

WELCOME NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

New trains for Wilmington to arrive in the morning and return in the afternoon, giving people on the W. C. & A. and the A. & Y. a chance to spend a day in Wilmington to do their Christmas shopping. MAKE OUR STORE YOUR HEADQUARTERS WHILE HERE.

Baby Booties in knitted wool, price 10c, 15c, 25c, 50c
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Baby Tan Shoe, with gray kid upper, and heel..... \$2.25

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Ladies' high top full Louie heel, plain vamp, color field mouse, priced at \$10.00

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Mail Orders Receive Special Attention

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Dark Trotan Shoes, banker toe, price \$9.00

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A full line of tan shoes for men in lace and button, high toe and English, prices \$5.00, \$6.00, \$6.50

Black Vici Bal, plain toe, low heel with solid sole, price..... \$5.00

Black Congress same as above.

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WAR'S MEANING IS TOLD BY 190,000 WOUNDED SOLDIERS

New York, Dec. 14.—November's swing of the pendulum of history from war to peace, which reversed the eastward flow of America's fighting millions—the greatest trans-oceanic troop movement ever known—brought the American people face to face with the reality of the casualty lists.

General Pershing's announcement that more than 58,000 of the expeditionary force had given their lives in the European cause and that 14,000 others, exclusive of prisoners, were missing, created a profound impression, but the human touch of almost 190,000 wounded, 167,000 of whom already have been returned in various stages of helplessness to their native shores, promises to give the country its first real appreciation of the sacrifice of its sons who followed the call of their country.

The method of their debarkation, from the home-coming wounded the popular honors paid their comrades in health. But the war department, operating along lines intended to give the public the practical "ingratitude of government," has arranged for medical, recreational and educational attention whose aim is to restore these famed heroes, as fully as possible, to physical comfort and financial independence.

From the day of their arrival at Newport or Newport News, the ports of debarkation, to their re-entrance into civilian life, a host of Good Samaritans—doctors, nurses, and orderlies and workers of the American Red Cross—will minister to these sufferers from a ruthless enemy's engines of war. Harbor hospitals, debarkation hospitals, hospital trains and general hospitals for reconstruction or convalescence form a chain of service leading the westward bound fleets of transports with the homes of the wounded, and in this service the medical debarkation corps, suddenly thrust into the foreground of publicity by the collapse of the central powers, plays an important and picturesque part.

The end of the war found the port medical authorities prepared to shoulder the heavy burden laid upon them. During 19 months of American participation in the conflict they had maintained an embarkation hospital serving the needs of the military and naval forces of illness among troops ready to go overseas. When American forces entered the trenches small groups of wounded, evacuated from hospitals in France, began to filter through the port to the side of the Atlantic. With his experience accentuated by the lessons of the allied governments in repatriating their wounded, the debarkation system was put in readiness for the reception of the injured men at the rate of 10,000 to 15,000 a month.

During the war and a few weeks' period following the signing of the armistice, approximately 11,500 wounded had been received at New York and 15,000 at Newport News. And the authorities were prepared, on official advice from Washington, to handle 50,000 cases in the next four months.

The army embarkation service at New York, which sent three-fourths of the nation's 2,000,000 men overseas, is expected to debark a majority of the returning forces, and the westward bound wounded also will be directed here, with some diversion to Newport News and possibly, later on, to Boston. To carry on the work at this port the medical department has a personnel of 7,306—greater than the entire army medical corps at the United States entered the war. On this staff, headed by Colonel J. M. Kennedy, veteran of 25 years' service as an army surgeon, 950 are medical officers, 933 nurses, men and women, 1,184 enlisted men and 189 civilian employees.

The operating facilities include eight debarkation hospitals with an aggregate capacity of 10,900 beds, two general hospitals with 4,250 beds, a reconstruction hospital at Columbia university for cases too serious to be moved to interior institutions, five harbor hospital boats with 300 beds each, 75 ambulances, with 50 additional beds reserved by the Red Cross, and four hospital trains each accommodating upwards of 200 patients.

The base hospitals are at Camps Merritt and Mills, former embarkation, and debarkation cantonments for the overseas army. The debarkation hospitals are strategically located on or near the harbor front.

The port medical authorities, responsible for soldier patients from the time of their arrival from Europe to their delivery at general hospitals nearest their home communities, aim to clear their charges from the debarkation hospitals at this week. The work begins at the port quarantine station. Here medical officers board incoming transports and assist the doctors aboard in preparing the men for landing. In practically all cases the wounded are taken directly from the ship to the harbor hospital boat, which conveys them to a pier near one of the debarkation hospitals, where ambulances are in waiting.

While the men get their "shoe bearings" their cases are studied and

DEEP PLOWING NEED OF SOUTHERN FARMS

By ALLEN MAULL, General Development Agent Atlantic Coast Line.

