

# The Smithfield Herald

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## RULING ON SALE OF FLOUR

**When One Buys Flour He Must Buy Corn Meal, Rice or Some Other Cereal to An Equal Amount. This Is the Order of National Food Administrator and Explained by County Food Administrator.**

To the Editor:

I have received the following telegram from the State Food Administrator, Hon. Henry A. Page, with reference to the selling of flour, to-wit:

"Notify all merchants through your local papers no exceptions can be made to new Food Administration Ruling forbidding sale of wheat flour except in combination with equal amount of other cereals including corn meal, rye, barley flour, edible wheat shorts or middlings, corn flour, corn starch, soy bean flour."

Therefore, any person purchasing flour from and after this date will have to buy an equal amount of cereals or substitutes for flour enumerated in above telegram. In other words, a person desiring to buy 24 lbs. of flour, would be required to buy 24 lbs. of meal, or 12 lbs. of meal, 5 lbs. of hominy, 5 lbs. of grits and 2 lbs. of starch, for example. Persons when purchasing flour can make up their list of cereals to suit their own needs and taste. Some might say that they didn't want as much cereal as flour. That's exactly what has brought forth this order by the Food Administrator; our people are too well satisfied with eating flour bread and are not eating enough of cereals to show any appreciable saving in consumption of flour. One man has written that he is so unfortunate not to be able to buy 24 lbs. of flour and an equal amount of "other stuff." I sympathize with such person, and can only suggest that he buy 10 pounds of flour and 10 pounds of "other stuff" until he can do better,—and even that is far better than having "war rations" measured out daily, as is being done in some countries of the warring nations.

This order went into effect Monday morning, and I have notified my local assistants of this order and desire that they notify all of the merchants in their respective towns. From this date on no merchant can buy from a jobber, or wholesale merchants, flour except in combination with equal amount of cereals; and therefore, cannot sell except in combination with equal amount of cereals. This ruling of the department was made necessary because the people had failed to carry out the order of the Food Administration with reference to the observation of the wheatless days and wheatless meals, prescribed a good while ago. This may seem to work a hardship on some folks, and be more burdensome on the merchants, yet America has one-half million soldiers in France, a million more in the training camps ready to go over as soon as ships can be provided, according to Secretary Baker's statement, and yet still more of our boys now being called for the camps, and it is necessary that some drastic measure be taken to conserve our wheat and flour supplies in order that our own soldiers, and our Allies might be fed. The great majority of the people of our Country have not seriously recognized the fact that we are at war, and have not adjusted themselves to the war basis; but continue to eat three meals a day with

flour bread at two, if not three of these meals, not thinking about the "other fellow" so long as their own appetites are satisfied.

We are living in no ordinary time, but in one of the greatest periods since the foundation of the earth, and we might as well recognize and appreciate the seriousness of the situation right now, and every man, woman and child, determine to stand back of his government in carrying out every rule, or order made by the various departments in their effort to conserve our resources, and feed our armies, our people, and the armies and people of our Allies. If we co-operate in this movement it will be made easier for the government to handle the situation.

I call upon every liberty-loving, patriotic citizen of Johnston County, to stand by their government in this critical period. Those who have laid them in store, supplies of flour, and sugar, in excess of the amount allowed by the Food Administration (that is, 1-2 barrel of flour and 5 pounds of sugar to persons in town, and 1 barrel of flour and 10 pounds of sugar to persons in the country) will immediately return to their dealers this excess in order that the same may be distributed.

The State Food Administrator has advised that "inasmuch as sales of flour will be in much smaller quantities and will require more expensive handling, the Food Administration has revoked its recent ruling fixing \$12.50 as the maximum price for flour, and will allow retailers hereafter their usual profits on flour up to 1c. a pound." Therefore, the merchants of Johnston County can place their usual profit on flour, not exceeding 1c. a pound (and it ought to be much less), but the restriction of sales to each person still remains, that is, one-half barrel to town customers and one barrel to country customers.

This Jan. 30, 1918.

F. H. BROOKS,  
Food Administrator  
Johnston County,  
Smithfield, N. C.

## HALF MILLION MEN IN FRANCE.

**That's What Secretary Baker Told the Senate Committee. To Have Million More Over There Before End of 1918.**

(Washington Post, 29.)  
Secretary of War Baker told the country yesterday that there will be 500,000 fighting men in France early in 1918. He made the still more significant announcement that during the present year upward of 1,500,000 United States soldiers will be on the soil of France thoroughly equipped to do their full share in the great world war. These troops will come from the 32 camps of the national guard and new national army, which have been under constant training since last September.

