

Mount Airy News.

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THE FOOD LAWS.

In this issue of The News we publish all the facts that apply to citizens of this section as to the new ruling made about the saving of food.

In a nut shell, as we read the law, these are the facts. To make it plain suppose we name some of the things you can not do and comply with the law.

You cannot hoard food. That means you cannot buy a larger amount than a supply sufficient to last your family a month.

You cannot buy wheat flour unless you buy from your merchant at the time you buy the flour, an equal amount by weight of some other bread material, such as corn meal, oat meal, rice, etc.

You can not buy more than 48 pounds of flour at one time if you live in town, and 96 pounds if you live in the country.

You can not buy more than five pounds of sugar at one time if you live in town, and 10 pounds if you live in the country.

Some things You Can do.

You can keep what wheat and corn you have produced on your own farm. You can sell it as you wish to a miller, but you cannot sell to a private citizen more than a months supply.

If you have corn of your own you can have it ground into meal and carry the meal to your merchant, and sell the meal to him and buy it back along with an equal number of pounds of flour.

The small country millers are not required to have license, and the same is true of the small retail merchants. But the small country merchants and the small country millers are required to retail flour along with an equal amount of meal.

To repeat. You can carry ten bushels of your own wheat to your neighbor miller and have it ground into flour and carry the flour home, but if your miller sells you 50 pounds of flour he must, at the same time, sell you 50 pounds of bread meal, to comply with the law.

A WARNING.

According to the diagnosis of some of the doctors here there have been and are now some cases of small pox in this county, both here in the town and in the rural districts about.

All the blood, all the heroism, all the munitions and all the money in the world will not win this war unless our Soldiers, our Sailors and our fighting Associates are fed.

ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS

It would be humanly impossible to have our schools as good as we would like to have them. It would be nice if we could always have the best teachers and the best of everything connected with the schools, but this, too, is not possible.

All of which being the case it should not be considered an unfair thrust or unkind act if we, in the right way, point out some of the short comings that might be changed to the betterment of conditions.

To the man on the outside there has always been what appears to be too much friction between the larger boys and the teachers. This is the case every year. The teachers are not given authority sufficient to handle these cases, as we understand it.

Again, in the selection of teachers it is but natural that, in rare cases, a teacher would be employed who would fail to make good. To keep a teacher on the job for a whole year and cause the children to lose the years work, because of her inability, is not just.

Again if a man of education and experience is selected as Superintendent he should not be asked to have a teacher in his employment who is not acceptable to him, for any reason. It has been the custom here for the board to employ teachers at times when the Superintendent recommended that they not be employed.

The welfare of the student body is of so much more importance than the interests of any one teacher, or half dozen teachers, as to that, that the service rendered should be reasonably acceptable to the Superintendent who is naturally held responsible to the public for the successful management of and highest success of the schools.

And because we have written the above it is not to be inferred that there is or has been any great confusion during this year, or under the present management, for there has not been. The schools are running smoothly and doing good work and the teaching force is of a high order.

Teachers Entertained.

Misses Thompson and Johnson were charming hostesses to the Senior class and the teachers of the Mount Airy High School, Friday evening at the home of Miss Thompson.

Mayor Eaton Here.

Mayor O. B. Eaton, of Winston-Salem, addressed the business men of Mount Airy in the rooms of the Commercial Club, Monday afternoon. There was a large and representative crowd there, the rooms being comfortably filled.

Buy Fertilizers in Time.

A citizen who knows asks us to sound the warning to farmers to not wait until the last minute to buy their fertilizers. He says that the farmer who expects to grow tobacco this year, or anything else that requires fertilizer should waste no time in making his purchases.

TERRIBLE CONDITIONS IN OCCUPIED SECTORS.

Germans Have Organized a Slavery Army in a Zone in Northern France.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 1.—A London dispatch to the Ottawa agency of Reuters, dated Feb. 1, says it has received from a trustworthy Belgian citizen who has just reached London from the German military zone at Valenciennes, an account of terrible conditions existing in the occupied districts of France, from which virtually no news ever

reached England. For obvious reasons it could not be stated how this man escaped. He still bore traces of a heavy blow on the jaw, and showed Reuter's representative a handful of natural teeth which had been knocked out by the butt end of a German guard's rifle. He said:

"The Germans have organized a slavery army in the zone of northern France. When I left St. Amand a few weeks ago conditions were unbearable. All the men between the ages of 17 and 50 had been taken away. Unmarried women under 40 are obliged to work in the fields while girls from 12 to 14 must collect acorns and nettles.

"Besides civilian prisoners the Germans have a great number of war prisoners behind the lines, working under terrible conditions. The English are especially badly treated. All want food, but the sufferings of the Russians owing to lack of food are awful. It was while I was endeavoring to give a starving Russian of my small supply of food that the guard knocked out my teeth."

The informant told how domestic clocks and lamps are broken up for copper, mattresses are ripped up for wool, and sacks and clothes are seized. Farmers and peasants must declare everything.

"I have seen people dragged to prison," said the refugee, "for hiding a pound of potatoes. Hiding an egg involves a fine of five marks. One woman was deported to Germany for keeping three pigeons. Another was sentenced to 14 months for hiding an Alsatian refugee. The refugee was immediately killed by a non-commissioned officer who struck another woman with such violence that she became deaf. A little girl was shot without warning because she crossed the France-Belgian frontier for bread."

