

## FOOD ADMINISTRATOR HENRY A. PAGE APPEALS TO WOMEN OF THE STATE

Success of The Great War and the Fate of Hundreds of Thousands of Women and Children in Neutral Countries of Europe Depend Upon Course of American Women—Normal Surplus of Wheat and Meat Has Already Been Exported and Only What We Save Stands as Bulwark in the War and as the Salvation of Starving Thousands—Save Now Pleads North Carolina Food Administrator.

To the Women of North Carolina:

With victory in the great war dependent upon the food supplies which we can send to the armies and civilian population of our Allies in Europe; and with several hundred thousand women and children in the neutral countries of Europe appealing piteously to America to save them from starvation, we face the greatest and most insistent pressing demand for foodstuffs that has been made upon a people in the world's history.

Russia has collapsed because of disorganized and insufficient food supplies for its armies and for its civilian population in some sections, and more American blood will be spilled in France because of Russia's failure to push the war. Any failure upon our part to supply necessary foodstuffs in France, England and Italy would threaten a similar collapse in those countries which would immeasurably increase the war burdens of this country and the cost of victory.

The neutral peoples of Europe have always imported large quantities of foodstuffs from North America, South America, Asia and Australia. Because of war conditions and transportation difficulties practically all supplies are now cut off except those from North America and representatives of those peoples are making the most heart-rending appeals to our country for aid. It is an appalling fact that despite the most we can do for these people after supplying our Allies tens of thousands of them must perish from hunger during the next few months.

In the face of these conditions in Europe we have exported all our normal surplus of wheat. Every pound of wheat or flour which we export from now on must be saved from our normal consumption. The same thing is approximately true of beef and pork products and this war with sugar is even worse.

Our government officials are doing their utmost to meet the situation and every consumer of foodstuffs in America may realize and feel sure that every ounce of wheat, every ounce of fats, every ounce of sugar and every ounce of beef and pork which they save from their normal consumption, either by reduction in consumption or by the substitution of other foodstuffs not suitable for export, will reach a soldier in the trenches or a woman, child or man who may starve to death if it is not provided for them by us. Every particle of exportable foodstuffs saved in every North Carolina home will release just that amount to help win the war and to help prevent the actual starvation and suffering of innocent women and children and men on the other side.

Most of our people are realizing their obligation to their country and to humanity and are consuming a much smaller proportion of wheat flour, beef and pork products, fats and sugar than they were accustomed to under normal conditions. Many have not realized the seriousness and the horror of the situation.

To every woman and every consumer in the State, I appeal to do your utmost in the saving of the food products named. This is an individual problem and must be solved by the individual. The responsibility is individual and no single person can escape the responsibility that is imposed upon them in this matter. We have ample foodstuffs aside from those destroyed by the government for export and none of us need suffer.

But, for the sake of humanity, for the sake of liberty, and for the sake of our own brave soldiers, your own sons, brothers and kinsmen, Save Now!

Food Administrator for North Carolina

## PRICE WOOD IN NORTH CAROLINA TO BE FIXED

Committees in all Parts of the State to Consider Local Conditions and Scale the Prices, Allowing Certain Amounts For sawing and Splitting and For Delivery.

Greensboro News, 21st.

Prices which may be charged for wood will be fixed by the fuel administration for all parts of North Carolina, pursuant to instructions issued at headquarters here yesterday to all the local fuel committees. A. W. McAllister, the fuel administrator, informed the local committees of his authority from the federal fuel administration in Washington to fix wood prices, and advised his organization how to proceed. He instructed the committees to be fair in their price scale allowing the dealer a good profit, but he stated that there is no obvious reason why wood should sell for a higher price in this state now than it did last month.

Wood prices will be scaled to suit the locality, with the committees taking into consideration local conditions. A basis for computation is furnished by Mr. McAllister, who advises a 33 1-3 per cent to 50 per cent increase in the price per cord over the prices prevailing in 1917, these figures to apply to wood in four and eight foot lengths on drays and wagons of farmers, or on cars f. o. b. the place of shipment. He suggests the allowance to the dealer of \$1 a cord for sawing and splitting the wood or \$1.25 per cord of the committees deem the larger figure equitable; and \$1 per cord for delivery, 75 cents for delivery of half cord, and 50 cents for quarter cords and less.

Of interest only secondary is the standardization of the measure for wood to be observed by the vendor. The instructions of the fuel administration marks the passing of the ancient of not altogether honorable "load." The wood dealers must sell in thereof. No longer will an ultimate consumer pay \$1.50 for a "load," but what he pays will be fixed by the administration and it will be for an understood portion of a cord, a full cord or the multiple of it. In this manner the wood business of North Carolina, temporarily at least, is brought within the law of weights and measures.

"On account of the diversity of conditions of supply and demand in different localities, no one rule will apply everywhere," Mr. McAllister wrote. In other words it is quite possible that the plan will establish three or more varying prices for wood in Guilford county. Two committees will fix prices in this county. Due to local conditions High Point wood might be cheaper or higher than Greensboro wood, and the outlying smaller towns might yet have another price. This will apply to other counties in North Carolina, but much is left to the committees' discretion, although they are expected to conform to the basic regulations of the administration.

The price fixing is expected to be an assurance to the man with wood to sell, on the farm, that he need not hold expecting a higher rate; and he need not fear to offer his wood in large lots as what he is to get for it will be understood and not mozte. "As soon as the price has been fixed that price is going to be stationary and the incentive to hold for an advance will disappear," Mr. McAllister said in his letter of instruction. The fixed prices as recommended by the committees will be reported to the state administrator and becomes operative as soon as offered by him.