**Germany Guessing for Months.**  
Secretary Baker also told the military committee that so early as last August there were at least 150,000 men in France. He declined for military reasons to say just how many are there at this moment, but added that recent and reliable information from the intelligence departments of the allies proved that Germany had absolutely no idea of the number of American troops now in France behind the lines. Germany is guessing and has been guessing for months.

The Sunday school of the First Baptist church, of Fayetteville, will adopt five Armenian children orphaned by the war. The children will be supported at their homes by funds provided by the local Sunday school, the support being extended through the Armenian Relief Committee.

## TRYING TIMES IN GERMANY.

**Great Labor Upeaval and Big Strike On. Trouble Growing In Finland. Italians Meeting With Big Successes in Mountains of Northern Italy. Associated Press Summary for Wednesday Gives Good News.**

Transcending in interest even the great victory of the Italians over the Austrians on the Northern Italian battle front is the political and economic situation in Germany.

Here apparently a large part of the country is in the throes of a great labor upheaval. Throughout the country thousands upon thousands of the working classes—both men and women, have struck and many of the great manufactories and industries are affected.

In Berlin alone nearly half a million persons are reported on strike, and hourly those who have quit work are receiving reinforcements. Likewise in Kiel, the great shipyard center, at the Hamburg Iron Works and in the Rhenish Westphalian mine region workers have thrown down their tools and left their jobs.

Leaders of the Socialists—both of the independent and the majority factions—evidently are in control of the movement and for their pains a number of the independents have been ordered imprisoned. Hugo Haase, of the independents, and Philipp Scheidemann, majority Socialist leader in the Reichstag, are heading their respective followers.

Advices received by way of Switzerland are to the effect that the Socialists have delivered an ultimatum to the government demanding the conclusion of a general peace without indemnity or annexations, participation by the workmen in peace districts, amelioration of the food situation, the right of public assembly, the release of all political prisoners and the introduction of equal suffrage by direct secret ballot.

News concerning internal conditions in Austria still is scant owing to the strict censorship. The latest information received from Vienna is that there has been a great conflagration in the grain warehouses and that revolutionaries are suspected to have started it.

In Finland the trouble between the government forces and revolutionists continues to grow in extent. The revolutionists are declared to have formed a government of their own. All Southern Finland is said to be in the hands of the Red Guards, while the government forces in the North are asserted to have defeated and disarmed the revolutionaries at various places and to have started southward to give battle to the elements of dissatisfaction there. The Socialists have taken a hand in the trouble, having issued a manifesto declaring that the Finnish government desires to rule the proletariat.

Although Finland has appealed to Sweden for military aid, such aid is not likely to be rendered. On the contrary, Sweden apparently has shown its desire to keep aloof from the controversy by closing the frontier to prevent the Red Guards from obtaining weapons.

The Italian success against the Austrians in the mountain region of Northern Italy has been extended by the capture of Monte Di Val Bella, another dominating height on the Asiago plateau. An intensive artillery duel is now in progress along the entire front, the Austrians bombarding the Italians in their new positions and the Italians pouring an avalanche of shells on positions behind the enemy's line. Two Austrian divisions were almost completely wiped out during the fighting for the height positions and more than 2,600 prisoners, six guns and 100 machine guns fell into the hands of the Italians.

Mutual bombardments and small raiding encounters continue to feature the fighting on the other fronts.

Comptroller of the Currency, John Skelton Williams estimates the whole banking power of the nation at \$75,529,000,000, an increase of more than 14,000,000,000 since the beginning of President Wilson's administration. Taking the latest estimate of the banking power of the world, placed in 1890 at \$15,558,000,000, America's increase is alone nearly equal to the world's combined banking power twenty-seven years ago, and on that basis now two and a half times as great.

## LETTER FROM PROF. VERMONT.

**He Writes of a Trip Through the Mountains. Farmers of Mountain Section Patriotic. Visit of Canadian Soldier to Asheville. High Price of Eggs and Chickens. Buying War Savings Stamps.**

Dear Mr. Editor:

I have just taken a trip to the mountains. The snow is covering them for the greater part, though on the southern slopes, the land has again come to view. I was much interested in the wheat crop and looked over some of the fields. The old wheat, that is to say, that wheat which was planted in October and November has stood the cold well. I am in doubt as to the other.

