

I. W. WEST DRUG CO.

MAIN STREET
MOUNT AIRY, N. C.

BIG PLANS FOR THE MISSISSIPPI.

Great River to be Utilized for Crop Movements and Other Transportation Business on an Unprecedented Scale.

Rock Island, Ill.—Government utilization of the Mississippi River on a scale never even dreamed of by its staunchest believers is forecast by the action of steamboat agencies in instructing their agents to refuse post-season contracts for steamers; coming, as closely as it has, upon the Federal interest in the shipment of southern Illinois coal to the St. Paul terminal by way of test of river transportation facilities and cost. Rivermen that packet boats now engaged in passenger transportation or in limited freight movements would go far toward relieving the stress upon the railroads in the movement of crops this fall.

Looking further, they urge that if the Mississippi River can be brought to "do its bit" in winning the war it will open up a vast field not only for the period of the war but for the years to follow and prove an object lesson to cities along the river that it pays to install loading and unloading facilities at every levee between New Orleans and St. Paul. Construction of necessary tracks to bring about closer relationship between river and rail traffic movements may be partly by water and partly by rail.

Upper river cities, according to the rumors that have been carried up and down the stream by the steamboat men, are not only content that packets will be utilized to a great extent this fall in crop movements but that the river will be used through the whole period of the war. River packets may be used for troops and equipment transportation, and this theory is given further support by reason of the inclusion in the order against post-season trips all the larger boats used almost solely for excursion business.

With the great number of military stations along the river it would not be impossible for the nation to use this great highway for movement of its troops and equipment, especially in case where great expediency was not required. This would relieve the faster carriers and promote a general efficiency in solution of the transportation problem in the middle West and between the northern and southern termini.

Operation of the fleet of barges from St. Louis has convinced river cities that the Government is taking the question seriously and is desirous of demonstrating to its own satisfaction the extent of the possibilities of river transportation. Steamers from farther south are expected to be put into the upper river trade and there has been a gradual awakening all along the river.

In this city, revival of the municipal interest in establishing a harbor line and in a levee project was accentuated by the kindly, if unofficial attitude of Col. G. W. Burr, commandant of Rock Island Arsenal. Assurance has been given that Government engineers will be available at any time the project is taken up, and this policy is being applied all along the river.

Mount Airy Iron Works

Foundry and Machine Shop
Repair Work a Specialty

A large variety of castings and stock others made to order.
J. D. MINICK.
Mt. Airy, N. C., Aug. 28, 1915.

Demon Rum Prepares To Make Final Exit.

Washington, Sept. 6.—When tottering demon rum tosses up the sponge at 11 o'clock Saturday night, about 600 distilleries and at least 8,000 men will quit the business. After September 8 it will be illegal to ferment any foods or fruits for distilled beverage spirits. This means that whiskey and brandy are doomed for every known source of material needed in their manufacture is banned.

The law will permit the production of spirits for non-beverage purpose and the fermentation of sweet wines, but it is reckoned that only a few distilleries will be able to adjust their machinery to turn out the high proof alcohol needed for industrial medicinal uses.

Consequently the great majority of plants will be forced to shut down unless, as some one remarked, they can squeeze alcohol out of rocks, or extract it from the air. In the few remaining days some of the distilleries are working full blast. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, 847 distilleries were registered and 635 operated throughout the country. These are the latest figures available. The most recent census of manufacturers taken in 1914 shows that 6,290 wage earners worked in distilleries. It is estimated that the total has since increased one third.

Kentucky with 202 registered distilleries and California with 165 will be the states hardest hit by the new law. Pennsylvania has 69, Ohio 44, Missouri and Maryland 28 each, and New York 20. Distilled spirits yielded the United States in the last fiscal year \$192,111,318.

Lieu. Fitzsimmons is The American Killed

Washington, Sept. 8.—The death of First Lieutenant William T. Fitzsimmons, medical corps, U. S. A., killed Thursday when German aviators bombed hospitals behind the lines in France, was announced in a dispatch tonight from the military attache of the American embassy at London.

It was the first news the department had received about the attack upon the hospitals. No mention was made in the message of other Americans reported killed in press cables.

Lieutenant Fitzsimmons joined the army medical forces at Kansas City, his home, last May, and recently was attached to the British forces. He was just 20 years old and a graduate of Kansas University. Shortly before entering the army he had returned home after spending a year doing hospital work in France.

TAKE IT IN TIME.

Just as Scores of Mount Airy People Have.

