

GENERAL NEWS MATTERS.

Items of Interest at Home and Abroad Told in Brief for Busy Readers.

A ship from Cuban ports brought 6,000,000 pounds of sugar to Boston last week. Refiners to whom it was consigned, said other Cuban cargoes were on the way and that there would be no shortage in New England after February 1st.

The Aviation Division of the Signal Corps on April 1, 1917, consisted of sixty-five officers and 1,120 men, while on Jan. 1, last, it comprised 3,900 officers and 82,120 men. For this division an appropriation was provided aggregating \$744,000,000 for this year, or five times the 1915 appropriation for the entire department.

The manufacture of baby carriages was trundled into the ranks of "essential war industries" at New York last week when a man who makes go-carts and who was called for service on the national army asked the district board for deferred classification on the ground that his calling was indispensable to the needs of the country.

A government power plant to cost \$60,000,000 and to employ about 15,000 men is to be established by the war department near Nashville, Tenn. Major General Crozier, chief of the ordinance bureau, announced Thursday the selection of a site at Hadley's bend on the Cumberland river, about 12 miles from Nashville. Construction will be started immediately.

More than 25 per cent of the pupils in New York City high schools—17,500 out of 66,000—are studying the German language this year, records of the board of education show. Last year 23,000 were studying German. German is still the most widely-taught foreign language in the curriculum, the records show. Latin and French divide honors for second place, with approximately 15,000 students each.

Appropriations aggregating approximately \$75,000,000 had been authorized by the Red Cross war council since its creation May 10, last, up to December 28, the council reported Thursday in a statement giving the condition of its finances as of the latter date. Of this sum \$30,000,000 actually has been expended, while collections from the hundred million dollar war fund subscriptions have amounted to about \$97,000,000.

The Roman correspondent of the Paris Matin says that by order of Field Marshal von Hindenburg, according to reliable information which has reached him, 130 villages behind the western front, mostly in the region of St. Quentin, have been leveled to the ground so as to afford better opportunity for defense of the German lines to the rear. Notwithstanding denials, the correspondent adds, only one-third of the 300,000 Belgians deported to Germany have been permitted to return to their homes.

Ship losses and crop failures abroad have brought such a serious food situation in the allied countries that the United States is planning to release for export an additional 90,000,000 bushels of wheat, although the country's export surplus had been shipped by mid-December. The American people will be asked by the food administration to cut their consumption to make up the amount to be exported. Unless they do the nation is threatened with a flour shortage in May before the new wheat crop is harvested in June.

If we are going to win this war we must fight Germany man for man, shell for shell, potato for potato, says the United States Food Administrator. The food administration declines to raise too few potatoes on too great an acreage. If our yield per acre was as great as Germany's the state of New York alone, or Michigan, or Wisconsin, or Minnesota, might raise all the potatoes we eat. We eat too few potatoes because the quality is not good. We have speculated in potatoes from year to year—farmer, jobber, retailer, everybody. That makes fluctuation in prices, for which we dearly pay. This condition however is being changed.

British island colonies in the Atlantic which depend almost wholly on the United States for foodstuffs and other supplies, will have their needs taken care of. This assurance has been given to Sir William L. Allardyce, governor of the Bahama islands who has been conferring in Washington with British and American authorities. The Bahamas, Jamaica and the Bermudas as well as other small English West Indian colonies have felt the effects of the recent stringent export regulations of the United States, and as they are furnishing troops for service at the front, they feel the United States should recognize them as co-belligerents.

FOUR OAKS ROUTE NUMBER 3.

Miss Plare Parker and Mr. Percy Massengill surprised their many friends Sunday afternoon when they drove over to Mr. J. B. Parker's and were happily married. The bride is the accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaiah Parker. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Marah Massengill. The writer wishes the happy couple a long and prosperous journey over the sea of matrimony.

We are sorry to note that Mrs. J. B. Parker is on the sick list. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. Q. C. Parker left Friday for Greenville, S. C. to visit his son, Mr. Tommie V. Parker, who is in the camp. He was accompanied by Mr. Charley Stanley.

Misses Vara and Maud Dunn left Friday for Coats, N. C., to spend a few days with friends.

On last Thursday night about 9 o'clock the death angel entered the home of Mr. Bill Johnson and bore his spirit away.