The Belgian disclosed dates and the names of the persons in all cases.

"Whenever you turn your eyes the same tragedy is everywhere—starvation slavery and untold brutality," he concluded.

ALLIES ON WEST FRONT NUMERICALLY SUPERIOR

Americans Now on Actual Battlefield, Says Baker in his Weekly Review.

Washington, Feb. 4.—All reports to the war department indicate that the allies still hold a very appreciable numerical superiority both in men and guns on the western front, despite the heavy German concentration there since the defection of Russia.

Secretary Baker's weekly war review today made this announcement and in commenting later, Mr. Baker said it represented the best judgement of the department based upon advice from all sources.

The review this week gives first place to the statement that "American troops which have completed their training are now occupying a portion of the actual battlefield." It warns the country that "the world has been flooded" with reports of internal unrest in Germany which must not be allowed to affect the effectiveness or spread for our own preparations.

Commenting on the meeting of the supreme war council at Versailles, the review says it "promises to show positive results" in the way of unity of action on all fronts.

Reviewing operations for the week ending February 2, Secretary Baker says:

"American troops which have now completed their training are occupying a portion of the actual battlefield. The operations in which our troops have so far been engaged were of a minor character.

"On January 30, the Germans attempted a strongly pushed raid against our line for purposes of identification. Under cover of a heavy mist the enemy was able to reach our advanced positions. A short brush ensued and the raiders were compelled to withdraw in haste, after inflicting slight casualties.

"Two days later the enemy attempted another reconnoitering thrust, but was dispersed before any headway could be made.

"Our patrols have been active in 'No man's land' and our scouts have made themselves familiar with the details of the hostile positions opposite them.

"Another event of importance took place in France. The inter-allied supreme war council met at Versailles, attended by General Bliss, chief of staff of the army, and General Pershing, as well as the representatives of France, Great Britain, and Italy. Complete and close co-operation between the allies and ourselves, and a harmonious understanding between the supreme commands of all the forces engaged, promises to show positive results. Unity of purpose on all fronts will thus be attained.

"During the past seven-day period the world has been flooded with the news of very serious internal unrest in Germany. Widespread strikes among munitions workers are reported. While dissatisfaction is no doubt rife in Germany, and strikes of increasing seriousness have occurred, we must not allow any reported disturbance within the German empire to affect the effectiveness or speed of our own preparations.

"During the week hostile concentrations in the west continued. In certain quarters the reports spread by the enemy, that he holds a preponderous numerical superiority in the West have gained some credence. While positive proof has been received that the enemy has removed troops from the eastern theater, and is stripping other fronts for the coming struggle in the west, nevertheless, the allies are believed still to hold a very appreciable numerical superiority both in men and guns.

"In the British theater numerous raids took place. South of Lens and northeast of Langemarck, as well as south of the Scarpe, the Germans sent out reconnoitering detachments. The British forces were also busily engaged sounding the enemy lines, identifying new units, taking measure of the value of the new contingents which are arriving along the German line in the west from other theaters.

"Northeast of Hayrincourt and near Ephey, British patrols brought in prisoners.

"Hostile artillery keep up a heavy fire throughout the week in the Ypres

and Cambrai salients.

"Passchendaele was the scene of very lively shelling and the regions of Arras and Lens were also principal targets for the Germans.

"The French were also busy raiding the enemy and kept a careful outlook along their entire front. Opposite the French, the Germans confined operations to minor raids north of the Aisne, and in upper Alsace.

"Profiting by the favorable atmospheric conditions which prevailed, air raids on a large scale were undertaken. The British successfully bombed railway centers in Flanders and air squadrons undertook attacks upon munition plants and other military objectives in the Rhine area. London and Paris, as well as Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne, were visited by hostile aircraft.

"In Italy a further improvement in the combat situation is noted. The Italians were very successful in following up their plans to regain points of particular strategic importance along their battlefield. As a counterpart of the French assault in the region of the Monte Tomba, the Italians early in the week launched a powerful offensive thrust against the Austrian positions along the Asiago plateau. This attack was directed against the strongly entrenched enemy positions in the region between the Frenzela and the Brenta.

"The Italians succeeded in capturing the hostile strongholds of the important peaks of the Col del Rossa and the Monte di Val Bella which resulted in an appreciable advance of the Italian line in this area, the capture of 100 officers, 2,500 men and a large quantity of munitions. By this very fortunate operation of the Italians were able to regain the important ground lost in this area in December and their hold on their positions is rendering more secure.

"Austrian reaction was prompt. An assault against the new Italian position near the Monte di Val Bella was undertaken. The attacking forces were stopped and the Italians immediately drove a fierce counter attack and inflicted serious casualties on the enemy. Patrol encounters took place in the Val d'Astico, and in the Val Giudicaria a hostile raiding party was driven off by hand grenades.

"Along the Balkan front a renewed activity is recorded. Patrol encounters took place west of Lake Doiran. British and Serb detachments raided Bulgarian positions, and enemy concentrations in the vicinity of Serus and in the valley of the Vardan were

bombed by aircraft.

"In Palestine the British are pushing slowly but steadily forward, enlarging their sphere of operations and consolidating the ground won."

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