The mountain land is very clayish, red, yet surprisingly fertile. Of course, such land will hold fertilizer well and the farmer who is willing to rotate his crops and plant legumes, can make wonderful crops. The corn grown on these mountains is simply wonderful. The taste of it is unsurpassed and especially so when water-ground.

Of course, there is no cotton here and I have not seen a single tobacco field. Formerly the latter crop was raised here, but that seems to be a thing of the past. The farmers prefer to raise corn, Irish potatoes, clover, wheat, etc. Grazing is rapidly gaining in intensity and a strong movement is on hand to put more sheep on the untended hills. The sheep industry has warm advocates and it would not be surprising to see North Carolina develop into one of the great sheep raising states in the Union.

The farmers here seem very patriotic. I have the pleasure of talking with a number of them, and all agree that we must win the war not only on the battlefield but similarly in the wheat and in the corn field. I look for a bumper corn crop again. The price is certain to be remunerative, and the need is apparent. We all know that it is preposterous to send our boys across and then see them lose because we have not supported them heartily.

There has been recently a man to Asheville, who should certainly be invited to Smithfield. He is a Canadian soldier who has been in the war, who has been wounded nine times, and who wears all kinds of medals and crosses. That man spoke at the Episcopal Church to a very large audience, and I never listened in all my life to a more interesting speaker. After the meeting was over, I had the pleasure of being introduced to him, and we talked for a good while over the War. This gentleman had some of the most unique experiences that ever came to a man. Besides being wounded as I stated, he was buried alive for some three days and finally dug-out when some of his companions saw his hand move above the ground. Mr. Beveridge is now at Tryon and will return at an early date to speak to our High School. I am sure that he will go to Smithfield provided his expenses be paid. He will speak for some War Cause, and no greater thing could be done for that community than to invite him. I shall be glad to give further information to any parties interested.

I used to consider the shipping of rabbits a joke. This time I must believe. There came to this town a man with a load of rabbits, a wagon load, and after having sold these, he brought in another wagon load. That seems unbelievable, but it is true.

Sitting on the car, on my way home, the other day, I saw a Negro pass by with a long sled on which lay piled fifty or sixty of the long-eared animals. It sounds almost like an Australian tale, and will raise a smile of incredulity in counties somewhat distant from Chatham. Still I saw the things for sale by the hundreds in the market.

That brings up the question of other eatables. Eggs are worth a fortune in this city. A dozen fresh ones sell readily at seventy-five cents. All the hens seem to have gone out of business, still, it appears strange to me, that given this ideal climate for raising poultry, there should be no more of it.

Butter is fifty cents. That is to say country butter, though in the summer it sells for forty and even as low as thirty-five. Milk from fourteen to fifteen cents a quart. But the milk is excellent. Nearly all the farmers keep improved stock and especi-

ally the Biltmore farm which is perhaps one of the best dairies in the world. I shall at an early date write a letter on that place. It is worth not only a visit but a description.

Chickens sell equally high. A good fat chicken is worth a dollar, whilst turkeys sold at 34 cents dressed. Steak is tanguing with the stars and as far as ham and pork are concerned, they have entirely disappeared from the menu of the oi polloi.

I am just back from school. I witnessed the meeting of the Seniors and Juniors of the High School. There were some hundred and fifty of them, any of them came from all parts of the United States, and are all in earnest about the new term. It certainly was an inspiring sight to see that many young Americans with one and the same purpose, that of self education. The future of our Democracy is based on our schools. They are the present earnest of what tomorrow shall be.

And our school shares with every other school of America the deepest sense of patriotism. No matter where a man may be from, he is an American and he is ready to do his bit for his Country. We have bought liberty bonds, we have foregone many a pleasure, our girls have knitted, made candle torches, worked in the Red Cross rooms. Now they are beginning the sale of Thrift Stamps. The other day they sent to the boys at the boys at the different camps boxes of chocolate, etc!

And I notice with pride that the boys and girls of T. G. S. and of the other schools of Johnston are just as ready to do their bit. Hurrah for them and for the patriotic men and women of Johnston County who are so nobly standing by the colors. Given this abiding enthusiasm, the country will win the war.

I just received The Herald and read with the greatest interest the letter from Miss Eunice Wellons. She is one of the many girls who are gladly doing their duty in the sefolds of Carolina—girls who leave homes for other communities and readily share with other people's children the richness of their hearts and souls. And great are these young people in this day!