The burial took place Friday afternoon in the family burying ground in the presence of sorrowing relatives and friends.—O. U. KID.

In Memoriam.

It is with a sad heart that I try to write the death of my father which came as a shock to us on Monday afternoon, December 31, 1917. He had only been gone from home about 20 minutes and had just entered the store of J. D. Smith and taken his seat when he fell over and breathed his last.

While he had been in declining health for a long time and we knew he could not live with us long it came as a shock. It is hard to part with loved ones. Our home is broken up and can never be the same again. While all of us are extremely grieved and realize our heavy loss we know it is his gain. God has some place for him to fill in the heavenly home and we feel he is safe at rest in the arms of Jesus. No more troubles and trials of this world.

He has been father of this home for thirty-six years and all of the trials and tribulations of a husband and father he bore bravely and was always pleasant and cheerful at home and elsewhere until the end.

He was laid to rest in the family burial ground about three miles from town on Wednesday afternoon, January 2nd, after funeral services were held at the home.

To mourn is left a wife and five children—three sons and two daughters—A. V. Gulley, of Smithfield, R. G. Gulley, of U. S. Army stationed at Camp Jackson, S. C., and P. N. Gulley, of Clayton; Mrs. W. R. Smith, of Selma, and Jessie Gulley, of Clayton.

No more can we hear his loving voice or see the dear form, but we know God knoweth best and doeth all things well and we must put our trust in Him who is all powerful. If we as ones who are left will only follow in his footsteps it will not be long before we too can rejoice with him in glory.—J. G.

BROWN SCHOOL NOTES.

The Brown school is getting along nicely. The teachers, Mrs. Alice Eason and Miss Holland missed only three days through all the bad weather. They have had an average of about 26 out of an enrollment of 40 during all the bad spell. Pneumonia and snow are hindering the attendance.

Mrs. Charlie Crumpler and Mr. Richard Garner, of Camp Jackson recently spent a few days in this section with their parents.

Selma, N. C.

"Tag-Your-Shovel Day."

January 30th has been set aside as National "Tag-Your-Shovel Day" by the United States Fuel Administration. On that day, school children will tie tags bearing instructions for coal saving to every coal shovel in the country, the purpose of this being to remind each man, woman and child who uses a coal shovel that every shovel full of coal saved means just so much additional power and health support for the American soldier and sailor on the firing line.

"Any worthy cause which enlists the sympathy of the children is already half won," declared Fuel Administrator McAlister. "Their enthusiasm and eagerness is spontaneous and catching. When the twenty-one million school children of the United States start to spread the word of fuel economy throughout the country, we may be sure that it will be spread. It is only sane optimism to believe that practically every coal shovel in the country will be tagged, and the message of conservatism thus carried will hardly be lightly regarded or forgotten."

Plans for recruiting a volunteer reserve of 250,000 shipyard workers were announced this week by the shipping board. It is estimated that fully 100,000 will be placed within the next five months.

OLD NORTH STATE NEWS.

Live Items of Interest Clipped And Culled From North Carolina Newspapers.

According to reports, snowflakes as large as an egg fell around Boone Monday. In little more than an hour it fell to a depth of four inches.

Appropriate memorial exercises were held in the Raleigh High School Wednesday morning in honor of two of their boys, the first in their school to die in the fight against Germany.

The hearing against LeRoy Smith, the negro charged with criminal assault upon Mrs. W. A. Prince at Garner, has been postponed for a week or ten days. The delay is necessary on account of the condition of both Mr. and Mrs. Prince.

Julius Whaley, a Lenoir county farmer, has been exhibiting the talon of an eagle shot at his place near Kingston. The bird had killed and was devouring a two-months-old pig when Whaley knocked it over with a well-directed shot. The eagle measured seven feet across the wings.

The village of Atlantic, located on the far end of Core Sound in Cartaret County, was visited by a terrific hurricane Tuesday morning at five o'clock. Three hours were completed demolished and ten or twelve, including school and church buildings, were blown from their foundations. One or two people were injured, but no one was killed. Twelve boats of the sharpie type were turned over, one man being drowned when his boat capsized.