"It should be understood that this plan is not to bring cheap wood," said the state administrator. "It will not do that, but it will stabilize prices and prevent profiteering."

His instructions to the strong corps of committees in the state were in full as follows:

"The United States fuel administration has granted to the state fuel administrator for North Carolina the authority to establish reasonable prices for wood in this state. You are therefore requested to make immediate investigation and determine a reasonable price per cord to be charged in

your district for wood in four or eight foot lengths from farmers' wagons or on cars f.o.b. at place of shipment, and the price per cord to be charged by retailers for wood sawed, split and delivered. When such prices have been approved by the state fuel administrator they will be effective immediately subject only to appeal to the United States fuel administration. This authority to fix prices of wood has been made necessary by the profiteering in this economic necessity that is being carried on in sections of this state and is an authority which should be exercised with the greatest care and with due regard to the rights of all concerned. The price should be fair and just to the seller and can at the same time be reasonable to the consumer. The fixing of a thoroughly fair and reasonable price will not only correct any exorbitance in present prices where it exists and prevent any further advance, but will bring the wood on the market that is now being held for higher prices that the public might be compelled to pay 30 or 60 days hence. As soon as the price has been fixed, that price is going to be stationary, and the incentive to hold for an increase will disappear.

"If yours is a rural county without any large towns, perhaps one price for the entire county will be proper. If on the other hand there are large and small towns in your county it may be advisable to fix one price for the large towns around which wood is usually scarce and a different price for the smaller towns around which wood is usually more plentiful.

"The price fixed by you will be the maximum price to be charged. The following method of fixing the price will be applicable to some localities: Add to the price per cord prevailing in 1916, 33 1-3 per cent, or 50 per cent if you decide that to be fair, for wood in four and eight foot lengths from drays and wagons or on cars f.o.b. place of shipment, retail dealers to be allowed add to price thus obtained \$1 per cord for sawing and splitting, or \$1.25 per cord if you find this to be a

fairer price than the price per cord now or 50 cents per quarter cord lots or less. This will result in wood being sold no longer by the load, which is an unfixed term and uncertain, but by the cord or the fractional part thereof. A cord of wood is 128 cubic feet, a half cord 64 cubic feet, a quarter cord 32 cubic feet. A wagon bed 2x 4x8 will hold a half cord, a wagon bed 4x4x8 will hold a cord of wood and 1x4x8 feet a quarter of a cord.

"On account of the diversity of conditions of supply and demand in different localities, no one rule will apply everywhere and you are therefore expected to exercise your discretion in arriving at a fair price. There seems to be no substantial reason why the price of wood anywhere should exceed that which prevailed in November, 1917, for there is nothing which enters into the cost of wood which has materially increased in price since that date.

"The state fuel administrator will not approve any price that is not abundantly fair and just to the producer or seller of wood, believing that such a price must of necessity be reasonable and satisfactory to the consumer."

## BUSINESS BUILDERS

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## PERFECTING PLANS FOR SCHOOL FOR PREACHERS

Managers Decide to Hold Methodist Summer School After Commencement.

Durham, Dec. 19.—Plans have been completed by committees from the North Carolina conference and the western North Carolina conference for the establishment of the "Methodist summer school" at Trinity college, which will be an eight-day school for the younger ministers of the two conferences.

The program is left with a committee to be worked out, and instructions have been given by the board of managers that it be made as strong as possible. Not only the big men of the two North Carolina conferences, but speakers from many parts of the country will be secured for the program. The teaching part of the work will be under the direction of the board of examiners of the two conferences, and is intended to make the younger ministers who join the two conferences more proficient in handling their work.

Every young Methodist minister who joins either of these two conferences is required to take a four-year course and stand an examination. The summer school will be mainly for the benefit of these young ministers in that courses in the studies which they take up will be given during the eight days. But it promises to be more than that, for public lectures will be given twice daily, and to these public will be invited. It is for these public lectures that the prominent preachers and theologians are being invited.

The summer school will begin immediately after the Trinity college commencement every year, and will last for eight days, according to the plans that have been mapped out so far. Provision has been made by the two conferences to pay the railroad fares of the preachers who attend the conferences. Trinity college will have charge of providing board and room for the men who attend the school. Every effort will be made to keep the

cost of these two items down.

Financial support has been provided for the summer school by the two North Carolina conferences, and it has been intimated that no financial efforts will be spared to make the school just as effective as possible. It is the first step the church has taken in this direction, and the two committees appointed by the conferences, who met in Durham this week, are very enthusiastic over the outlook. They believe the summer school will ultimately develop into one of the biggest things in the work of educating the young ministers who are already in the service of the church. It will also mean that Durham and Trinity college will become the mecca for Methodism in North Carolina. Many believe the annual gathering of ministers after commencement will be the means of a great inspirational development.

The officers of the board of managers who will have charge of the first summer school are as follows: Chairman, Rev. M. T. Plyer, Wilmington; vice chairman, Dr. E. L. Baird, West Market street church, Greensboro; secretary, Rev. M. Willis, Lexington; treasurer, Rev. Harry M. North, Durham. In addition to these officials a special committee on program has been appointed. This committee will have actual charge of making preparations for the work of the first summer school.

## American in France is Glad to get Tobacco

William Taylor, a member of 16th infantry band, with the American expeditionary force, "Somewhere in France," in writing to a friend in Greensboro says:

"I have been reading the Greensboro News and see in it that you have donated a little money for the tobacco fund to help the boys over here. Good old American tobacco is a great thing over here. It ranks next to the mail from home. Show this to the editor of the paper and tell him I wish the 'Greensboro News' the best luck in the world. Many thanks."



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