"There is a type of man," some one said, "who cannot assimilate a new idea. The impact would kill him." If such a type exists, it blooms in full flower in the farmer who persists in plowing from four to five inches deep. Man made his first steps toward civilization when he took a crooked stick and began to till the soil, using first the force of his own muscles.

Today, as always, plowing is man's severest toil. For man, as well as animals on the farm, the dusty and monotonous work of plowing in the hardest drudgery—but upon it rests the possible harvest. If it is done well—deep down into the earth, an abundant harvest is almost sure to follow. Shallow plowing indicates a shallow civilization. No implement devised by man tells the story of civilization with greater clarity than does the plow. Money and labor may build cities, but their permanent prosperity rests upon the soil. It is the magic influence of the plow that peoples the waste places and makes the deserts bloom and bear fruit. Where the plow occupies a place in every farm home of a nation, and it is intelligently used, that nation may be assailed, but never conquered. But a nation without a plow will crumble into decay. A nation cannot endure whose inhabitants are hungry.

Wherever you find a powerful and enduring civilization, there you find deep plowing a universal custom of its people.

Many sections of the nation's garden spot are deficient in humus. Deep fall plowing is the only method by which humus can be restored to these soils.

Eugene Grubb, the western potato king, reaps a fortune every year from his fields. He has a high acre-yield and gets the highest production from the fields he plows the deepest. Grooves, one of the largest and most successful potato growers of Kansas, a negro, by the way, has made an average per acre of 293 bushels of marketable potatoes on 500 acres, and he states that he usually plows from 15 to 18 inches deep. Ten tons of sugar have been produced from a measured acre in the Hawaiian Islands at the sugar experiment station by plowing 22 inches deep in their volcanic soil. I could cite instances innumerable to prove my contention that deep plowing contributes more toward large and better crops than any other farm function.

But to do this requires power, and the average farmer doesn't possess it; also he thinks he hasn't the money to secure it. It is a mighty poor farmer that hasn't the money or the credit by which he can secure a large draught mare. One large brood mare will do practically as much work as must be done during the year as a horse or a mule, and will raise a colt at the same time. One cold each year upon each farm in the Nation's Garden Spot will more than keep up the demand for farm power. One large horse or mule will sell for enough to buy two small ones. Our farmers must think seriously of this question of farm power. We must produce our own power—we must raise our own horses and mules—and they must not be scrubs, either.

I believe these problems of deep plowing and farm power are basic ones, and must be solved before we can hope to compete successfully with better equipped sections that possess one-half the natural advantages in the way of soil and climate that we do.

Deep plowing and agriculture in the Nation's Garden Spot becomes rational, conservative and not speculative, as it mostly is today; when every fruit orchard, cotton or tobacco plantation is a part, and not the whole of a farm, we will have gone a long way toward solving many of our difficulties.

When every farm unit in the south has cattle, hogs and sheep in numbers to correspond to the number of acres in the holding; when every farmer lives on and from his land, and is a home-maker, ceasing to think of his profits first and his living for himself and family afterwards, then the Nation's Garden Spot will become one of the richest agricultural sections of the globe.

What is the difference between a railroad conductor and a school teacher? One minds the train and the other trains the mind.

Wherein does a looking glass differ from a talkative girl? One reflects without speaking, the other speaks without reflecting.

One-half a man's energy is wasted. Only the down strokes count in chopping wood.

all of New Bern; Mrs. John H. Harvey, of Grifton; Mrs. John Fields, of LaGrange; and Mrs. Wheeler Martin Fields, of LaGrange.

The Mothers' club held an interesting meeting at Gordon Street Methodist church Thursday afternoon.

THEATRICAL

Additional interest attaches to the forthcoming production of the world famous spectacle, "Everywoman," by Henry W. Savage because of the great success the piece achieved in the Drury Lane theatre, London, where it had a long run. Through the vast playhouse seats over four thousand people it was packed to the rafters at every performance until the play had to give way to the annual Christmas pantomime under which the king's patent is a fixture in this theatre. The pit and gallery lines during the run of "Everywoman" are said to have been the longest ever known there.

The peculiar nature of "Everywoman" as a dramatic offering—that it sincerely attempts to teach a lesson while providing amusement—serves to endow it with interest for many who do not usually seek diversion within the walls of a playhouse. The story of the play is the adventures of which befall a young and beautiful woman who sets out from her home in quest of love. The search leads her into strange experiences. To illustrate her career 100 people are employed and a symphony orchestra and a trainload of scenery and electrical effects are transported from city to city.

Royal.

For next week the Royal announces the presentation of that famous popular priced musical comedy organization Al and Gertrude Bernard, with their Boys and Girls of Dixie Musical Comedy company, an organization that is known from coast to coast and comes to Wilmington after repeated efforts have been made to get a booking in the past.

Carrying elaborate special scenery and a line of wardrobe that fills many spacious trunks, this organization has played in the largest cities to capacity crowds, and is making its first visit to the smaller cities. They carry a pony ballet dancing chorus that will be seen to be away above the average

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