

TEN BIG LOCOMOTIVES FOR GOVERNMENT USE

Seaboard Gives Up Powerful Engines—Banker Drake Stays in Raleigh

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 14.—Raleigh people who must do commerce with the banks breathed easily today when it became definitely known that President W. B. Drake, Jr., of the State bankers' association has declined to move to Virginia on the call from Norfolk.

And Norfolk, the big seaside of North Carolina, had sent Drake an offer about the size of a cabinet officer's salary. It just naturally leaked here, while the decision was pending and patrons of the Merchants National Bank went into the air.

It was young Drake who come here nearly ten years ago and revolutionized banking. He found a town in which it required as much ceremony as joining the Masons in order to get a little money. He shook up dry bones in the half a dozen banks about him. His directors put Republican National Committeeman E. C. Duncan into the presidency and the boy from South Carolina behind the country as cashier and vice president. Every other bank loosened up as a tribute to the man they called "wildcat." The term wasn't exactly complimentary. Now everybody says Drake is a bearcat. His bank has become the largest of them all and Virginia, true to tradition, made the effort to skim North Carolina's cream again.

Ten of the biggest locomotives in the world have been taken from the Seaboard by the United States and only seven of those institutions often seen walking through Raleigh dragging 200 box cars, now go down the line.

The Seaboard would not have betrayed the government's requisition but for a story that the engines are so heavy that they have crushed the 90-pound rail on which they run. These engines, which are nearly 200,000 pounds heavier than even the Southern's big 5,000 freight type, draw a load of 3,000 tons any day and are a spectacle which draws people from miles. They are said by the railroad men to have their weight so well distributed that they are not additionally heavy. The track carries with ease and they make a speed of 25 and 30 miles without trouble. Since the government has taken them over the locomotives have been transferred to roads that run into the west.

FARMERS MAY SECURE FLOUR WITHOUT MEAL

May Buy Flour Straight Under Certain Conditions, Says Mr. Page

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, Feb. 14.—North Carolina farmers will welcome the announcement made today by State Food Administrator Henry A. Page of an exception to the recent combination sale order of the Food Administration as it affects the farmer who has producing and is using his own cereal substitute. The exception made by the Food Administration to this rule is a result of pressure from Food Administrators of a number of Southern States. No considerable number of North Carolina farmers who have understood the urgency of the food saving program of the Food Administration have objected to the order but State Food Administrator Page refuses to have the North Carolina farmers discriminated against.

Mr. Hoover tells all Southern Food Administrators to grant the exception referred to and Mr. Page has announced the following ruling to cover the exception: "Retail merchants are hereby authorized to sell flour alone and in quantities not exceeding 24 pounds to farmer customers who sign a formal certificate stating that they have produced and are using corn meal, grits, hominy, or other cereal substitutes contained in the list included in the recent order of the Food Administration to the same extent as they use flour.

"Wholesalers jobbers, millers and brokers are hereby authorized to sell to retailers flour alone in such quantities as said retailers have sold to farmers under the ruling above stated, balancing against such sale of flour the certificate received by the retailers from the farmer. These certificates in turn may be used by the wholesaler or other dealer to balance against purchases of flour from mills."

Meeting of Wool Growers. Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 14.—Plans to keep the sheep growing and wool industry of this section running on "high" during the period of war are to be perfected by the Tri-State Wool Growers' association at its annual convention which began its sessions here today. The convention is well attended by members from many points in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

NEW YORK LETTER.

By O. O. McIntyre. Special Correspondent of the Dispatch.

New York, Feb. 14.—Campbell Mac Cullach, who press agents film stars, has just returned from London where he has made the palpitating discovery of the difference between American and English humor. It is simple. American humor consists of over statement and English humor of understatement. There you have it. Now go on with the story.

In America MacCullach never failed to get a laugh with this story. A murder had occurred in a Cincinnati hotel lobby and at the trial the principal witness was a bell boy. The prosecutor was quizzing the bell boy. "Now Johnston, you say you heard two shots?" "Yessah, jes' two sah."

"And how far apart were these two shots?" "Bout five seconds, sah, Jes 'bout laik dis—" and the bell boy clapped his hands at a brief interval.

"Where were you when the first shot was fired?" "Ah wuz shinin' a gentleman's shoes in de basement ob de hotel."

"Where were you when the second shot was fired?" "Ah wuz just passin' through the outskirts of the city, sah. And I wuz goin' so fast that when Ah went around corners my vest pockets dipped sand."

In the English clubs not a laugh was evoked by this story. The reigning story in London concerns a terrific bombardment before Cambrai. The air is filled with shrieking sharpshooting and bursting bombs. Disaster is all about. The British troops were waiting to go over the top. Alf turns to his trench mate Bill and roars above the din. "Hi Bill! 'Elp us a bit?" And Bill howls back: "Wot's up, matey?" "Ec-ups!" gulps Alf miserably. MacCullach has failed to get a single laugh on Broadway with the English story.

Shortly before the dinner hour on Broadway the dressing rooms of the big hotels are scenes of much activity. Young stenographers, who live far away in Jersey, come to these dressing rooms. They carry large chintz knitting bags. In those bags are a complete change of costume. Even stockings and shoes. The discarded clothing is checked in the knitting bags in the dressing room and the young girl can step forth for their dinner engagement—and Adventure without making the long trip home.

He has just put over a play. A. I. Woods and Belasco are ready to read all his script. He talks to George Cohan as an equal and calls "Lee." He has arrived. Two years ago he confided his ambition to his city editor on Park Row. The city editor smiled: "Stick to the steady job. Play writing is a very big gamble and it will never keep your nose in the feed bags." But that didn't discourage him. The city editor lost his job some time ago and couldn't find another. He is working for the playwright now as his press agent. Every day he writes pieces telling how the young playwright disregarded the advice of his friends and stuck to his ambition to write a play.

A New York newspaper is in the midst of a campaign to secure jobs for men more than 50 years of age. In New York the age limit seems to be 50 and yet those who are employing the men of that age are enthusiastic about the ability of the workers. It is declared that they are more punctual, use better judgment and do better work. One man past 50, who was graduated from a large university revealed the fact that he had been out of a job three years. He had visited 780 places for work and the only thing that disqualified him was his age. Then the newspaper got him a job. He was promoted twice in a month and received two increases in salary.

TEUTON PREMIERS HAD UNDERSTANDING

London, Tuesday, Feb. 12.—The recent speeches of Count von Hertling and Count Czernin were a conclusive performance between the two statesmen intended to drive a wedge between the Allies, rather than to secure peace, Earl Curzon, government leader in the House of Lords, declared in a debate today in the House of Lords on the address to the throne. No attempt, he said, had been made to meet the minimum demands of the Allies. Earl Curzon added:

"The most critical times that have ever confronted this country are in front of us. But I do not think the position is at all dangerous and our military advisers do not think it is. At the same time we shall have to put every ounce of effort into the common cause. If we do that I am confident we will win and thus save civilization."

National registration of women available for work on farms is proposed by the Department of Labor as one of the advance steps in a campaign to obtain sufficient farm labor for every part of the country during the coming season.

Mme. Yone Suzuki, the richest woman in Japan, is the sole head of a great shipping company, which is reported to have made \$100,000,000 since the war began.

There are approximately 1,266,061 women in the United States engaged in industrial work which is either directly or indirectly necessary to carry on the war.



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BRITISH "TOMMIES" AT AN ITALIAN WELL.—A scene on the Venetian Plain. Copyright, Underwood & Underwood

South Carolina News Items

Drayage Charges Fixed. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 14.—The Chamber of Commerce met with the baggage men of the city, at their request Tuesday night for the purpose of arriving at a solution of the baggage transportation problem. An agreement was reached in a proposed ordinance which is yet to be submitted to council which allows for hauling a trunk to a residence, and only 25 cents to a hotel, or from one depot to another in the city. Pending some definite arrangement by city council all transfer drivers were instructed by the Chamber of Commerce to haul passengers on the old 35 cent basis.

Held for Killing Wife. Spartanburg, S. C., Feb. 14.—Chas. Foster, a well known young Spartanburg man, was held Monday night by a coroner's jury on the charge of having murdered his bride of one year, Mrs. Edna Herren Foster. Foster had been detained at police headquarters since the affair took place at 3:30 o'clock, but at 11 o'clock at night, following the completion of the inquest, he was lodged in the Spartanburg jail. The tragedy took place at the Foster home, 123 Branch street, shortly after Mr. and Mrs. Foster had reached home. And it will be charged by the prosecution that the act was committed by Foster because he was jealous of the attention shown his wife by an army officer stationed at Camp Wadsworth. Mrs. Foster was about 23 years of age and was a native of Asheville, N. C. She had been previously married. Foster is a native of the Roebuck section of Spartanburg county and is about 28 years of age. He had also been previously married.

Appropriated \$3,370,625.96. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 14.—The free conference report on the appropriation bill was adopted without dissent Tuesday noon. The bill carries a total amount of \$3,370,625.96, to be raised by a levy of nine and one-half mills.

Nail in Cow's Heart. Gaffney, S. C., Feb. 14.—Recently Col. T. B. Butler, of Gaffney, lost a valuable milch cow and the veterinary being unable to tell the cause of death, dissected the body and found in the very center of the heart a wire nail two inches long. Owing to the position of the nail it is evident that it had for many months been slowly working its way into the animal's heart, and the wonder is that she lived so long with a wire sticking into the vital organ.

Turner Defeats Little. Gaffney, S. C., Feb. 14.—In the municipal election held here Tuesday, J. H. Turner defeated J. Q. Little by 60 votes. Aldermen were elected as fol-

lows: Ward 1, Tattersall; Ward 2, Hallman; Ward 3, Morgan; Ward 4, Thackston; Ward 5, Curry; Ward 6, Holmes.

DOG ON RAMPAGE. Four Mules and a Cow Bitten by Mad Dog. Newberry, S. C., Feb. 14.—After biting four mules and a cow, and probably other animals, a mad dog was killed in town Tuesday. For a time there was great excitement, as the biting two of the mules took place on business streets where many people were gathered. The dog first attracted attention when it leaped at the nose of a mule standing in front of the store of the Purcell Company, fastening its fangs deep. From that point it proceeded to Summer Brothers' corner, where it seized another mule by the nose.

Several persons gave chase in automobiles and overtook the dog as it was going out of town and shot and killed it.

Lineman Electrocuted. Charleston, S. C., Feb. 14.—C. L. Henderson, a lineman of the Consolidated Company from North Carolina, who has been here about a month, was instantly killed Tuesday when his head came into contact with a power wire while he was astride a crossbar of a pole on Meeting street. An inquest held a few hours after the fatal accident resulted in a verdict of accidental death. The young lineman tried to avoid the live wire, but in some way miscalculated the distance and a current of high voltage passed through his head, causing instant death. The body was held in position by the safety belt and had to be brought down from the cross bar.

Scores Inquisitive Senators. Rock Hill, S. C., Feb. 14.—The board of directors of the Rock Hill Chamber of Commerce have adopted a resolution soundly scoring United States Senators who have been investigating and allowing words of rebuke through the national capitol. At the same time the administration is assured of the wholehearted support of the people of this community. Senator B. R. Tillman was requested to convey the resolution to the Washington authorities.

Soldiers Fully Insured. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 14.—If the Germans were to sail over Camp Jackson in their Zeppelins and blow the whole cantonment up, Uncle Sam would have to dig deep down into his pocket, for according to Captain Fuller, the division insurance officer, approximately 97 per cent. of the camp is insured with government insurance to the amount of \$163,000,000, which is as close as the incomplete report enables him to calculate.

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