Waiting doesn't pay. If you neglect kidney backache, more serious troubles often follow. Doan's Kidney Pills are for kidney backache, and for other kidney ills. Mount Airy citizen endorse them. Mrs. J. C. Harris, 314 S. Main St., Mount Airy, says: "I couldn't stoop over or straighten up without having sharp pains in my kidneys. At times, my back ached so badly that I could hardly get about to do my housework. I felt tired and languid and the least exertion seemed to play me out. After I had taken a few doses of Doan's Kidney Pills, procured at the West Drug Co., my back felt much better. I only had to take one box when my back was as strong as ever and I haven't had any trouble from it since." Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Harris had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

TWENTY-ONE CONVICTS GIVEN THEIR FREEDOM.

At Sixteen She Was Convicted of Murder and Sentenced for Twenty Years.

Raleigh, Sept. 6.—Twenty one state convicts whose aggregate sentences represent 446 years, plus two life terms, were discharged from the state prison today under the second of Governor Bickett's investigations into the cases in which "no human being has been interested."

The first of these surveys resulted in the pardoning of men and women, likewise babies, whose combined sentences totaled about 300 years. If the initial investigation showed what a careless commonwealth has been in North Carolina, the second pretty nearly convicts of criminal indifference. Governor Bickett releases some who are barely yet men, but prisoners who have spent more years in the prison walls than they have lived without. In one instance a New Hanover convict, John Perry, is released after having spent more than twice as many years in the prison than he has out. And Perry was sent to the penitentiary for life on a crime committed when he was 13 years old. The survey does not yet disclose any life sentences imposed upon infants before they were weaned, although others may be heard from.

In granting these pardons, Governor Bickett gets back to first principles. "On June 3, 1917," Governor Bickett says, "I gave out the following statement, 'Soon after I came into office I was convinced that there were men and women in the state prison who ought not to be there; that their relatives and friends, if they had any, had completely forgotten them, and, being without money and without influence, they were kept in prison simply because no human being had any interest in their release. As a result of the conviction some weeks ago I directed the prison authorities to make a complete survey of the prison, showing the following facts in regard to each and every prisoner, to-wit: The crime for which he was committed, the term of his sentence; the time he has served; his behavior while a prisoner; his age and his physical condition.'

"A further report of this survey is now before me. I have made a most careful study of the same, and have personally conducted an investigation in regard to the circumstances under which the crime for which each prisoner mentioned below was convicted. As a result of the study of this survey, and of the investigation made by me, pardons are granted to the 21 prisoners mentioned below."

Governor Bickett fortifies himself by pardoning all prisoners who are now in class A. The segregation was made easier by the act of the 1917 general assembly, which came so near really to giving prison reforms. It did so much that it stands out as humanitarian. It almost abolished the miserable pastime of beating naked backs of defenseless convicts and allowing them a chance to hope when they were put on an honor system in which they work without guard and gun. Governor Bickett has been a tremendously busy man, but he has found time and inclination to go minutely into the pardon cases. He has studied them all.

The amazing thing in this investigation is the life imprisonment of a brat who was convicted when 13 years old and is now just 40. Even this fellow is on the honor roll, but so far as is known, this is the first opportunity that Perry has had. Governor Bickett gives him and half a dozen other children their liberty.

The first released is Josephus Williams, Martin county, sentenced when 12 years old to 25 years for burning a store. He has served 15 years, two longer than he had previously lived, has 909 days to his credit and is given full pardon.

George Johnson, Nash, 30 years for burglary committed when 15, served 15 years and has 815 days.

Melissa Clegg, Cumberland, when 16 years old, was convicted of murder in the second degree and sent up 20 years. She has served 15 years and has 1,033 days for good behavior.

Will German, Greene, criminal assault when 12 years old, gets off after serving 11 with 744 days to his credit.

He was sentenced to 15 years.

Edwell Overton Pasquotank evidently a most desperate criminal, who when 11 years old, broke into a house and went up 20 years, is pardoned after 11 years. He has a credit of 646 days. Oh, that 11-year old beast!

John Perry, New Hanover, life sentence for burglary, commuted when 13 served 27 years. Perfect record in prison.

James Baker, Gates county, murder in the second degree when 18 years old, served nine and a half years of 25. Lost an eye in a Whitney explosion.

Cesar Collins, Edgecombe county, murder in the second degree, 30 years' sentence, served 21. "On one occasion," says the governor, "when a guard was paralyzed by a stroke of lightning, this prisoner came to his rescue and virtually took his place. I have made an investigation of the county where the crime was committed, and the authorities say in their opinion that in view of the good record and the long confinement of this prisoner, he has been punished long enough."

Van Fuller, Orange county, serving 30 years for arson, went to prison 15 years ago. He is 70, has 953 days to his credit and no black marks. "I can see no reason for keeping a man that is 70 years old 15 years longer in confinement when he has obeyed every rule and regulation, says the governor.

