20 miles outside the town.