North Carolina is beginning to realize this and the day is not far off when teachers will be remunerated according to their worth and to their service. Somehow it has seemed strange to me that the common laborer who digs a ditch or drives a mule gets as much as his employer's daughter who teaches from thirty to forty children a day!

With very best wishes,  
A VERMONT.  
Asheville, Jan. 28, 1918.

## FREIGHT ABANDONED MONDAY

**Blizzard Grips Large Section of the East and Causes Suspension, Smith Declares.**

New York, January 28.—Freight traffic throughout a large section of the Eastern States was practically abandoned today on account of blizzard conditions, according to reports received by A. H. Smith, regional director of railroads.

Freight shipments in the anthracite regions has been entirely stopped by the storm.

Six to eight inches of snow had fallen between 2 and 10 a. m. Although there is a full supply of cars at the mines, the loading is hampered and men are being sought to clear the tracks.

All along the lines of the New York Central Railroad system heavy snow was falling today. Passenger trains arrived from two to three hours late.

Later in the day conditions were reported to be growing worse with trains still longer delayed, some as much as nine hours. The Lake Shore limited, due to leave here at 5 p. m., was cancelled.

Drifts 10 feet high were reported on the tracks at points in New York state. Two engines with a snow plow ahead were having trouble in making progress.

The Women's clubs of America have adopted a plan whereby they propose to raise a quarter million dollar fund for relief work in France. The primary object of the fund is to safeguard the health and comfort of American soldiers in the trenches.

## THURSDAY'S EVENTS IN WAR.

**Germans Attack American Post on West Front. Labor Troubles In Berlin, Hamburg and Other German Cities. Bolsheviki Troops Capture Kiev. British Shipping Losses.**

The strikes in Germany apparently are growing in magnitude. In Berlin alone, according to press dispatches reaching neutral countries from Germany, 700,000 men and women have ceased work, while in Kiel in towns along the Rhine, in the Westphalian coal regions and other districts in the Empire, including Bavaria, the situation is serious.

It is asserted that martial law has been declared in Hamburg and other centers and that in Hamburg the military commander has ordered a cessation of the strike and given the added order that further demonstrations of this nature be avoided.

Additional socialist leaders in various German towns have been arrested because of their activities in fomenting strikes or by reason of their hostile attitude toward the policy of the militaristic elements with regard to peace and franchise reform.

Numerous industries necessary to the prosecution of the war have headquarters in towns where strikes are in progress and doubtless they are affected by them. Notable among these industries are the great shipbuilding yards at Kiel, the military airplane and balloon plants at Adlershof, the large arsenals and ammunition works at Spandau and the great coal and iron mines and foundries in the Westphalia region.

On the fighting fronts the most important event has been another attack by the Germans on a small American post, in which two Americans were killed and four wounded. Another soldier is believed to have been captured by the enemy. This position on the French front daily has been searched out by shells from the Germans for several days past, but Wednesday morning, aided by a heavy fog and covered by a violent artillery barrage, the Germans decided to attack. It is believed that the German casualties were greater or as great as those of the Americans, whose cannon and rifle fire was played unstintingly on the marauders.

Still further gains have been made by the Italians against the Austrians in the northern sector of the Italian battle front on the Asiago Plateau. In an attack Wednesday the Italians again were able slightly to advance their front northeast of Col Del Dosso.

In Finland the revolution goes on apace, with fighting between the White Guard representing the government and the Red Guard the revolutionists. Unofficial advices coming through Stockholm, report success everywhere for the White Guard. In Russia the Bolsheviki troops investing Kiev have forced the Ukrainian defenders of the city to capitulate.

The losses to British shipping last week by mines or submarines were nine large and six small vessels, which in the aggregate is seven vessels more than the losses in each of the two preceding weeks.

The two preceding weeks.—Associated Press Summary in today's News and Observer.

## Wood for Schools and Churches.

Long ago school buildings and churches were built mostly either in the woods or near places of woods. Then it was convenient to gather up from the woods enough wood to make fires. Now most of the land around the churches and school buildings is cleared and it is impossible to pick up the lightwood knots and other wood as was done formerly. Now special provision has to be made for wood.

During the past few years we think most of the school houses have bought their wood. This would be a good plan for all those churches which have not already made arrangements for wood. People often stay away from churches because they fear the buildings will not be comfortable. If it is known that churches will be open for services and comfortable this will help attendance very much. Our churches should be made comfortable and attractive and the centres of interest in the communities, and they will have a greater hold upon the people. To have plenty of suitable wood to make good fires will help very much. It should be prepared before the cold weather comes.