John Waits, Martin county 20 years for manslaughter, served 15 and a half with 985 days to his credit.

Gabriel Thomas, Pamlico, 30 years for murder in the second degree, served 21 and a half, has 1,241 days to his credit. He is 56 years old.

William Smarr, Cleveland, burglary for life. He gets conditional pardon after 19 years. His good record saves him.

Charles Barnes, Greene 25 years for murder in the second degree, served 18, and has 1,069 credit days. His pardon is conditional.

James Hawkins, New Hanover, 21 years for murder in the second degree, has served 16 years and has 597 days to his credit.

Clem McCoy, Henderson county, 25 years for murder in the second degree, served 16 and has 1,901 days to his credit. He is 62 years old and the governor is satisfied that "justice no longer requires his confinement." Full pardon.

John Wallace, New Hanover, 30 years for murder in the second degree, served 16 and has 971 days for good behavior. Conditional pardon.

George Turner, Orange, five years for larceny and 15 for burglary. He has served 13 and a half years. Former Superintendent J. S. Mann recommends the pardon on the prisoner's good record. Conditional pardon.

Doubt as to Guilt. Governor Bickett finds doubt as to the guilt of Jerry Cobb, Pitt, who has served 11 years of 25 for murder in the second degree. He has 820 days. The Pitt authorities recommend the pardon, which is unconditional.

Fred Peed, Dublin, 15 years for murder in the second degree, served 11 years and has 734 days of good behavior. The pardon is unconditional.

John Gudger, Columbus county, 15 years for criminal assaults, has served 10. He is 54 years old. The universal agreement is that in all aspects of the case punishment has been sufficient. Full pardon, with 764 days in his favor, is granted.

James Alexander, Rowan county, 20 years for murder in the second degree, has served 16 years but has 1,016 days for good behavior and he would have been discharged in December, 1917. He gets full pardon.

Governor Craig's "Christmas" gift to the prisoners did much to bring to Governor Bickett's attention the hopelessness of many prisoners who had no relatives to whom they could send the \$10 donated by the state. The act at the time caused unfavorable comment in some quarters but friendly legislators readily voted the money back to the prison board.

All this has had the effect of directing attention to the plight of many prisoners. It likewise suggests the hopelessness of a prisoner so far as any reform within the prison management during former administrations. The limitations of the officials who guard and work the prisoners are recognized in this showing. There was then no such thing as prison grading.



Wind
With every howl, the wind tries to loosen the paint from your home. It drives its way into the cracks and crevices. First it dries the exposed wood and then swirls in the torrents of rain. Decay follows the soaking and spreads under the painted parts.
Paint which will prevent this destruction is made of Dutch Boy White-Lead mixed with pure linseed oil. Either pure white or tinted any desired color, it offers a smooth, unbroken surface which neither wind nor rain nor sun can crack or scale.
Examine your buildings closely and let us know if there is need of paint. We can help you.
W. E. Merritt Company.

ATTENTION!
We call you attention to the fact that we will reduce the price of bark September the 1st and no bark will be received at our station after December 1st.
This August 14th, 1917.
C. C. SMOOT & SONS COMPANY.

Analysis of Brower's Springs Chalybeate Water.
Analysis No. 6509 of Brower's Chalybeate Springs Water in 1896. One U. S. gallon contains on evaporation solids 9.16 grains showing the following in solution: Chloride of Soda, Carbonate of Iron, Carbonate of Lime, Silicia, Sulphate of Potash. H. H. Battle, Director.
In the analysis of Brower's Chalybeate Springs Water, made by the State Chemist I find a combination of medicines in solution which are calculated to be of the greatest value as a general systematic alterative tonic, especially adapted to those diseases brought about by inactivity of the digestive and secretory organs. All stomach, liver, kidney, skin diseases and diseases of a scrofulous nature should be greatly relieved, if not entirely cured, by these waters.
THOS. B. ASHBY, M. D.
Brower's Springs Bulding Lots
Around Brower's Chalybeate Springs a number of building lots are offered for sale. A perpetual right to use the water goes with every lot. Buy a lot, build a bungalow for your wife and little ones, put them in it this summer and insure their good health.
If you live in town, and want the water delivered to you, get up two jugs and make application in time. Price 10 cents a gallon.
Phone 258 BROWER'S SPRINGS R. F. D. 2.

The Place To Buy Good Shoes!
We have on hand the largest line of LaFrance Low Cuts we ever had and we bought them right and we are going to offer them at a price you cannot afford to not buy from us. We bought too heavy on Slippers so we must sell them and we can save you money. Just give us a chance and see if we don't.
We can sell you all kinds of Shoes cheaper than they can be made at the Factory.
Steel Shoe Store
Second Door—Corner Main and Franklin Sts.