A company composed of leading business men of Lexington has been newly chartered for the purpose of establishing a factory for the manufacture of potash in Mitchell County. A New York chemical engineer has successfully demonstrated that potash can be separated in available form from feldspar. The experiment conducted was from a 500 acre tract of land in Mitchell County. The feldspar deposits there are said to be practically inexhaustible.

A cyclone which passed over the lower part of Roanoke Island Tuesday caused considerable damage. At Wanchese sixteen dwellings were wrecked, one being capsized so that the inhabitants escaped through the roof. No one sustained serious injuries. Conditions on the Island are still serious, eighteen days having gone by without mail or freight. Several attempts have been made to get a boat to Elizabeth City, but failed on account of the ice.

Thousands of bushels of soy beans are already moving or have moved out of North Carolina to other states in the Union. It is of the highest importance, therefore that those who wish to secure seed shall do so without further delay, states Mr. C. B. Williams, Chief, Division of Agronomy of the North Carolina Experiment Station. The soy bean is a crop that is well adapted to the soils and climatic conditions of the State and fits admirably into rotations well suited for the class of farming that is or should be practised.

Plans for the new scientific building at the University of North Carolina have been adopted by the state building commissioner and the state insurance commissioner. The building, which is to be one of the largest on the university campus, will be the university's part of the \$3,000,000 appropriation made by the last legislature for public buildings. It will be built of re-inforced concrete interior, with an exterior of tapestry brick and stone. The building will contain laboratories, lecture and class rooms and rooms for special scientific purposes.

In his speech on conditions abroad in the Senate Thursday Senator Kenyon, Republican, of Iowa, praised Secretary Daniels. He said "In this array of criticism I pause here to remark that no criticism has been made of our navy. Lloyd George a few days ago congratulated our nation on the splendid work of our navy. Let no one say we have done nothing in this war. We are helping to destroy the submarine. Our navy is doing some of the most essential work of the war. All honor to the boys of the American navy, to the work of Admiral Sims, and to the splendidly efficient secretary of the navy, Josephus Daniels."

VALUABLE LAND FOR SALE.

I have in hand for sale a tract of land of 27 acres about twenty of which are cleared, this land being one of the shares of the division of the T. D. Snead, Jr. land. It is suitable for cotton, corn or tobacco. This land will be sold to the highest bidder on Saturday, January 19th at 12 o'clock. Terms of Sale Cash and the sale will be made on the piece of land, which is a part of the John Sanders land on the Smithfield and Bentonville Road.

J. MARVIN SANDERS, Four Oaks, N. C., R. 1.

A COMPOSITION ROOF

is the Roof to buy for all out buildings, if you buy the right kind

Our composition roof is composed of Asphalt, Felt and Pro-Slate. The Slate is crushed and then mashed into the Asphalt with heavy rollers while the Asphalt is warm. This process of putting the Slate into the Asphalt makes the roof fire proof, and as the Asphalt will expand and contract you have a roof that will last for many years and one which will make the home much cooler than a metal roof in the summer and warmer in the winter.

We also have pure Asphalt Felt Roofing from \$1.50 square up. See us about our Pro-State Asphalt shingles. Remember that we not only make Roofing a specialty, but all kind of builders' Hardware, such as Lime, Cement, Plaster, Laths, Sash, Doors and blinds. All of this material we buy in heavy quantities, and our price is right. Our desire is to please you in every deal you make with us and in this way show our appreciation of your business. If you have not been trading with us in the past, we hope now that the new year has begun you will give us an opportunity to show you that we have the right goods at the right price and that our square deal merits your confidence.

Cotter Hardware Co.

SMITHFIELD, North Carolina

Money To Lend On Terms To Suit Borrower

There is something distinctively individual in most every man. Every business man wants his business transactions privately executed.

A dependable Lawyer to search the title, advice from legal viewpoints, the technicalities involved in the trade and to lend the money has been the beginning of many a man's way to wealth.

Substantial, broad-minded men throughout the County leave money with us to lend our clients. We now have several thousand dollars in money on hand belonging to such men in Johnston County.

We Will Lend You Their Money.

We also represent two large Insurance Companies and will lend Insurance money to you on long time.

Tell your needs to us. We have helped thousands.

WELLONS & WELLONS

Attorneys-At-Law

SMITHFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA